

## A HISTORY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

### 1. The Lord and Giver of Life (a description from the Nicene Creed)

#### A. Natural Life

**Genesis 1:2** *Preparing for life*

**Genesis 2:7** *Adam's life*

**Job 32:8** *Our understanding*

**Job 33:4** *Our life*

**Job 34:14-15** *All flesh*

**Psalms 104:29-3** *Animal life*

#### B. Spiritual Life

**John 3:5-8**

**Titus 3:5-6**

#### C. Resurrection Life

**Romans 8:11**

**1 Corinthians 15:42-44**

The “natural body” (literally “soulish body”) is a body animated by the human soul. The “spiritual body” is still a material body, but its life principle is the Holy Spirit.

### 2. The Divine Equipper for Service

**Numbers 11:17** *Moses and 70 elders*

**Judges 3:9-10** *The judges*

**1 Samuel 16:13-14** *King David*

**2 Samuel 23:1-2** *Inspiration of the Psalms*

**Acts 4:31, 33** *The church and the apostles*

### 3. The Spirit in Old Testament and New Testament Saints

#### A. What Old Testament believers had from the Spirit

Old Testament people empowered by the Spirit for service could lose that power as Samson and Saul did. Genuine believers could also lose the joy of salvation as David feared (**Psalm 51:11**). Some have mistakenly taught that the Spirit did not regenerate, indwell, or keep Old Testament believers. This teaching has the practical result of diminishing the vital importance of the Holy Spirit. Old Testament saints needed the Holy Spirit, just as we do, for –

- *New Birth*
- *Fellowship with God* (think of the Psalms)
- *Perseverance* (think of **Hebrews 11**)
- *Holiness* (**Psalm 143:10**)

## B. What is New in the New Testament?

- **Acts 1:8.** *Power for world-wide evangelism*
- **1 Corinthians 12:12-13.** *The church as the body of Christ*
- **1 Corinthians 12:4-6.** *Gifting of every believer for service*
- **Galatians 4:4-7.** *A sense that God is our Father*

## 4. The Holy Spirit in Adam and Christ

### A. The Holy Spirit in Adam

**Genesis 2:7** *Conditional gift of the Holy Spirit*

**John 20:21-22** *Restoring what Adam lost*

**In Ezekiel 37** *Breath, wind = Holy Spirit (v. 14).*

At the Fall, Adam did not acquire a sin nature. Rather, he lost the indwelling Holy Spirit for himself and his descendants. When our human desires are not controlled by the Spirit, they run amuck. Our so-called “sin nature” (not a Scriptural phrase) is simply our human nature that has become twisted and distorted because it has not been submitted to the Holy Spirit. This is what the apostle Paul means by our “flesh.”

### B. The Holy Spirit in Christ

- *Kept sinless from birth* by the Holy Spirit. **Luke 1:35.**
- *Anointed for ministry* at His baptism. **Luke 3:21-22.**
- *Filled with the Spirit* to face temptation. **Luke 4:1-2**
- *Preached and performed miracles* in the power of the Spirit. **Luke 4:14, 18-19; Acts 10:38**

## 5. The Spirit in You

### A. The Christian’s conflict

Not just with your conscience, which everyone has (**Romans 2:14-15; 7:14-25**), but between the flesh and the Holy Spirit. The flesh is that bundle of natural desires you have as a fallen human being.

**Romans 8:12-14**

**Galatians 5:16-18**

### B. What this means for you

- Unsaved: *dominated by the flesh*
- Unsaved: *cannot get yourself born again*  
It comes from God’s will, not yours (**John 1:12-13**).
- Saved: *helpless apart from the Holy Spirit*
- Saved: *Jesus is your model*  
Jesus was God from eternity. What made Him a perfect man was His perfect dependence on the Holy Spirit.

**Finally—Revelation 20:17**