

Isaiah 11:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

Analysis

The Spirit's sevenfold anointing of Messiah is described: the Spirit of the Lord (divine presence), wisdom and understanding (supernatural insight), counsel and might (strength and guidance), knowledge and fear of the Lord (relationship and reverence). This comprehensive anointing equips Messiah perfectly for His role. The Spirit 'resting' upon Him indicates permanent indwelling, not temporary empowerment. This prophesies Jesus's Spirit-empowerment from conception through ministry, fulfilling all righteousness.

Historical Context

Fulfilled when the Holy Spirit descended on Jesus at baptism (Matthew 3:16) and remained on Him throughout ministry. Jesus's wisdom amazed teachers (Luke 2:47), His counsel was perfect (John 7:46), His might evident in miracles, His knowledge of the Father complete (Matthew 11:27), His fear of the Lord demonstrated in perfect obedience. The sevenfold Spirit became a Messianic identification marker—only Jesus perfectly manifests all these qualities.

Related Passages

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How does the Spirit's sevenfold anointing equip Jesus perfectly for His mediatorial role?
2. What does it mean that the Spirit 'rests' on Christ permanently rather than temporarily?
3. How do we as believers share in this Spirit through our union with Christ?

Interlinear Text

שָׁלֵו יָי וְנָחָה	עַל יוֹ	רוּחַ	יְהוָה:	רוּחַ	חֵכְמָה
shall rest	H5921	And the spirit	of the LORD	And the spirit	of wisdom
H5117		H7307	H3068	H7307	H2451
וּבִינָה	רוּחַ	עֲצָה	וְגִבּוֹרָה	רוּחַ	
and understanding	And the spirit	of counsel	and might	And the spirit	
H998	H7307	H6098	H1369	H7307	
דַּעַת	וְיִרְאַת	יְהוָה:			
of knowledge	and of the fear	of the LORD			
H1847	H3374	H3068			

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 61:1 (Spirit): The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me; because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; he hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and the opening of the prison to them that are bound;

John 16:13 (Spirit): Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

2 Timothy 1:7 (Spirit): For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

Isaiah 42:1 (Spirit): Behold my servant, whom I uphold; mine elect, in whom my soul delighteth; I have put my spirit upon him: he shall bring forth judgment to the Gentiles.

Matthew 3:16 (Spirit): And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

John 3:34 (Spirit): For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure unto him.

Isaiah 48:16 (Spirit): Come ye near unto me, hear ye this; I have not spoken in secret from the beginning; from the time that it was, there am I: and now the Lord GOD, and his Spirit, hath sent me.

John 14:17 (Spirit): Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

1 Corinthians 1:30 (Parallel theme): But of him are ye in Christ Jesus, who of God is made unto us wisdom, and righteousness, and sanctification, and redemption:

Isaiah 59:21 (Spirit): As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the LORD; My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed's seed, saith the LORD, from henceforth and for ever.