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## Week 8: The Ruach Ha'Kodesh

**The Ruach Ha'Kodesh (the Spirit of God) in Salvation:** Perhaps the least understood person of the Trinity is **the Ruach**. There may actually be a good reason for this: **His** work is not to glorify or even bring attention to **Himself**, but to exalt **Yeshua**, who said of **the Spirit**, "**He will testify of Me**" (**John 15:26** and **16:13-14**). We can also clearly see from these verses that **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh** is not merely an impersonal force or influence. **The Spirit of God** is a person. Indeed, **He** has all the qualities of personality: intelligence (**Romans 8:27**), will (**First Cor 12:11**), can feel sad (**Ephesians 4:30**), can be resisted (**Acts 7:51**), can be extinguished (**First Thess 5:19**) and insulted (**Hebrews 10:29**). **The Ruach Ha'Kodesh** teaches, instructs, leads and directs (**John 16**). **He** can also be vilified (**Luke 12:10**), lied to (**Acts 5:3**), and sinned against (**Matthew 12:31-32**).



**The Ruach Ha'Kodesh is God** (**Romans 8:9; John 14:26** and **15:26**). As **Yeshua** is **God** in the flesh, **the Spirit of God** lives within you (**John 14:17**). **The Ruach Ha'Kodesh** possess the qualities of **God**: eternity (**Hebrews 9:14**), Omnipotence, being all powerful (**Micah 3:8; Romans 15:13**), Omnipresence, being present everywhere at the same time (**Psalms 139:7-10**), Omniscience, being all-knowing (**First Corinthians 2:10-11**), possessing life (**Romans 8:2**), holiness (**Matthew 12:31-32**) and truth (**First John 5:6**). Not only does **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh** have the attributes of **God**, be **He** does the work of **God** in creation (**Genesis 1:2**), in regeneration (**John 3:8**), in resurrection (**Romans 8:11**) and receives the honor due **God** (**First Corinthians 3:16**) because **He** is equal to **God** (**2 Corinthians 13:14**). Now that you've learned about **the Spirit's** nature, you need to

understand four wonderful works that **He** accomplishes in your life:

**1. The Ruach regenerates you:** **He** makes you alive to **God** forever! When you trusted in **Yeshua** for your salvation, **the Spirit** actually made you spiritually alive to **God (Romans 8:11)**. Regeneration is receiving the full, free, and forever salvation: **He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Ruach Ha'Kodesh (Titus 3:5-6)**. This is also called a new birth, **"The Spirit gives birth to spirit. You should not be surprised at My saying, "You must be born again" (John 3:6-7)**. In **Messiah**, all your sins were washed away. You were set apart for the purposes of **God**. **But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Yeshua Messiah and by the Spirit of God (First Corinthians 6:11)**.

**2. The Ruach indwells you:** In the TaNaKh the **indwelling** of the **Spirit** was only temporary. Hence King David prayed: **Do not take Your Spirit from me (Psalm 51:11)**. In the B'rit Chadashah, however, **He** takes residence within us permanently (**John 14:16; Ephesians 4:30**). That is why you are called **the Temple of the Spirit of God (First Corinthians 6:19-20)**. As the gracious choice of **God**, **the Ruach** came to live inside of you, not merely to be with you. The resources of **the Spirit** are illustrated by **His** titles like **Helper** and **Advocate**. Just as **Messiah** is your **Advocate** before **the Father** on your behalf (**First John 2:1-2**), so **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh** is **the Father's Advocate** in you. As your **indwelling Helper**, **He** is able to intercede as you relate to **God** in prayer (**Romans 8:26-27; Ephesians 6:18; Jude 20**). And to convict us of wrongdoing!!!!

At salvation, **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh** came to live inside you forever (**Romans 5:5**). At that same time you were given a down payment for eternity: **Now it is God who makes you stand firm in Messiah. He anointed us, set His seal of ownership upon us, and put His Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come (Second Corinthians 1:21-22)**. **Anointed** means to be dedicated for **God's** purposes, like the priests in the Torah (**Leviticus 8:12, 30**). This **anointing** enables you to learn **His** truths taught in **God's Word (First John 2:27)**. **Sealed** refers to **God's** eternal guarantee that **He** will keep you secure in **Messiah**. The word for **deposit** (Greek: *arrhabon*) is used for an engagement ring in waiting for a wedding ring, the promise of things to come, **the wedding feast of the Lamb (Revelation 19:6-10)**.

**You were included in Messiah when you heard the word of truth, the Gospel of salvation. Having believed, you were marked in Him with a seal, the promised Ruach Ha'Kodesh, who is a deposit guaranteeing [your] inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession - to the praise of His glory**

**(Ephesians 1:13-14; Second Corinthians 5:5).** This **indwelling** assures us that neither Satan nor his demons can possess you. For you are **sealed in Messiah** by the all-powerful **Ruach Ha'Kodesh**. **The devil cannot overcome the Spirit** because **the One who is in you is greater than the [evil one] who is in the world (Matthew 12:29; 1 John 4:4).** In fact, nothing can **separate you from the love of God (Romans 8:37-39).**

You are saved with an eternal salvation (see my commentary on **The Life of Christ, to see link click Ms - The Eternal Security of the Believer**), based on faith in what **Ruach Ha'Kodesh** has already done for you, and not on any of your own deeds, either to save you or to keep you saved (**Galatians 3:2-3**). This doesn't mean that you should sin up a storm because you know you are forgiven. **Paul said: What shall we say, then? Shall we continue to sin so that grace may increase? By no means! We died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Messiah Yeshua were baptized into His death (Romans 6:1-3).** Therefore, it is by the **Spirit of God** that you are secure in your **Savior** forever.

**3. The Ruach Ha'Kodesh baptizes you:** When you trusted in **Yeshua** for your salvation, **the Spirit of God baptized you into the Body of Messiah**, making you a living member of **His spiritual Body**. This **baptism of the Spirit** is a onetime event, enabling you to live out **Messiah's** love and supernaturally empowering you to serve as a member of **His Body**. As a result, you are eternally joined to **Yeshua Messiah** our **Lord** through **the Spirit** which thus joins you to all believers. **For we are all baptized by one Spirit into one Body - whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free - and we were all given the one Spirit to drink (First Corinthians 12:13).**

You may have heard of ritual water **baptism**. This will be covered in depth in **Lesson 13**, but for now we should understand that water **baptism** actually pictures **the Spirit-baptism** that took place at salvation. Just as all believers are **baptized** in/by or with (Greek: *eis*) **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh** (the real baptism), all believers are to be **baptized** in water (the ritual baptism) in obedience to **Messiah (Matthew 28:18-19)**. This water **baptism** is an outward expression of an inward conviction. That's why **Ephesians 4:5** teaches that there is only one **baptism** for all believers.

Remember, you are in a relationship! **The Spirit's baptism** joins you to **Yeshua** and is pictured in a variety of ways. Your union to **Messiah** is like: (1) A bride to her Husband (**John 3:29; First Corinthians 6:17; Second Corinthians 11:2; Ephesians 5:30-31; Romans 7:4; Revelation 19:7, 21:2**). This is a picture of **God's** love for you. (2) A body to a head (**Ephesians 1:22-23; 4:15-16; Colossians 1:18, 2:19**). This is a picture of **God's**

direction for you. (3) A branch of a vine (**John 15:1-5**). This is a picture of **God's fruitfulness** for you. (4) Stones of a temple on the strong foundation cornerstone (**Ephesians 2:20-22; First Peter 2:4-9**). This is a picture of **God's** security for you. And (5) a member of a family (**John 1:12; Hebrews 2:10-14**). This is a picture of **God's** family with you as one of **His** children.

**The Spirit of God in Ministry:** The moment you were saved **the Spirit of God** gifted you to serve **Him** effectively you're your **spiritual gift(s)**. Regardless of your particular **gift**, the purpose is always the same - for the common good, as opposed to personal, selfish gain (**Acts 8:18-23**). In other words, your spiritual gift is for the benefit of others. As you spiritually mature in **Messiah** whatever **gift** you have will perfectly fulfill **God's** will for you, glorify **Him** in your life, and bless you for eternity.

You have learned that **the Spirit regenerates** you, **indwells** you and **baptizes** you. This is what **God** does for us at the moment of salvation and came as a free gift of **the Ruach Ha'Kodesh** by faith in **Yeshua**. **The Ruach Ha'Kodesh's** part in salvation, is that you are justified. However, in another area - **the filling of the Spirit** - you live out the spiritual life. You are sanctified. We will cover that in **Lesson 11: The Fundamentals**. Being **filled** with **the Spirit** is something that you cooperate in with **God**. Through **filling**, **God** pours out **His** love through your life to others and sets you apart for **His** holy use.

In the Scriptures **to be filled** is used to mean "to be controlled by, or be under the influence of something or someone else." To be filled with **the Spirit**, therefore, is to be controlled or strongly influenced by **the Spirit**. **Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit (Ephesians 5:18)**. As **drunkenness** affects behavior for evil, being **filled with the Spirit** affects a person for good. As a **drunken** person is under the control of **wine**, so a **Spiritually filled** person is under the control of **the Spirit**. This does not make you a robot, without your own will. Rather, you freely comply with **the Spirit** and **His** purposes and **His** Word. That is what it means to be "spiritual."

The **filling** of **the Spirit** is commanded by **God: be filled with the Spirit**, literally, *stay filled* (see my commentary on **Ephesians Bt - Be Filled with the Ruach**). As imperfect humans, we are leaky vessels of clay, and we need to be constantly **refilled**. This was true even for the apostles (**Acts 2:4, 4:8 and 31, 9:17, 13:9**). This continuous condition of being **filled with the Spirit** is dependent on our submission to **the Spirit**. You may wonder, can a believer resist **the Spirit** and still be a believer? Yes, people can resist the filling of **the Spirit**. In fact, the Bible deals extensively with this subject:

**The [natural] man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned (First Corinthians 2:14). Natural people, without the Spirit, are not saved.**

**The spiritually [compliant] man makes judgments about all things, but he himself is not subject to any man's judgment, "For who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But we have the mind of Messiah (First Corinthians 2:15-16). Spiritual people are believers in Yeshua who understand and live life from a Biblical frame of reference in submission to the Spirit. They produce good fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23). The filling of the Spirit gives them a Godly perspective on life, and they yield their life to Yeshua and are therefore conformed, or molded like clay, into the image of Messiah (Romans 8:29a).**

**Brothers, I could not address you as spiritual but as worldly - mere [uncompliant] infants in Messiah. I gave you milk, not solid food, for you were not yet ready for it. Indeed, you are still not ready. You are still worldly. For since there is jealousy and quarreling among you, are you not worldly? Are you not acting like mere [unsaved] men (First Corinthians 3:1-3)? Worldly believers have been saved, but the world, their flesh and the devil (Ephesians 2:2-3a) have led them astray. They are believers, but without good spiritual fruit.**

**How can we be filled by the Spirit?** When we are filled with the Spirit we:

(1) walk by **the Spirit**, living your daily life in **His** will and by **His** power (**Galatians 5:25**);

(2) pray **in the Spirit**, praying for **God's** will to be done (**Ephesians 6:18; Philippians 3:3; Jude 20**), even when you do not know the details of **His** will (**Romans 8:26-27**);

(3) are taught **by the Spirit** (**First Corinthians 2:14; First John 2:27**);

and (4) are led **by the Spirit**, to do those things which are pleasing to **God**, like repenting of worldly attitudes and activities (**Romans 8:13-14; First John 1:9-10**).

In short, the life you are living is **God's** life: **I have been crucified with Messiah and I no longer live** [for I have died to self] **but Messiah lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of god, who loved me and gave himself up for me (First Corinthians 2:20).**

The evidence of **the Spirit-filled** life is called **the fruit of the Spirit**. It is the result of **His** working in and through you. **The fruit of the Spirit** reflects the characteristics of **God**, seen in those who live in submission to **His Spirit**, which is called godliness. **The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control (Galatians 5:22)**. Several commands express how to be **filled with the Spirit**:

**Do not grieve the Spirit.** **The Spirit** grieves when a believer sins, because **He** knows the reality of what sin does both in the believer and in the believer's relationship to **Him (Psalm 32:1-8)**. In short, **He** knows **the grief** of sin before we do. **He grieves** until we confess and repent from our rebellion toward **Him**. The first step to being **filled with the Spirit** is to repent of all sin and to accept cleansing in the blood of **Yeshua (1 John 1: 7-9)**.

**Do not quench the Spirit.** **The Spirit** is "quenched" or "stifled" when **His** prompting to submit, yield and respond to **God's** Word is ignored. Those who confess their sins are cleansed but now need to yield to **the Spirit** and stop resisting **Him**. For instance, when you know **He** wants you to apologize to another person, not to resist **His** godly urging and worldly excuses. Instead, you are to yield to **the Spirit** and submit your will to **His** will, even as **Yeshua** did (**Luke 22:42**).

**But we are to walk by the Spirit.** To **walk by the Spirit (Galatians 5:16)** is not merely obedience, but full dependence on **the Spirit of God**. We need to consciously depend on **His** power for daily living **for it is God who works in you to will and to act according to His good purpose (Philippians 2:13)**. **God** provides all the power you need to do **His** will for **His** glory (**Romans 8:37; Philippians 4:13**). As we **walk by the Spirit** we are enabled to love, forgive and be humble, or even bold, in ways that go beyond our own personalities.

Being **filled with the Spirit** is living as a spiritually yielded person. It is the evidence of your relationship with **your God**. **He has told you, O man, what is good and what the LORD requires of you: To act justly and to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God (Micah 6:8)**. In doing these things, you are filled with **the Spirit**.

How is being **filled with the Spirit** different than being **baptized by the Spirit**? How are you **filled with the Spirit**? Memorize **Galatians 5:16**.