

“I’ve got the Father on my side, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, and 2/3rds of the angels. What do you think I am going to do? Sit down and cry?”

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THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

LESSON TEN

After a few more lessons, we will be finished with the introductory material of this course and get more into the experience of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, how to receive the Baptism, the gifts and fruit of the Holy Spirit, and other topics which will stir your heart for the things of God and give you a deep desire for this experience, The Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

At this point I believe it would be helpful to look at the work of the Holy Spirit. I would like to review and revise some teachings that I received from Don Van Hoozier at High Point Church in Macon, Georgia, because they are so good, and there is no need to reinvent the wheel, when my spiritual father has plowed the way for us and left us with a scriptural and insightful analysis, so the following material in Lesson Ten is a recapitulation of Brother Don’s writings and thoughts and often exact words, as I remember them:

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE LIFE OF JESUS

A believer can never be the same once the concept of Jesus as the Pattern Son lays hold upon him. For example, we read that we’re to look *“unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith”* (Hebrews 12:2). The word *author* here does not mean *originator*, as most people think. It rather means the *prince-leader* or *the one who goes before to set the example or pattern or demonstrate the way*. Hence Jesus walked upon this earth in a human body in a life of faith fully dependent upon His Heavenly Father for everything. The New Testament refers to Jesus far more frequently as the *Son of Man* than as the *Son of God*. Not only did He walk by faith, but *all* He did, He did not as God but as a man by the Spirit of God. And we have the same Spirit-though without doubt, not the same measure.

Let’s look at the analogy between the life of our Lord and the lives of His people.

1. HE WAS BORN OF THE SPIRIT:

Matthew 1:18-20: *Now the birth of Jesus was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, “Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit.*

From this passage of scripture, we see *by the Spirit*, the Son of God became the Son of man and by being born of the same Spirit, when we are born again by the Spirit of God, the sons of men become the sons of God. There is no spiritual life apart from the Spirit of God for He came to us with quickening grace when we were quite literally dead in trespasses and sins and not at all seeking Him. Having been born of the Spirit as a man, He learned obedience through the things which He suffered, and though by 12 years of age, He knew a real sense of His mission, it was not until He was thirty years old that the Holy Spirit who was in Him came upon Him.

2. THE HOLY SPIRIT, WHO WAS IN HIM, CAME UPON HIM:

MATTHEW 3:13-17: *Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" But Jesus answered, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."* Then he allowed Him. When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him.

This calls to mind John 20:21-22, after Jesus breathed the Holy Spirit into His Disciples: *So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you."*

And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit."

At his time, when He basically commissions His disciples to go into all the world and share the Gospel, he told them to wait in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came "upon them," and said this experience would give them power to witness. Again these are the same disciples whom He had already breathed on and who had received the Holy Spirit, but not the baptism or infilling of the Spirit.

3. SHORTLY AFTER THIS, HE WAS LED BY THE SPIRIT INTO THE WILDERNESS TO BE TEMPTED BY THE DEVIL:

Matthew 4:1: *Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.*

I believe that every true baptism in the Spirit is followed quite shortly by a testing at the hands of Satan. It has its purpose and is allowed of God, and, if we walk in dependence upon the Spirit's power and in obedience of the Word of God, God will bring us out, even as Jesus came out of the wilderness and "*returned in the power of the Spirit.*"

4. NEXT, AFTER THIS WILDERNESS EXPERIENCE, WE SEE HIM MOVING INTO THE MINISTRY HIS FATHER HAD SENT HIM TO DO:

Luke 4:18-19: *For in the synagogue He stood up and said, "The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year (an allusion to the Old Testament Year of Jubilee) of the LORD."* This is a partial quoting by Jesus in Luke of a passage of scripture in Isaiah 61:1-2.

He did not receive His call and ordination from men but from His Father. He did not come from theological seminaries or schools of religion. Yet people were astonished when they heard Him because He spoke with authority and power. True spiritual authority and power can never originate with man but must come from God.

5. EVERY WORK OF POWER (MIRACLES, HEALINGS, ETC.) HE DID AS A MAN BY THE SPIRIT, EVEN TO THE TIME OF HIS DEATH, WHEN "THROUGH THE ETERNAL SPIRIT, HE OFFERED HIMSELF WITHOUT SPOT TO GOD":

Matthew 12:28: *"But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you."*

Hebrews 9:14: *How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?* Surely our Lord walked in great wisdom and in such dependence upon the Holy Spirit that there were no mistakes and no regrets.

6. THE SPIRIT WAS HIS WISDOM:

His commandments to the Apostles were given through the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:2 *...until the day He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He has chosen.*

It is very significant that many of the titles given to the Pattern Son are also given to believers in Christ:

- **He is the Son of God:** Galatians 4:4: *But when the fulness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law.*
- **We are sons of God:** Galatians 4:5: *To redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*
- **He is the Servant of God:** Isaiah 42:1: *Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect One in whom My soul delights.*
- **We are the servants of God:** Romans 6:22: *But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness and the end, everlasting life.*
- **He is the Witness:** Isaiah 55:4: *Indeed I have given Him as a witness to the people, a leader and commander for the people.*
- **We are witnesses:** Acts 1:8: ***“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.”***
- **He is the Light of the world:** John 8:12: *Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, **“I am the Light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life.”***
- **We are the light of the world:** Matthew 5:14: ***“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.”***
- **He is the High Priest:** Hebrews 3:1: *Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus....*
- **We are priests unto God:** Revelation 1:5-6: *...and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth, to Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever, Amen.*
- **He is the Lamb:** John 1:29: *The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”*
- **We are lambs:** Luke 10:3: ***“Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves.***
- **He is the Branch:** Zechariah 6:12: *“Then speak to him, saying, “Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying, ‘Behold the Man whose name is the BRANCH!’”*
- **We are the branches:** John 15:5: ***“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.***

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE WORLD

- **He creates:** Job 33:4: *The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.*
- **He renews:** Isaiah 32:12-15: *People shall mourn upon their breasts for the pleasant fields, for the fruitful vine. On the land of my people will come up thorns and briers, yes, on all the happy homes in the joyous city, because the palaces will be forsaken, the bustling city will be deserted, the forts and towers will become lairs forever, a joy of wild donkeys, a pasture of flocks, until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is counted as a forest.*
- **He convicts:** John 16:8-11: *“And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin and of righteousness and of judgment; of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.”*

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN SCRIPTURE

- **He speaks to prophets:** Acts 28:25: So when they did not agree among themselves, they departed after Paul had said one word: “The Holy Spirit spoke rightly through Isaiah the prophet to our fathers, saying, ‘Go to this people and say: Hearing you will hear and shall not understand; and seeing you will see and not perceive; for the hearts of this people have grown dull. Their ears are hard of hearing, and their eyes they have closed, lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears, lest they should understand with their hearts and turn, so that I should heal them.’”
- **He speaks to psalmists:** Acts 1:16-17: *“Men and brethren, this scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke before by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus, for he was numbered with us and obtained a part in this ministry.”* [see Psalm 41:9]
- **He is the source of all scripture:** 2nd Timothy 3:16: *All scripture is given by inspiration of God [theopneustos or God-breathed] and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness.*
- **He is the Sword of God, which is the Word of God:** Ephesians 6:17: *And take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God...*

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE CHURCH

- **He fills:** Acts 2:4: *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*
- **He baptizes:** 1st Corinthians 12:13: *For by one Spirit we were baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.*
- **He appoints officials:** Acts 20:28: *Therefore take heed to yourselves and to all the flock, among which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to shepherd the church of God which He [Jesus] purchased with His own blood.*
- **He sends out missionaries:** Acts 13:2: *As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, “Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.”*
- **He directs missionaries:** Acts 8:29: *Then the Spirit said to Philip, “Go near and overtake this chariot.”*

- **He comforts the church:** Acts 9:31: *Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord and the comfort of the Holy Spirit, they were multiplied.*

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE BELIEVER'S LIFE

- **He regenerates:** John 3:5: Jesus answered, ***“Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”***
- **He indwells:** Romans 8:11: *But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.*
- **He anoints:** 1st John 2:27: *But the anointing which you have received from Him abides in you; but as the same anointing teaches you concerning all things and is true and is not a lie, and just as it has taught you, you will abide in Him.* 1st John 2:20: *But you have an anointing from the Holy One, and you know all things.*
- **He baptizes:** Acts 2:17-21 & 2:38-41: *“And it shall come to pass in the last days,” says God, “that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and daughters shall prophesy. Your young men shall see visions. Your old men shall dream dreams, and on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; and they shall prophesy. I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs in the earth beneath: blood and vapor of smoke. The sun shall be turned into darkness and the moon into blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD. And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.”* Then Peter said to them, *“Repent and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call. “ And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, “Be saved from this perverse generation.”* Then those who gladly received his word were baptized, and that day about three thousand souls were added to them.
- **He guides:** John 16:13: *However, when He, the Spirit of Truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak, and He will tell you things to come.*
- **He empowers:** Micah 3:8: *But truly I am full of power by the Spirit of the LORD and of justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin.*
- **He sanctifies:** 2nd Thessalonians 2:13: *But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren, beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.*
- **He bears witness:** Romans 8:16-17: *The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and, if children, then heirs-heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.*
- **He helps:** John 14:16-17: ***“And I pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He might abide with you forever, the Spirit of Truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him, but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you.”***
- **He gives joy:** Romans 14:17: *...for the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.*

- **He bears fruit:** Galatians 5:22-23: *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control-against there is no law.*
- **He gives gifts:** 1st Corinthians 12:8-11: *...For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.*
- **He invites:** Revelation 22:17: *And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come!" And let him who hears say, "Come!" And let him who thirsts come. Whoever desires, let him take the water of life freely.*