



*Does the
Holy spirit
come and
go?*

Noah and the Dove

There are different dispensations where we see the Holy Spirit reveals himself throughout scripture and the Holy Spirit is represented through a dove in the Gospels (John 1:32). The dove represented in the different dispensations will help clarify how He moves today.

The Dove found in Noah's Ark (Genesis 8)

- Would return because He could not find rest (Gen 8:8)
- Brought back an Olive leaf, showing judgement was over (Gen 8:11)
- Never returned, found a place of rest (Gen 8:12)

Old Testament - Holy Spirit can't find rest, must return

In the Old Testament we see the Holy Spirit is descending and ascending upon people for specific assignments from God. The reason the Holy Spirit could not stay permanently with man under the Old Testament is because man was not born again, and He cannot dwell permanently in an unholy place. He would come upon the Old Testament saints but could not indwell them.

Example: Saul

The Spirit of the Lord descended on Saul (1 Sam 10:6, 11:6)

The Spirit of the Lord departed from Saul (1 Sam 16:14)

Example: Samson

The Spirit of the Lord descended on Samson (Judges 13:25, 14:6, 19, 15:4)

The Spirit of the Lord departed from Samson (Judges 16:19-20)

The Gospels- Judgement is over

The Gospels are transitioning to New Testament truths. The Holy One will be born (Luke 1:37). Jesus' baptism of the Holy Spirit (Luke 3:21). He went down into the wilderness full of the spirit (Luke 4:1), returned out of the wilderness in the power of the spirit (Luke 4:14), and started His earthly ministry saying, "The spirit of the Lord is upon me" (Luke 4:18). Jesus did not start His ministry until receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit (Luke 3:21, Acts 10:38).

When Jesus came, He was reconciling man back to God (2 Cor 5:18) and making man justified with God there is now peace (Rom 5:1). Jesus came to preach the acceptable year of the Lord's favor and now that he has come and taken all wrath on himself (Luke 4:19, John 12:32).

Church Age- Holy Spirit finds rest

On the day of Pentecost, the Spirit has been poured out on all people (Acts 1) and all those who believe can receive. The Holy Spirit can now indwell ever believer permanently because we no longer have a sin nature (Rom 6:6) and sin is no longer an issue between God and man (Eph 4:32, Col 2:13). Our spirits are perfect (Heb 12:23) and sin cannot penetrate that spirit (1 John 3:9). He no longer must come and go but can reside in us permanently. He will never leave us or forsake us (Heb 13:5) and abides with us forever (John 14:16). The anointing we receive does not come and go (1 John 2:27).