

C R E D O

Exploring The Christian Faith



Surprised by the Holy Spirit

Holy Spirit in the OT

- Many similar ideas
 - Wind (Gen. 8:1; Num. 11:31; Isa. 27:8; etc.).
 - Fire (Isaiah 4:4; 33:11)
 - Water (Is. 32:15; 44:3)
 - Cloud (Exod. 24:15–18; 33:9–10; 40:36–38; 1 Kings 8:10–12).
 - Clothing (Judg. 6:34ff.).

1. HS is Moral Character of God

- HOLY Spirit is a rare occurrence in OT
 - Only 2x. Ps 51.11 and Is 63.10, 11
 - Both connected to sin
 - Ps 51 is personal sin
 - Is 63 is national sin

2. The HS is the Divine Power of God

- Spirit's Activity in Creation

Breath-spirit is the action of God. Gives life to whatever we call nature or creation.

2. The HS is the Divine Power of God

- Not just involvement in act of creating and sovereignty over creation but active governance and involvement in creation itself.

- Gen . 8.1

- Noah

2. The HS is the Divine Power of God

- Not just involvement in and sovereignty over creation but active governance and involvement in it.

- Gen . 8.1

- Ex. 14

- Wind blows and the seas part.

2. The HS is the Divine Power of God

- Not just involvement in and sovereignty over creation but active governance and involvement in it.

- Gen . 8.1

- Ex. 14

- Num. 11.31

- Quail

3. The HS is God's empowering presence

A. Early Leaders

1. Moses

- I will come down and speak with you there, and I will take some of the power of the Spirit that is on you and put it on them. (Num. 11.17)

Numbers 11

²³ The LORD answered Moses, “Is the LORD’s arm too short? Now you will see whether or not what I say will come true for you.”

Numbers 11

²⁴ So Moses went out and told the people what the LORD had said. He brought together seventy of their elders and had them stand around the tent.

Numbers 11

²⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke with him, and he took some of the power of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. When the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied—but did not do so again.

Numbers 11

²⁶ However, two men, whose names were Eldad and Medad, had remained in the camp. They were listed among the elders, but did not go out to the tent. Yet the Spirit also rested on them, and they prophesied in the camp.

Numbers 11

²⁷ A young man ran and told Moses, “Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp.”

Numbers 11

²⁸ Joshua son of Nun, who had been Moses' aide since youth, spoke up and said, "Moses, my lord, stop them!"

Numbers 11

²⁹ But Moses replied, “Are you jealous for my sake? I wish that all the LORD’s people were prophets and that the LORD would put his Spirit on them!”

3. The HS is God's empowering presence

A. Early Leaders

1. Moses

2. Joshua

3. The HS is God's empowering presence

A. Leaders

2. Joshua

- And the Lord said to Moses: "Take Joshua the son of Nun with you, a man in whom is the Spirit, lay your hand on him" (Num. 27:18).

3. The HS is God's empowering presence

B. Heroes (Judges)

- Othniel 3.10
- Gideon 6.34
- Jephthah 11.29
- Samson 13.25; 14.19
 - 16.20
 - He awoke from his sleep and thought, "I'll go out as before and shake myself free." But he did not know that the LORD had left him.

3. The HS is God's empowering presence

C. Priestly Leaders

End of Eli (1 Sam 4 – Ichabod)

3. The HS is God's empowering presence

D. Kings

- David (1 Sam 16.13)
- Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David.

3. The HS is God's empowering presence

D. Kings

- David (1 Sam 16.13)
 - Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the LORD came powerfully upon David.
-
- Contrast that with
¹⁴ Now the Spirit of the LORD had departed from Saul
-
- Think again of Ps 51.

4. God's Guiding/Correcting Presence

- Prophets
 - (the primary source for the connection between the Spirit and the Word of God)
- Ruah occurs about 50x in Is.,
- About 46 in Ezekiel,
- Spirit of justice Is 28.5-6

4. God's Guiding/Correcting Presence

- Prophets
- Messiah Is 11.1-2
- A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse;
from his roots a Branch will bear fruit.
² The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him—
the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and of might,
the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the LORD—
³ and he will delight in the fear of the LORD.

4. God's Guiding/Correcting Presence

Is. 42.1 First Servant Song

- “Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen one in whom I delight;
I will put my Spirit on him,
and he will bring justice to the nations.

4. God's Guiding/Correcting Presence

Joel 2

- “And afterward,
I will pour out my Spirit on all people.
Your sons and daughters will prophesy,
your old men will dream dreams,
your young men will see visions.
²⁹ Even on my servants, both men and women,
I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

5. God's glue

- Wisdom Literature
- God's Glue that holds things together and helps make sense of things
- Everything described or attributed to wisdom is what the HS does.
- Wisdom Literature
 - Ps 139.7
 - Where can I flee from your Spirit?
- Larger connection between wisdom and Spirit than we have time to unpack.

6. Intertestamental Literature

- I Macc 14.
 - The Jews and their priests have resolved that Simon should be their leader and high priest for ever, until a trustworthy prophet should arise.
- Apocalypse of Baruch 85.1f
 - Know that in the former times and in the generations of old, our fathers had helpers, righteous men and holy prophets. . . But now the righteous have been gathered and the prophets have fallen asleep.

Application

- Accept No Substitutes

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- Accept No Substitutes
- Let's Seek a Rushing Wind Not a Gentle Breeze

Is 40

“All people are like grass,
and all their faithfulness is like the flowers
of the field.

⁷The grass withers and the flowers fall,
because the breath of the LORD blows on
them.

Application

- Accept No Substitutes
- Let's Seek a Rushing Wind Not a Gentle Breeze
- Not Just for You