

# **THE WORK OF HOLY SPIRIT**

The Bible reveals the Holy Spirit's prominence and activity in the Old and New Testaments.

## **THE HOLY SPIRIT IS A PERSON**

He has "Personality" which means having the characteristics of a person.

When speaking about the Holy Spirit we use personal pronouns ("He", "*Him*", etc.)  
*(John 15:26; 16:7-8; 13-14)*

The Holy Spirit has feelings and can understand, empathise, grieve and relate with the emotional, spiritual, mental and physical aspects of man.

## **THE SPIRIT'S OPERATION IS NO DIFFERENT IN BOTH O.T. AND N.T.**

In the NT the Holy Spirit is more explained and defined in its' workings in and through people.

The Holy Spirit was active throughout the Old Testament and is mentioned 86 times (27 of the 39 books). 14 times in the books of Moses.

**The Holy Spirit participated in the creation of the world.**

*Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. 2: Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.*

**During the creation of man God breathed into Adam the “*breath of life*”**

*Genesis 2:7 “Then the Lord God formed a man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being.”*

The “*breath of life*” is also translated elsewhere as the “*spirit*.”

## **THE HOLY SPIRIT PLAYED A PRIMARY ROLE IN OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY**

The Spirit came upon prophets, judges, and warriors to give them extraordinary power, such as with all the prophets in the Bible. (*2 Peter 1:21*)

Joshua *Numbers 27:18*; Othniel *Judges 3:10*; Gideon *Judges 6:34*; and Saul *1 Samuel 10:9-10*.

David said: “*The Spirit of the Lord speaks through me; His words are upon my tongue*” ***2 Samuel 23:2***

Ezekiel said: *The Spirit came into me as He spoke, and He set me on my feet. I listened carefully to His words.*  
***Ezekiel 2:1-2***

Isaiah was inspired by the Spirit to prophesy about the arrival of a Messiah, Jesus Christ. *(Isaiah 11:1-3)*

Which was fulfilled when Jesus arrived, and He personally referred to the prophecy. *(Luke 4:17-19)*

The Spirit placed wisdom into Bezalel and Oholiab and stirred the hearts of all people to come and to build God's house. *(Exodus 36:2)*

The Spirit stirred the people to give offerings for God's house and garments for the priests.

*Exodus 35:21 They came, everyone whose heart stirred him up, and everyone whom his spirit made willing, [and] they brought the Lord's offering to the work of the tabernacle of the congregation, and for all his service, and for the holy garments.*

The Spirit stirred the heart of the Cyrus King of Persia to make proclamation supporting the building of the temple in Jerusalem. *(Ezra 1:1; 2 Chronicles 36:22-23)*

The Spirit stirred up the spirit or heart of Zerubbabel governor of Judah. *(Haggai 1:1)*

The Holy Spirit stirred (*troubled - provoked*) the heart of the apostle Paul when he saw the whole city given to idolatry. *(Acts 17:16)*

# THE HOLY SPIRIT DOES

He **speaks** to people and conveys knowledge.

He **reveals** certain things to people to be aware of what is being said and who is saying it.

God called Abram and spoke to him directly.

*(Genesis 12:1, 4)*

God spoke to Abram in such a way that Abram understood.

The Spirit somehow **conveys** knowledge in such a way that it is understood by the person.

In speaking to a person, the Spirit also conveys direction, and instruction and confirms, endorses, discourages or rejects the proposed actions and plans that they have.

The Spirit is an **arbitrator/umpire** establishing peace that is personally experienced

The Spirit also **bestows** gifts, skills, qualities to a person that enables them to carry out tasks or the commission entrusted to them.

The Spirit **unveils** the future in respect to God, to man, the angels and to the evil one (Satan).

The Spirit **intervenes** in the affairs of man, kings, princes and those who govern e.g. governments.

The Spirit **intrudes** and **invades** man's world with or without their permission.

The Spirit **imparts** faith to a person empowering them with an inner confidence and boldness that enables them to accomplish things for God.

The Spirit **imparts confidence** that is not a natural quality of a person.

The **kind** of confidence where questions of safety, risk, danger are not thought of or asked and is content to serve the one who has asked them to serve.

A **confidence** that is prepared to face all kinds of weather, all kinds of food, beds and people without complaint.

The Spirit **inspires** and **motivates** people to do what they are commissioned or asked of them.

The Spirit **imparts a spirit of adventure**, that desires to explore, discover new things and to venture into different places for God.

The Spirit produces in people a **pioneering heart** that is willing to go beyond the normal and

traditional boundaries of ministry expression resulting in creating something for the Kingdom.

The Spirit stimulates **promptness, immediate action**, that compels and motivates a person to act regardless of prevailing circumstances.

## **Examples.**

Abraham immediately obeyed and left home and family and country. (*Genesis 12:1, 4*)

Elijah's response to Elisha by throwing his cloak / robe over him was immediate. (*1 Kings 19:16-20*)

Elisha left his oxen (work) and ran after Elijah. (*1 Kings 19:20*)

The fisherman immediately forsook their nets and followed Jesus. (*Mark 1:18*)

James and John immediately left their father, their nets, their ship to follow Jesus. (*Mark 1:20*)

Matthew (Levi) the tax collector immediately followed Jesus' invitation. (*Luke 5:27-28*)

The apostle Paul soon after his conversion and salvation immediately started preaching the Good News about Jesus. (*Acts 9:20*)

# THE NEW TESTAMENT

The Spirit leads us into all truth.

*John 16:13* When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth.”

*John 14:26* But when the Father sends the Advocate as My representative - that is, the Holy Spirit - He will teach you everything.”

He shall show you things to come.

*John 16:13* He will shew you things to come.

He reminds us of things that Jesus taught.

*John 14:26* Will remind you of everything I have told you.

He reveals / shows to us the things of Christ.

*John 16:14-15* “He shall glorify Me: for He shall receive of Mine, and shall shew it unto you. 15: All things that the Father hath are Mine: therefore said I, that He shall take of Mine, and shall shew it unto you.”

The Spirit will not speak of Himself but of Christ.

*John 15:26* "I will send you the Advocate the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about Me.”

The Spirit will reprove the world of sin and of righteousness and of judgment.

**John 16:8-11** *When He is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: 9: of sin, because they believe not on Me; 10: of righteousness, because I go to My Father, and ye see Me no more; 11: of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.*

The Spirit gives gifts to believers to be able to know certain things to speak wisdom, direction, into certain situations that people are facing.

The Spirit distributes His gifts within the Church.

**1 Corinthians 12:7-12** *But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man for profit. 8: For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another, the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; 9: To another, faith by the same Spirit; to another, the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; 10: To another, the working of miracles; to another, prophecy; to another, discerning of spirits; to another, divers kinds of languages; to another, the interpretation of languages: 11: But all these worketh that one and the same Spirit, dividing to every man severally as He will. 12: For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.*