

Brief Survey of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

"The Old Testament may be likened to a chamber richly furnished but dimly lighted: the introduction of light brings into it nothing which was not in it before, but it brings out into clear view much of what is in it but was only dimly or not at all perceived before. The mystery of the Trinity is not revealed in the Old Testament but the mystery of the Trinity underlies the Old Testament revelation, and here and there almost comes into view. Thus, the Old Testament revelation of God is not corrected by the fuller revelation which follows it, but is only perfected, extended, and enlarged." *B. B. Warfield*

"The New is in the Old concealed, and in the New, the Old revealed." *Augustine*

I. Key Roles of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

1. Creator Spiritus

- *Genesis 1:2* — The Spirit of God hovered over the waters at creation.
- *Job 33:4* — "The Spirit of God has made me."
- *Psalms 104:30* — "When you send your Spirit, they are created."

2. Empowering for Service/Implementer

- *Exodus 31:2-5* — Bezalel is filled with the Spirit for craftsmanship.
- *Judges 3:10; 6:34; 14:6* — The Spirit empowers judges to deliver Israel.
- *1 Samuel 16:13* — The Spirit comes upon David at his anointing.

3. Prophetic Inspiration

- *Numbers 11:25-29* — The Spirit enables the seventy elders to prophesy.
- *2 Samuel 23:2* — "The Spirit of the Lord spoke through me."
- *Ezekiel 2:2; 3:24* — The Spirit strengthens the prophet.
- *Micah 3:8* — Filled with power and justice by the Spirit.

4. Guidance and Instruction

- *Nehemiah 9:20* — "You gave your good Spirit to instruct them."
- *Isaiah 63:11-14* — The Spirit leads Israel through the wilderness.

5. Convicting and Restraining

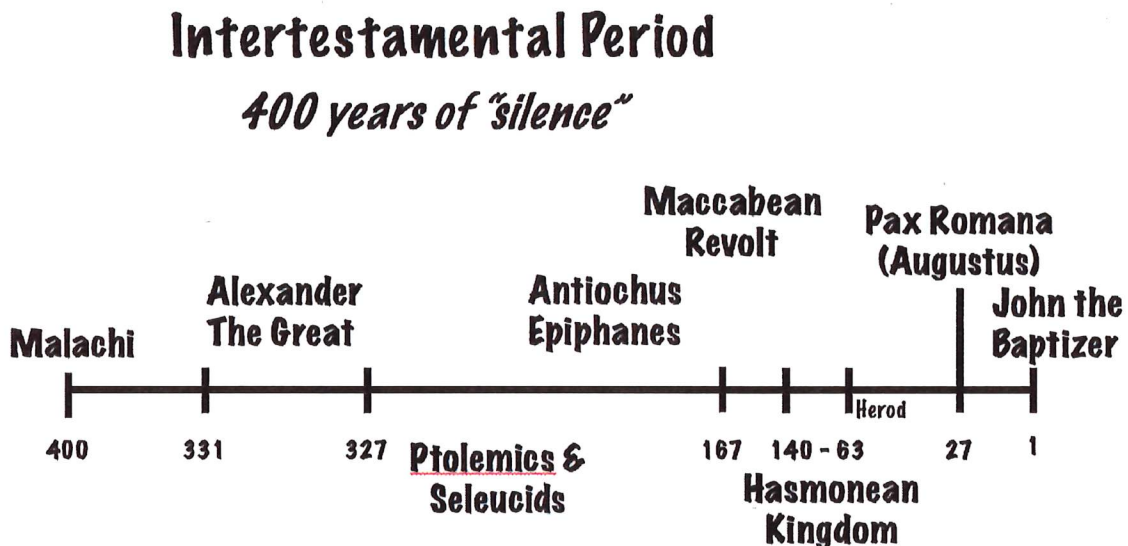
- *Genesis 6:3* — "My Spirit will not strive with man forever."

II. The Spirit in Future Hope

- *Isaiah 32:15* — Spirit poured out leads to justice and peace.
- *Isaiah 44:3* — Promise to pour out Spirit on future generations.
- *Ezekiel 36:26-27* — New heart and Spirit indwelling.
- *Ezekiel 37:14* — "I will put my Spirit in you and you will live."
- *Joel 2:28-29* — "I will pour out my Spirit on all people."

| Theme | Description |
|------------------------|--|
| Creation & Life | Breath of life and creator |
| Empowerment | Equips individuals for divine tasks |
| Revelation | Inspires prophets to speak God's word (and 12 Theophanies) |
| Guidance | Teaches and leads God's people |
| Restraint & Conviction | Interacts with humanity morally and spiritually |
| Future Outpouring | OT anticipates an indwelling |

OT always looking forward to the incarnation of the Servant of the Lord on whom the Spirit of the Lord would rest in all fullness, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and fear of the Lord (Isa 11:2).



"...in the fullness of time..."

- Augustus's leadership marked the start of the **Pax Romana** (Roman Peace), 200 years of stability. Through military control, political reform, and cultural renewal, he laid the foundation for imperial Rome's golden age.
- Stability leads to another invaluable by-product: the ease of good communication.
- One of the periods when a single language was widely understood, leading up to the first century, was marked by pervasive Greek thought forms and culture.
- Due to exilic life, Jews were everywhere, which supported monotheism, available translations of the OT for ordinary literates, innumerable synagogues, and Jewish worship services.

Selected Highlights of HS in the NT

Jesus:

- Conceived in Mary's womb

- Anointed at His baptism
- Continuously lived and worked
- Led into the desert
- Preached, healed, cast out
- Delivered up to death (*Heb 9:14*)
- Raised, revealed in power (*Rom 1:4*)
- Charged disciples between resurrection and ascension
- At ascension, subjected enemies
- Subordinated all angels and power to Himself (*Eph 4:8; 1 Peter 3:22*)
- Ascended on high, taking captive captives, giving gifts to men
- Exalted above all heavens
- Fulfilled all things (*Eph 4:8-10*)

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit. *2 Cor 3:17-18*

- The Hebrew word for Spirit is **ruach** (רוח), meaning "breath," "wind," or "spirit."
- The Greek word is **pneuma** (πνεῦμα), meaning
 1. a current of air, i.e. breath (blast) or a breeze
 2. (by analogy or figuratively) a spirit
 3. (humanly) the rational soul
 4. (by implication) vital principle, mental disposition, etc.
 5. (superhumanly) an angel, or demon
 6. (divinely) God, Christ's spirit, the Holy Spirit

He is God. *Acts 5:3-4; 1 Cor 3:16-17*

He is distinguished from the Father and the Son. *Matt 28:19; 2 Cor 13:13*

He is not a force, but personal and communicative. *Acts 13:2*

Outline of Acts 2

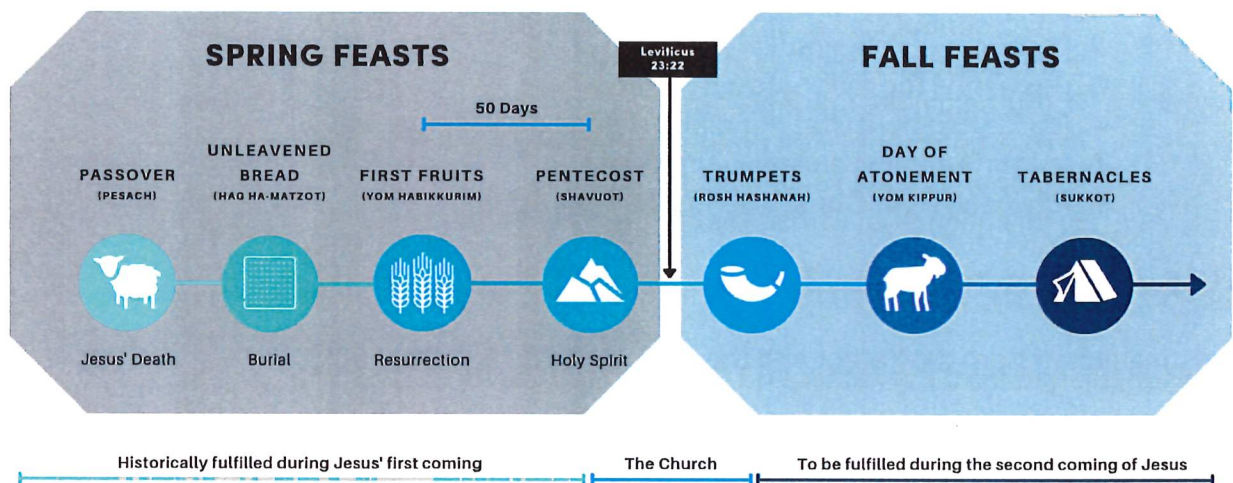
- I. Arrival of the Holy Spirit and Identity of Jesus as Israel's Messiah (1-41)
 - a. Fulfillment at Pentecost (1-4)
 - b. Reaction of the Diaspora Jews Living in Jerusalem (5-13)
 - c. Peter's speech (14-36)
 - i. Address and refutation (14-15)
 - ii. The Spirit of prophecy has arrived as promised in Joel (16-21)
 - iii. The Prophecy has been fulfilled in Jesus' Life, death, and resurrection (22-24)
 - iv. Jesus is David's Promised Heir by His Resurrection (25-32)
 - v. Jesus Has Poured Out the Spirit by His Exaltation (33-36)

- d. Peter's missionary sermon (37-40)
 - i. Repentance, Baptism, Forgiveness, Children
- e. Mass conversions and baptism (41)
- II. The Life of the Jerusalem community of Jesus' Followers (42-47)
 - a. Essential Elements of the Church (42)
 - i. Teaching
 - ii. Fellowship
 - iii. Breaking of bread
 - iv. "The" Prayers
 - b. Effect of the Church on Unbelievers (43)
 - c. Essential Elements Expanded (44-47a)
 - d. Effect of the Church on Unbelievers (47b)
 - e. Continuing Growth (47c)

Acts 2:1-13

¹When the day of Pentecost arrived [*sumpléroó* - fulfilled] They [1:15] were all together in the same place

THE FEASTS OF ISRAEL



| Month #1 | Month #3 | Month #7 |
|---|-----------|---|
| Passover > Unleavened Bread > Firstfruits | Pentecost | Trumpets > Atonement > Tabernacles (Booths) |

²Suddenly there was a sound from heaven like a violent rushing wind [*pnoé*, not *pneuma*] and it filled the entire house where they were sitting

³There appeared to them tongues as if of fire, which divided up among them and rested on each one of them

⁴They were filled with the Holy Spirit and they began to speak in other languages as the Spirit enabled them to speak out [*miracle of speaking?*]

[scene change]

⁵Now there were 1) devout 2) Jews 3) From every nation under heaven 4) living in Jerusalem

⁶When the sound was heard a crowd gathered

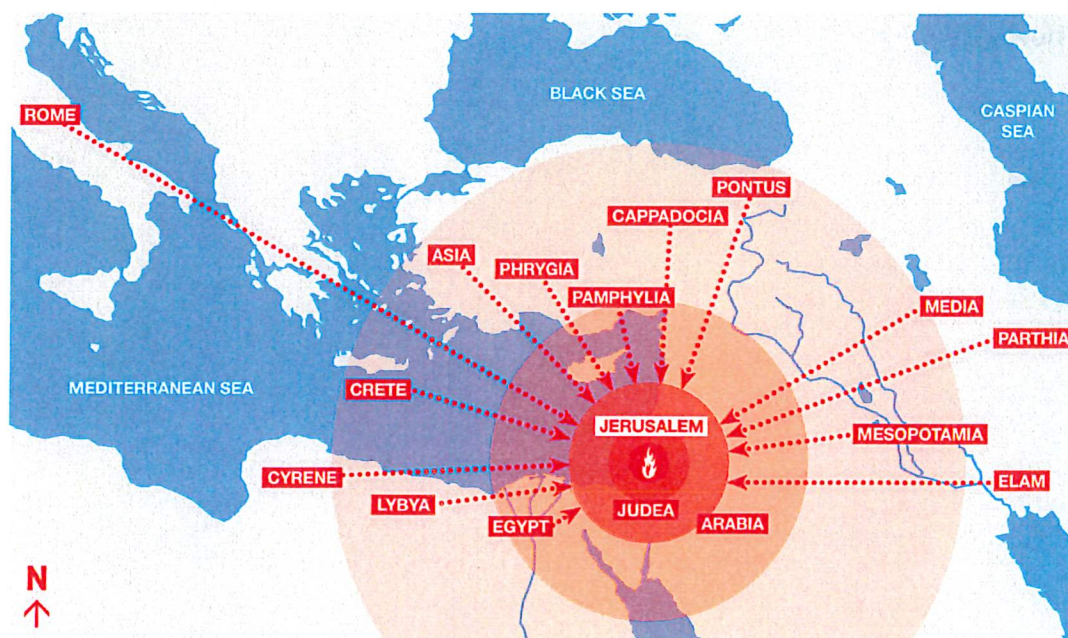
⁷They were **bewildered** because each one heard them speaking in their own language
Amazed and **astonished** they asked, Are not all these people who are speaking **Galileans?**

⁸And how it is that each of us hears them speaking in our own native languages [*miracle of hearing?*]

⁹We are

1 Parthians and
2 Medes and
3 Elamites and residents of
4 Mesopotamia
5 Judea and
6 Cappadocia, of
7 Pontus and
8 Asia, of
9 ¹⁰Phrygia and
10 Pamphylia, of
11 Egypt and the regions of

12 Libya adjacent to
13 Cyrene. And visitors from
14 Rome. ¹¹Both Jews and proselytes,
15 Cretans and
16 Arabs,
Yet we hear them speaking
In our languages
About the mighty deeds of God.



The Lord's Church Among the Nations

| Garden | Noah | Babel | Exodus | Sm/Kg/Chron | Prophets | Acts 2 | Parousia |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------------|
| <i>Expelled</i> | <i>Reboot</i> | <i>Confused</i> | <i>Separated</i> | <i>United/Divided</i> | <i>Exiled</i> | GATHERED | <i>Consummated</i> |

¹²They were all **bewildered** and **perplexed**, saying to one another, What does this mean?

¹³But others **scoffed** and said, They are full of sweet new wine.

New Identity and Assurance of Salvation

The Holy Spirit testifies with your spirit that you are a child of God (Romans 8:16).

- Assurance of salvation (John 17)
- Wisdom regarding suffering and hardship, supporting all the facets of your being: cognitive, emotional, physical, social, and spiritual. (Romans 8:17).

Inner Transformation and Sanctification

Spiritual fruit (Galatians 5:22–23) helping you to mortify the flesh (Romans 8:13).

- Progressive sanctification, glory to glory, of your inner woman and inner man.
- You become more like Christ through the Spirit's power and your own agency.
- Habits, desires, and affections are reshaped and mature throughout your days on earth.

Empowerment for Purpose and Witness

Jesus said, "You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you" (Acts 1:8).

- The Spirit gives you power for kingdom work, equipping you with spiritual gifts and enabling you to witness boldly
- Enables courage and compassion in serving others and proclaiming the gospel
- Life is hard but not futile. Your life is a Spirit-directed mission in helping make a new heaven and new earth.

NOTES