

Holy Spirit 07

Being Filled With the Spirit

By Glen Davis

THE SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Read Numbers 11.16-17 and 24-29.

Questions

- What happened when the Spirit of God came upon the people?
- What did God tell Moses the purpose for the Spirit of God coming upon them was?
- What was Moses' desire?

Here is a list of every passage in the Old Testament that talks about the Spirit of the Lord coming on a person. Try to keep two things in mind: the phenomena that accompany the Spirit's coming on a person and the purpose of the Spirit's coming on a person.

Who?	What Happened?	What was the purpose?
70 elders: Numbers 11.16-29	prophecy	to lead the people
Bezalel: Exodus 31.3; 35.30-31	no details	to serve God with skill
Balaam: Numbers 24.2	prophecy	to demonstrate God's power
Joshua: Deuteronomy 34.9	no details	to lead the people
Othniel: Judges 3.10	no details	to appoint him judge
Gideon: Judges 6.34	blew a trumpet	to deliver God's people
Jephthah: Judges 11.29	no details	to deliver God's people
Samson: Judges 13.25;14.6,19;15.14	no details/hurt things	to deliver God's people
Saul: 1st Samuel 10.9-13; 11.6; 19.23-24	prophecy	to lead the people
David: 1st Samuel 16.13	no details	to lead the people
Saul's Messengers:1st Samuel 19.20-21	prophecy	to allow David to escape

Who?	What Happened?	What was the purpose?
Amasa: 1st Chronicles 12.18	prophecy	to appoint them leaders
Azarash: 2nd Chronicles 15.1-8	prophecy	to encourage King Asa
Zechariah: 2nd Chronicles 24.20	prophecy	to judge King Joash

Notice that this is a rare occurrence in the Old Testament: just 14 occurrences!

When the Spirit of God comes on a person it is usually for the purpose of enabling them to do some task and is accompanied by some audible manifestation that the person gives in response to the Spirit's presence.

With that in mind, read Joel 2.28-32.

Questions

- What is the prophecy that is given?

- Who will receive the Holy Spirit?

JOEL'S PROMISE EXPLAINED

Read

- Matthew 3.11
- John 14.15-17, 25-26
- John 7.37-39

Questions

- What is the prophecy of John the Baptist?

- What is the promise of Jesus?

- Where will the Holy Spirit be?

- What will the Holy Spirit do? (See also John. 15.26,16.13-15)

- What had to happen before the Holy Spirit could be given?

Read

- John 20.21-22
- Acts 1.4-5
- Acts 1:8

They have an experience with the Holy Spirit, yet Jesus tells them to wait for another.

Questions

- How can you explain this?

- Did they have the Spirit or not?

- What is the purpose of the baptism with the Holy Spirit?

JOEL'S PROMISE FULFILLED

Read

- Acts 2:1-18 , 39

Questions

- Peter links the events surrounding him with Joel's prophecy. What phenomena did Joel say would accompany the fulfillment?

- What phenomenon does Peter interpret as fulfilling that prophecy?

- Who does Peter say that the baptism with the Holy Spirit is for?

THE SPIRIT IN THE BOOK OF ACTS

Ask 4 people to find and read these examples of people being filled with the Spirit for the first time.

- Acts 2:1-13
- Acts 8:14-19
- Acts 10:42-46
- Acts 19:1-7

Questions -

- In each of these, were those being filled with the Holy Spirit already saved?

- Was the laying on of hands necessary for the baptism with the Holy Spirit?

- If the event was described in detail, were there any things that happened in each instance?

Based on the questions and answers above, if you have not already been baptized with the Holy Spirit is there any reason why you should not seek now?

Whatever you decide about being filled with the Spirit, remember that this is not a one-time event. It's not a thing we receive but a relationship we experience.

Read Acts 4.23-31 and Ephesians 5.18: seek continually!