

Study QUESTIONS

Ep. 1188: Do We Have the Purpose of the Holy Spirit Backwards?

<https://christianquestions.com/doctrine/1188-holy-spirit/>

See:  **CQ Rewind**
SHOW NOTES

1. How does the Old Testament describe God's spirit? What role did it play in: creation, the life of Joseph, the life of Bezalel, and in the births and lives of Jesus and John the Baptist? In what ways did God's power work before Jesus' ministry? (See Genesis 1:1-5, 41:38-40, Exodus 31:1-11, Luke 1:15-17, 34-35, 41-42, 2 Peter 1:21)
2. Can we use the holy spirit to "declare and decree" things for ourselves? What does this phrase mean? Was Eliphaz correct in telling Job to do this? (See Job 22:28, 42:7)
3. How did the spirit work for Jesus? How did Jesus work for the spirit? How did Jesus "declare and decree" the things he did using God's power? Did it have the same connotation as this phrase does now? (See Matthew 3:16-17, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 5:17, 6:19, 22:31-32, John 14:16-17, 16:5-7)
4. How did the holy spirit function in and through the apostles? Is this different from the way the holy spirit works in us? (See Acts 2:2-4, 3:2-8)
5. How do we reconcile Jesus' words in John 15:7, Mark 11:22-23, and Paul's words in Romans 4:17 with James 4:3? Have we been promised the right to "name and claim" or "decree and declare"? In Romans 4:17, who "calls into being things that did not exist"?
6. What work was the early church tasked with doing? How did the power of God's spirit aid them in this work? How did they do greater works than Jesus? Are we charged with doing greater works? (See John 14:12, 1 Corinthians 12:4, 7-11)
7. Why were the apostles given gifts in addition to receiving the holy spirit at Pentecost? Did all the disciples who were baptized receive these gifts in the early church? Should we expect to receive such gifts? (See Acts 2:37-43, 19:1-7, 1 Corinthians 12:4, 7-11, 13:8-11)
8. What is the purpose of God's power and influence dwelling in us? How is this different from the way it worked in the Old Testament? (See Romans 12:2, 2 Corinthians 5:17-18, Ephesians 3:16-19)
9. What are our responsibilities once receiving the holy spirit? How is this different from what happened with the early church? How does the power of God's spirit within us help us beyond our abilities? (See Romans 5:1-5, 8:26-28, 1 Corinthians 6:19-20, Galatians 5:16-25, Ephesians 5:17-21)
10. Do you feel the impact of God's power on your life? If so, what impact has it had?