



HE'S ALWAYS BEEN

In the Beginning | Genesis 1:2

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.

The Holy Spirit and Man | Judges 6:34

Then the Spirit of the Lord came on Gideon, and he blew a trumpet, summoning the Abiezrites to follow him.

The Holy Spirit Appoints | 1 Samuel 16:13

So Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and from that day on the Spirit of the Lord came powerfully upon David. Samuel then went to Ramah.

The Holy Spirit's Transformative Power | Ezekiel 36:26-27

26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit in you; I will remove from you your heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit in you and move you to follow my decrees and be careful to keep my laws.

The Spirit Who Equally Empowers All for Kingdom Work | Joel 2:28-29

28 "And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. 29 Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

LET'S OBSERVE...

Observe Him in Judges 6:34

- Then the Spirit of the Lord _____ Gideon, and he blew a trumpet, summoning the Abiezrites to follow him.
 - ***Usage:** The Hebrew verb "labash" primarily means "to clothe" or "to put on" garments. It is used both in literal and metaphorical contexts throughout the Hebrew Bible. Literally, it refers to the act of dressing oneself or others in clothing. Metaphorically, it can describe being endowed with qualities or attributes, such as righteousness or strength.
 - ***Cultural and Historical Background:** In ancient Hebrew culture, clothing was not only a practical necessity but also a symbol of status, identity, and transformation. Garments could signify mourning, joy, authority, or servitude. The act of putting on or changing clothes often marked significant life events or changes in status. For example, priests wore specific garments for their service, and kings donned royal robes as a sign of their authority.

Observe the meaning of Samuel in 1 Samuel 16:13

- Info found on BibleHub.com (search 1 Sam. 16:13 and click on *Lexicon*)
 - **Meaning:** "name of God" or "heard by God." His name reflects his mother's prayer and God's response, as seen in 1 Samuel 1:20, "So in the course of time, Hannah conceived and gave birth to a son. She named him Samuel, saying, 'Because I have asked for him from the LORD.'"
 - **Observation:** The Holy Spirit speaks to humanity but also listens, prayer is two-way communication.

Observe His work in Ezekiel 36

- **Read** Ezekiel 36:20-38 for context
 - Who is at fault?
 - Who resolves the situation?
 - How?
 - Why?

Observe Joel 2:28-29; underline each person eligible to be empowered by the Holy Spirit

- "And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days.

*Resource: BibleHub.com - Strong's Lexicon



CONCORDANCE ACTIVITY

Look up the following words:



Spirit of God: Hebrew: רוּחַ אֱלֹהִים (Ruach Elohim)
Strong's H7307 and H430



Came upon: Hebrew: לָבַשׁ (labash)
Strong's H3847



Anoint: Hebrew: מָשַׁח (mashach)
Strong's H4886



Heart: Hebrew: לֵב (leb)
Strong's H3820



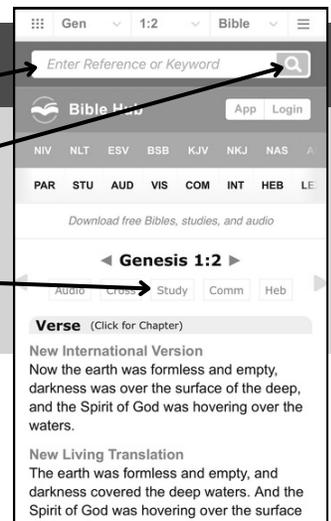
Pour Out: Hebrew: שָׁפַךְ (shaphak)
Strong's H8210



ONLINE RESOURCE ACTIVITY

Observe Genesis 1:2

- Go to BibleHub.com and do a search for Genesis 1:2, and then click on the magnifying glass.
- Once it loads, click on the button titled "Study"
 - Read the **Study Bible** section.



LET'S INTERPRET...

- What do you believe all of these verses mean?
- What is God speaking to you personally through this study?
- Read a trusted commentary and compare to your interpretation.



NOW, LET'S READ THE AFTER-SUMMARY TOGETHER

From the very beginning, the Holy Spirit has been present, moving in power and bringing order where there was once chaos. In Genesis 1:2, before the world was formed, Scripture tells us that the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters—present in the darkness, ready to bring about creation. This shows us that even when everything seems formless and void in our own lives, the Holy Spirit is there, moving and preparing something new. No situation is too chaotic for God to step into and bring light.

Throughout the Old Testament, the Spirit of God came upon people to empower them for a specific purpose. Judges 6:34 describes how the Spirit of the Lord “clothed” Gideon, as if he were putting on a garment. This image is powerful—when God’s Spirit comes upon someone, they are covered, strengthened, and equipped to do what they couldn’t do on their own. It wasn’t about Gideon’s ability but about God’s presence enabling him to lead Israel to victory. In the same way, when we feel weak, uncertain, or unqualified, the Holy Spirit clothes us with God’s strength to do what He’s called us to do.

The Spirit also brings transformation. In 1 Samuel 16:13, when the prophet Samuel anointed David as king, the Spirit of the Lord rushed upon him from that day forward. David wasn’t just chosen—he was changed. The Spirit gave him wisdom, courage, and the heart of a king. This reminds us that God’s Spirit isn’t just about giving us power for a task; He changes us from the inside out, shaping our character and preparing us for what’s ahead.

But what about when we fail? What happens when we turn away from God? In Ezekiel 36:26-27, God, in His mercy, promises to give His people a new heart and a new spirit, saying He will remove their hearts of stone and give them hearts of flesh. This isn’t just about Israel—it’s a picture of what God does for all who turn to Him. He doesn’t just command us to follow Him; He gives us the Holy Spirit to help us walk in His ways. This is the mercy of God—He doesn’t leave us on our own but provides everything we need to live for Him.

And the best part? This isn’t just for a select few. The Old Testament sets the stage for what’s to come—God’s desire to pour out His Spirit on all people who belong to Christ, without discrimination. No matter your background, your struggles, or your past, God invites you to receive His Spirit. He is still hovering over the chaos, still clothing His people with power, still transforming hearts, and still offering mercy. The question is: will you receive Him?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- **Applying Genesis 1:2:** Where in your life do you feel like things are chaotic, and how might the Holy Spirit be moving in that situation to bring order and new creation?
- **Applying Judges 6:34:** Gideon was “clothed” with the Spirit to do something he didn’t feel capable of doing. What is God calling you to step into that feels beyond your ability, and how can you rely on the Holy Spirit’s power rather than your own?
- **Applying Ezekiel 36:26-27:** This passage speaks of God giving His people a new heart and a new spirit. Are there areas in your heart that feel hardened toward God? How might the Holy Spirit be inviting you to let Him transform you from the inside out?
- **Applying Joel 2:28-29:** God desires to pour out His Spirit on all who belong to Christ, without discrimination. Are there any biases or limitations you’ve placed—on yourself or others—when it comes to receiving or recognizing the work of the Holy Spirit? How can you align your heart with God’s desire for all people to experience His Spirit?

CLOSING PRAYER

Father, we are so grateful that have always been. In a chaotic and unstable world, you are our stability. Thank you for sending your Son so that we may have access to you, your thoughts, your plans, and your love. Your agent of change in the earth has been your Holy Spirit from the very beginning. Holy Spirit, we’re grateful for your comfort, guidance, protection, and that you advocate for us. Forgive us for quenching you when all you desire is to see the Father’s perfect plan for our lives come to pass.

And now we ask that you teach us how to tap in to your presence like never before. Give us a greater awareness of your presence, and a more sensitive ear to your voice. Continue to lead us and guide us in all truth. And we ask that you teach us how to walk in the empowerment you have bestowed on us, so that we may be a blessing in the earth. We are aware of our shortcomings and that apart from you we are nothing. Thank you for pouring out on each and every one of us in generous measure, so that Jesus may be glorified in us and through us. We pray this in the matchless name of Jesus, amen!



Homework: Pray and ask the Holy Spirit to give you insight and understanding of the Word, then read Acts 2:1-13.

Next Week: We will study the Holy Spirit in the New Testament.