

The Book of Genesis (3)

Genesis 1:1-2 “In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit is active and present at creation.

Genesis 6:3 “Then the LORD said, “My Spirit shall not abide in man forever, for he is flesh: his days shall be 120 years.”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit here is connected with God’s life giving presence and influence.

Genesis 41:38 And Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find a man like this, in whom is the Spirit of God?”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The first mention of God’s Spirit resting or being “on” a person in scripture. Joseph can be seen as 1) interpreting dreams, 2) administrative wisdom and leadership and 3) character.

Synthesis: The Spirit was present and active in creation. God limits the amount of time the Spirit is subjected to living in a person. The Holy Spirit is working out the character of God in people.

The Book of Exodus (3)

Exodus 28:3 You shall speak to all the skillful, whom I have filled with a spirit of skill, that they make Aaron’s garments to consecrate him for my priesthood.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit empowers for service those who are going to make the high priest’s (Aaron) garments.

Exodus 31:2-3 The LORD said to Moses, **2**“See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah, **3**and I have filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship,

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit empowers for service with multiple skills those who are going to assist with the building of the tabernacle.

Exodus 35:31 “Then Moses said to the people of Israel, “See, the LORD has called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah; **31**and he has filled him with the Spirit of God, with skill, with intelligence, with knowledge, and with all craftsmanship,

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit empowers for service with multiple skills those who are going to assist with the building of the tabernacle.

Synthesis: The Holy Spirit in the book of Exodus is God empowering the people for service to help build the tabernacle. While not listed as “gifts” in the New Testament, here the Spirit clearly “rests” on individuals empowering them with construction and craftsmen skills to do the work that God has given to the nation.

The Book of Leviticus (1)

Leviticus 9:22-24 “Then Aaron lifted up his hands toward the people and blessed them, and he came down from offering the sin offering and the burnt offering and the peace offerings. **23**And Moses and Aaron went into the tent of meeting, and when they came out they blessed the people, and the glory of the LORD appeared to all the people. **24**And fire came out from before the LORD and consumed the burnt offering and the pieces of fat on the altar, and when all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.

*** This is NOT a direct reference to the Holy Spirit.

The Book of Numbers (4)

Numbers 11:17 “Then the LORD said to Moses, “Gather for me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them, and bring them to the tent of meeting, and let them take their stand there with you. **17**And I will come down and talk with you there. And I will take some of the Spirit that is on you and put it on them, and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, so that you may not bear it yourself alone.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Lord “takes some” of the Holy Spirit from Moses and puts Him on the 70 elders enabling and empowering them to help bear the burden of the people with Moses.

Numbers 11:25 “Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took some of the Spirit that was on him and put it on the seventy elders. And as soon as the Spirit rested on them, they prophesied. But they did not continue doing it.”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? When God puts the Spirit on the 70 elders, they immediately start prophesying.

Numbers 24:2 “When Balaam saw that it pleased the LORD to bless Israel, he did not go, as at other times, to look for omens, but set his face toward the wilderness. **2**And Balaam lifted up his eyes and saw Israel camping tribe by tribe. And the Spirit of God came upon him, **3**and he took up his discourse and said,

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit of God comes on Balaam and he prophesies about the coming Messiah. The King of Moab had ordered Balaam to prophecy a curse over Israel, instead Balaam blesses Israel three times.

Numbers 27:18 So the LORD said to Moses, “Take Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom is the Spirit, and lay your hand on him. **19**Make him stand before Eleazar the priest and all the

congregation, and you shall commission him in their sight.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit is said to be “in” (ruah) Joshua, as they lay hands on Joshua to commission as the next leader of Israel.

Synthesis: Three of the four references to the Holy Spirit in Numbers are relation to prophecy. In the fourth reference, the Spirit is said to “in Joshua empowering him for service.

The Book of Deuteronomy (1)

Deuteronomy 34:9 “And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom, for Moses had laid his hands on him. So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as the LORD had commanded Moses.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? This passage is very similiar to the passage in Numbers 27:18, adding *wisdom* to the reference about Joshua.

The Book of Judges (7)

Judges 3:9-11 But when the people of Israel cried out to the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer for the people of Israel, who saved them, Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb’s younger brother. **10**The Spirit of the LORD was upon him, and he judged Israel. He went out to war, and the LORD gave Cushan-rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand. And his hand prevailed over Cushan-rishathaim. **11**So the land had rest forty years. Then Othniel the son of Kenaz died.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit was *on* Othniel, as a judge of Israel, and enabled him to have a military victory over their enemy.

Judges 6:33-35 “Now all the Midianites and the Amalekites and the people of the East came together, and they crossed the Jordan and encamped in the Valley of Jezreel. **34**But the Spirit of the LORD clothed Gideon, and he sounded the trumpet, and the Abiezrites were called out to follow him. **35**And he sent messengers throughout all Manasseh, and they too were called out to follow him. And he sent messengers to Asher, Zebulun, and Naphtali, and they went up to meet them.”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit is said here to have “clothed” Gideon as he too was about to find himself in battle.

Judges 11:29 “Then the Spirit of the LORD was upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh and passed on to Mizpah of Gilead, and from Mizpah of Gilead he passed on to the Ammonites. **30**And Jephthah made a vow to the LORD and said, “If you will give the Ammonites into my hand, **31**then whatever comes out from the doors of my house to meet me when I return in peace from the Ammonites shall be the LORD’s, and I will offer it-up for a burnt offering.”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit was “upon” Jephthah as he went into battle with the Ammonites.

Judges 13:24 “And the woman bore a son and called his name Samson. And the young man grew, and the LORD blessed him. **25**And the Spirit of the LORD began to stir him in Mahanehdan, between Zorah and Eshtaol.”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit of God here is “stirring” Samson to be about the work that the Lord God has called him too.

Judges 14:6 Then the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon him, and although he had nothing in his hand, he tore the lion in pieces as one tears a young goat. But he did not tell his father or his mother what he had done. **7**Then he went down and talked with the woman, and she was right in Samson’s eyes.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Here, the Holy Spirit “rushed upon”, enabling him to accomplish a supernatural feat of killing a lion with his bare hands.

Judges 14:19 “And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon him, and he went down to Ashkelon and struck down thirty men of the town and took their spoil and gave the garments to those who had told the riddle. In hot anger he went back to his father’s house. **20**And Samson’s wife was given to his companion, who had been his best man.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Here, the Holy Spirit “rushed upon”, enabling him to accomplish a supernatural feat of singlehandedly killing 30 men.

Judges 15:14 “When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting to meet him. Then the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon him, and the ropes that were on his arms became as flax that has caught fire, and his bonds melted off his hands. **15**And he found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, and put out his hand and took it, and with it he struck 1,000 men.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Here, the Holy Spirit “rushed upon”, enabling him to accomplish a supernatural feat of breaking free from being bound up and then, as a result, killing 1,000 men with the jawbone of a donkey.

Synthesis: The unmistakable work of the Holy Spirit during the time of the judges was to enable and empower those God was calling in order that they might accomplish great military feats as God was preserving the nation of Israel during a time when “everyone did what was right in his own eyes”.

The Spirit was “on”, “in”, “clothed” and “rushed upon” different judges at God’s sovereign will. There was no pursuit of the Holy Spirit by the people, but was God orchestrating events to demonstrate His faithfulness.

The Book of 1 Samuel (6)

1 Samuel 10:6-8 “Then the Spirit of the LORD will rush upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. **7**Now when these signs meet you, do what your hand finds

to do, for God is with you. **8**Then go down before me to Gilgal.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Samuel predicts that the Holy Spirit will “rush upon” Saul and when that happens, Saul will prophesy. Saul is not a prophet though, and the Holy Spirit coming on him is related to his anointing as King over Israel.

1 Samuel 10:10 -11 “When they came to Gibeah, behold, a group of prophets met him, and the Spirit of God rushed upon him, and he prophesied among them. **11**And when all who knew him previously saw how he prophesied with the prophets, the people said to one another, “What has come over the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Again, the Holy Spirit “rushed upon” Saul so that he might prophesy among a group of prophets.

1 Samuel 11:6 “And the Spirit of God rushed upon Saul when he heard these words, and his anger was greatly kindled.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit “rushed upon” Saul again, this time not to prophesy but with power: “he took a yoke of oxen and cut them in pieces”.

1 Samuel 16:13 “Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to Ramah.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit of the Lord “rushed upon” David, as David is anointed as the next king of Israel.

1 Samuel 16:14 “Now the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and a harmful spirit from the LORD tormented him.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit departs from Saul, because of Saul’s sin, and now rests upon David.

1 Samuel 19:20-23 “Then Saul sent messengers to take David, and when they saw the company of the prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as head over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul, and they also prophesied. **21**When it was told Saul, he sent other messengers, and they also prophesied. And Saul sent messengers again the third time, and they also prophesied. **22**Then he himself went to Ramah and came to the great well that is in Secu. And he asked, “Where are Samuel and David?” And one said, “Behold, they are at Naioth in Ramah.” **23**And he went there to Naioth in Ramah. And the Spirit of God came upon him also, and as he went he prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit of God comes upon the messengers of Saul and they begin to prophesy. This happens three times in this passage, and each time they begin to prophesy.

Synthesis: In the book of 1 Samuel, the work of the Holy Spirit is directly tied to the anointed

kings of Israel, first Saul then David. The Spirit is most often connected to the act of prophesying in these passages.

The Book of 2 Samuel (1)

2 Samuel 23:2 The Spirit of the LORD speaks by me; his word is on my tongue.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? King David speaks of the Holy Spirit as speaking through him.

Synthesis: In the book of 2 Samuel, there is only one reference to the Holy Spirit and it is not a direct activity of the Holy Spirit. King David declares that the Holy Spirit speaks through him. The songs, psalms, prayers and leadership of the nation are evidence of the anointed empowering of the Holy Spirit in ruling the nation.

The Book of 1 Kings (1)

1 Kings 18:11-12 “And now you say, ‘Go, tell your lord, “Behold, Elijah is here.”’ **12**And as soon as I have gone from you, the Spirit of the LORD will carry you I know not where. And so, when I come and tell Ahab and he cannot find you, he will kill me, although I your servant have feared the LORD from my youth. ”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit is referenced as moving Elijah supernaturally is the implication.

The Book of 2 Kings (1)

2 Kings 2:16 “And they said to him, “Behold now, there are with your servants fifty strong men. Please let them go and seek your master. It may be that the Spirit of the LORD has caught him up and cast him upon some mountain or into some valley.” And he said, “You shall not send.”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Similarly to the passage in 1 Kings, the Holy Spirit is identified as the means of Elijah the prophet getting to be where he needs to be.

Synthesis: In the book of 1-2 Kings, the Holy Spirit continues in His ministry and work of enabling God’s plans to be carried out through the Kings.

The Book of 1 Chronicles (2)

1 Chronicles 12:18 “Then the Spirit clothed Amasai, chief of the thirty, and he said, “We are yours, O David, and with you, O son of Jesse! Peace, peace to you, and peace to your helpers! For your God helps you.”

1 Chronicles 28:12 “and the plan of all that he had in mind (NIV- *Spirit*) for the courts of the house of the LORD, all the surrounding chambers, the treasuries of the house of God, and the treasuries for dedicated gifts;

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Holy Spirit continues to be the means by which God accomplished his plans on the earth; whether he is “moving” someone or clothing something. He brings the plans of God to fruition.

The Book of 2 Chronicles (4)

2 Chronicles 15:1 “The Spirit of God came-upon Azariah the son of Oded, **2**and he went out to meet Asa and said to him, “Hear me, Asa, and all Judah and Benjamin: The LORD is with you while you are with him. If you seek him, he will be found by you, but if you forsake him, he will forsake you.”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Interestingly, here the Holy Spirit comes upon a man who is otherwise not know in the scripture,. The Spirit comes upon Azariah to give a prophetic warning to King Asa.

2 Chronicles 18:23 “Then Zedekiah the son of Chenaanah came near and struck Micaiah on the cheek and said, “Which way did the Spirit of the LORD go from me to speak to you?” **24**And Micaiah said, “Behold, you shall see on that day when you go into an inner chamber to hide yourself.”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying?The Spirit here is referenced as part of a sarcastic poke from Zedekiah towards Micaiah. Zedekiah is suggesting he has doubts about the genuineness of Micaiah’s prophecy.

2 Chronicles 20:14 “And the Spirit of the LORD came- upon Jahaziel the son of Zechariah, son of Benaiah, son of Jeiel, son of Mattaniah, a Levite of the sons of Asaph, in the midst of the assembly. **15**And he said, “Listen, all Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem and King Jehoshaphat: Thus says the LORD to you, ‘Do not be afraid and do not be dismayed at this great horde, for the battle is not yours but God’s.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Holy Spirit comes on Jahaziel in response to Jehoshat’s prayers for the Lord’s guidance and protection about an incoming army. Jahaziel prophecies that the battle belongs to the Lord, they need not be afraid.

2 Chronicles 24:20 Then the Spirit of God clothed Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, and he stood above the people, and said to them, “Thus says God, ‘Why do you break the commandments of the LORD, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the LORD, he has forsaken you.’”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit of God comes upon (clothes) Zecheriah and speaks a rebuke through him.

Synthesis: The Holy Spirit is seen in the book of 2 Chronicles coming upon people in order to deliver messages, either warnings or encouragements, to the kings.

The Book of Nehemiah (2)

Nehemiah 9:20-21 “You gave your good Spirit to instruct them and did not withhold your manna from their mouth and gave them water for their thirst. **21**Forty years you sustained them in the wilderness, and they lacked nothing. Their clothes did not wear out and their feet did not swell.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Holy Spirit is described as being given to the Israelites as they wandered in the desert. Specifically, the Spirit was given to “instruct them”, in order to make them “wise”, as the original Hebrew word refers to.

Nehemiah 9:30-31 “Many years you bore with them and warned them by your Spirit through your prophets. Yet they would not give ear. Therefore you gave them into the hand of the peoples of the lands. **31**Nevertheless, in your great mercies you did not make an end of them or forsake them, for you are a gracious and merciful God.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Here the Spirit is said to have warned the people through the prophets, yet most often the people did not heed or listen to what the Spirit was saying. There is a strong connection between the Spirit and prophecy as seen in various other places in the OT.

Synthesis: The Holy Spirit is seen in the book of Nehemiah in references back to the Israelites time in the wilderness. The Spirit was warning them through the prophets of the way they should go, this is probably the “instructing” that we seen in 9:20-21.

The Book of Job (3)

Job 26:13 “By his wind the heavens were made fair; his hand pierced the fleeing serpent.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Holy Spirit (“wind”) is seen as an active participant in creation.

Job 33:4 “The Spirit of God has made me, and the breath of the Almighty gives me life.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit of God is again seen as a participant in creation, particularly here, of humanity.

Job 34:14-15 “If he should set his heart to it and gather to himself his spirit and his breath, **15**all flesh would perish together, and man would return to dust.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Here the Spirit of God is seen as part of what sustains life.

Synthesis: The Holy Spirit in the book of Job is referenced as taking part in creation and the sustaining of life in general. If God “would gather his spirit” all man would return to dust. The Spirit of God (breath) is what gives life to all man.

The Book of Psalms (4)

Psalms 51:11-12 “Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me. 12 Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with a willing spirit.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? King David seems to view the Holy Spirit as an essential part of what enables Him to enjoy God and produce righteousness. There seems to be some implication that SIN has an adverse affect on the relationship with the Holy Spirit.

Psalm 104:30 “When you send forth your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the face of the ground.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit, as in the book of Job, is seen as integral part to the creating and sustaining of life.

Psalm 139:7-8 “Where shall I go from your Spirit? Or where shall I flee from your presence? 8 If I ascend to heaven, you are there! If I make my bed in Sheol, you are there!

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Holy Spirit is omnipresent, there is nowhere in the universe that we can hide from God.

Psalm 143:10 “Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit of God leads Davind in His role as king.

Synthesis: There are several different themes about the role and nature of the Holy Spirit that can be seen in the book of Psalms. In David’s life, as anointed king of Israel the Holy Spirit leads and guides him in his duties. Personally, the Holy Spirit enables him to rejoice in the God of his salvation. As to the nature of the Holy Spirit, we see that He, as God, is omnipresent.

The Book of Proverbs (1)

Proverbs 1:23 “If you turn at my reproof, -behold, I will pour out my spirit to you; I will make my words known to you.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Wisdom is personified here, and the “spirit” of wisdom is poured out on those who turn back to the Lord when confronted.

Synthesis: The references to the Holy Spirit in the book of proverbs is limited to one verse where it is difficult to apply it directly to the Holy Spirit himself. With that being said, the principle of what is stated, does align with what we know of the Holy Spirit from other places.

The Book of Isaiah (11)

Isaiah 11:2 “And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit of God will rest upon the Messiah, the Lord’s anointed one, Jesus. The Spirit will enable him in several different ways, with wisdom and understanding, of counsel, of might, of knowledge and fear of the Lord.

Isaiah 30:1 “Ah, stubborn children,” declares the LORD, “who carry out a plan, but not mine, and who make an alliance, but not of my Spirit, that they may add sin to sin;

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? This is a reference to the kingdom of Judah, who has made an alliance with Egypt, but it’s not of the Holy Spirit, it’s not of God. The Spirit of God does not contradict the Lord.

Isaiah 32:15 “until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The people will experience a renewal and redemption when the Spirit of God is poured out. When the Spirit is poured out from on high there will be fruitfulness in the land.

Isaiah 34:16 “Seek and read from the book of the LORD: Not one of these shall be missing; none shall be without her mate. For the mouth of the LORD has commanded, and his Spirit has gathered them.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit of God is involved in actively orchestrating the events of history, here is the bringing about the judgement of Edom.

Isaiah 40:13 “Who has measured the Spirit of the LORD, or what man shows him his counsel?

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? This passage illustrates the sovereignty of the Spirit, no one has the ability to “measure” or direct the Spirit. He is, as God is, far above man.

Isaiah 42:1 “Behold my servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my Spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Here again, as in Isaiah 11, the Spirit is “put Upon” the Lord’s chosen servant, Jesus.

Isaiah 44:3 “For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit of God is directly connected to the fruitfulness on God's people. The outpouring of God's Spirit is likened to the pouring water on dry ground.

Isaiah 48:16 "Draw near to me, hear this: from the beginning I have not spoken in secret, from the time it came to be I have been there." And now the Lord GOD has sent me, and his Spirit.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? This is seen as a reference to the Trinity. As for the Spirit's role, it is not further specified other than the Spirit is sent with the Son.

Isaiah 59:21 "And as for me, this is my covenant with them," says the LORD: "My Spirit that is upon you, and my words that I have put in your mouth, shall not depart out of your mouth, or out of the mouth of your offspring, or out of the mouth of your children's offspring," says the LORD, "from this time forth and forevermore."

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit is again seen to be "upon" the Lord's servant or Messiah.

Isaiah 61:1 "The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit of God is upon the anointed Messiah to do several functions: 1) bring good news to the poor 2) bind up the brokenhearted 3) proclaim liberty to the captives 4) opening of the prison to those who are bound 5) proclaim the year of the Lord's favor

Isaiah 63:10-11 But they rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit; therefore he turned to be their enemy, and himself fought against them. Then he remembered the days of old, of Moses and his people. Where is he who brought them up out of the sea with the shepherds of his flock? Where is he who put in the midst of them his Holy Spirit.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Holy Spirit is grieved by the rebellion of Israel, and therefore turned to be their "enemy".

Synthesis: There are several important items to recognize about the Holy Spirit in the book of Isaiah. First, the Spirit of God is said to be "upon" the Lord's servant, Jesus, in order to redeem humanity, demonstrate the compassionate nature of God and bring honor to the Father. Secondly, when the Spirit is poured out, the dry parched land becomes fruitful once again.

The Book of Ezekiel (9)

Ezekiel 2:2 "And he said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak with you." 2And as he spoke to me, the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and I heard him speaking to me.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? This, I believe, is the first time the Holy Spirit is said to

have “entered” a person. The Spirit enables him to stand.

Ezekiel 3:24 “But the Spirit entered into me and set me on my feet, and he spoke with me and said to me, “Go, shut yourself within your house.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Similar to chp 2, the Spirit again “enters” the prophet Ezekiel, and enables him to stand again.

Ezekiel 8:3 “He put out the form of a hand and took me by a lock of my head, and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven and brought me in visions of God to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the gateway of the inner court that faces north, where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provokes to jealousy. **4**And behold, the glory of the God of Israel was there, like the vision that I saw in the valley.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? As Ezekiel is experiencing a vision, the Spirit lifted him, as he did physically in the previous two passages.

Ezekiel 11:1 “The Spirit lifted me and brought me to the east gate of the house of the Lord, which faces east. And behold at the entrance of the gateway there were 25 men.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Again, in a vision, the Holy Spirit lifts Ezekiel and takes him to another location.

Ezekiel 11:5 “And the Spirit of the LORD fell upon me, and he said to me, “Say, Thus says the LORD: So you think, O house of Israel. For I know the things that come into your mind.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? When the Spirit of God falls upon Ezekiel, and he is given a prophetic warning for those in Israel who give wicked counsel.

Ezekiel 11:19 “And I will give them one heart, and a new spirit I will put within them. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit is an active part of the New Covenant that God is going to pour out on His people and is connected with enabling the people to obey God with a renewed heart.

Ezekiel 11:24 “And the Spirit lifted me up and brought me in the vision by the Spirit of God into Chaldea, to the exiles. Then the vision that I had seen went up from me. **25**And I told the exiles all the things that the LORD had shown me.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit of God again transports Ezekiel to a new location.

Ezekiel 36:26-27 “And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. **27**And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The Spirit is an active part of the New Covenant that God is going to pour out on His people and is connected with enabling the people to obey God with a renewed heart.

Ezekiel 37:1-14 “The hand of the LORD was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the LORD and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. **2**And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. **3**And he said to me, “Son of man, can these bones live?” And I answered, “O Lord GOD, you know.” **4**Then he said to me, “Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the LORD.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? Similar to chapters 8-11, the Spirit of God transports Ezekiel to a valley of dry bones in order to receive a vision from the Lord.

Ezekiel 39:29 “And I will not hide my face anymore from them, when I pour out my Spirit upon the house of Israel, declares the Lord GOD.”

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? When God pours out His Spirit on His people there will a new relationship available with God and His people.

Synthesis: The primary purpose of the Holy Spirit is to enable Ezekiel to speak to, and receive messages from God. Another significant purpose is that the Holy Spirit is given as part of the new covenant which enables God’s people to obey with a yielded and delighting heart.

The Book of Daniel (1)

Daniel 4:8-10 “At last Daniel came in before me—he who was named Belteshazzar after the name of my god, and in whom is the spirit of the holy gods—and I told him the dream, saying, **9**“O Belteshazzar, chief of the magicians, because I know that the spirit of the holy gods is in you and that no mystery is too difficult for you, tell me the visions of my dream that I saw and their interpretation.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? King Nebuchadnezzar is able to recognize the Spirit of God in Daniel. This is through Daniel’s obedience, and perhaps, his ability to interpret dreams

Synthesis: The only reference in Daniel seems to connect the Holy Spirit with the ability to interpret dreams.

The Book of Joel (2)

Joel 2:28-29 “And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. **29**Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? The pouring out of the Holy Spirit (at the initiation of the

new covenant) is seen in the increase of access to God through dreams, visions.

Joel 3:18 “And in that day the mountains shall drip sweet wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the streambeds of Judah shall flow with water; and a fountain shall come forth from the house of the LORD and water the Valley of Shittim.

What is the Holy Spirit doing/saying? This seems to be a reference to the Holy Spirit with water and a fountain.

Synthesis: The Holy Spirit is connected, as in Ezekiel 11 and 36, with WATER. This connects with John 7:37-39, where Jesus said that those out of those who believe will come “rivers of living waters”.

The Book of Micah (1)

Micah 3:8 “But as for me, I am filled with power, with the Spirit of the LORD, and with justice and might, to declare to Jacob his transgression and to Israel his sin.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? True prophets are FILLED (empowered) by the Spirit of God.

Synthesis: As many other passages do, in Micah, the Holy Spirit is connected with the prophetic message of God to his people. True prophecy is evidence of the Holy Spirit.

The Book of Haggai (1)

Haggai 2:4-5 “Yet now be strong, O Zerubbabel, declares the LORD. Be strong, O Joshua, son of Jehozadak, the high priest. Be strong, all you people of the land, declares the LORD. Work, for I am with you, declares the LORD of hosts, according to the covenant that I made with you when you came out of Egypt. My Spirit remains in your midst. Fear not.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This connects the presence of God with people and the Holy Spirit, who is said to be in their midst. Because of God’s covenant with Israel, the Holy Spirit remains in their midst.

The Book of Zechariah (3)

Zechariah 4:6 “Then 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 of hosts. Who are you, O great mountain? Before Zerubbabel you shall become a plain. And he shall bring forward the top stone amid shouts of ‘Grace, grace to it!’”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? God does not use conventional means, but a outpouring of His Spirit, who works in ways that we can’t see.

Zechariah 7:12 “They made their hearts diamond-hard lest they should hear the law and the words that the LORD of hosts had sent by his Spirit through the former prophets. Therefore great anger came from the LORD of hosts.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This passage connects the “word” of the Lord (the prophets) with the sending of the Holy Spirit.

Zechariah 12:10 “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit enables God’s people to cry out for him, for grace in repentance and restoration through mercy and forgiveness.

Synthesis: God works by His Spirit in ways that can’t be observed and are not the traditional means of accomplishing tasks in the world. God’s Spirit enable the people to cry out to God, and receive grace. The book of Zechariah also strengthens the connection of the Holy Spirit with prophecy.

The Book of Malachi (1)

Malachi 2:15-16 “Did he not make them one, with a portion of the Spirit in their union?-And what was the one God seeking? Godly offspring. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and let none of you be faithless to the wife of your youth. **16**“For the man who does not love his wife but divorces her, says the LORD, the God of Israel, covers his garment with violence, says the LORD of hosts. So guard yourselves in your spirit, and do not be faithless.”

The Gospel of Matthew:

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This reference to the Holy Spirit is unique in all of the Old Testament. “A portion of the Spirit” in their union seems to imply that the Holy Spirit has a role in the marriage covenant.

Synthesis: The Holy Spirit has a role in bringing together two people in the covenant of marriage. This would seem to imply that the marital abuse/neglect would hinder the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

The Gospel of Matthew (7)

Matthew 1:18 “Now the birth of Jesus Christ took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been betrothed to Joseph, before they came together she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is directly connected with Mary conceiving a child supernaturally. The begins the continuity of the Holy Spirit directly involved in the orchestrating of events for God’s purposes and plans.

Matthew 3:11 “I baptize you with water for repentance, but he who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The New Covenant, which Jesus establishes by his blood, will enable those who trust in Him to receive the Holy Spirit in a new way. This connects with what was prophesied in Ezekiel 11,36 about God putting His Spirit within them.

Matthew 4:1 “Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit leads Jesus into the wilderness as part of God’s purposes for the Messiah. This connects with Matthew 1:18, where the Holy Spirit “overshadows” Mary enabling her to conceive a child. The Holy Spirit is actively working to bring about God’s ordained purposes for Jesus.

Matthew 10:20 “When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. **20**For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit “speaks” for those who are advancing the kingdom of God, when they are put in positions of danger.

Matthew 12:28 And if I cast out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they will be your judges. **28**But if it is by the Spirit of God that I cast out demons, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit of God is “how” Jesus casts out demons, and is evidence that the Kingdom of God has come.

Matthew 12:31-33 Therefore I tell you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven people, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven. **32**And whoever speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Blaspheming the Holy Spirit is described as the unpardonable sin. Jesus seems to describe the “blaspheming of the Holy Spirit” as attributing the work of the Spirit to the demonic.

Matthew 28:19 “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, 20teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? When people turn to Jesus, they are baptized in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. This passage demonstrates that the Trinity is made of three person, who are equal as God, yet different in function.

Synthesis: The Gospel of Matthew picks up the theme of the Holy Spirit actively orchestrating events according to the purposes of God. The Holy Spirit is involved in the birth, baptism and testing of Jesus.

We also see the Holy Spirit enabling believers to “speak” when they are fulfilling their mission in advancing the kingdom of God.

The Spirit of God is the means by which Jesus casts out demons.

The Gospel of Mark (4)

Mark 1:8 “I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The New Covenant, which Jesus establishes by his blood, will enable those who trust in Him to receive the Holy Spirit in a new way. This connects with what was prophesied in Ezekiel 11,36 about God putting His Spirit within them.

Mark 1:10 “In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. 10And when he came up out of the water, immediately he saw the heavens being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11And a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The baptism of Jesus depicts all three persons of the Trinity. Specifically, the Holy Spirit “descends” on Jesus, indicating an empowerment for ministry, another theme which was prominent in the Old Testament.

Mark 3:29 ““Truly, I say to you, all sins will be forgiven the children of man, and whatever blasphemies they utter, 29but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit never has forgiveness, but is guilty of an eternal sin”— 30for they were saying, “He has an unclean spirit.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Blaspheming the Holy Spirit is described as the unpardonable sin. Jesus seems to describe the “blaspheming of the Holy Spirit” as attributing the work of the Spirit to the demonic.

Mark 12:36 “And as Jesus taught in the temple, he said, “How can the scribes say that the Christ is the son of David? **36**David himself, in the Holy Spirit, declared, ‘The Lord said to my Lord, “Sit at my right hand, until I put your enemies under your feet.”’ **37**David himself calls him Lord. So how is he his son?” And the great throng heard him gladly.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is “speaking” for David when he spoke the words of Psalm 110.

Synthesis: The Gospel of Mark shares several of the themes that we saw in the gospel of Matthew. Additionally, Mark records Jesus saying that David was, in the Spirit, when he spoke the words of Psalm 110. Which corroborates what we know of the scriptures being inspired by the Holy Spirit.(2 Peter 1:21)

The Gospel of Luke (14)

Luke 1:15 “And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, **15**for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother’s womb.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This reference to the Holy Spirit tells us that John the Baptist will be filled with the Spirit for empowerment in ministry as he “prepares the way of the Lord” (Malachi 3:1)

Luke 1:35 “And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born—will be called holy—the Son of God.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This speaks of the role of the Holy Spirit as actively involved in Mary’s conception.

Luke 1:41 “And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, **42**and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Elizabeth is said to be “filled with the Holy Spirit” and as a result of, or as evidence of, shouts a statement of praise and encouragement.

Luke 1:67 “And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying,”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Zechariah is “filled with the Spirit” and prophesies about the Messiah and the salvation of God.

*******Luke 2:25-26** “Now there was a man in Jerusalem, whose name was Simeon, and this man was righteous and devout, waiting for the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit was upon him. **26**And it had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Christ. **27**And he came in the Spirit into the temple, and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him according to the custom of the Law,

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is “upon” a righteousman named Simeon, who had received a prophetic word about the Messiah being revealed to him. Simeon was “in the Spirit” when he came into the temple. I see this seemingly redundant statement as 1) Simeon’s life was characterized by being the Spirit(v25), but even more so, in the present tense, that He came into the temple “in the Spirit” (v27).

It seems to me to illustrate a reality of different levels or tenses of engagement with the Spirit. We can live a life characterized by the Spirit, but not always, in every moment of the day be “in the Spirit”.

Luke 3:16 “John answered them all, saying, “I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The New Covenant, which Jesus establishes by his blood, will enable those who trust in Him to receive the Holy Spirit in a new way. This connects with what was prophesied in Ezekiel 11,36 about God putting His Spirit within them.

Luke 3:22 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, 22and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form, like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, “You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The baptism of Jesus depicts all three persons of the Trinity. Specifically, the Holy Spirit “descends” on Jesus, indicating an empowerment for ministry, another theme which was prominent in the Old Testament.

Luke 4:1 “And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit leads Jesus into the wilderness as part of God’s purposes for the Messiah. This connects with Matthew 1:18, where the Holy Spirit “overshadows” Mary enabling her to conceive a child. The Holy Spirit is actively working to bring about God’s ordained purposes for Jesus.

Luke 4:14 “And Jesus returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, and a report about him went out through all the surrounding country.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Jesus is said to be returning to Galilee “in the power of the Spirit”. This directly follows His temptation in the wilderness and is most certainly connected to His steadfast obedience demonstrated there through resisting Satan with scripture.

Luke 10:21 In that same hour he rejoiced in the Holy Spirit and said, “I thank you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding and revealed them to little children; yes, Father, for such was your gracious will.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Jesus, in the Spirit, rejoices at the recognition that God has revealed things of the Kingdom to “little children” the disciples and not to the wise and educated.

******Luke 11:13** “If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is depicted as a “gift” that the Father will give when asked. How does this relate to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all flesh? Is this receiving “more” of the Holy Spirit than others who don’t ask?

Luke 12:10 “And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but the one who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Blaspheming the Holy Spirit is described as the unpardonable sin. Jesus seems to describe the “blaspheming of the Holy Spirit” as attributing the work of the Spirit to the demonic.

Luke 12:12 “And when they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not be anxious about how you should defend yourself or what you should say, **12**for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit “speaks” for those who are advancing the kingdom of God, when they are put in positions of danger.

******Luke 24:45-49** “Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures, **46**and said to them, “Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, **47**and that repentance for the forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. **48**You are witnesses of these things. **49**And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.” (See Isaiah 32:15)

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Being “clothed with power from on high” is a reference to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that is to happen at Pentecost and is echoed in Acts 1:8. The phrase “from on high” is seen in Isaiah 32:15, where the outpouring of the Holy Spirit is said to make the “wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest.”

The Holy Spirit is connected with the demonstration of *power*.

Synthesis: The Gospel of Luke includes the most references to the Holy Spirit of the four gospels and adds some significant understanding to the person and ministry of the Spirit. Particularly, in three passages where digging deeper is needed (Luke 2:25-26, 11:13, 24:45-49)

The Gospel Of John (9)

John 1:32-34 “And John bore witness: “I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to

me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' **34**And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God."

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This passage aligns with the other three gospels that give account of Jesus' baptism. John the Baptist says that he "didn't know" who the Messiah was, but God told him that it would be the one on whom the Spirit descends. The fulfills the prophecies about the Messiah from Isaiah 11 and 61.

*******John 3:5-8** "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."

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is involved in the process of being "born again" resulting in spiritual life and vitality. We also see that the Holy Spirit moves as the wind, we can feel Him, but we can't see Him.

There is more to unpack here.

*****John 3:34** "For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure."

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? While believers are indwelt with the Spirit, Jesus, in his earthly ministry received the Spirit without measure or limit. This seems to imply that there are varying levels of experience with the Holy Spirit.

******* Connect with the asking, seeking and knocking of Luke 11.

John 6:63 "It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh is no help at all. The words that I have spoken to you are spirit and life."

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit gives life, the flesh is no help at all connects back with what Jesus said with Nicodemus, where the Spirit gives life.

*******John 7:37-39** On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. **38**Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" **39**Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Those who come to Jesus, believing in Him, the Spirit will flow out of Him as rivers of living water. This connects back to Old Testament pictures of the Holy Spirit as water. (See Joel 3 and Isaiah 44)

John 14:15-17 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. **16**And I will ask the Father,

and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, **17**even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit is given from the Father. He is called our “helper” and the “Spirit of Truth” here. This passage says He will be with us :”forever”. Jesus says the “world can’t receive Him” because it neither sees him or knows him. He is indwelling in the believer.

John 14:26 “But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Again called the Helper, here this helping takes the form of teaching and bringing to remembrance of what Jesus has taught to the disciples.

John 15:26 “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me. **27**And you also will bear witness, because you have been with me from the beginning.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Jesus repeated says, the Holy Spirit will come from the Father. Again, here He is called the “Spirit of Truth”. The Spirit of Truth will bear witness about Jesus, and as He lives in us, we will also bear witness about Jesus.

*****John 16:7-15** “Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you. **8**And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: **9**concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; **10**concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; **11**concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. **12**“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. **13**When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. **14**He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you. **15**All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This is the third time that Jesus calls the Holy Spirit *the helper*. This statement is remarkable, Jesus says it is better that HE go away, so that the Holy Spirit can come. The Spirit will bring conviction to the world.

He is also again called, the Spirit of Truth who will guide us into all truth. He, like Jesus, does not speak on his own authority, but only what he hears .

He will glorify Jesus.

John 20:21 “Jesus said, ‘Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you.’ And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them ‘Receive the Holy Spirit’.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit is given to the disciples by Jesus “breathing” on them.

Synthesis: There’s so much to unpack from what the gospel of John tells us about the Holy Spirit as it relates to His role in being “born again”, the connection with the outpouring of fruitfulness and life, as well specific aspects related to the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

The Book of Acts (36)

Acts 1:1-5 In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, **2**until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. **3**He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.**4**And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me; **5**for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Baptism of the Holy Spirit happens at Pentecost. The Holy Spirit empowered Jesus’ for teaching and instruction. The baptism that John referred to at the beginning of Jesus’ ministry three years before is about to be fulfilled in Acts 2 after Jesus’ ascension.

Acts 1:8 “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? When the Holy Spirit comes He brings with power to be witnesses (See Luke 24:49)

Acts 1:16 “Brothers, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit spoke through David (See Mark 12:37). The Holy Spirit inspired the Word of God.

Acts 2:1-4 “When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. **2**And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. **3**And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. **4**And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The outpouring of the Holy Spirit happens as they are all together in one place. There was wind, with filling the entire house. Tongues of fire appeared over their heads and they began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. The Holy Spirit certainly inspires speech.

Acts 2:17-18 ‘And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; 18even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. 19And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; 20the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Joel 2:28-29 is fulfilled, and the Spirit is poured out on all flesh. The “sign” of the Spirit coming is that all flesh, will experience dreams, vision and shall prophesy.

Acts 2:38 “And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is a gift. We saw this in Jesus’ discussion with the disciples. Many times he repeated that the Spirit comes from the Father, or the Father gives the Spirit. It comes through repentance and the forgiveness of sins as we trust in Jesus.

Acts 4:8 “Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers of the people and elders, 9if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, 10let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Holy Spirit inspired speech regarding the proclamation of Jesus Christ who was crucified, died and rose again. This is a consistent theme throughout all of scripture, the Holy Spirit inspires and enables willing vessels to declare truth and God’s heart to people.

Acts 4:31 “And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Similar to 4:8, the Holy Spirit inspires them to continue to speak the Word of God. They were gathered together, they prayed, and they were filled with the Spirit.

Acts 5:3 But Peter said, “Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back for yourself part of the proceeds of the land?”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is seen in this passage and in verse 4, as God.

Acts 5:9 “But Peter said to her, “How is it that you have agreed together to test the Spirit of the Lord? Behold, the feet of those who have buried your husband are at the door, and they will

carry you out.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The sin of lying about what they had done is seen as testing the Holy Spirit.

Acts 5:32 “And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is a witness who testifies to Jesus in the world.

Acts 6:3-5 “Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. **4**But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word.” **5**And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Here the “filling” of the Holy Spirit is a requirement for the work of overseeing the distribution of breads to those in need.

******Acts 7:51** “You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Pharisees, chief priests and others are said to be “uncircumcised”, in being so they resist the Holy Spirit. What does it look to resist the Holy Spirit?

******Acts 8:15-20** “Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, **15**who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, **16**for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles’ hands, he offered them money, **19**saying, “Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The group at Samaria had been baptized but the Holy Spirit had not yet fallen on any of them. What is the significance of this? Is the baptism of the Holy Spirit a second “baptism”. Or is this a unique event?

Acts 8:29 “And the Spirit said to Philip, “Go over and join this chariot.” **30**So Philip ran to him and heard him reading Isaiah the prophet and asked, “Do you understand what you are reading?”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit gives specific instruction to Philip in regards to witnessing to someone. We might call this, in some sense, a *word of knowledge* today.

Acts 8:39 “And when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away, and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit of the Lord carried Philip away. This, to me, is reminiscent of how the Spirit carried Ezekiel.

Acts 9:17 “So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit of God sent Ananias to Paul in order that Paul might be filled with the Spirit. Healing is also present in this encounter.

Acts 9:31 “So the church throughout all Judea and Galilee and Samaria had peace and was being built up. And walking in the fear of the Lord and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit, it multiplied.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The “comfort of the Holy Spirit”. What does this mean? The Holy Spirit is said to be the “helper” and “comforter”. In other places, joy and hope are connected with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 13:52, Romans 15:13)

Acts 10:19 “And while Peter was pondering the vision, the Spirit said to him, “Behold, three men are looking for you.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit directly, personally speaks to Peter with a word of knowledge about some men who are looking to Him.

Acts 10:38 “how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This passage affirms that Jesus of Nazareth was anointed with the Holy Spirit for ministry.

Acts 10:44-48 “While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. **45**And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. **46**For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, **47**“Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” **48**And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit “falls” as Peter is preaching the Word of God. The Holy Spirit comes on all who trust in Jesus, regardless of ethnicity. Again, there is reference to the Holy Spirit as a “gift”.

Acts 11:12 “And the Spirit told me to go with them, making no distinction. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Another reference to the Holy Spirit speaking personally

to Peter through specific guidance.

Acts 11:15-16 “As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. **16**And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit falls just as He had on the original group of followers in the upper room. Peter remembers Jesus’ words about being baptized with the Spirit. This is an example of the work of the Holy Spirit as he helps us remember the things Jesus told us.

Acts 11:24-28 “When he came and saw the grace of God, he was glad, and he exhorted them all to remain faithful to the Lord with steadfast purpose, **24**for he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. **25**So Barnabas went to Tarsus to look for Saul, **26**and when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. For a whole year they met with the church and taught a great many people. And in Antioch the disciples were first called Christians. **27**Now in these days prophets came down from Jerusalem to Antioch. **28**And one of them named Agabus stood up and foretold by the Spirit that there would be a great famine over all the world (this took place in the days of Claudius).

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Barnabas is said to be “full of the Holy Spirit”.

******Acts 13:1-4** Now there were in the church at Antioch prophets and teachers, Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen a lifelong friend of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. **2**While they were worshiping the Lord and fasting, the Holy Spirit said, “Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.” **3**Then after fasting and praying they laid their hands on them and sent them off. **4**So, being sent out by the Holy Spirit, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit speaks into the corporate gathering that is marked by worship and fasting. They are sent out by the Holy Spirit for mission to spread the gospel and be witnesses for Jesus.

Acts 13:9 “But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him **10**and said, “You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord?”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Luke makes a point of stating that Paul is “filled with the Holy Spirit” confronted a magician who was opposing their ministry, though we aren’t told how exactly he opposed them.

******Acts 13:50-52** “But the Jews incited the devout women of high standing and the leading men of the city, stirred up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and drove them out of their district. **51**But they shook off the dust from their feet against them and went to Iconium. **52**And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? They were forced out of town, yet the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit. This is a surprising statement that even though they are kicked out of town, unsuccessful in their mission, they are still rejoicing. There seems to be something about enduring hardship as a disciple, knowing that you've been obedient to what God laid on your heart, that is more of the mark of successful than seeing actual conversions.

Acts 15:8 “And God, who knows the heart, bore witness to them, by giving them the Holy Spirit just as he did to us, **9**and he made no distinction between us and them, having cleansed their hearts by faith.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit given to the gentiles was evidence that God did not require the gentiles to become Jews before coming to Jesus in faith.

Acts 15:28 “For it has seemed good to the Holy Spirit and to us to lay on you no greater burden than these requirements: **29**that you abstain from what has been sacrificed to idols, and from blood, and from what has been strangled, and from sexual immorality. If you keep yourselves from these, you will do well. Farewell.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The decision of the council is viewed as a mutual decision with the Holy Spirit. They must have sought out the Holy Spirit together in prayer before they came to the decision.

Acts 16:6-7 “And they went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. **7**And when they had come up to Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit told Paul not to go to Asia to preach the gospel, but instead, to go to Philippi. Again, we see direct, personal guidance from the Holy Spirit as it relates to the work of the Kingdom.

Acts 19:2-6 “And he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” **3**And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” They said, “Into John’s baptism.” **4**And Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus.” **5**On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **6**And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying. **7**There were about twelve men in all.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Some followers of Jesus in Ephesus had not even heard of the Holy Spirit though they had received John’s baptism of repentance. Once they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus they received the Holy Spirit, and immediately began speaking in tongues and prophesying.

Acts 20:22-23 “And now, behold, I am going to Jerusalem, constrained by the Spirit, not knowing what will happen to me there, **23**except that the Holy Spirit testifies to me in every city that imprisonment and afflictions await me.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Paul seemed to have an exceptionally strong sense that he was to go to Jerusalem. The Holy Spirit has revealed to him, and probably through others, that in every city imprisonment and afflictions await me.

Acts 20:28 “Pay careful attention to yourselves and to all the flock, in which the Holy Spirit has made you overseers, to care for the church of God, which he obtained with his own blood.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is actively involved in the affairs of the church, like he had been in the council in Acts 15, and even in the selection of men to oversee food distribution in Acts 6. Here, He is involved in the selection of leaders within the local church.

Acts 21:4 “And having sought out the disciples, we stayed there for seven days. And through the Spirit they were telling Paul not to go on to Jerusalem.

Acts 21:11 “And coming to us, he took Paul’s belt and bound his own feet and hands and said, “Thus says the Holy Spirit, ‘This is how the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.’

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? In this section, we see a potential mistake regarding prophecy. Paul says the Spirit has told him to go to Jerusalem, where the daughters of Philip claimed the Holy Spirit told him that he shouldn’t go to Jerusalem because it was too dangerous. This is the reason why we are to “test” prophecy (1 Thess. 5:20-21, 1 Cor.14:29), because it is possible that we could get something wrong in the interpretation or application.

Acts 28:25 “And disagreeing among themselves, they departed after Paul had made one statement: “The Holy Spirit was right in saying to your fathers through Isaiah the prophet: “Go to this people, and say, “You will indeed hear but never understand, and you will indeed see but never perceive.” ²⁷For this people’s heart has grown dull, and with their ears they can barely hear, and their eyes they have closed; lest they should see with their eyes and hear with their ears and understand with their heart and turn, and I would heal them.’

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is said to have spoken through the prophet Isaiah about the Jewish people in Isaiah 6:9-10.

Synthesis: The book of Acts has the most references to the Holy Spirit in all of scripture. Several themes are worth noting:

1. The Holy Spirit provides guidance to the disciples of Jesus in the work of ministry - telling them to go here or there, look for this or that. (Prophecy is most often connected with the Holy Spirit.)

2. The Holy Spirit is often seen as empowering the effective proclamation of the word and of witness to Jesus, and often “falls” on the group listening to the word spoken.

3. The Holy Spirit is actively involved in the decisions of the church regarding leadership and ministry.

The Book of Romans (16)

Romans 1:1-4 “Paul, a servant of Christ Jesus, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, 2which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, 3concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh 4and was declared to be the Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness by his resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This passage refers to the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of Jesus. The role of the Holy Spirit is evident in Jesus’ birth, baptism, wilderness temptation etc.

Romans 2:29 “But a Jew is one inwardly, and circumcision is a matter of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The circumcision, or transformation, of the heart, is a work of the Holy Spirit and not merely external conformity. This is what is promised in the New Covenant passage of Ezekiel 36.

Romans 5:1-5 “Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. 2Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. 3Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, 4and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, 5and hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit enables man to receive and understand the love of God. He applies the work of Christ to our hearts. It has been said all that we know and experience of God is through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 7:6 “But now we are released from the law, having died to that which held us captive, so that we serve in the new way of the Spirit and not in the old way of the written code.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The law held us captive in that we were condemned because we, in our flesh, we couldn’t live up to the law, but the law in and of itself provided no power to uphold it. However, because of the Holy Spirit, we now live in a way that we can obey God. This is the new way of the Spirit.

Romans 8:1-2 “There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. 2For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The new life in Christ believers experience is from the Spirit. The power of sin broken is evidence of the Holy Spirit’s work in someone’s life.

Romans 8:4-6 “By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh and for sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, **4**in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. **5**For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. **6**For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. **7**For the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God, for it does not submit to God’s law; indeed, it cannot. **8**Those who are in the flesh cannot please God.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Those who lives are yielded to God through the Spirit experience life and peace in growing fullness and depth. There are two contrary ways. Living according to the flesh is to submit to the desires and pleasures of the flesh, while the opposite is to live in submission to the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:9-11 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. **10**But if Christ is in you, although the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. **11**If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The indwelling Holy Spirit is the mark and guarantee of God’s work of salvation in someone’s life. This person demonstrates a desire to live in accordance with God yet is not completely free from sin. It is not a lack of sin that gives evidence of our salvation, but actually an acute awareness of our sin (1 John 1:3-10).

Romans 8:13-17 “For if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if, by the Spirit, you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. **14**For all who are led by the Spirit of God are sons of God. **15**For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” **16**The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, **17**and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The work of sanctification is a participation of both the Holy Spirit and the believer. We live in submission to God through the power of the Holy Spirit. Again, here we see the Holy Spirit as evidence that someone is a child of God. We can either feed the flesh or the Spirit.

Romans 8:23 “And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The firstfruits of the Spirit means the power of sin has been broken but we have not yet been fully delivered from the presence of sin in our lives. It is an “already but not yet” reality.

Romans 8:26-30 “Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. **27**And he who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. **28**And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. **29**For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. **30**And those whom he predestined he also called, and those whom he called he also justified, and those whom he justified he also glorified.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit intercedes for the believers by taking our groans and unspeakable prayers and turning them into intercession to the Father.

Romans 9:1 “I am speaking the truth in Christ—I am not lying; my conscience bears me witness in the Holy Spirit— **2**that I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit brings conviction of sin to the heart of the believer.

Romans 14:17 “For the kingdom of God is not a matter of eating and drinking but of righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is who applies the work of Christ to the believers. We can experience God through the ministry and person of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 15:13 “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Again, we see the Holy Spirit as the enabling agent of love, peace and hope in our lives. It is through faith, “believing” which enables believers to walk in step with the Spirit and experience His fruit.

Romans 15:16 “But on some points I have written to you very boldly by way of reminder, because of the grace given me by God **16**to be a minister of Christ Jesus to the Gentiles in the priestly service of the gospel of God, so that the offering of the Gentiles may be acceptable, sanctified by the Holy Spirit.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Similar to previous passages in Romans, the Holy Spirit is the sanctifier, who takes the atoning justification of Christ and applies it to our lives.

Romans 15:19 “by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ; **20**and thus I make it my ambition to preach the gospel, not where Christ has already been named, lest I build on someone else’s foundation.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This passage attributes the work of salvation and the

working of miracles and signs to the Holy Spirit.

Synthesis: The letter to the Romans adds much to our understanding of the Holy Spirit. We will focus on a couple of main threads throughout.

1. The Holy Spirit enables us to “see” God:

The primary overarching theme throughout the letter of Romans is that the Holy Spirit is the enabling agent which works out the salvation God has made possible through Jesus' victory over the cross and death. The Holy Spirit begins to work in a possible, making them able to begin to see and understand the gospel. The Holy Spirit is the sanctifier, the one who applies the work of Jesus to the believers' life in our initial salvation but also in working out our salvation in the process of maturing into Jesus' conformity.

2. The Holy Spirit does not force himself on believers. He dwells within us, but we can choose to either feed the flesh or feed the spirit. One will ultimately lead to death and one will lead to life.

The Book of 1 Corinthians (8)

1 Corinthians 2:1-4 “And I, when I came to you, brothers, did not come proclaiming to you the testimony of God with lofty speech or wisdom. **2**For I decided to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. **3**And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, **4**and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, **5**so that your faith might not rest in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Saving faith is not produced because of impressive literary and communication skills, but it is a powerful work of the Holy Spirit. A demonstration of power seems to imply that Paul came with more than just words, but in the power of the Spirit to heal physically, and cast out demons.

1 Corinthians 2:10-14 But, as it is written, “What no eye has seen, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, what God has prepared for those who love him”—**10**these things God has revealed to us through the Spirit. For the Spirit searches everything, even the depths of God. **11**For who knows a person's thoughts except the spirit of that person, which is in him? So also no one comprehends the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. **12**Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might understand the things freely given us by God. **13**And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who are spiritual. **14**The natural person does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? As we saw in Romans, the Spirit enables us to understand the things of God. No one can comprehend God apart from the Holy Spirit and He is given so that we might understand and so choose to follow him..

1 Corinthians 3:16-17 “Do you not know that you are God’s temple and that God’s Spirit dwells in you? 17If anyone destroys God’s temple, God will destroy him. For God’s temple is holy, and you are that temple.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? God through His Spirit dwells in the midst of His people. When the body of Christ gathers, God is there.

1 Corinthians 6:9-11 “Or do you not know that the unrighteous will not inherit the kingdom of God? Do not be deceived: neither the sexually immoral, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor men who practice homosexuality, 10nor thieves, nor the greedy, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor swindlers will inherit the kingdom of God. 11And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Here again we see that it is by the Spirit of God through the Son of God that we are saved. The Holy Spirit cleanses, sanctifies and justifies the person who trusts in Jesus.

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 “Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, 20for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Here the reference is the the individual believer being a temple of the Holy Spirit, where in chapter 3 it was the members of the body gathered that is a temple of the Holy Spirit.

1 Corinthians 7:40 “A wife is bound to her husband as long as he lives. But if her husband dies, she is free to be married to whom she wishes, only in the Lord. 40Yet in my judgment she is happier if she remains as she is. And I think that I too have the Spirit of God.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? As Paul is administering wisdom, his statement demonstrates that it is the Holy Spirit who is speaking through Him.

1 Corinthians 12:1-13 Now concerning spiritual gifts, brothers, I do not want you to be uninformed. 2You know that when you were pagans you were led astray to mute idols, however you were led. 3Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit.4Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; 5and there are varieties of service, but the same Lord; 6and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who empowers them all in everyone. 7To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8For to one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, 9to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one

individually as he wills. **12**For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ. **13**For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? When Jesus ascended, the Holy Spirit was given and the Holy Spirit manifests himself through the life of the believers through these “gifts”. It is all from the same Spirit distributed by God for the good of the body, to build them up. We all drink of one Spirit. Paul goes on to say that we should value all of the gifts and not just the ones that are out front, so to speak.

1 Corinthians 14:1-4 “Pursue love, and earnestly desire the spiritual gifts, especially that you may prophesy. **2**For one who speaks in a tongue speaks not to men but to God; for no one understands him, but he utters mysteries in the Spirit. **3**On the other hand, the one who prophesies speaks to people for their upbuilding and encouragement and consolation. **4**The one who speaks in a tongue builds up himself, but the one who prophesies builds up the church.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The reference here is to the gift of tongues as being something that is brought about by the Spirit, which is a mystery.

Synthesis: The Holy Spirit is the enabling agent in the life of the Christian. The Spirit moves upon a person in such a way that they are able to respond in faith and receive new birth. The Spirit is also the source of the work of sanctification in our lives. He enables us to grow in understanding of God and his nature.

More specifically, the Holy Spirit enables Christians to do the work of the kingdom through the impartation of gifts to the believer. These gifts are given for the common good and to build up the body.

The Book of 2 Corinthians (7)

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 “And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, **22**and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit is a guarantee of our eternal inheritance with, and in, Christ. There should be something that we can point to in our own lives as evidence that the Holy Spirit is living inside of us.

2 Corinthians 3:3-6 And you show that you are a letter from Christ delivered by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. **4**Such is the confidence that we have through Christ toward God. **5**Not that we are sufficient in ourselves to claim anything as coming from us, but our sufficiency is from God, **6**who has made us sufficient to be ministers of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit is life. This takes us back the whole way to the creation of man and woman when God breathes into them and life begins. The Spirit is life.

2 Corinthians 3:17-18 Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. **16**But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. **17**Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. **18**And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit of the Lord brings freedom and understanding to the things of God. The Spirit can transform the heart whereas the letter simply enables us to see our sin, but does nothing to help us overcome it.

2 Corinthians 5:5 “He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit is a guarantee that we will receive resurrected bodies when Jesus returns.

2 Corinthians 6:4-6 “but as servants of God we commend ourselves in every way: by great endurance, in afflictions, hardships, calamities, **5**beatings, imprisonments, riots, labors, sleepless nights, hunger; **6**by purity, knowledge, patience, kindness, the Holy Spirit, genuine love; **7**by truthful speech, and the power of God”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The work of the Holy Spirit in Paul’s life gives confirmation that His ministry is from the Lord and not from man.

2 Corinthians 11:4 “For if someone comes and proclaims another Jesus than the one we proclaimed, or if you receive a different spirit from the one you received, or if you accept a different gospel from the one you accepted, you put up with it readily enough.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Any other spirit than the Holy Spirit should be rejected by followers of Jesus.

2 Corinthians 13:14 “The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is actively involved in the fellowship of the body. Fellowship involves participation in each others’ lives and the Holy Spirit enables us to encourage one another.

Synthesis:

1. The Spirit is our guarantee of the inheritance.
2. The Spirit is life.
3. The Spirit of the Lord is freedom

The Book of Galatians (7)

Galatians 3:1-5 “O foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? It was before your eyes that Jesus Christ was publicly portrayed as crucified. **2**Let me ask you only this: Did you receive the Spirit by works of the law or by hearing with faith? **3**Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh? **4**Did you suffer so many things in vain—if indeed it was in vain? **5**Does he who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you do so by works of the law, or by hearing with faith— **6**just as Abraham “believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness”?

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Believers receive the Spirit through responding in faith and trust towards Jesus. This is a work of the Spirit. Christians are meant to continue in the Spirit and not give way to the flesh, which is trying to walk the Christian life in our own strength.

Galatians 3:14 “so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we might receive the promised Spirit-through faith.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is promised by God through faith in Jesus, even to non-Jewish people.

Galatians 4:6-7 “And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” **7**So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? As Romans 8:13-17 describes the Holy Spirit as something that comes through faith and results in the adoption of men and woman as children of God.

Galatians 4:29 “But just as at that time he who was born according to the flesh persecuted him who was born according to the Spirit, so also it is now.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? There is conflict between the flesh and the Spirit, something Paul discusses in chapter 5 in more detail. But this passages emphasizes the Holy Spirit’s work in the fulfillment of God’s promises to Abraham.

Galatians 5:5-6 “For through the Spirit, by faith, we ourselves eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness. **6**For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision counts for anything, but only faith working through love.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Paul says here that waiting is work of the Holy Spirit through faith.

Galatians 5:16-25 “But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. **17**For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh, for these are opposed to each other, to keep you from doing the things you want to do. **18**But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law. **19**Now the works of the flesh are evident: sexual immorality, impurity, sensuality, **20**idolatry, sorcery, enmity, strife, jealousy,

fits of anger, rivalries, dissensions, divisions, **21**envy, drunkenness, orgies, and things like these. I warn you, as I warned you before, that those who do such things will not inherit the kingdom of God. **22**But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, **23**gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. **24**And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. **25**If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit. **26**Let us not become conceited, provoking one another, envying one another.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? As mentioned above, there is a conflict going on between the Spirit and the flesh and it is a battle that we fight everyday. If we walk by the Spirit we will not gratify the desires of the flesh, and if we walk by the flesh, we will not gratify the desires of the Spirit. Here, Paul lays out what the fruit of the Spirit is in someone's life. Walking in the Spirit will bring peace and joy to our relationships.

Galatians 6:8 “For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? You reap what you sow. If we reap the flesh it demonstrates that we are not walking in the flesh.

Synthesis:

We receive the Spirit “by hearing with faith”, if we are saved by the Spirit, we can only continue “working out our salvation” by the same Spirit. The church in Galatia, or some in the church, were teaching that there is salvation in the works of the Law. Paul adamantly refuses this. The Spirit testifies that we are children of God, sons and daughters in the faith, because of faith.

There is an ongoing conflict not only in the individual believers' life, but also in a larger sense throughout the world. The Spirit and fallen, unredeemed flesh are opposed to each other. They have different purposes, motives and goals.

Galatians 5 adds much to our knowledge of the Holy Spirit. The Fruit of the Spirit is the result of surrendering control of our lives, in the everyday details over to God. This surrender leads to the Holy Spirit having an increasing degree of control over our mind, will, emotions and actions. This is what he means with “stay in the step with the Spirit”.

The Book of Ephesians (9)

Ephesians 1:13-14 “In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, **14**who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Again, we see the Holy Spirit as the seal, the guarantee of our inheritance.

Ephesians 1:16-17 “I do not cease to give thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers, **17**that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you the Spirit of

wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of him,

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Jesus calls the Spirit, the Spirit of Truth and He ministers to us through wisdom, understanding and revelation.

Ephesians 2:18-22 “For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. **19**So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, **20**built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, **21**in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. **22**In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? There is one Spirit and the work of the Spirit is to make us into a dwelling place for God.

Ephesians 3:4-6 “When you read this, you can perceive my insight into the mystery of Christ, **5**which was not made known to the sons of men in other generations as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit. **6**This mystery is that the Gentiles are fellow heirs, members of the same body, and partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit reveals the things of God to the apostles and the prophets and continues to reveal the heart of God to the people of God today.

Ephesians 3:14-20 “For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, **15**from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named, **16**that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, **17**so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, **18**may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, **19**and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit enables us to be strengthened in order that we might experience the life of Christ in us and that we might understand the unfathomable love of God.

Ephesians 4:1-6 “I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, **2**with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, **3**eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. **4**There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— **5**one Lord, one faith, one baptism, **6**one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. **7**But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ’s gift.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Again, we see reference as we did earlier in Ephesians that there is but one Spirit. This highlights the unifying role of the Spirit. The unity of the Spirit

transcends all earthly distinctions.

Ephesians 4:29-32 “Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. **30** And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **31** Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. **32** Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit is a person who can experience grief because of relational strife amongst believers. The Holy Spirit is our seal for redemption.

Ephesians 5:17-21 “Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. **18** And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, **19** addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, **20** giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **21** submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit indwells all those who are born again. However, we are commanded here to “be being filled”. There is need for continual and repeated Holy Spirit empowerment. Even though the Holy Spirit dwells in us, there is need for believers to continually put ourselves in submission to the Spirit’s prompting and leading. The battle between the Spirit and the flesh (Galatians 5) is ongoing in our lives and we can be led astray.

Ephesians 6:17-18 In all circumstances take up the shield of faith, with which you can extinguish all the flaming darts of the evil one; **17** and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, **18** praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? There are some who believe that “praying in the Spirit” is speaking in tongues. However, that’s not explicit here and may be more tradition related than actual scripturally accurate.

Sythesis:

A primary ministry of the Holy Spirit is that His presence in our lives provides reassurance that we are children of God. This enables us to live and walk with God with great confidence and expectancy of the “now” hope and the future hope.

There is one Spirit, whom all believers are baptized into and through this we are restored to God. The Spirit reveals the things of God (think John 16:13), he imparts wisdom and knowledge (think John 16 :13 again)

The Spirit inspires worship of God and builds up the body (Eph. 5).

We are commanded to seek the continual filling of the Spirit (Eph. 5)

The Book of Philippians (3)

Philippians 1:19-20 “Yes, and I will rejoice, **19**for I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance, **20**as it is my eager expectation and hope that I will not be at all ashamed, but that with full courage now as always Christ will be honored in my body, whether by life or by death.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit here is called the “Spirit of Jesus Christ”. We know from other places they are distinct yet as the Spirit proceeds from the Father and is given upon the Son’s ascending, it can be said that the Spirit is the Spirit of God or the Spirit of Christ.

Philippians 2:1 “So if there is any encouragement in Christ, any comfort from love, any participation in the Spirit, any affection and sympathy, **2**complete my joy by being of the same mind, having the same love, being in full accord and of one mind.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? What does “participation in the Spirit” mean? The underlying Greek word means “fellowship”. Paul seems to be listing some of the characteristics present in the body of Christ, specifically at Philippi, but also in any local church. We have fellowship with one another through the Spirit and we participate together in the Spirit when we are gathered.

Philippians 3:3-4 “For we are the circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh— **4**though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more:

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit of God enables and leads the people of God into a posture of worship. This is consistent theme throughout scripture where the Spirit inspired speech proclaims the goodness of God (See Luke 1:67-79)

Sythesis:

There’s two important truths we see of the Holy Spirit in Paul’s letter to the church in Philippi. 1) The Spirit prompts and leads God’s people into proclamation and praise of God.

2) The Spirit is in our midst as a gathered body. We participate with one another and the Spirit as we gather for fellowship, praise and scripture.

The Book of 1 Thessalonians (3)

1 Thessalonians 1:4-8 “For we know, brother loved by God, that he has chosen you, **5**because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. **6**And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, **7**so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. **8**For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? We see a connection between the spreading of the gospel and the miraculous power of God through the Holy Spirit's work in the church of Thessalonika. The Spirit is the active agent of God in bringing men to the point of salvation.

1 Thessalonians 4:8 "For God has not called us for impurity, but in holiness. **8**Therefore whoever disregards this, disregards not man but God, who gives his Holy Spirit to you.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? God has called us to holiness since he has gifted the HOLY Spirit to indwell believers in order for them to grow in holiness. When we willfully sin, we defile the Holy Spirit who dwells in US (1 Cor. 3:16-17)

1 Thessalonians 5:14-22 "And we urge you, brothers, admonish the idle, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with them all. **15**See that no one repays anyone evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to everyone. **16**Rejoice always, **17**pray without ceasing, **18**give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. **19**Do not quench the Spirit. **20**Do not despise prophecies, **21**but test everything; hold fast what is good. **22**Abstain from every form of evil.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Here Paul says that believers can quench the Spirit (put out the Spirit's fire by despising prophecy).

Synthesis: The Holy Spirit is the active agent in bringing God's salvation to people. We also learn that, because the Holy Spirit is a person, and because we have free will, we can do things that affect the relationship we have with the Spirit.

The Book of 2 Thessalonians (1)

2 Thessalonians 2:13 But we ought always to give thanks to God for you, brothers beloved by the Lord, because God chose you as the firstfruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The process of sanctification, which is growing to being conformed to Jesus is a product of the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

Synthesis: While the Holy Spirit is actively involved in the process of sanctification we also know from other places in scripture and in Phil. 2 that we have some responsibility for the process too.

The Book of 2 Timothy (2)

2 Timothy 1:6-7 "For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, **7**for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? While the Holy Spirit is not directly mentioned here, we see that Paul is encouraging Timothy to pursue the gift of the Spirit which Timothy received

through the laying on of hands.

2 Timothy 1:13-14 “Follow the pattern of the sound words that you have heard from me, in the faith and love that are in Christ Jesus. **14**By the Holy Spirit who dwells within us, guard the good deposit entrusted to you.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Holy Spirit dwells within the believer.

Synthesis: The mention of the Holy Spirit as a gift calls us back to a theme in Acts. If we believe the Holy Spirit is a gift this will change the way we relate to the Holy Spirit.

The Book of Titus (1)

Titus 3:3-7 “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.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Here we again see that the Holy Spirit is actively and intimately involved in regeneration and new birth. It is through Jesus that the Spirit has been poured out.

The Book of Hebrews (6)

Hebrews 2:1-4 “For since the message declared by angels proved to be reliable, and every transgression or disobedience received a just retribution, **3**how shall we escape if we neglect such a great salvation? It was declared at first by the Lord, and it was attested to us by those who heard, **4**while God also bore witness by signs and wonders and various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? We see the reference to the “gifts of the Holy Spirit” distributed to all. It is these gifts that testify of God.

Hebrews 3:7 “Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says, “Today, if you hear his voice, **8**do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, on the day of testing in the wilderness, **9**where your fathers put me to the test and saw my works for forty years. **10**Therefore I was provoked with that generation, and said, ‘They always go astray in their heart; they have not known my ways.’ **11**As I swore in my wrath, ‘They shall not enter my rest.’”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The author of Hebrews seems to be attributing this Psalm (Psalm 95) to the Holy Spirit. We know that Spirit inspired the writers of scripture, God speaking through them yet holding on to their own unique personalities.

Hebrews 6:4-6 “For it is impossible, in the case of those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, and have shared in the Holy Spirit, 5and have tasted the goodness of the word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6and then have fallen away, to restore them again to repentance, since they are crucifying once again the Son of God to their own harm and holding him up to contempt.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This is one of the most debated passages in all of scripture, and there are respected scholars on all sides of the debate. For our purposes in exploring the Holy Spirit, we see again an indication of “fellowship in the Spirit” (Phil. 2:1). In the Christian community that is the local church there is a sense that when we gather for proclamation, praise and building each other up we are participating with one another in the Spirit.

Hebrews 9:6-10 “These preparations having thus been made, the priests go regularly into the first section, performing their ritual duties, 7but into the second only the high priest goes, and he but once a year, and not without taking blood, which he offers for himself and for the unintentional sins of the people. 8By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the way into the holy places is not yet opened as long as the first section is still standing 9(which is symbolic for the present age). According to this arrangement, gifts and sacrifices are offered that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper, 10but deal only with food and drink and various washings, regulations for the body imposed until the time of reformation.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? The Spirit communicates through the design and practices of the Tabernacle that the way to God has not yet been opened up. God speaks through His Holy Spirit.

Hebrews 9:13-14 “For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, 14how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? We see that the Holy Spirit, as God, is eternal and it was through the Holy Spirit that Jesus offered himself up to God for the final and perfect sacrifice for the forgiveness of sins.

Hebrews 10:15-18 And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, 16“This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,” 17then he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” 18Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Here the New Covenant as presented in Jeremiah 31 is an utterance of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is active agent of the Trinity on the earth, works with Jesus to reconcile mankind to God.

Hebrews 10:29-31 How much worse punishment, do you think, will be deserved by the one who

has trampled underfoot the Son of God, and has profaned the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified, and has outraged the Spirit of grace? ³⁰For we know him who said, “Vengeance is mine; I will repay.” And again, “The Lord will judge his people.” ³¹It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? Here the Holy Spirit is referred to as the “Spirit of grace”. We are told that the one who keeps on sinning deliberately even after receiving knowledge of the truth will outrage the Spirit of grace. God’s grace teaches us to reject ungodliness (Titus 2:11)

Synthesis: We see more references confirming that one of the primary ways the Spirit works is by inspiring speech. The Holy Spirit is said to have uttered Psalms 95 and Jeremiah 31. The Spirit is fully involved and active in the work of God in the world and is often described as the means by which God communicates to people.

He seems to have been involved in Jesus’ passion and we know that the Spirit was on Jesus in the fullest measure possible.

The Book of 1 Peter (3)

1 Peter 1:1-2 “Peter, an apostle of Jesus Christ, To those who are elect exiles of the Dispersion in Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia, and Bithynia, ²according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, in the sanctification of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and for sprinkling with his blood: May grace and peace be multiplied to you.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This passage re-affirms the Spirit’s work in the process of sanctification (See 2 Thess. 2:13)

1 Peter 1:10-12 “Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied about the grace that was to be yours searched and inquired carefully, ¹¹inquiring what person or time the Spirit of Christ in them was indicating when he predicted the sufferings of Christ and the subsequent glories. ¹²It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This interesting passage connects the OT prophets with the revelation of the Holy Spirit about the Messiah. The proclamation of the good news and the prophetic foretelling of the Messiah are part of the Holy Spirit’s ministry.

1 Peter 4:13-14 “But rejoice insofar as you share Christ’s sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. ¹⁴If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

What is the Holy Spirit saying/doing? This passage indicates that when we suffer for the name of Christ, it is a work of the Holy Spirit in remaining faithful.

Synthesis: The Spirit is behind sanctification in the Christian life. The Spirit utters the things of

God in submission to him.

The Book of 1 John (4)

1 John 3:23-24 “And this is his commandment, that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. **24**Whoever keeps his commandments abides in God, and God in him. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit whom he has given us.

1 John 4:1-6 Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. **2**By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, **3**and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. **4**Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. **5**They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. **6**We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

1 John 4:13 “By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.”

1 John 5:6-10 “This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. **7**For there are three that testify: **8**the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree. **9**If we receive the testimony of men, the testimony of God is greater, for this is the testimony of God that he has borne concerning his Son.

Synthesis: We see several themes in these few verses of 1 John. One, the Spirit gives us confidence that we are united with Christ. The Holy Spirit, as the Spirit of Truth, testifies that Jesus is Lord and in this we can discern false prophets. The Spirit testifies about Jesus, to the reality that Jesus is the Son of God who came to defeat Satan and redeem mankind and who will one day rule over all.

The Book of Jude (1)

Jude 17-23 But you must remember, beloved, the predictions of the apostles of our Lord Jesus Christ. **18**They said to you, “In the last time there will be scoffers, following their own ungodly passions.” **19**It is these who cause divisions, worldly people, devoid of the Spirit. **20**But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, **21**keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. **22**And have mercy on those who doubt; **23**save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

Synthesis: This is a praying in the Spirit in a general sense and probably has the idea of praying in accordance with God’s heart as revealed through the Spirit, rather than a speaking in tongues.

The Book of Revelation (12)

Revelation 1:9-11 “I, John, your brother and partner in the tribulation and the kingdom and the patient endurance that are in Jesus, was on the island called Patmos on account of the word of God and the testimony of Jesus. **10**I was in the Spirit on the Lord’s day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet **11**saying, “Write what you see in a book and send it to the seven churches, to Ephesus and to Smyrna and to Pergamum and to Thyatira and to Sardis and to Philadelphia and to Laodicea.”

Revelation 2:7,11,17,29;3:6,13,22 He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.

Revelation 11:11 “But after the three and a half days a breath of life from God entered them, and they stood up on their feet, and great fear fell on those who saw them.

Revelation 14:13 “And I heard a voice from heaven saying, “Write this: Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from now on.” “Blessed indeed,” says the Spirit, “that they may rest from their labors, for their deeds follow them!”

Revelation 19:10 “Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, “You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers who hold to the testimony of Jesus. Worship God.” For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.

Revelation 22:17 “The Spirit and the Bride say, “Come.” And let the one who hears say, “Come.” And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

Synthesis: John opens this letter by stating that he was “in the Spirit”, probably alluding to the idea that he was consciously aware of the presence of the Holy Spirit upon him. The Spirit is presented as the one speaking to the churches though Jesus is the one revealing the words to John.

The spirit (or nature) of prophecy (divine revelation from the Spirit) is testimony about Jesus. Prophecy should point us, in some way, to Jesus.

The Holy Spirit is consistently acting as the agent of divine revelation from God. He speaks to and through people for revelation of God’s nature and plans.