The Holy Spirit

The Spirit in the Life of Jesus Lesson 5

I. The Holy Spirit and Jesus

A. The Scriptures teach that Jesus was fully Divine; He was God (before, during, and after His incarnation. Heb 13:18).

1. John 1: 1-14 - "...the Word was God..."

2. Matthew 1:23 - "...Immanuel - which means 'God with us.'"

B. Yet, Jesus "emptied Himself, taking the form of a servant" (Philippians 2:7).

Our Lesson today will focus on the relationship between the Holy Spirit and Jesus during His earthly ministry.

C. The Birth of Jesus - The Incarnation

1. The Spirit foretold, through the prophets, many events in the life of Christ.

2. Mary was found with child of the Holy Spirit (Matthew 1:18).

3. Joseph was told "that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit" (Matthew 1:20). This was in fulfillment of Genesis 3:15 and Isaiah 7:14.

4. Simeon, at the presentation of the firstborn at the temple, spoke of the Child by the direction of the Spirit (Luke 2:25-32).

D. The Baptism of Jesus

1. At His baptism the Spirit descended like a dove and rested on Him (Matthew 3:13-17; Mark 1:9-10; Luke 3:21-22).

2. John 1:31-34, The Spirit descending on Jesus, was the sign for John the Baptist, indicating who would be the One who would baptize with the Holy Spirit.

3. Jesus was annointed with the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:37-39).

a. "Anoint" (Gr. chirio) is confined to sacred and symbolic anointings; of Christ as the anointed of God (Luke 4:18; Acts 4:27, 10:38; Hebrews 1:9). Vine's Dictionary of NT Words.

b. The title Christ signifies "The Anointed One." The word Christos is rendered "His Anointed" in Acts 4:26).

c. His baptism marks the beginning of His messianic work of performing signs, etc.

4. The baptism of Jesus qualified Him in at least two areas:

a. "It was the source of His own endowment of Power for the endurance of temptation, for teaching, for casting out demons, and healing the sick, for His suffering and death, for the resurrection and ascension" (International Standard Bible Encyclopedia, The Holy Spirit, p. 1411).

b. It qualified Him to bestow the Holy Spirit on the disciples (Matthew 3:11; John 20:22; Acts 1:5).

E. The Spirit without measure - a look at John 3:34

1. The most accurate Greek texts simply read: "for He gives the Spirit not by measure." God gives, Christ receives, the Spirit without measure.

2. II Kings 2:9 - Other Bible passages speak of different measures or "portions" of the Spirit.

3. Jesus must have the Spirit "without measure" in order to give a "measure" of the Spirit to His disciples - and to us (we will look at this in more detail in upcoming lessons).

F. The Temptations of Jesus

1. He was led or driven into the wilderness by the Spirit (Matthew 4:1; Mark 1:12).

2. Jesus was "full of the Holy Spirit" and was "led about by the Spirit in the wilderness" (Luke 4:1). Note: "the first, direct outcome of the Spirit's anointing was not to cast out demons, but to defeat the devil Himself." (All the Doctrines of the Bible, Herbert Lockyer, p. 97)

3. Jesus was subjected to other temptations throughout His personal ministry (Luke 22:28).

G. The Public Ministry of Jesus

1. "In the power of the Spirit," "The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me," (Luke 4:14-21). This is a fulfillment of Isaiah 61:1.

2. "I will put My Spirit upon Him" (Matthew 12:18-21; fulfillment of Isaiah 42:1). "Because he was a man the divine nature in him did not manifest itself independently; he was dependent on the Holy Spirit for the exercise of the omnipotence, omniscience, and the other divine attributes as they were manifested" (The Timeless Trinity, Roy Lanier, p. 269).

3. Jesus rejoiced "in the Holy Spirt" (Luke 10:21).

4. Jesus performed miracles by the power of the Holy Spirit.

a. Matthew 12:18-21 (fulfillment of Isaiah 42)

b. Mark 5:30. "At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from Him."

c. Whose power?

5. Jesus cast out demons by "the Spirit of God" (Matthew 12:28).

H. The Resurrected Life of Jesus

1. Jesus "by the Holy Spirit" gave the great commission to the apostles (Acts 1:2).

2. The Holy Spirit announced the exaltation and coronation of Christ (Acts 2:32-36). In no other way could Peter and the other apostles have known it.

a. Jesus said the Holy Spirit would glorify Him (John 16:14).

b. The Holy Spirit was a witness to all these things (Acts 5:32).

Study Assignments:

1. Do some study in II Kings chapter 2. Why was it important that Elisha have a "double-portion" of the Spirit?

2. Why was it crucial that "the Anointed One" operate under the direction of the Spirit?