

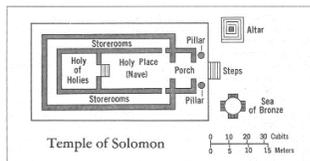


## The Mystery of The Spirit – Week 3 Sermon Notes (September 1, 2019)

In the Old Covenant God made with the Jews, the Holy Spirit of God dwelled in the temple in Jerusalem.



The inside of the temple was divided into three parts.



The Holy of Holies was the hot spot of God's presence on earth.



There were times in both the tabernacle of Moses in the Wilderness and in the temple of Solomon that God manifested His presence with fire in those temples.



In the new covenant, the followers of Jesus are the hot spot of God's presence on earth. We are the temple of the Holy Spirit.



**Last week, we saw that when the Holy Spirit encounters something, His Spirit changes the nature of whatever He encounters...**

- A woman conceived and bore a son in her very old age (Gen. 21:2).
- Moses used a rod to perform extraordinary signs – like parting the Red Sea (Ex. 14).
- Elijah, the great prophet, performed 8 extraordinary miracles.
- His disciple, Elisha, performed 16 extraordinary miracles (double portion of spirit).
- A donkey spoke (Numbers 22:21-39).
- An axe head floated (2 Kings 6:1-7).
- A bush burned with fire but was not consumed (Ex. 3:1-4).
- A virgin conceived and bore a son – Jesus (Luke 1:26-2:20).
- Jesus performed extraordinary signs – He had the Spirit without measure (John 3:34).
- Jesus rose from the dead (Matt. 28).

**In all these stories, the Holy Spirit encountered something and changed its nature.**

- It is not the nature of an axe head to float.
- It is not the nature of a donkey to speak.
- It is not the nature of a sea to part and present dry ground.
- It is not the nature of a virgin to conceive.

When Jesus saves you and you receive the Holy Spirit, His Spirit encounters your spirit and changes its nature. The Bible teaches that your old man dies and that you are reborn of the Spirit of God as a new creation in Christ:

### **Romans 6:6-11**

6 We know that **our old self was crucified with him** [Jesus] in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. 7 For one who has died has been set free from sin. 8 Now if **we have died with Christ**, we believe that we will also live with him. 9 We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. 10 For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. 11 **So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.**

- Past tense – WAS crucified, we HAVE died, and we ARE dead to sin and alive to God.
- Spiritual reality, not a physical one...

### John 3:3-8

3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.**" 4 Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, **unless one is born of water and the Spirit**, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and **that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.** 7 Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

- Reborn in the spirit, not in the flesh (spiritual reality).

### 2 Corinthians 5:16-17

16 From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. 17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, **he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come.**

- We USED TO regard people according to the flesh, but NOT ANY MORE. Spiritual reality.

### Ephesians 4:22-24

to **put off your old self**, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, 24 and to **put on the new self**, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

- The NEW SELF is created after the likeness of God – the Holy Spirit who gives us new birth.

### Titus 3:3-7

3 For **we ourselves were once** foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, hated by others and hating one another. 4 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, 5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, **by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit**, 6 whom **he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior**, 7 so that being justified by his grace we might **become heirs** according to the hope of eternal life.

- The Holy Spirit is the One who is responsible for regeneration (rebirth).

### Colossians 3:9-10

9 Do not lie to one another, seeing that you have **put off the old self** with its practices 10 and have **put on the new self**, which is **being renewed in knowledge after the image of its creator.**

11 Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

- Don't find your identity in your humanity (race, ethnicity, religion, socioeconomic status – these are identities of the flesh.
- Find your identity in the SPIRIT! In who you are in Christ. The new man. The new self. A spiritual identity. The part of you that has been reborn, remade, after the image of the Holy Spirit.

Do you see it in these passages? When God's Holy Spirit encounters our spirit, He changes the nature of our spirit. These passages, along with others, teach us that we have been made a new creation in Christ.

### How does the Scripture describe the old man and the new man? (Old Man vs. New Man Handout)

#### Story and Visual: Moving Scripture from our Heads to our Hearts

- STORY – Genesis Account of Creation and the Fall
- VISUAL – The Picture Frames (Pictures of Images in the Frames on the Screen)

With this story and visual aid in your minds, see it again in the Scriptures:

#### Ephesians 2:1-9

1 And **you were dead in the trespasses and sins** 2 in which you **once walked**, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— 3 among whom **we all once lived** in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and **were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.** 4 **But God**, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, 5 **even when we were dead** in our trespasses, **made us alive together with Christ**—by grace you have been saved— 6 and **raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus**, 7 so that in the coming ages he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. 8 For by grace you have been saved through faith. And this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God, 9 not a result of works, so that no one may boast.

#### The OLD MAN is dead, the NEW MAN is alive:

- "You were dead" (v.1)
- "You once walked" (v.2)
- "We all once lived" (v. 3)
- "Were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind" (v.3)
- "But God" (v. 4)

- “Made us alive together with Christ” (v.5)
- “Raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus” (v. 6)

**AGAIN!**

### **Colossians 2:13-15**

13 **And you, who were dead in your trespasses** and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **God made alive together with him**, having forgiven us all our trespasses, 14 by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross. 15 He disarmed the rulers and authorities and put them to open shame, by triumphing over them in him.

**We WERE DEAD, but we have been MADE ALIVE:**

- “You were dead in your trespasses” (v. 13)
- “God made [you] alive together with him” (v. 13)

**What is this called? The Bible calls it “regeneration” – and it is a work of the Holy Spirit:**

### **Titus 3:5**

5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, **by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit**,

### **Biblical Account of the Regeneration of the Holy Spirit in You:**

- You were spiritually dead in your trespasses and sins (Eph 2:1, Col. 2:13).
- You were living out that existence in a body that is under the curse of sin and death (Rom. 6-7).
- By grace through faith you believed in Christ (Eph. 2:4-9).
- Through Christ’s atoning work on the cross, God forgave you of your sins and cleared your record (Eph. 1:7-8).
  - This made you “not wrong” with God.
- Jesus sent His Holy Spirit to come and indwell you, and you became God’s dwelling place, His temple (1 Cor. 6:19).
- When the Holy Spirit encountered your spirit, He put to death your old man (spiritually) and you were reborn of the Spirit of God as a new man, a new creation in Christ Jesus (John 3:1-8).
- Your old man died spiritually, and your new man is alive spiritually (2 Cor. 5:17).
- You received a new identity in Christ through the work of the Spirit (Col. 3:9-10, Gal. 2:20).
  - This makes you “right” with God.
- You began to live out your new spiritual existence, but you still live out that existence for now in a body that is under the curse of sin and death (Gal. 2:20).

- One day, your physical body will die, and you will receive a new body. BUT YOU WILL BE THE SAME PERSON SPIRITUALLY THEN THAT YOU ALREADY ARE NOW!! (Col. 3:1-4)

### **There are two resurrections!**

- Resurrection of your spirit from death to life (has already happened).
- Resurrection of your body from death to life (will happen in the future).

**Spiritually, You ALREADY are the NEW MAN if you are in Christ Jesus.**

**How should you respond to this truth of regeneration, that those who are Christians have been born again of the Spirit of God and are a new creation in Christ?**

### **How Should We Respond?**

1. Repent, be baptized, and be filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38).
2. Believe the whole gospel – you ARE the NEW MAN (2 Cor. 5:17).
3. Realize we have a job to do – tell others the good news (Acts 1:8).
  - a. There is a world full of people who are dead in their trespasses and sins – they are the old man!
  - b. There is a church (globally) full of Christians who believe they are still the old man.
  - c. Come to faith about who you are, and teach others who they are / can be through the regenerate power of the Holy Spirit of God!