

# Judges Series

## Lesson #27

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Dean Bible Ministries

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**The Holy Spirit in the  
Old Testament:  
In Key People**

**Judges 3:7–9**

# JUDGES

**Moral Relativism  
Destroys a Nation**

**2021 Series**



**OTHNIEL**  
**The First Judge**

**Judges 3:7–11**



**Judg. 3:10, “And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel. When he went out to war, the LORD gave Cushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand, so that he prevailed over Cushan-rishathaim.”**

**עָזַז Verb qal wawConsec 3  
fem sing “to be strong,  
overpower,”  
“When used of man, this word  
carries the idea of prevailing as  
in a war or struggle” ~TWOT**

**עַל־2 prep  
upon, over, above**



**Judg. 3:10, “The Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel. He went out to war, and the LORD delivered Cushan-Rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed over Cushan-Rishathaim.”**

**Judg. 6:34, “But the Spirit of the LORD came upon Gideon; then he blew the trumpet, and the Abiezrites gathered behind him.”**



**Judg. 11:29, “Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh, and passed through Mizpah of Gilead; and from Mizpah of Gilead he advanced toward the people of Ammon.”**

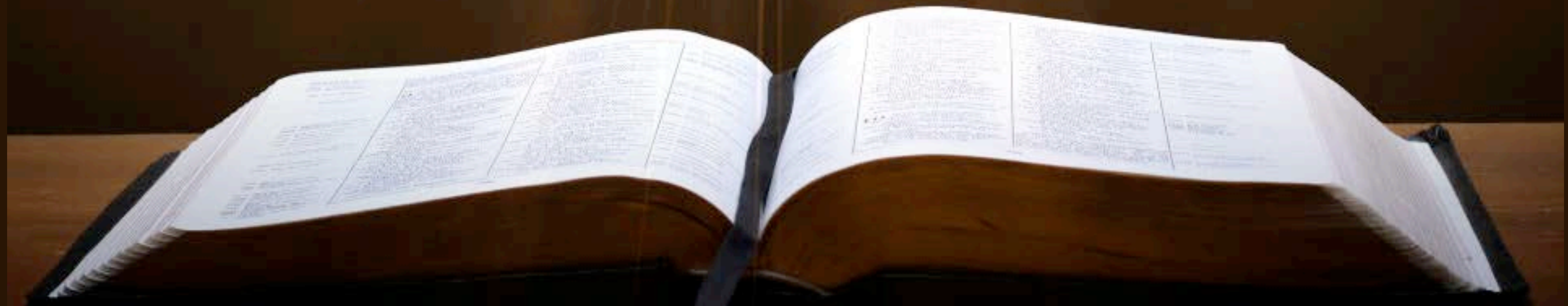
**Judg. 13:25, “And the Spirit of the LORD began to move upon him at Mahaneh Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.”**

**Judg. 14:6, “And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he tore the lion apart as one would have torn apart a young goat, though he had nothing in his hand. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done.” Judg. 14:19; 15:14.**



# **What the Bible Teaches About**

## **The Holy Spirit in the Old Testament**





**How would a first-century Jew understand the use of the term “Holy Spirit” if there were no prior reference to Him in the Hebrew Scriptures?**



**Who is the Holy Spirit? Is He a person, a force, or an influence? Just an idiom for the actions of God?**

**Matt. 3:16, “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.**

**Matt. 3:17, “And suddenly a voice came from heaven, saying, ‘This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.’ ”**



**Matt. 28:19, “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”**



**2 Cor. 13:14, “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy  
Spirit be with you all. Amen.”**



**1 Pet. 1:2, “elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace be multiplied.”**



# **Tracing the Ministries of the Holy Spirit Through the Old Testament**



**1. While the Holy Spirit at times had ministries to individuals that were *similar* to the New Testament Church Age ministries, they were *different* in that they were not for everyone, they were not related to the spiritual life, and they were not permanent.**



**The Holy Spirit's ministry was selective. That is it was not for every believer. It was primarily only for those who had some special role in the leadership of the nation: prophets, priests, kings, writers of Scripture, judges.**



**2. Several different words are used, *came upon, filled, were in, clothed with, empowered*, we will examine these as we go through the passages.**



**3. At no point do we have it said that it related to their spiritual life, or that they were making a temple for the indwelling of God the Father or God the Son.**



**4. At no point is there any suggestion that it was related to illumination of Scripture or a spiritual walk.**

**“It will be noted, first, that the coming of the Spirit to indwell individuals has no apparent relation to spiritual qualities. Only a few were indwelt by the Holy Spirit, and these were known for their distinctive gift, were sought out as leaders and prophets, and were usually marked men.**

**~Walvoord, *The Holy Spirit*, 72**



**5. Since this ministry was selective and temporary, God could remove the Holy Spirit. He removed the Holy Spirit from Saul in 1 Sam. 16:14. After David's sin with Bathsheba and conspiring to have her husband Uriah killed, he prayed in Psa. 51:11 that God would not remove His Holy Spirit from him.**



# Joseph

**Gen. 41:38, “And Pharaoh said to his servants, ‘Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom is the Spirit of God?’ ”**



# Bezalel

**Ex. 31:1**, “Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying:

**Ex. 31:2**, “ ‘See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah.

**Ex. 31:3**, “ ‘And I have filled him with the Spirit of God, in wisdom [*chokmah*, “skill”], in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship,

**Ex. 31:4**, “ ‘to design artistic works, to work in gold, in silver, in bronze,

**Ex. 31:5**, “ ‘in cutting jewels for setting, in carving wood, and to work in all manner of workmanship.’ ”



1. מלא *mala* piel waw Consec 1 com sing “to fill, to be full”

2. The text tells us *why*:

to give skill in performing the tasks, the workmanship. Designing all of the intricate decorations made of gold, silver, bronze, and the cutting of the jewels and the wood work.



## Gifted Unidentified Tailors

Ex. 28:3, “So you shall speak to all who are gifted artisans, whom I have filled with the Spirit of wisdom, that they may make Aaron’s garments, to consecrate him, that he may minister to Me as priest.

Ex. 28:4, “And these are the garments which they shall make: a breastplate, an ephod, a robe, a skillfully woven tunic, a turban, and a sash. So they shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother and his sons, that he may minister to Me as priest.”

מלא *mala'* piel

wawConsec 1 com sing

“to fill, to be full”



## Seventy Elders

**Num. 11:17, “I will come down and talk with you there. I will take of the Spirit that is upon you and will put the same upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it yourself alone.”**

2-לֵּעַל ʿal-2 preposition  
upon, over, above

**Num. 11:25, “Then the LORD came down in the cloud, and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit that was upon him, and placed the same upon the seventy elders; and it happened, when the Spirit rested upon them, that they prophesied, although they never did so again.”**



**2 Pet. 1:21, “for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.”**

**1 Pet. 1:10, “Of this salvation the prophets have inquired and searched carefully, who prophesied of the grace that would come to you,**

**1 Pet. 1:11, “searching what, or what manner of time, the Spirit of Christ who was in them was indicating when He testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ and the glories that would follow.”**



# Balaam

**Num. 22:6, “Therefore please come at once, curse this people for me, for they are too mighty for me. Perhaps I shall be able to defeat them and drive them out of the land, for I know that he whom you bless is blessed, and he whom you curse is cursed.”**

**Deut. 23:4, “because they did not meet you with bread and water on the road when you came out of Egypt, and because they hired against you Balaam the son of Beor from Pethor of Mesopotamia, to curse you.”**



**3. The Lord put a word in Balaam's mouth and the Spirit of God came upon him.**

**Num. 23:5, “Then the LORD put a word in Balaam's mouth, and said, ‘Return to Balak, and thus you shall speak.’ ”**

**Num. 24:2, “And Balaam raised his eyes, and saw Israel encamped according to their tribes; and the Spirit of God came upon him.”**

**עַל־2 al-2 preposition  
upon, over, above**



# Joshua

**Num. 27:18, “And the LORD said to Moses: ‘Take Joshua the son of Nun with you, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him;’”**

**אֵלֶּיךָ *be* Particle**

**prep in, at, on,  
upon, with**

**Deut. 34:9, “Now Joshua the son of Nun was full of the Spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him; so the children of Israel heeded him, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses.”**

**מָלֵא *mala'* piel**

**wawConsec 1 com sing**

**“to fill, to be full”**



## Othniel

**Judg. 3:10, “And the Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel. When he went out to war, the LORD gave Cushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand, so that he prevailed over Cushan-rishathaim.”**

**עַל־2 *al-2* prep  
upon, over, above**



# Deborah

**\*There is no mention of the Spirit in relation to Ehud, Shamgar, or Barak—however ...**

**Judg. 4:4, “Now Deborah, a prophetess, the wife of Lapidoth, was judging Israel at that time.”**



# Gideon

**Judg. 6:34, “But the Spirit of the LORD *came upon* Gideon; then he blew the trumpet, and the Abiezrites gathered behind him.”**

**לָבַשׁ *lavash* qal perf 3 fem sing “to wear, to clothe”  
(TNK: enveloped Gideon; *Complete Jewish Bible*  
The Spirit of the Lord covered *TNK 1917 clothed***



# Jephthah

**Judg. 11:29, “Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh, and passed through Mizpah of Gilead; and from Mizpah of Gilead he advanced toward the people of Ammon.”**

**עַל־2 *al-2* prep  
upon, over, above**



# Samson

**Judg. 13:25, “And the Spirit of the LORD began to move upon him at Mahaneh Dan between Zorah and Eshtaol.”**

**פָּעַם *pa'am* qal infinitive Const to impel, push, stir up**



# Samson

**Judg. 14:6, “And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he tore the lion apart as one would have torn apart a young goat, though he had nothing in his hand. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done.”**

**Judg. 14:19, “Then the Spirit of the LORD came upon him mightily, and he went down to Ashkelon and killed thirty of their men, took their apparel, and gave the changes of clothing to those who had explained the riddle. So his anger was aroused, and he went back up to his father’s house.”**



**Judg. 15:14, “When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting against him. Then the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him; and the ropes that were on his arms became like flax that is burned with fire, and his bonds broke loose from his hands.”**

**חֲלַח *tzalach* qal wawConsec 3 fem sing  
to prosper, succeed, rushed upon him**

**עַל־2 *al-2* prep  
upon, over, above**



# Saul

**1 Sam. 10:6**, “Then the Spirit of the LORD will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man.”

**1 Sam. 10:10**, “When they came there to the hill, there was a group of prophets to meet him; then the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them.”

**1 Sam. 11:6**, “Then the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard this news, and his anger was greatly aroused.”

עַל־אֲלֹהִים *al-2* prep  
upon, over, above