

ATTRIBUTIONS OF THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD

Offered by Charles Pinkney



HOLY SPIRIT ANOINTINGS

God's Character

Possessed & Demonstrated by Jesus

Empower God's People on Earth

These Attributes Referenced in Scripture

Anointings are God-Activated in Times Needed

THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD AS INTRODUCED IN REVELATION

Revelation 1:4, Revelation 3:1, Revelation 4:5, Revelation 5:6

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I find that it is taught quite dogmatically that the 7 spirits are those enumerated in Isaiah 11. While it's convenient to find a list in one location, I find some redundancy in this grouping and some omissions from the anointings demonstrated by Christ. We are told in Revelation that these spirits emanate from God. They express his divine character. We are told they are “*sent forth into the world*” to influence his purposes. These are enacted by his servants that he anoints. Throughout both the Old and New Testament we see these anointings at work.

This writer has explored other spiritual anointings recorded in scripture. I offer here a new list for your consideration. Since this is a new paradigm it will no doubt meet with some resistance and criticism. I will not hold dogmatically to this list but in my estimation it is the better rendering. These spiritual activations are observable in Jesus' earthly ministry and continue to manifest as the Holy Spirit anoints spirit-filled disciples ministering in this church age.

These Spiritual enablements act both in singularity as well as in interaction with other anointings. I will demonstrate in my descriptions below.

Placement and pairings of the arms in the Menorah are surmised and may vary from my illustration.

The Spirit of Holiness: Central upright of the Menorah

The “fear of the Lord” is the beginning of wisdom. This awesome divinity of God deserves central placement. God the Almighty, above and beyond any natural being is awful, unapproachable, 'terrible.' Holy fear besets those who stand in his presence. No flesh can withstand his presence. Daniel, Ezekiel, Isaiah and John of Revelation fall as dead men in the presence of the Almighty One. It is this perfection of Holiness before whom the hosts of heaven bow in wonder and obeisance. Christ himself has made this awesome God accessible to us.

Zeal and Judgment: The Spirit of burning

The zeal of my father's house has eaten me up! Holiness hates sin that pollutes the earth in the present age. The spirit of Mercy (just following) is now at work in the age of grace to mitigate judgment. Without mercy God would annihilate any blighted with sin. Jesus Christ is called the friend of sinners. He seeks and saves those who are lost. A time of judgment is still reserved for this world and humanity. The day of wrath is known as the great and terrible “Day of the Lord.” The Spirit of Zeal and Burning will then be unleashed upon all the who remain unredeemed who hate Christ.

(Note: Zeal and Judgment is paired with The Spirit of Mercy and Compassion)

The Spirit of Compassion: Loving Kindness and Tender Mercies

The Lord is good and his mercies endure to everlasting. Christ always ministers in loving kindness and compassion. He is moved with compassion. This is God's character. The anointing of gentle mercies is shared by those who are born of His spirit. The tender mercies of the Lord serve to temper judgment. Jesus, having shared life in human flesh, is familiar with our weakness. He knows we are dust and that we inherited a fallen nature. In the church age grace, believers understand that we too are called to mercy and forgiveness. Believers are not to lash out in retribution or judgment. Judgment is mine says the Lord. The day is coming when judgment will be unleashed. The “Age of Grace” shall close just as God closed the door on Noah's ark of safety.

The Spirit of Power and Might: Resurrection Power

Jesus tells his disciples, “You shall receive *dunamis* (power) after the Holy Spirit is come upon you. Then you will be witnesses of me” - - Then we will see, touch, handle the things of God. The Gospel is the power of God. The Spirit of Power constitute the all enabling gifts called Grace. Without the resurrection there is no Gospel;

without the resurrection there is no new creation. Without the resurrection there would be no true church, only another dead religion would be possible. Without the anointing of power would be no power gifts (1 Corinthians 12) miracles, healings, faith. Without the anointing of power there would be no Samson; no mighty men of valor. Without resurrection power there would not be the dunamis manifestation at Pentecost.

(Note: The Spirit of Power I am pairing with Truth and Understanding below)

The Spirit of Truth: Wisdom and Understanding are extensions of this Spirit of Truth.

The spirit of truth is the divine intellect as represented by insights, revelation and wisdom. We see it also referred to as “the mind of Christ.” The Spirit of Truth is authored by God, a gift of inspired wisdom rather than earthly intellect. With the Spirit of Truth in operation we discern those things which are true and those things that are derived from natural, human wisdom. The wisdom of Solomon exemplified this divine gift. It came from God himself. Through this anointing one realizes that most of what is seen and done in the human arena are vanity and folly. I associate this witness of Truth with the “Amen of God.” “Another bears witness of me and His witness is true.” Matters of truth must be confirmed in the mouth of two or three witnesses. The Father, The Word and The Spirit are the heavenly witnesses. Grace is an activation of power that God provides (1 Peter 4:8) Truth is Christ Jesus. So it is evident that Grace and Truth Come through Christ. (John 1:14,17) Why do I pair this anointing with power? It is the power of God that provides enablement to a Christian life. This is the nature of Grace; it is the substance God supplies. Therefore Grace and Truth are paired. As Paul stated, “The Gospel is the wisdom of God and the Power of God.”

The Spirit of Weeping (Travail) Godly Sorrow

Yes this is an authentic anointing. I feel it is important to include it in the list. It is omitted in the Isaiah list. “Godly sorrow brings forth repentance.” It is a powerful anointing that we see working in Jesus Christ and later through his disciples who minister true intercession. Let us take a look at the places where Jesus is moved with the Spirit of weeping. On his final entrance into Jerusalem he is overcome with indescribably sorrow. He weeps over Jerusalem because they did not know the day of their visitation. He mourned their fate knowing that the gift of peace and redemption would be withheld from them until a distant future time.

Jesus wept at the tomb of Lazarus? Why? One can surmise that it was for the death of a friend but surely it encompassed much more than that. Was it the fragile condition of all humanity born under the curse? Was it Satan's wicked powers that spoiled the earth and how he brought death to all living things? Finally, Jesus wept and travailed alone in Gethsemane. With great heaviness he mourned to the point where he sweat blood.

We are told that “weeping endures for the night, but joy comes in the morning.” (Psalm 30:5)

(Note: The Spirit of Weeping is paired with Praise below)

The Spirit of Praise: Joy and thanks giving

I find that Joy is interrelated to sorrow and weeping. The Spirit of praise is an anointing that is bestowed by the Holy Spirit. God is the author of Joy. Therefore I include it as an attribute of God. He in turn bestows it upon us. God's presence ensures us His joy in the face of trials. Here are some Scriptures:

“Put on the garment of praise for the spirit of heaviness. (Isaiah 61:3) The Joy of the Lord is our strength – (Nehemiah 8:10) “You have turned our mourning into dancing.” (Psalm 30:10-12) “Thou hast made known to me the ways of life; Thou shalt make me full of joy with thy countenance.” (Acts 2:28) and “Thou wilt show me the path of life: in thy presence is fulness of joy; at thy right hand there are pleasures for evermore.”

(-- Psalms 16:11)

In this world it is “things” that most often serve to make people happy but joy can come to us even when there is little natural reason for it. Rejoicing, giving thanks and the Spirit of Praise become more accessible when we turn our eyes upon Jesus.