

# **The Spirit, the Prophets, and the Christ**



# Possessed the Spirit of God

How did the Pharaoh see that Joseph possessed **the Spirit of God** (Gen 41:38)?

There are certain abilities that come with possessing the Spirit.

What are some other indications that someone **possesses the Spirit of God**?

Some say, “Those who have the Spirit must prophesy, speak in tongues and, or hear God’s voice speaking to them.”

# The Prophet Balaam

Does **preaching** God's Word make someone righteous?

Some say, "Prophets can speak wrong, err, and make mistakes."

"When Balaam saw that it pleased the Lord to bless Israel, he did not go, as at other times, to look for omens, but set his face toward the wilderness. And Balaam lifted up his eyes and saw Israel camping tribe by tribe. And the Spirit of God came upon him," (Num 24:1–2 ESV).

**Balaam could not curse** Israel (Num 24:1 –14; cf. 22:1–21).

# Become a Prophet

## How did Ezekiel **become a prophet?**

The Spirit came upon Ezekiel and set him on his feet. Then, God sent him on a mission (Ezek 2:1–7).

**“God will not use a prophet who is **bitter in spirit.**”**

“The Spirit lifted me up and took me away, and I went in bitterness in the heat of my spirit, the hand of the Lord being strong upon me” (Ezek 3:14; cf. 3:24).

# Such a Prophet

How did God use **such a prophet**?

“He put out the form of a hand and took me by a lock of my head, and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven and brought me in visions of God to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the gateway of the inner court that faces north, where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provokes to jealousy”  
(Ezek 8:3; cf. 11:1, 24–25; 37:1; 43:5).

# The Power of the Spirit

Micah spoke of a time when **diviners and seers** will no longer hear from God.

How did Micah describe **the Holy Spirit working with Him?**

“But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the Lord, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin” (Mic 3:8; cf. 2:6–7).

# Convict the World

Some say, “The people of the world cannot understand **the Holy Spirit.**”

However, Christ revealed that the Holy Spirit will convict the world concerning sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16:7–11).

Calvinists teach that **no one can understand God’s revelation until the Spirit acts upon a person.**

“The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned” (1 Cor 2:14).

# Sent by His Spirit

Zechariah **revealed** an important point about how the Jews refused to listen to God.

“They made their hearts diamond-hard lest they should hear the law and the words that the Lord of hosts had sent by his Spirit through the former prophets. Therefore great anger came from the Lord of hosts” (Zech 7:12; cf. 2 Chron 15:1–2).

How would they be able to hear **former prophets**?

Did the Spirit inspire all of the Old Testament?

# Sent by the Spirit

Some say, “**Christ** sent the **Spirit**, but the Spirit did not send the Christ.”

“Draw near to me, hear this: from the beginning I have not spoken in secret, from the time it came to be I have been there.’ And now the Lord God has sent me, and his Spirit. Thus says the Lord, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel:” (Isa 48:16–17a).

Who spoke these **words**?

Who sent this person?

# The Spirit of the Lord

What will **the Spirit** accomplish upon Christ?

“There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord”  
(Isa 11:1–2).

This **one will judge** and decide equity for the meek of the earth.

He will strike the earth with the rod of His mouth and the breath of His lips will kill the wicked (Isa 11:3–5).

# Justice to the Nations

What will the Messiah bring forth **with the Spirit** upon Him?

“Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations. He will not cry aloud or lift up his voice, or make it heard in the street; a bruised reed he will not break, and a faintly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice” (Isa 42:1–3).

Is the **Holy Spirit** merely “the Spirit of grace” (Heb 10:29)?

# Like a Dove

When did God put **the Spirit** upon Jesus?

“Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, ‘You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.’” (Luke 3:21–22; cf. Matt 3:13 –17; Mark 1:9–11; John 1:32).

God anointed Jesus with **the Spirit** and power (Acts 10:38).

Did Jesus not have the Spirit at this time?

# Anointed

Where did **the Spirit** lead Jesus after His baptism (Luke 4:1–2)?

How did Jesus return from this event (Luke 4:14–15)?

Jesus went teaching in the synagogues, and He **stood to read** at the synagogue in Nazareth.

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor” (Luke 4:18–19; cf. Isa 61:1–2a).

# The Spirit of Holiness

Some people emphasize, “The **Holy Spirit** is a mystical guide.”

“Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord,” (Rom 1:1–4).

God declared Jesus “the Son of God” by Jesus’s resurrection **according to the Spirit.**

# The Spirit of Christ

The **Holy Spirit** is about revealing Jesus as the Christ through Scripture.

Therefore, the Holy Spirit is **the Spirit of Christ**.

“Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories” (1 Pet 1:10–11).

# Picture of the Spirit

After referencing all of the scriptures about the Holy Spirit in the OT, what **picture** do believers receive of the Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is God's Spirit **revealing truth** to the prophets and guiding Scripture.

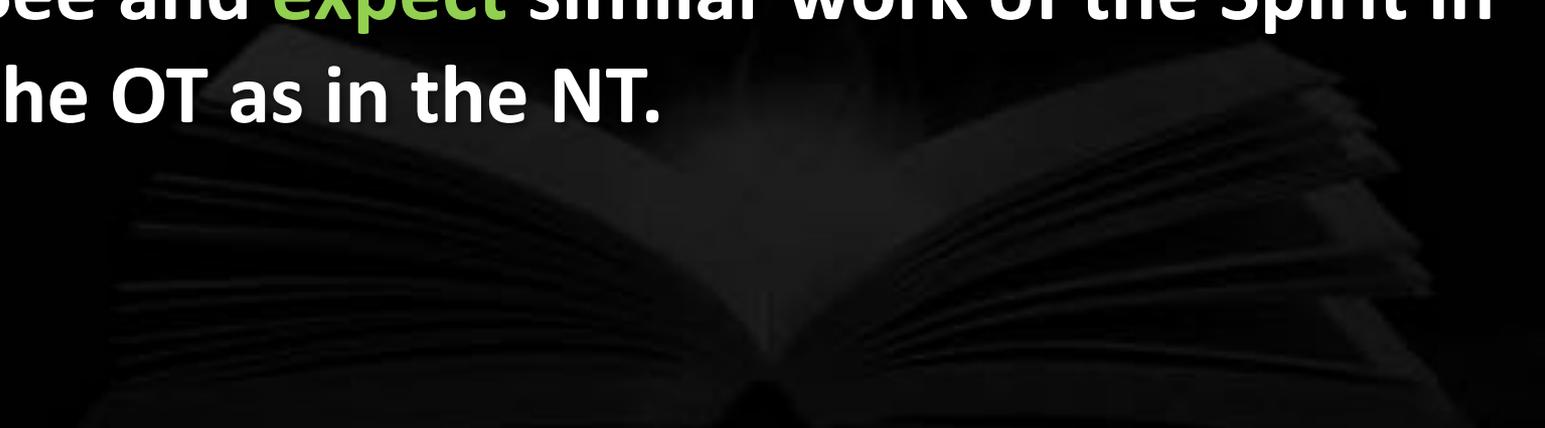
The Holy Spirit **works in sync** with God the Father and the Son.

# Challenge

Make **no assumptions** about the Holy Spirit.

Keep **a biblical picture** of the work of the Holy Spirit.

See and **expect** similar work of the Spirit in the OT as in the NT.



# Invitation

No one can **be saved** without the regeneration, sanctification, and justification of the Spirit (John 3:5; 1 Cor 6:11; Titus 3:5).

The work of God to declare Jesus **by the Holy Spirit** was “to bring about the obedience of faith for the sake of his name among all the nations,” (Rom 1:5).

# The Spirit and Prophets

