

Enduement: Saul, David, Daniel: Handwriting on the Wall, Dan 5:25, Prophets, Priests, & Kings, Disciples in the Incarnation, Lk 11:9-13; 24:49; Jn 20:21

6. **King Saul:** was given the power of enduement in 1 Samuel 10:9-10, but lost it in 16:14 and was never again permitted to have it.

7. **David:** was given enduement in 1 Samuel 16:13 where it is indicated that he never lost the ministry of the Holy Spirit. At this same time the Holy Spirit's power was withdrawn from Saul.

We also note in Psalm 51:11 that David, after having been indicted by the prophet Nathan for his rape of Bathsheba, prayed to God that He “not take Your Holy Spirit from me.”

These examples regarding Saul and David give evidence that the presence or absence of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament says nothing about salvation but only that His power worked in those whom God selected for service [Walvoord and Zuck, *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: Old Testament*, 448].

8. **Daniel:** When King Belshazzar was alarmed and frightened by the handwriting on the wall of his palace: **מְנָא מְנָא תְּקֵל וּפְרָסִין** **mene', mene', teqel upharsin** (Daniel 5:25), he called for his staff of “wise men” to interpret the message. Hearing of the event his mother Queen Nitocris entered the palace and offered him a solution to the mystery. She advised him to solicit the help of Daniel whom she defined as one “in whom is the spirit of the holy gods” and reminded Belshazzar of how Daniel's wisdom had also been advantageous for his grandfather, Nebuchadnezzar. (Daniel 5:11)

The phrase “spirit of the gods” is amplified in verse 12 by Nitocris as “an extraordinary spirit.” “Spirit of the gods” is **רוּחַ אֱלֹהִים** **ruach elohim** and refers to the Holy Spirit which is “extraordinary” compared to the “gods” of the Chaldean pantheon. This phrase is found in a quote from a Chaldean queen whose only frame of reference was a multiplicity of gods, yet, she recognized that Daniel's God was superior to hers.

By the way, Daniel's interpretation of the handwriting announced imminent national catastrophe upon the Chaldean Empire:

**Daniel 5:26 -** “This is the interpretation of the message: ‘MENE’—God has numbered your kingdom and put an end to it.

**v. 27 -** “‘TEKEL’—you have been weighed in the scales and found deficient.

**v. 28 -** “‘PERES’—your kingdom has been divided and given over to the Medes and Persians.”

The phrase “spirit of the gods” is also found in Daniel 4:8 and the phrase “an extraordinary spirit” is found in Daniel 6:3, both of which refer to Daniel's enduement.

9. **Prophets, Priests, and Kings:** Others who enjoyed enduement included (1) prophets who did not write Scripture, e.g., Elijah (1 Kings 17–2 Kings 2, passim), Micaiah \mī-kā'-ya\ (1 Kings 22:4-28), Elisha (2 Kings 2-13, passim), and Nathan (2 Samuel 7, 12; 1 Kings 1), (2) priests, e.g., Aaron, as high priest, and his four sons who were anointed for service in the Tabernacle (We conclude from the nature of their duties the sons possessed enduement.), and (3) likewise regarding the kings of Israel and Judah.

10. **The Disciples in the Incarnation:** These men were offered enduement by the Lord but they did not respond:

**Luke 11:9 -** “I say to you, ask [ for the enduement of the Holy Spirit ], and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock [ be consistent in your appeal ], and it will be opened to you.

**v. 10 -** “For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds, and to him who knocks, it will be opened.

**v. 11 -** “Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he?

**v. 12 -** “Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he?

**Luke 11:13 -** “If you then, being evil [ as compared to the perfection of God ], know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”

This takes place during the Incarnation and before (1) the permanent indwelling and (2) the power option of the filling of the Holy Spirit were made available to all believers at Pentecost.

Following the Resurrection, the Lord gave the enduement of the Holy Spirit to His disciples:

**John 20:21 -** Jesus said to them [ disciples ] again, “Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you [ πέμπω, *pempō*: to dispatch as a representative, agent, or ambassador ].”

**v. 22 -** And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit” [ the temporary enablement of enduement ].

**Luke 24:49 -** “And behold, I am going to send [ futuristic present of εξαποστέλλω, *exapostellō*: to send on a mission: denotes an event which has not yet occurred but is regarded as so certain that in thought it may be contemplated as already coming to pass ] on you the promise of My Father [ the indwelling and filling ministries of the Holy Spirit ]. But stay in the city until you may be clothed with power from on high [ Pentecost, Acts 2:4 ].