

The Spirit and the Last Days

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Introduction

- The Holy Spirit in the Last Days is probably one of the most misunderstood subjects in the Bible.
- The study of the Holy Spirit is called pneumatology.
- I used to be afraid of the Holy Spirit, because He was a ghost.
- All children were taught to be afraid of ghosts and maybe Casper the “friendly” ghost was supposed to subliminally alleviate those fears.
- Remember the hit movie “Ghostbusters” back in the 80’s or 90’s playing on our fear of ghosts?
- So, I was very leery about trying to learn anything about the “Holy Ghost”.
- Every time as a kid I saw people who claimed they had the “Holy Ghost” they were always doing or saying very weird things. I wanted no part of it.

Observation

- As long as your eschatology (study of last things) is wrong, your study of pneumatology (study of the Spirit) is going to be wrong.
- They are inseparable and interconnected.
- You cannot get the eschatology wrong and get the doctrine of the Spirit correct.
- You cannot get the doctrine of the Spirit wrong and get the doctrine of eschatology correct.

Bill Lockwood & Stephen Wiggins, “Hammer & Tongs”

Every passage in the New Testament which speaks of the Holy Spirit, has Joel 2:28-32 as its background.

“For one to snatch the passage out of its **first century context and slap a twentieth century interpretation** to it about praying for some **imaginary ‘non-miraculous’** reception of the spirit is to do **vile injustice to the meaning** of the verse.” (Stephen Wiggins, Hammer & Tongs, p. 3, 1992)

Lockwood & Wiggins maintained this position at the time of my debate in Memphis, TN with Wiggins, Nov. 1994.

They learned very quickly and quite to their dismay that their pneumatology was in serious conflict with their eschatology.

So what did they do? From Holger’s debate with Bill Lockwood last month in June, he had abandoned their pneumatology in an attempt to harmonize it with his eschatology. I’m not sure if Wiggins yet holds to it.

Lockwood he failed because he yet believes the eschatological Holy Spirit, i.e. the miraculous work ended in the first century.

Objective

- Show the relationship of the Spirit to Eschatology
- Demonstrate that the nature of the Spirit's work within that eschatological framework was miraculous.
- Prove that the work of the Holy Spirit is “eschatological” and that, that *eschatological* work of the Spirit ceased in A.D. 70.
- Today we live in the results of that completed work of the Spirit.

What We Are Not Saying

- We are not saying that the only time God worked through the Spirit was in the category of Scripture classified as eschatology or end times.
- We are not saying that prior to the end times, the Holy Spirit never worked miracles.
- We are not saying that a relationship with the Holy Spirit is not possible today, since A.D. 70.
- We are simply defining the work of the Spirit in the context of the New Testament and eschatology of last days.

Special Wonders, Miracles and Signs in Egypt

The Past (1st Exodus, birth of the OT nation)

- He brought them out, after he had shown **wonders and signs in the land of Egypt**, and **in the Red Sea**, and **in the wilderness** forty years. (Acts 7:36)
- This is that Moses who said to the children of Israel, The LORD your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your brethren. Him shall you hear. (v. 37; Deut. 18:15-19; Acts 3:29-26)

The Future (2nd Exodus, death of the O.T. nation)

- As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt, **I will show** them wonders. [NASV, miracles, RSV, ESV marvelous things, YLT, wonderful things, etc]
- Clearly, there would be a second exodus where God would show forth miracles for **forty years**, i.e. for a generation!

Jerusalem, (NOT America) Is Egypt in the N.T.

- He came to His own, Jn. 1:11, Gal. 4:4
- Christ's death was His "exodus" from the "world below". (Lk. 9:31; Hos. 11:1)
- The ancient "covenant city" of Jerusalem was spiritually called Sodom and Egypt.
- "Which things are symbolic. For these are the two covenants: the one from Mount Sinai which gives birth to bondage, which is Hagar—25) for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem **which now is, and is in bondage** with her children— (Gal. 4:24-25)
- Nevertheless what does the Scripture say? Cast out the bondwoman and her son, for the son of the bondwoman shall not be heir with the son of the free woman. (v. 30) See also Heb. 12:18-27; Rev. 11:8

Last Days Terminate with the 40 Years of Spirit's Ministry

- According to Mic. 7:15 and Acts 7:36, the miraculous signs and wonders cannot extend beyond **“forty years.”**
- Forty years also marks out scope for Joel's prophecy, in **the “last days”**.
- The Spirit was poured out until the “great and awesome day of Lord.
- When people ascribe Pentecost to the last days, they not only set up a false “eschatology” but a false pneumatology (study of the Holy Spirit).
- They extend their pneumatology and eschatology to the end of an age which has no end.

Joel 2:28-32; Acts 2:16-20

16) But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel:

17) “And it shall come to pass **in the last days**, says God, that I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh [Jew & Gentile]; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your young men shall see visions, your old men shall dream dreams.

18) And on my menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; and they shall prophesy; And they shall prophesy.

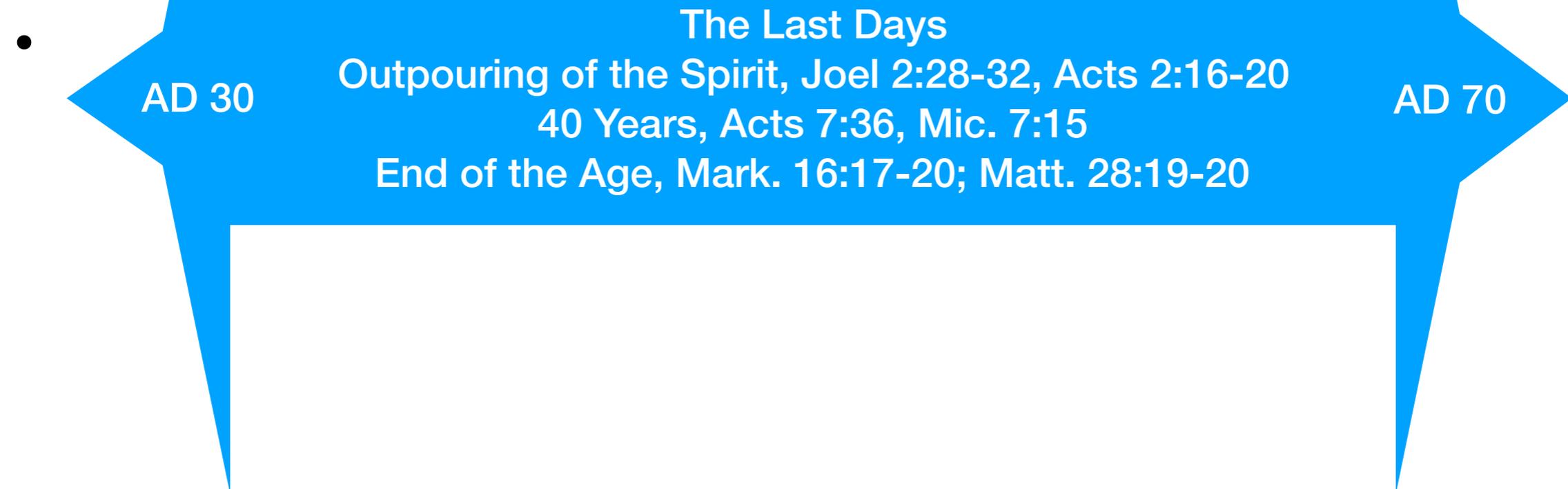
19) I will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke.

21) The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD.

22) And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved.

Holy Spirit's 40-Year Ministry

- Pentecost A.D. 30 to A.D. 70 = 40 years for the miraculous work of the Spirit



The Holy Spirit and Daniel 9

The Old Testament points to the destruction of Jerusalem. It is referred to in several of the prophets: Zechariah 14; Malachi, Chapters 3 and 4; as well as Joel and Daniel.

Note Daniel's prophecy of the fall of Jerusalem (Daniel 9:20-27). Whatever may be the difficulty in figuring the seventy weeks in relations to the fall of Jerusalem, there cannot be any doubt that it is included. Christ settles this. Matt. 24 is a prophecy concerning the fall of Jerusalem. In the midst of the prophecy, Christ said, "When ye therefore shall see the abomination of desolation, spoken of by Daniel the prophet, stand in the holy place, " Matt. 24:15).

Jesus identifies the prophecy of Daniel so as to include the fall of Jerusalem. Lk. 21:20 makes it clear that the reference is to the Roman army. If we can accept the words of Christ, Daniel, by inspiration, saw Jerusalem fall.

Work of the Holy Spirit in Redemption, J. Franklin Camp, p. 46.

The Holy Spirit and Everlasting Righteousness (Dan. 9:24)

- Seventy weeks are determined for your people and for your holy city,
 - to finish the transgression,
 - to make an end of sins,
 - to make reconciliation for iniquity,
 - **to bring in everlasting righteousness,**
 - to seal up vision and prophecy,
 - and to anoint the Most Holy
- For **we through the Spirit** eagerly wait for the hope of righteousness by faith, Gal. 5:5
- Nevertheless we, according to His promise, look for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. (2 Pet. 3:13)



All Fulfilled in
A.D. 70
When the
Temple Fell

Holy Spirit and “This Generation”

Matt. 10:17-20	Mark 13:9-11	Luke 21:12-15
<p>17) But beware of men, for they will deliver you up to councils and scourge you in their synagogues</p> <p>18) You will be brought before governors and kings for My sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles.</p> <p>19) But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak;</p> <p>20) For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you.</p>	<p>9) But watch out for yourselves, for they will deliver you up to councils, and you will be beaten in the synagogues.</p> <p>10) You will be brought before rulers and kings for My sake, for a testimony to them</p> <p>And this gospel must be preached to all the nations.</p> <p>11) But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.</p>	<p>12) But before all these things, they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons. You will be brought before kings and rulers for My name’s sake.</p> <p>13) But it will turn out for you as an occasion for testimony.</p> <p>14) Therefore settle it in your hearts not to meditate beforehand on what you will answer;</p> <p>15) For I will give you a mouth and wisdom which all your adversaries will not be able to contradict or resist</p>
Peter & John, Acts 4-5	Stephen, Acts 7:51-57	Paul, Acts 24:13, 24,25

Holy Spirit and the Persecution of the Apostles

21) Now brother will be deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death.

22) And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.

23) When they persecute you in this city, flee to another. For assuredly, I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.

(Matt. 10:21-23)

Holy Spirit & The Persecution of the Apostles

Matt 10:21-23	Mark 13:12-13	Luke 21:16-21
<p>21) Now brother will deliver up brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death.</p> <p>22) And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end will be saved.</p> <p>23) When they persecute you in this city, flee to another. For assuredly, I say to you, you will not have gone through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.</p>	<p>9) Now brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; and children will rise up against parents and cause them to be put to death.</p> <p>13) And you will be hated by all for My name's sake. But he who endures to the end shall be saved.</p>	<p>16) You will be betrayed even by parents and brothers, relatives and friends; and they will put some of you to death.</p> <p>17) And you will be hated by all for My name's sake.</p> <p>18) But not a hair of your head shall be lost.</p> <p>19) By your patience possess your souls.</p>
<p>TEMPLE (Fill In this space)</p>	<p>TEMPLE (24:3, 15-18)</p>	<p>TEMPLE (Lk. 21:20-22)</p>

The Holy Spirit and Eschatological Suffering

- If all persecution in the N.T. is during the time of the eschatological Spirit, then all persecution in the N.T. are “eschatological sufferings”.
- That means these “eschatological sufferings” only continued “forty years”.
- We have no tears to shed. The groaning and exile from the bondage of sin is over! (Rev. 21:4)
- The kingdom of God is “righteousness, peace and JOY!!! in the Holy Spirit. Rejoice always and again I say rejoice! (Rom. 14:17; Phil. 4:1)

The Holy Spirit & The Coming of Christ, 1 Cor. 1:6-8

6) Even as the testimony of Christ as **confirmed** in you,

7) so that you come short in no gift, eagerly waiting for the **revelation** of our Lord Jesus Christ,

8) who will also confirm you **to the end**, that you may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Holy Spirit and the End of the Age, Matt. 28:20

Matt 28:19-20	Mark 16:16-20
<p>19) Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in[to] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,</p> <p>20) Teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.</p>	<p>And he said to them, 'Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned.</p> <p>And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons: they will speak with new tongues;</p> <p>They will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.</p> <p>So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.</p> <p>And they went out and preached every where, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs.</p>
<p>"I am with you" "The Lord working with them"</p>	<p>1 Cor. 1:6-8 Gifts Until Christ's Coming</p>

The Holy Spirit and Judgment, (Jn. 16:7-11)

7) Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Holy Spirit will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. **[for forty years]**

8) And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment;

9) of sin, because they do not believe in Me;

10) of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more;

11) of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

40 Years Between the Coming and Going of Christ

- Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many mansions;
- if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.
- And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.
- A little while longer and the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me. Because I live, you will live also. (14:19)
- A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father... (16:16-19; Heb. 10:37)

The Holy Spirit and the Destruction of Satan

- Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out. (Jn. 12:31)
- The Holy Spirit would come and convict the world of judgment because the ruler of this world is judged. Jn. 16:11

The Holy Spirit and the Land, Ezk. 36:26-28

26) I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.

27) I will put **My Spirit within you** and cause you to walk in y statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.

28) **Then you shall dwell in the land** that I gave to your fathers; you shall be My people, and I will be your God.

- I will put **My Spirit in you**, and you shall live, and **I will place you in your own land**. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it. (Ezk. 37:14)

The Holy Spirit and the Resurrection

- Jesus spoke often of resurrection saying he would raise the dead at the “last day”.
- In the epistles we learn that the resurrection would be accomplished by and through the Holy Spirit.
- “And if Christ is in you, the body is dead because of sin, but the Spirit is life because of righteousness
- But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you. (Rom. 8:10-11)
- For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, Abba, Father. (Rom. 8:14)
- Not only that, but we also who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, even we ourselves groan within ourselves, eagerly waiting for the adoption, the redemption of our body. (v. 23)
- “...And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, ‘Abba Father!’” (Gal. 4:4-6)

1 Cor. 15 & 2 Cor. 5

- And God raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power. 1 Cor. 6:14
- Now he who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. (2 Cor. 5:5)
- The resurrection of 2 Cor. 5 = 1 Cor. 15 and was therefore accomplished by the eschatological spirit, i.e. the miraculous wonders and signs in the last days of the age.

The Holy Spirit and the Inheritance, Eph. 1:13-14

13) In him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,

14) who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

- And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. (Eph. 4:30)

Summary & Conclusion

- We showed the relationship of the Holy Spirit to eschatology.
- Eschatology cannot be separated from pneumatology.
- The nature of the Spirit's work was miraculous, i.e. in signs, wonders, miracles and gifts.
- The eschatological work of the Spirit continued for forty years, beginning on Pentecost and terminating in A.D. 70.
- Today, we do not live under the miraculous work of the Holy Spirit, but in the results of that first century fulfillment.
- The results of the completed work of Holy Spirit is redemption, resurrection and the Presence of Christ in the New Jerusalem.