

LIFE *in the* SPIRIT

The Spirit of Christ | The Spirit and the Messiah

Lesson 3

The Old Testament predicted that when the Messiah came, He would be empowered by the Spirit of God. When Jesus comes, we find by reading the gospels carefully that His life and ministry were indeed filled with the power of the Spirit.

The Spirit and the Old Testament _____

In Jesus's first sermon in Luke, He reads a portion of Scripture from Isaiah 61:1-3. In this passage, the anointed one (i.e., the Messiah) has a mission to accomplish God's purposes in the earth, and the Spirit comes upon the servant of God to empower him for this ministry. This lines up with other passages such as Isaiah 11:1 and 42:1, which describe the coming ruler as someone who has the Spirit of God rest upon him. This shows us that the Jews would have been expecting a coming Messiah who was Spirit-empowered.

The Spirit and the _____ of Jesus

Matthew and Luke are the two gospels that tell us about the birth of Jesus, and both emphasize that the Holy Spirit was responsible for the virgin birth (Matt. 1:20; Luke 1:34-35). Since the Spirit is involved in the incarnation, we have yet another activity in which all three members of the trinity participate. Through the virgin birth, Jesus is born free from the sin nature inherited from Adam, but He is also

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entirely human. This all shows that the Holy Spirit has been involved with the life of Jesus from the very beginning.

The Spirit and the _____ of Jesus

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Although Jesus always had the Spirit, when He was baptized the Spirit came upon Him in a special and unique way. Remember, the Jews who were reading Isaiah were expecting that when the Messiah came, the Holy Spirit would come upon Him and empower Him for ministry.

The Spirit and the _____ of Jesus

Immediately after His temptation, the Spirit leads Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. All three gospel writers connect these events, and Matthew and Luke highlight the importance of the phrase “Son of God” in the temptation. Satan tries to get Jesus to respond in His flesh rather than to follow the leading of the Spirit.

The Spirit and the _____ of Jesus

As we look throughout the ministry of Jesus, we see that Jesus worked in the power of the Spirit. This is perhaps the most confusing for us, because we understand that Jesus is both God and man, so in our minds Jesus doesn’t need help. Yet what we see over and over again is that the ministry of Jesus, His teaching and His miracles, all of it was done in the power of the Spirit.

The Spirit and the _____ of Jesus

The resurrection of Jesus is one of the works in Scripture in which we see all the trinity participate. Christ raised Himself (John 2:19-21; 10:18); the Father raised Christ (Acts 2:32; Ephesians 1:19-20); and the Spirit raised Christ (Romans 1:4; 8:11; 1 Timothy 3:16). Paul will argue in Romans 8:11, the same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead is now at work in you.

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