

Who Should Know What When?

John 3:10

Nicodemus, a teacher of the Jews, had only the Old Testament. Yet Jesus expected him to already know about the Person and work of the Holy Spirit in regenerating lives. A variety of terms and phrases are used throughout the Bible to teach about the Person and work of the Holy Spirit. Here are a few passages from the Old Testament that Nicodemus should have been familiar with. Do these passages match your understanding of the Person and Work of the Holy Spirit?

The Work of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

Regenerate - A one-time change of heart resulting in salvation. This change can only be done by the Holy Spirit.

Isa 57:15
Eze 11:19
Eze 36:26-27
Eze 37:14

Similar phrases: passed from death to life; become a new creature in Christ; born again; quickened; circumcised heart.

Indwell - The permanent presence of the Holy Spirit in or on the believer for the purpose of imparting knowledge, wisdom, faith, guidance, and sanctification. Unbelievers are not indwelt by the Holy Spirit.

Num 11:16-30
Num 27:18
1 Sam 16:13
Ps 139:7
Isa 57:15
Eze 9:4
1 Pet 1:10-11

Similar phrases: sanctification; living/abiding in you; sealed with the Spirit.

Fill - The temporary presence of the Holy Spirit in or on a person, usually for the purpose of performing an extraordinary or supernatural task. Both believers and unbelievers can be moved, filled or empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Exo 31:3
1 Sam 19:21-24
Isa 59:21
Mic 3:8

Similar phrases: move; empowered; powered; rushed upon.

Intercede - Praying to God on behalf of the believer.

Zech 12:10

Similar phrases: pray; groan; utter.

Guide - The supernatural revelation of information, knowledge and wisdom for the purpose of serving and teaching God's people.

2 Sam 23:2
Ps 143:10
Isa 11:1-2
Luk 2:26
1 Pet 1:11

Similar phrases: teach; show.

Convict - To convince of sin; to prove or convince a person's conscience that he is guilty of sin.

Neh 9:30
Ps 51
Zech 7:12
Zech 12:10

Similar phrases: reprove.