



The Holy Spirit # 4

Hello everyone. Welcome to "Notes From the Presence." This is the fourth in a series of short articles on the Holy Spirit. In our last post, we talked about the Old Testament expression of the Holy Spirit. Although He did not live "in" anyone after the fall of Adam and Eve, the Holy Spirit would still come "upon" certain people in special circumstances to help them accomplish mighty deeds.

Today we are going to talk about the Holy Spirit in relation to Jesus. The apostle Paul refers to Jesus several times as the "second" or "last" Adam and in relation to the Holy Spirit there is a distinct reason for this parallel. As discussed in the first of this series, in the beginning the first Adam (and Eve) had the Holy Spirit both "in" and also "upon" them. Once they sinned, both of these connections were lost. From the moment of sin up until Jesus came, no other human lived with the full internal and external expression of the Holy Spirit.

The birth of Jesus always amazes me. Many of the grandest things that God does, He reveals to the lowliest of people. You would think that for an occasion such as this one, there would be massive fanfare and royal pomp. Actually, there was - sort of - but it was witnessed by shepherds of all people, the lowest of the working class of the day. The bible says of Mary, that she was "found to be with child by the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 1:18) and that the Holy Spirit came "upon her" at the moment of Jesus' conception (Luke 1:35). Consider the parallel to the first Adam who walked on our earth. Adam's biological father was none other than Father God Himself. He had heavenly DNA.

The same is true of Jesus. He was born with no earthly father. He was quite literally "fathered" by the God of heaven. For this reason, Jesus came into this world with a pure human spirit directly connected to His heavenly Father. He also had the Holy Spirit living inside Him, intimately connected and intertwined with His own spirit just like the first Adam. Both Adam and Jesus were direct, first generation descendants of God. This

is quite significant in that the Holy Spirit had not lived inside another individual since the fall of man. Now, for the first time in centuries, there was another holy human being on the earth with the same intimate connection that the first Adam enjoyed. Jesus, once again had the Holy Spirit "in" Him - but this is only half of the story.

The next verse we are going to quote is quite exciting. It is the testimony of John the Baptist after he baptized Jesus in the Jordan river:

John 1:32 *John testified saying, "I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained **upon** Him (Jesus)."*

John goes on to say that he didn't recognize Jesus as the Messiah at first, but that he was told by God to watch for a specific sign as he baptized people: the Holy Spirit descending and remaining on someone. Once he saw this wonder happen, John knew he had found the right person.

Notice the description. It is very significant. The Holy Spirit came down, alighted on Jesus in the form of a dove, and then remained "upon" Him. Now take a deep breath and ponder for a few seconds what happened in this moment. For the first time since Adam, there was another person on our planet with the Holy Spirit both "in" and also "upon" him. It is also significant that it says the Holy Spirit "remained." If you will recall, last week we discussed how the Spirit would come upon certain individuals in the Old Testament for specific tasks and exploits and then leave again. Well, now we have the first recorded case in almost 4000 years of the Holy Spirit coming "upon" someone and "remaining." He was there to stay! He was both on the inside and also on the outside. John says "we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father" (John 1:14).

Think for a moment of the glory that covered Adam in the garden of Eden. He was also begotten directly from the Father. Now Jesus was covered with that same glory once again. Friends, we have a "second Adam," Jesus, our hero and our redeemer! The first Adam screwed up pretty badly, forfeiting for centuries the internal and external connection to the Holy Spirit that we as a human species were created for. Now Jesus was here, a human being living with that connection once again, ready to go to the cross in order to forever restore it back to our lost human creation. I don't know about you, but I am so overwhelmed with awe right now that I actually have tears in my eyes as I am writing. God's plan is soooooo eternally amazing!!

In our next article, we will talk about Jesus, death and resurrection and how it relates to the Holy Spirit.

Thanks for reading. Jesus is real – and He loves you soooo!

