

Dr. Dave Mathewson, New Testament Theology, Session 25, Holy Spirit, Part 2 Resources from NotebookLM

1) Abstract, 2) Audio podcast, 3) Briefing Document, 4) Study Guide, and 5) FAQs

1. Abstract of Mathewson, NT Theology, Session 25, Holy Spirit, Part 2, Biblicalelearning.org, BeL

Dr. Mathewson's lecture explores the role of the Holy Spirit within the New Testament, particularly in light of Old Testament prophecies. He emphasizes that the Holy Spirit's presence signifies the dawn of a new age of salvation and is not exclusively a New Testament theme. **Mathewson examines Paul's letters, highlighting how the Spirit indicates God's presence and guarantees our inheritance.** He further investigates the Spirit's role as an identity marker for God's people, connecting it to themes of renewal, regeneration, and Christian ethics. **The lecture concludes with an analysis of the Book of Revelation, where the Holy Spirit inspires visions, empowers the church, and speaks to believers.**

2. 20 - minute Audio Podcast Created on the basis of Dr. Mathewson, NT Theology, Session 25 – Double click icon to play in Windows media player or go to the Biblicalelearning.org [BeL] Site and click the audio podcast link there (New Testament → NT Introduction → NT Theology).



**Mathewson_NTThe
ology_Session25.mp**

3. Briefing Document: Mathewson, NT Theology, Session 25, Holy Spirit, Part 2

Here's a detailed briefing document summarizing the main themes and ideas from Dr. Mathewson's lecture on the Holy Spirit in the New Testament:

Briefing Document: New Testament Theology - The Holy Spirit, Part 2

Overview:

This lecture (Session 25) focuses on the role and function of the Holy Spirit in the New Testament, particularly in the Pauline Epistles, general epistles (especially Hebrews and 1 Peter), and the Book of Revelation. Dr. Mathewson emphasizes that the Holy Spirit is *not* solely a New Testament theme but has roots and significance throughout the Old Testament, functioning as the fulfillment of God's promises and a sign of the inaugurated new age of salvation.

Key Themes and Ideas:

1. The Holy Spirit as Fulfillment of Old Testament Promises:

- The Holy Spirit is presented as the fulfillment of Old Testament prophecies and promises related to the new covenant and the outpouring of God's Spirit. As Mathewson states, "The Holy Spirit is always a sign that the new age of salvation has dawned and that God has now poured out his spirit in fulfillment of his Old Testament promises."
- References are made to Isaiah, Ezekiel, and Joel as examples of Old Testament texts that anticipated the outpouring of the Spirit.
- Paul consistently connects the experience of the Holy Spirit to the promises made to Abraham.

1. The Holy Spirit and the Temple Motif:

- In Paul's letters, the Holy Spirit is the means by which God dwells with His people. This is linked to the Old Testament theme of the temple.
- The church is seen as the new temple, indwelt by God through the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 3:16, 2 Corinthians 6:16, Ephesians 2:19-22). "The church is God's temple where he dwells through his Holy Spirit."
- Ephesians 5:18 ("be filled with the Spirit") should be understood corporately, with the entire church being the temple that God fills with His presence.

1. The Holy Spirit as a Sign of the New Age of Salvation:

- The presence of the Holy Spirit is an "indication, a guarantee" that the new age of salvation has begun, "even in advance of its future manifestation." The experience of the Holy Spirit is a "first fruit" of greater blessings to come (Romans 8:23).
- Different metaphors like "sealing," "baptizing," and "filling" are used to describe the Spirit's activity, but they all point to the same reality: the arrival of the new covenant.
- Grieving the Holy Spirit (Ephesians 4:30) echoes the Old Testament (Isaiah 66) and serves as a warning to the new people of God.

1. The Holy Spirit as an Identity Marker for God's People:

- The Holy Spirit is crucial in determining who the true people of God are, especially in the context of debates about the role of the law (as seen in Galatians).
- Paul argues that receiving the Spirit by faith, not by works of the law, is the true mark of belonging to God (Galatians 3:2-5).
- Romans 8:16: "The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children." Having the Spirit is equated with sonship (Galatians 4:6).
- The Holy Spirit's presence signifies adoption as children of God, demonstrating the fulfillment of Old Testament promises to Israel.

1. The Holy Spirit and Renewal/Regeneration:

- The Holy Spirit is associated with renewal, regeneration, and rebirth, much like in John 3.
- Titus 3:5 describes salvation as "the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit," referencing Old Testament themes like Ezekiel 36.

1. The Holy Spirit and New Creation:

- The Holy Spirit inaugurates the new creation by giving us the resurrection life of the new creation (1 Corinthians 15:45).

1. The Holy Spirit and Christian Ethics:

- The Holy Spirit enables believers to keep God's commandments and live a life of obedience. This is linked to the New Covenant promise of God writing His law on our hearts.
- Galatians 5:16-25 contrasts "walking by the Spirit" with "gratifying the desires of the flesh." The fruit of the Spirit is produced by living in step with the Spirit.
- Paul believes it's through the power of God's Spirit and the enablement to keep the law that a new heart is possible.

1. The Holy Spirit in Hebrews and 1 Peter:

- In Hebrews, the Holy Spirit is often seen as speaking through Scripture. The author sees the Holy Spirit pointing to something greater even under the Old Covenant.
- 1 Peter associates the Holy Spirit with prophesying and the outpouring of the Spirit. The text also references Christ's resurrection through the Spirit.

1. The Holy Spirit in Revelation:

- The Holy Spirit plays a key role in Revelation, often overlooked due to the focus on eschatology.
- John's visions are communicated to him "in the Spirit," which Mathewson connects to Ezekiel's prophetic experiences. "On the Lord's Day, I was in the Spirit..."(Revelation 1:10)
- The Holy Spirit speaks to the churches (Revelation 2-3). "Whoever has ears, let them hear what the Spirit says to the churches."
- The "seven spirits before the throne" (Revelation 1:4, 4:5, 5:6) are likely symbolic of the completeness and power of the Holy Spirit.
- The two witnesses in Revelation 11 are empowered by the Holy Spirit, alluding to Zechariah 4:6 ("not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit"). The Holy Spirit gives resurrection life to the martyred people of God.

Conclusion:

Dr. Mathewson's lecture underscores the pervasive presence and multifaceted role of the Holy Spirit in the New Testament. He emphasizes the Spirit's connection to the Old Testament, its function as a sign and guarantee of the new covenant, its role in shaping Christian identity and ethics, and its power to empower believers. Even in eschatological literature like Revelation, the Holy Spirit is a crucial agent in fulfilling God's redemptive purposes.

4. Study Guide: Newman, Synoptic Gospels, Session 25, Holy Spirit, Part 2

The Holy Spirit in the New Testament

Study Guide Outline

I. Introduction: The Holy Spirit in Biblical Theology

- The Holy Spirit is not exclusively a New Testament theme; its roots are in the Old Testament.
- The Holy Spirit is the fulfillment of God's promises to give his Spirit in the context of the new covenant.
- The Holy Spirit signifies the arrival of the new age of salvation.
- The Holy Spirit empowers service, identifies God's people, and inspires speech/prophecy.

II. The Holy Spirit in Paul's Letters

- The Holy Spirit indicates God's presence in the temple with his people.
- 1 Corinthians 3:16; 2 Corinthians 6:16: The church as God's temple where He dwells through the Spirit.
- Ephesians 2:11-22: Unity of Jew and Gentile, building a dwelling where God lives by His Spirit.
- Ephesians 5:18: Being filled with the Spirit as a corporate filling of the temple (church) with God's presence.
- The Holy Spirit signifies the inauguration of the new age of salvation.
- Ephesians 1:13-14: The Spirit as a seal and a deposit, guaranteeing our inheritance.
- Romans 8:22-23: The Spirit as first fruits, guaranteeing future redemption of our bodies.
- Ephesians 4:30: The Spirit as a seal for the day of redemption; avoid grieving the Spirit.
- Romans 8:15-16: The Spirit bringing about adoption to sonship, testifying that we are God's children.

- The Holy Spirit is an identity marker of who the true people of God are.
- Romans 8:8-9: Having the Spirit of God or Christ means belonging to Christ.
- Galatians 3:1-5: Receiving the Spirit by faith, not by works of the law, identifies God's people.
- Galatians 4:6: Sending the Spirit of His Son into our hearts enables us to call God "Abba, Father."
- Galatians 3:13-14: The Holy Spirit is the blessing given to Abraham, now extended to the Gentiles through Christ.
- Titus 3:5: Salvation through rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit.
- 1 Corinthians 15:45-46: The Holy Spirit inaugurating the new creation through resurrection life.
- The Holy Spirit in relation to Christian ethics.
- Galatians 5:13-25: Walking by the Spirit enables us to overcome the flesh and produce the fruit of the Spirit, fulfilling the law's intent.

III. The Holy Spirit in the General Epistles

- Hebrews: The Holy Spirit speaks through Scripture.
- Hebrews 9:8: The Spirit showing that the way to the most holy place was not yet disclosed.
- Hebrews 6:4-6: Sharing in the Holy Spirit as participation in the promised Spirit from the Old Testament.
- 1 Peter:
- 1 Peter 1:10-12: Association of the Holy Spirit with prophesying; the Spirit sent from heaven.
- 1 Peter 3:18-19: Christ made alive in the Spirit, referring to Jesus' resurrection.

IV. The Holy Spirit in Revelation

- John's visions are communicated through the Holy Spirit.
- Revelation 1:10; 4:2; 17:3; 21:10: John being "in the Spirit" during visions, echoing Ezekiel.
- The Holy Spirit speaks to the churches.

- Revelation 2:11: "Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit says to the churches."
- Revelation 22:17: "The Spirit and the bride say, 'Come.'"
- The Holy Spirit as the "seven spirits before the throne" (Revelation 1:4; 4:5; 5:6).
- Symbolizing the completeness, perfection, and power of God's Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit empowering the church's witness.
- Revelation 11:11: The Spirit giving resurrection life to the two witnesses.
- Revelation 11:4 and Zechariah 4:6: Connecting the two witnesses (lampstands) with the Spirit's empowerment, "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit."

Quiz

Instructions: Answer the following questions in 2-3 sentences each.

1. According to Mathewson, how is the Holy Spirit presented in the Old Testament, and why is this significant for understanding the Holy Spirit in the New Testament?
2. In Paul's letters, how does the Holy Spirit relate to the concept of the temple, and what does this imply about the church?
3. Explain how Paul uses the metaphor of the "seal" in Ephesians concerning the Holy Spirit, and what assurance does it provide to believers?
4. How does Paul argue that the reception of the Holy Spirit is an identity marker for the true people of God, particularly in the context of the Galatian church?
5. What is the significance of the Holy Spirit enabling believers to cry out "Abba, Father," according to Paul in Galatians?
6. How does Paul connect the promise made to Abraham with the pouring out of the Holy Spirit on believers?
7. According to Mathewson, what is the relationship between the Holy Spirit and Christian ethics in Paul's letters, specifically in Galatians 5?
8. How does the author of Hebrews depict the role of the Holy Spirit, and what connection does he make between the Holy Spirit and the Old Testament?

9. What is the significance of John's consistent references to being "in the Spirit" in the Book of Revelation, and how does it relate to Old Testament prophecy?
10. In Revelation, what do the "seven spirits before the throne" symbolize, and how do they contribute to understanding the Holy Spirit's role in accomplishing God's purposes?

Quiz Answer Key

1. The Holy Spirit is not exclusively a New Testament theme but plays an integral role in the Old Testament, participating in God's historical-redemptive activity with His people. This is significant because it demonstrates continuity and fulfillment of God's promises throughout Scripture.
2. The Holy Spirit functions as the means by which God dwells with his people, with the church itself becoming the temple of God. This implies that God's presence is no longer confined to a physical structure but is present within the community of believers through the Holy Spirit.
3. Paul describes the Holy Spirit as a seal, guaranteeing our inheritance. This imagery suggests security, protection, and keeping, promising believers that their future redemption is secured and assured by the Holy Spirit.
4. Paul argues that receiving the Holy Spirit is proof that they are the true people of God by faith, not by adhering to the works of the law. This challenges the Judaizers' insistence on circumcision and adherence to Mosaic law as markers of God's people.
5. The Holy Spirit enables believers to cry out "Abba, Father," demonstrating that they are now adopted as sons and daughters of God through the indwelling Spirit. This intimate relationship with God is made possible only through the promised Holy Spirit from the Old Testament.
6. Paul connects the promise made to Abraham with the pouring out of the Holy Spirit, stating that the blessing given to Abraham is now poured out on Jew and Gentile alike. This means the promise of the Spirit is not just something new in the New Testament but the promised blessing from the Old Testament.
7. The Holy Spirit enables believers to produce the fruit of the Spirit, leading to a life that fulfills the intent of the law, which the law itself could not accomplish. By walking in the Spirit, Christians are enabled to live the kind of life that God desires.

8. The author of Hebrews depicts the Holy Spirit as speaking through Scripture, often attributing Old Testament texts to the speaking of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit guarantees that the new age of salvation has dawned.
9. John's references to being "in the Spirit" indicate that his visions are communicated through divine inspiration, connecting his prophetic visions to those of Old Testament prophets like Ezekiel. This highlights the continuity of God's revelation through the Holy Spirit.
10. The "seven spirits before the throne" symbolize the completeness, perfection, and power of God's Spirit, indicating that the Spirit's role is to accomplish God's purposes in the world completely and perfectly. This emphasizes the Spirit's comprehensive work in bringing about God's kingdom.

Essay Questions

1. Explore the concept of the church as the temple of God in Paul's letters. How does the Holy Spirit mediate God's presence within the community of believers, and what are the implications for understanding the nature and mission of the church?
2. Analyze Paul's argument in Galatians regarding the role of the Holy Spirit as an identity marker for the true people of God. How does Paul contrast the Spirit with adherence to the law, and what are the implications for understanding justification by faith?
3. Discuss the theme of the Holy Spirit as the inauguration of the new age of salvation in the New Testament. How do different New Testament authors portray the Spirit as a sign and guarantee of this new age, and what are the blessings associated with it?
4. Examine the relationship between the Holy Spirit and Christian ethics in Paul's letters. How does the Holy Spirit empower believers to live a life that fulfills the intent of the law, and what does this imply about the nature of Christian obedience?
5. Investigate the role of the Holy Spirit in the Book of Revelation. How does the Holy Spirit inspire John's visions, empower the church's witness, and ultimately contribute to the accomplishment of God's purposes on earth?

Glossary of Key Terms

- **New Covenant:** The new agreement between God and humanity, inaugurated by Jesus Christ, characterized by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit and the writing of God's law on the hearts of believers (Jeremiah 31:31-34, Ezekiel 36:26-27).
- **Eschatology:** The study of "last things" or end-time events, including the consummation of God's kingdom and the final judgment.
- **Inauguration:** The beginning or formal establishment of something, such as the new age of salvation marked by the coming of the Holy Spirit.
- **Justification:** Being declared righteous in God's sight, not based on works of the law but through faith in Jesus Christ (Romans 3:21-26).
- **Redemptive-Historical:** An approach to biblical interpretation that emphasizes the unfolding of God's plan of salvation throughout history, culminating in Jesus Christ.
- **Seal:** A metaphor used by Paul to describe the Holy Spirit as a mark of ownership and security, guaranteeing the believer's future inheritance (Ephesians 1:13-14).
- **First Fruits:** A metaphor used to describe the Holy Spirit as the initial installment or guarantee of the full harvest of blessings to come, including the redemption of our bodies (Romans 8:23).
- **Temple (as metaphor):** The concept of the church as God's dwelling place, where the Holy Spirit resides, signifying God's presence among His people (1 Corinthians 3:16; Ephesians 2:21-22).
- **Adoption (to sonship):** The act of God by which believers are received into His family, becoming His children with all the rights and privileges thereof (Romans 8:15-17; Galatians 4:4-7).
- **Regeneration:** The spiritual rebirth or renewal of a person by the Holy Spirit, resulting in a new life in Christ (Titus 3:5; John 3:3-8).

5. FAQs on Newman, Synoptic Gospels, Session 25, Holy Spirit, Part 2, Biblicalelearning.org (BeL)

FAQ on the Holy Spirit in the New Testament

- **Question 1: Is the Holy Spirit primarily a New Testament concept, or does it have roots in the Old Testament?**
- The Holy Spirit is not exclusively a New Testament theme. It plays an integral role in the Old Testament and is essential to understanding God's historical and redemptive activity with his people throughout the entire Bible. The New Testament understanding of the Holy Spirit is a fulfillment of promises made in the Old Testament.
- **Question 2: How does the Holy Spirit function in Paul's letters concerning the presence of God?**
- In Paul's letters, the Holy Spirit functions as the means by which God dwells with his people, referencing the Old Testament theme of the temple. Paul applies temple imagery to the believers themselves, stating that they are God's temple, and it is through the Holy Spirit that God's presence is manifested within them. Key texts include 1 Corinthians 3:16 and 2 Corinthians 6:16.
- **Question 3: How is the Holy Spirit connected to the "new age of salvation" in the New Testament?**
- The Holy Spirit is consistently presented as a sign and guarantee that the "new age of salvation," prophesied in the Old Testament, has dawned. This includes the new covenant and the anticipated outpouring of God's Spirit as promised by prophets like Ezekiel and Isaiah. Metaphors like "sealing" and "first fruits" illustrate the Spirit's role as a promise of future inheritance and the redemption of God's people.

- **Question 4: How does the Holy Spirit function as an "identity marker" for God's people?**
- The Holy Spirit serves as an indication of who the true people of God are, distinguishing them from those who do not belong to Christ. This is highlighted in Romans 8:9, where it states that if someone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. Additionally, in Galatians, Paul argues that the reception of the Holy Spirit by faith, rather than adherence to the law, is what signifies belonging to God's people.
- **Question 5: How does Paul connect the Holy Spirit with the promises made to Abraham?**
- Paul equates the blessing of the Holy Spirit with the fulfillment of the promises made to Abraham in Genesis. He argues that through Christ's redemption, the blessings promised to Abraham, which include the Holy Spirit, can now be poured out on both Jews and Gentiles. Isaiah 44 reinforces this connection by linking the promise to Abraham's offspring with the pouring out of the Holy Spirit.
- **Question 6: What role does the Holy Spirit play in Christian ethics, according to Paul?**
- The Holy Spirit enables believers to live a life of obedience to God. It's through the Holy Spirit that we can keep God's commandments and live the kind of life that God desires of us. Galatians 5 emphasizes that walking by the Spirit leads to the fruit of the Spirit (love, joy, peace, etc.), enabling believers to overcome the desires of the flesh.
- **Question 7: How does the author of Hebrews portray the role of the Holy Spirit?**
- In Hebrews, the Holy Spirit is often seen as speaking through Scripture, meaning that when the author quotes Old Testament texts, it's attributed to the Holy Spirit's revelation. The sharing in God's Spirit is described as nothing less than participation in the promised Holy Spirit from the Old Testament that God would pour out on his people.

- **Question 8: What are some key functions of the Holy Spirit in the Book of Revelation?**
- In Revelation, the Holy Spirit inspires John's visions, speaks to the churches, empowers the faithful witness of the church, and is identified with the "seven spirits," symbolizing the completeness and perfection of God's power. The Spirit also gives resurrection life to the martyred people of God, empowering their witness.