

THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit appears in the Old Testament – not once, not twice, but (at least) 57 times. The Spirit appears in 21 out of 39 Old Testament books, which is 54% of the Old Testament books. He's present, He's moving, and He's doing stuff.



Creation: 6 verses

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 – Genesis 1:2



Renewing life: 8 verses

You gave your good Spirit to instruct them. You did not withhold your manna from their mouths, and you gave them water for their thirst. – Nehemiah 9:20



Striving with sin: 9 verses

For many years you were patient with them. By your Spirit you warned them through your prophets. Yet they paid no attention, so you gave them into the hands of the neighbouring peoples. – Nehemiah 9:30



Inspired holiness: 8 verses

“As for me, this is my covenant with them,” says the Lord. “My Spirit, who is on you, will not depart from you, and my words that I have put in your mouth will always be on your lips, on the lips of your children and on the lips of their descendants—from this time on and forever,” says the Lord. – Isaiah 59:21



Prophesying: 9 verses

The Spirit of the Lord will come powerfully upon you, and you will prophesy with them; and you will be changed into a different person. – 1 Samuel 10:6



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Empowering: 10 verses

So he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty. - Zechariah 4:6



Pointed to the Messiah: 5 verses

"Here is my servant, whom I uphold,
my chosen one in whom I delight;
I will put my Spirit on him,
and he will bring justice to the nations. - Isaiah 42:1

in the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit created, renewed, strived against sin, inspired holiness, prophesied, empowered, and pointed to the Messiah.

Discussion questions

1. Were you aware that the Holy Spirit was so present in the Old Testament?
2. Which of the 7 movements of the Holy Spirit attracts you the most? Why?
3. Which of the 7 movements of the Holy Spirit would you like more of in your life?
4. How does this history of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament change our reading of Pentecost in the New Testament?
5. How does this better understanding of the Holy Spirit change our understanding of the Spirit today?
6. Anything else that strikes you that you want to share?

