

## Th Holy Spirit: The Work of the Holy Spirit in O.T.

February 19, 2012

SELECTED SCRIPTURES

Vol. 2 Num. 8

### Core Competency:

**Trinity-** I believe the God of the Bible is the only true God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.”

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all. (2 Corinthians 13:14)*

### Using This Study

#### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details emphasized or repeated in the passage.

#### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

#### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.

### Introduction

During a recent interview on NBC’s “Today Show,” young Colton Burpo was asked about some of his experiences recorded in the book “Heaven is for Real.” Colton, who claims to have had a near-death experience and a visit to heaven, states in one segment of the interview that he was “. . . hangin’ out with the Holy Spirit when . . .” Colton (regardless of how you view the book) was nonchalantly relating the fact that the Holy Spirit was indeed a person and not some mysterious bird or force. In fact, that has been the contention of historic Christianity throughout the centuries. That teaching has been defended against heretical attacks via pronouncements such as the Nicene Creed.

Thus we have in the section: “The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit” in our own Church Constitution (as it is in countless other church constitutions) the statement: “We believe that the Holy Spirit is a person of the God-head. He . . .” So, we believe in the Tri-unity and the personality of God – that God is One in nature, yet exists in 3 Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. Consider Romans 8:26-27, for example, where the Holy Spirit, at times prays for us to God, the Father. Thus, in that passage, the Holy Spirit is distinct from the Father. And, of course there are passages in the Word where all 3 Persons of the God-head appear together, such as at the baptism of Jesus by John the Baptist, as well as in the baptismal formula given in the Great Commission (Mt. 28:19).

### This Week

We begin a study of the Holy Spirit, and today, specifically, a study on the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament of the Bible. Some might even think that the OT does not contain revelation about the Holy Spirit, but quite the contrary. There are over 80 references to Him in the Old Testament. With that in mind, let’s begin our study!

This week is a little different:

Read the questions in section 2 “Explore His Word” and then refer back to section 1 “Examine His Word” for the scripture reference.

Take note that the word “Spirit” is capitalized in most versions of the English Bible. The translators understood these passages to be references to the Holy Spirit.

## **1 EXAMINE His Word**

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What does God SAY? Prayerfully read the following, noting any significant details or terms emphasized in the passages.

### **Selected Scriptures**

#### **Genesis 1:1–2**

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was moving over the surface of the waters.

#### **Genesis 6:3**

3 Then the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years.”

#### **2 Thessalonians 2:5–7 (NASB95)**

5 Do you not remember that while I was still with you, I was telling you these things? 6 And you know what restrains him now, so that in his time he will be revealed. 7 For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way.

#### **Numbers 27:18–23 (NASB95)**

18 So the LORD said to Moses, “Take Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him; 19 and have him stand before Eleazar the priest and before all the congregation, and commission him in their sight. 20 “You shall put some of your authority on him, in order that all the congregation of the sons of Israel may obey him. 21 “Moreover, he shall stand before Eleazar the priest, who shall inquire for him by the judgment of the Urim before the LORD. At his command they shall go out and at his command they shall come in, both he and the sons of Israel with him, even all the congregation.” 22 Moses did just as the LORD commanded him; and he took Joshua and set him before Eleazar the priest and before all the congregation. 23 Then he laid his hands on him and commissioned him, just as the LORD had spoken through Moses.

#### **Exodus 31:1–5 (NASB95)**

1 Now the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, 2 “See, I have called by name Bezalel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah. 3 “I have filled him with the Spirit of God in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of craftsmanship, 4 to make artistic designs for work in gold, in silver, and in bronze, 5 and in the cutting of stones for settings, and

in the carving of wood, that he may work in all kinds of craftsmanship.

#### **2 Samuel 23:1–2 (NASB95)**

1 Now these are the last words of David. David the son of Jesse declares, The man who was raised on high declares, The anointed of the God of Jacob, And the sweet psalmist of Israel, 2 “The Spirit of the LORD spoke by me, And His word was on my tongue.

#### **1 Samuel 16:13–14 (NASB95)**

13 Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. And Samuel arose and went to Ramah. 14 Now the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD terrorized him.

#### **Psalms 51:11 (NASB95)**

11 Do not cast me away from Your presence And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.

#### **Psalms 139:7 (NASB95)**

7 Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?

#### **Isaiah 40:13 (NASB95)**

13 Who has directed the Spirit of the LORD, Or as His counselor has informed Him?

#### **Ezekiel 36:25–28 (NASB95)**

25 “Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. 26 “Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 “I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances. 28 “You will live in the land that I gave to your forefathers; so you will be My people, and I will be your God.

#### **John 3:5 (NASB95)**

5 Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

#### **Romans 8:9 (NASB95)**

9 However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

### **Isaiah 61:1–3 (NASB95)**

1 The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, Because the LORD has anointed me To bring good news to the afflicted; He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to captives And freedom to prisoners; 2 To proclaim the favorable year of the LORD And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all who mourn, 3 To grant those who mourn in Zion, Giving them a garland instead of ashes, The oil of gladness instead of mourning, The mantle of praise instead of a spirit of fainting. So they will be called oaks of righteousness, The planting of the LORD, that He may be glorified.

### **Isaiah 63:10 (NASB95)**

10 But they rebelled And grieved His Holy Spirit; Therefore He turned Himself to become their enemy, He fought against them.

### **Zechariah 7:12 (NASB95)**

12 “They made their hearts like flint so that they could not hear the law and the words which the LORD of hosts had sent by His Spirit through the former prophets; therefore great wrath came from the LORD of hosts.

### **Isaiah 11:2 (NASB95)**

2 The Spirit of the LORD will rest on Him, The spirit

of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and strength, The spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

### **Zechariah 4:1–6 (NASB95)**

1 Then the angel who was speaking with me returned and roused me, as a man who is awakened from his sleep. 2 He said to me, “What do you see?” And I said, “I see, and behold, a lampstand all of gold with its bowl on the top of it, and its seven lamps on it with seven spouts belonging to each of the lamps which are on the top of it; 3 also two olive trees by it, one on the right side of the bowl and the other on its left side.” 4 Then I said to the angel who was speaking with me saying, “What are these, my lord?” 5 So the angel who was speaking with me answered and said to me, “Do you not know what these are?” And I said, “No, my lord.” 6 Then he said to me, “This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel saying, ‘Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,’ says the LORD of hosts.

### **Revelation 1:4 (NASB95)**

4 John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace, from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne.

## **EXPLORE His Word**

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### **What does God MEAN?**

1. Read Genesis 1:1-2 and describe what you imagine the Holy Spirit's role in creation to be. The key word here is “imagine.” What are your thoughts?
2. Read Genesis 6:3. Man is obviously and unwittingly contentious with the Holy Spirit. Might this be the case in the end times? Read 2 Thessalonians 2:5-7 and discuss.
3. Read Numbers 27:18-23 and discuss what God values in leadership. Do you think this applies today? Discuss.

4. What ministries of the Holy Spirit do the following verses reveal:
  - a) Exodus 31:1-5
  - b) 2 Samuel 23:1-2
5. Read 1 Samuel 16:13-14. How would you explain the Holy Spirit's ministry with Saul and David?
6. In Psalm 51:11 what do you think David meant by this prayer request?
7. Read Psalm 139:7 and Isaiah 40:13? How do these verses reveal the Deity of the Holy Spirit?
8. Compare Ezekiel 36:25-28 with John 3:5 and Romans 8:9. What ministry is the Holy Spirit involved with in these verses?
9. What are some of the ministries of the Holy Spirit described in Isaiah 61:1-3?
10. Read Isaiah 63:10. How might this reveal the person-hood of the Holy Spirit?
11. What does Zechariah 7:12 reveal about the Holy Spirit in OT times?

12. The number “Seven” has been associated with the Holy Spirit. Compare Isaiah 11:2; Zechariah 4:1-6; and Revelation 1:4. What do you find?
13. Has this study given you an appreciation of the revelation of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament, and spurred you on to further study?

## **③ EMBRACE His Word**

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Why does this **MATTER** to me?

### **Summarize your thoughts on the passage:**

In one statement, write what God wants you to **KNOW**...

In one statement, write how God wants you to **FEEL**...

In one statement, write what God wants you to **DO**...

## **Sermon Notes**

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# 30 CORE Competencies

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## 10 Core Beliefs

**Trinity** *2 Corinthians 13:14*

I believe the God of the Bible is the only true God - Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

**Salvation by Grace** *Ephesians 2:8-9* I believe a person comes into a right relationship with God by His grace, through faith in Jesus Christ.

**Authority of the Bible** *2 Timothy 3:16-17*

I believe the Bible is the Word of God and has the right to command my belief and action.

**Personal God** *Psalms 121:1-2*

I believe God is involved in and cares about my daily life.

**Identity in Christ** *John 1:12*

I believe I am significant because of my position as a child of God.

**Church** *Ephesians 4:15-16*

I believe the church is God's primary way to accomplish His purposes on earth today.

**Humanity** *John 3:16*

I believe all people are loved by God and need Jesus Christ as their Savior.

**Compassion** *Psalms 82:3-4*

I believe God calls all Christians to show compassion to those in need.

**Eternity** *John 14:1-4*

I believe there is a heaven and a hell and that Jesus Christ is returning to judge the earth and to establish His eternal kingdom.

**Stewardship** *1 Timothy 6:17-19*

I believe that everything I am or own belongs to God.

**Biblical Community** *Acts 2:44-47*

I live life with other Christians to accomplish God's purposes in the world.

**Giving Away My Time** *Colossians 3:17*

I give away my time to fulfill God's purposes.

**Giving Away God's Money** *2 Corinthians 8:7*

I give away God's money to fulfill God's purposes.

**Giving Away My Faith** *Ephesians 6:19-20*

I give away my faith to fulfill God's purposes.

**Giving Away My Life** *Romans 12:1*

I give away my life to fulfill God's purposes.

## 10 Core Virtues

**Joy** *John 15:11*

I have inner contentment and purpose in spite of my circumstances.

**Peace** *Philippians 4:6-7*

I am free from anxiety because things are right between God, me, and others.

**Faithfulness** *Proverbs 3:3-4*

I demonstrate loyalty in my relationships with others in response to God's loyalty to me.

**Self-Control** *Titus 2:11-13*

I have the power, through Christ, to control myself.

**Humility** *Philippians 2:3, 4*

I choose to esteem others above myself.

**Love** *1 John 4:10-12*

I sacrificially and unconditionally love and forgive others.

**Patience** *Proverbs 14:29*

I endure patiently under the unavoidable pressures of life.

**Kindness/Goodness** *1 Thess. 5:15*

I choose to do the right things in my relationships with others.

**Gentleness** *Philippians 4:5*

I am thoughtful, considerate and calm in dealing with others.

**Hope** *Hebrews 6:19-20*

I can cope with the hardships of life and with death because of the hope I have in Jesus Christ

## 10 Core Practices

**Worship** *Psalms 95:1-7*

I worship God for who He is and what He has done for me.

**Prayer** *Psalms 66:16-20*

I pray to God to know Him, to lay my request before Him and to find direction for my daily life.

**Bible Study** *Hebrews 4:12*

I read the Bible to know God, the truth, and to find direction for my daily life.

**Single-mindedness** *Matthew 6:33* I focus on God and His priorities for my life.

**Spiritual Gifts** *Romans 12:4-6*

I know and use my spiritual gifts to accomplish God's purposes.