

INTRO

Surprised by the Holy Spirit

Reaction

Plan: Next Few Weeks

This Week HS in OT

Next Week: Developing a Listening Ear (Learning to Listen to the HS)

Week after: HS in Creation

If you want to understand the Bible, (what God is up to in the Bible) you must understand that the entirety of the Bible is about RELATIONSHIP (God's to us, Ours to him, Ours to each other and the rest of creation).

Implicit in RELATIONSHIP IS PRESENCE.

You cannot really have a relationship with someone you don't spend time with.

We have never met Jesus. If it was not for the HS, we could not have a relationship with him.

Holy Spirit in the OT

Many similar ideas

Life-breath (Gen. 6:17; Ezek. 37:5).

Wind (Gen. 8:1; Num. 11:31; Isa. 27:8; etc.).

Fire. This description of the Spirit is not as common as those of life-breath and wind. Still, Isaiah 4:4 speaks of the time "when the Lord . . . purges Jerusalem's blood from her midst with the spirit of judgment and with the spirit of fire," and 33:11

Water Is (32:15; 44:3)

Cloud (Exod. 24:15–18), at the tent of meeting (Exod. 33:9–10), in the desert (Exod. 40:36–38), and at the dedication of the Solomonic temple (1 Kings 8:10–12).

Clothe (Judg. 6:34ff.).

1. The Holy Spirit is the 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 Holy Spirit is the divine power of God

Spirit's Activity in Creation (nothing more said this week)

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

Gen . 8.1

But God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all the cattle that were with him in the ark; and God caused a wind to pass over the earth, and the water subsided.

Ex. 14

Wind blows and the seas part in Ex.

Numb 11.31

Now there went forth a wind from the LORD and it brought quail from the sea

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

3. The HS is God's empowering presence

a. Leaders (Moses, Joshua)

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.

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" (Numbers 27:18).

Numb 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."

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. 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.

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

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

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!"

b. Heroes (Judges)

i. Othniel 3.10

ii. Gideon 6.34

iii. Jephthah 11.29

iv. Samson 13.25; 14.19

The lord had left him 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.

End of Eli (1 Sam 4 – Ichabod)

c. 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

Go back to Ps 51.

4. God's guiding presence - Prophets: (the primary source for the connection between the Spirit and the Word of God)

Ruah about 50x in Is.,

46 in Ezekiel,

Spirit of justice Is 28.5-6

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.

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.

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.

God is promising to do what Moses wished for in Numbers 11

God fulfills this promise in Acts 2

5. God's Glue that holds things together and helps make sense of things – Wisdom Literature
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.

Recall Acts 2

APPLICATION:

If the whole thing is about relationship, and relationships require presence, there are GREAT AND PERPETUAL dangers that we must be aware of and resist

Substitutions for the HS.

Other people (Ex. 19)

Spouse

Pastor

Pope

Communion

Baptism

The Word

A Gentle Breeze or Rushing Wind

Cannot organize him or domesticate him.

This God who is beyond us and who invades our world does not do so in order to terrify but to communicate.

We generally want a gentle whisper not a roaring wind.

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.

THINKING THE GIFT IS JUST FOR YOU

Being content with the HS and not understanding that you have been given a gift to give. You have been blessed to be a blessing. You have been brought into relationship with God to help others into this relationship.

Accept no substitutes

Open up the doors and windows of your life, put no limits on where or when or how or how strong the HS can blow

Let's pray that God pours his spirit on all flesh.