

THE SEVEN SPIRITS OF GOD



After reading the book “The Seven Spirits of God” by Chris Oyakhilome, we would like to share the following.

We don't often hear much about “The Seven Spirits of God” mentioned in Isaiah chapter eleven, the book of Revelation, and other scriptures in the Bible. It appears they are rarely discussed, which is unfortunate because these Seven Spirits of God (also referred to as: The Seven Attributes of the Holy Spirit / The Seven Gifts of the Holy Spirit) are brimming with secrets that generously supply supernatural power to a Christian's life!

Delving into the Seven Spirit of God results in a dynamic discovery of various dimensions. Why remain in what could end up being a limited experience of the Spirit's role when existence in the endless expanse of the Holy Spirit's character, personality and power is yours!

Before looking into the Seven Spirit of God in detail, it's worth reviewing the fact that the number seven is well attested in the Bible, as more than 800 times it is used in some form. Often viewed as the number of fullness or perfection, most notably the number seven is associated with the completion of God's “very good” creation. “And God saw everything that he had made, and behold, it was very good”, after which “on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made;” (Genesis 1:31; 2:2)

Let's take a look now at some of the scriptures about “The Seven Spirits of God”:

“And there shall come forth a rod out of the root of Jesse, and a blossom shall come up from his root: and the *Spirit of God* shall rest upon him, the *spirit of wisdom and understanding*, the *spirit of counsel and strength*, the *spirit of knowledge and godliness* shall fill him; the *spirit of the fear of God*. He shall not judge according to appearance, nor reprove according to report.” (Isaiah 11:1-3)

“John to the seven churches which are in Asia: Grace [be] unto you, and peace, from him which is, and which was, and which is to come; and from *the seven Spirits* which are before his throne;” (Revelation 1:4)

“And unto the angel of the church in Sardis write; These things saith he that hath *the seven Spirits of God*, and the seven stars;” (Revelation 3:1)

“And out of the throne proceeded lightnings and thunderings and voices: and *[there were] seven lamps of fire burning before the throne, which are the seven Spirits of God.*” (Revelation 4:5)

“And I beheld, and, lo, in the midst of the throne and of the four beasts, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as it had been slain, having seven horns and *seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God* sent forth into all the earth.” (Revelation 5:6)

“For *the eyes of the Lord* look upon all the earth, to strengthen every heart that is perfect toward him.” (2 Chronicles 16:9)

“For behold the stone that I have laid before Joshua; upon one stone [shall be] *seven eyes*.” (Zechariah 3:9)

The Seven Spirits are:

The Spirit of the Lord (also known as The Spirit of Lordship / The Spirit of Dominion)

The Spirit of Wisdom

The Spirit of Understanding

The Spirit of Council

The Spirit of Might

The Spirit of Knowledge

The Spirit of the Fear of the Lord (also known as The Spirit of Reverence)

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Examples of The Seven Spirits of God:

The Spirit of the Lord (also known as The Spirit of Lordship / The Spirit of Dominion)

“And Azarias the son of Oded—upon him came the Spirit of the Lord, and he went out to meet Asa, and all Juda and Benjamin, and said, Hear me, Asa, and all Juda and Benjamin. The Lord is with you, while ye are with him; and if ye seek him out, he will be found of you; but if ye forsake him, he will forsake you.” (2 Chronicles 15:1-2)

Did you ever wonder why Pharaoh didn't just throw Moses in prison or have him killed? It was because Pharaoh was under the anointing of “The Spirit of the Lord”, and Moses and Aaron were well aware of this. “And the Lord said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh; and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet. Thou shalt speak all that I command thee: and Aaron thy brother shall speak unto Pharaoh, that he send the children of Israel out of his land. And Moses and Aaron did as the Lord commanded them, so did they.” (Exodus 7:1-2,6)

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,” (Luke 4:18)

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you:” (Acts 1:8)

The Spirit of Wisdom

“Wisdom is a force. It's the divine insight into the plans and purposes of God. It's understanding spiritual realities. Wisdom can also be defined as the insight of knowledge and the controlling power of insight. Wisdom is insight into reality (truth), foresight into the future. It causes you to understand what others can't see.” (From “The Seven Spirits of God” by Chris Oyakhilome, p. 50)

“But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated,

full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy.” (James 3:17)

When Paul prayed to the church at Ephesus, he said, “That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of him:” (Ephesians 1:17)

“I wisdom have dwelt with counsel and knowledge, and I have called upon understanding.”
(Proverbs 8:12)

“God by wisdom founded the earth, and by prudence he prepared the heavens. By understanding were the depths broken up, and the clouds dropped water.” (Proverbs 3:19-20)

How to get wisdom is outlined in James 1:5-6b which tells us, “If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all [men] liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him. But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering.”

The Spirit of Understanding

“You cannot receive the understanding of a (spiritual) mystery by intellectual knowledge—not from school or anywhere else in the world. It comes by the revelation of the Holy Spirit.” (From “The Seven Spirits of God” by Chris Oyakhilome, p. 66)

The Spirit of Understanding helps you understand the hope to which you’ve been called by God and the wealth of His glorious inheritance for you. “The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints.” (Ephesians 1:18)

“Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures,” (Luke 24:45)

“Trust in God with all thine heart; and be not exalted in thine own wisdom. In all thy ways acquaint thyself with her, that she may rightly direct thy paths.” (Proverbs 3:5-6)

“That seeing they may see, and not perceive; and hearing they may hear, and not understand; lest at any time they should be converted, and their sins should be forgiven them.” (Mark 4:12)

The Spirit of Counsel

“For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given: and the government shall be upon his shoulder: and his name shall be called Wonderful, Counsellor, The mighty God, The everlasting Father, The Prince of Peace.’ Sometimes we refer to this ‘Counsel’ as a ‘check’ in the Spirit. Your ‘Extraordinary Strategist’ will show you what to do and you’ll come out victoriously! (From “The Seven Spirits of God” by Chris Oyakhilome, p. 79)

“Now when they [Paul, Silas and Timothy] had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia.” (Acts 6:16)

“For a child is born to us, and a son is given to us, whose government is upon his shoulder: and his name is called the Messenger of great counsel:” (Isaiah 9:6)

The Spirit of Might

“Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.” (Ephesians 6:10)

“And they came to Lechi: and the Philistines shouted, and ran to meet him: and the Spirit of the Lord came mightily upon him, and the ropes that were upon his arms became as tow which is burnt with fire; and his bonds were consumed from off his hands. And he found the jawbone of an ass that had been cast away, and he put forth his hand and took it, and smote with it a thousand men.” (Judges 15:14-15)

Why did Delilah question Samson about his strength? Was his strength not outwardly obvious? Or perhaps it wasn't, because it was the Lord's strength. “And Delilah said to Samson, Tell me, I pray thee, wherein thy great strength lieth, and wherewith thou mightest be bound to afflict thee.” (Judges 16:6)

The Spirit of Knowledge

“Revelation knowledge is exact knowledge. It is specific, specialized and absolute knowledge. It is far removed from sense knowledge, which the Webster Dictionary has so articulately defined for us. Revelation knowledge is knowledge from the Spirit of God that is imparted to your human spirit without any material medium. It is not a knowledge of the senses; it, therefore, transcends the mental realm. In the arena of revelation knowledge, there are no assumptions. You just know that you know what you know.” (From “The Seven Spirits of God” by Chris Oyakhilome, p. 99)

“And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fullness of God.” (Ephesians 3:19)

“For if wisdom shall come into thine understanding, and discernment shall seem pleasing to thy soul.” (Proverbs 2:10)

The Spirit of the Fear of the Lord (also known as The Spirit of Reverence)

“The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.” (Proverbs 9:10)

The Spirit of the Fear of the Lord is a vital conduit to dwelling in the Spirit of Wisdom and the Spirit of Understanding. “The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom: and the knowledge of the holy is understanding.” (Proverbs 9:10)

“But a certain man named Ananias, with Sapphira his wife, sold a possession, And kept back [part] of the price, his wife also being privy [to it,] and brought a certain part, and laid [it] at the apostles' feet. But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Ghost, and to keep back [part] of the price of the land? Whiles it remained, was it not thine own? And after it was sold, was it not in thine own power? why hast thou conceived this thing in thine heart? thou hast not lied unto men, but unto God. And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things.” (Acts 5:1-5)

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Although I did enjoy and profited from reading “The Seven Spirits of God” by Chris Oyakhilome, there is one major point in which we are in disagreement, which is not even brought out in his book but is prevalent throughout its pages. That point is his continual use of referring to the Holy Spirit with the masculine pronoun “He”.

We have prepared the following to give, what we hope is, a clearer perspective on this issue.

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The Holy Spirit has seven attributes, as listed above. By using a few verses, I would also like to point out another characteristic of the Holy Spirit, but there are several verses that express this characteristic.

From the Septuagint (LXX) translation of the Old Testament, we will start with Proverbs 3:13-18, which says, "Blessed is the man who has found wisdom, and the mortal who knows prudence. For it is better to traffic for her, than for treasures of gold and silver. And she is more valuable than precious stones: no evil thing shall resist her: she is well known to all that approach her, and no precious thing is equal to her in value. For length of existence and years of life are in her right hand; and in her left hand are wealth and glory: out of her mouth proceeds righteousness, and she carries law and mercy upon her tongue. Her ways are good ways, and all her paths are peaceful. She is a tree of life to all that lay hold upon her; and she is a secure help to all that stay themselves on her, as on the Lord."

Notice that the feminine pronoun is used seventeen times in those verses. The King James Version (KJV) translation uses the feminine pronoun nine times for these same verses.

There are other verses in Proverbs that refer to wisdom in the feminine, such as Proverbs 8:1-4, 22-25 which says, "Thou shalt proclaim wisdom, that understanding may be obedient to thee. For she is on lofty eminences, and stands in the midst of the ways. For she sits by the gates of princes, and sings in the entrances, saying, You, O men, I exhort; and utter my voice to the sons of men. The Lord made me the beginning of his ways for his works. He established me before time was in the beginning, before he made the earth: even before he made the depths; before the fountains of water came forth: before the mountains were settled, and before all hills, he begets me."

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In the Book of Wisdom (also known as the Wisdom of Solomon), which at one time was part of the Bible, Wisdom is also referred to in the feminine. An example of this is found in Wisdom 8:13-17 which says, "Moreover by the means of her I shall obtain immortality, and leave behind me an everlasting memorial to them that come after me. I shall set the people in order, and the nations shall be subject unto me. Horrible tyrants shall be afraid, when they do but hear of me; I shall be found good among the multitude, and valiant in war. After I am come into mine house, I will repose myself with her: for her conversation hath no bitterness; and to live with her hath no sorrow, but mirth and joy. Now when I considered these things in myself, and pondered them in my heart, how that to be allied unto wisdom is immortality."

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"In some of the books of the Hebrew Bible, 'wisdom' is personified as a female character. This character is shown not only in traditional roles of women as a mother and housekeeper, but also as a prophet and a source of counsel. The Books of Proverbs and Job, along with Ecclesiastes and the Apocryphal/Deuterocanonical Books of Sirach and the Wisdom of Solomon, are classified by scholars as 'wisdom literature' because of their interest in this fundamental human attribute and its relationship to the divine, and because of their similarities to other ancient Near Eastern literature with similar forms and concerns. Notable in Proverbs and the Wisdom of Solomon (and, to a lesser degree, in Job and Sirach) is the personification of the concept of wisdom as a woman. In Hebrew,

wisdom is a grammatically feminine noun. Grammar does not fully explain, however, Proverbs' interest in repeated and varied development of the female persona, which contrasts with the only incipient personification in Job. The female imagery for Woman Wisdom is also closely connected to her negative counterpart in Proverbs [see Proverbs 5:3-6; 7:10-27], that embodiment of evil referred to as the 'loose woman' ('strange woman', or 'Woman Stranger').” (From “The Shalvi/Hyman Encyclopedia of Jewish Women”.)

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“And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God”. Luke 1:35

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Could it be that the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, is feminine? This should really come as no surprise, as it is stated in the first chapter of the Bible in Genesis 1:27, which says, “And God made man, according to the image of God he made him, male and female he made them.”

Robert from People of the Keys, Contributions from Cathy in New Zealand, February 2023