

I Choose Today to Be Empowered by the Spirit

1. The Bible as Alive and Active

Hebrews 4:12 (NIV): 'For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.'

Summary: The Word of God is living, transformative, and actively works to shape our hearts, thoughts, and lives.

2. Isaiah 11:1-2 Prophecy

Isaiah 11:1-2 (NIV): 'A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him-the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of the knowledge and fear of the Lord.'

Summary: Isaiah's prophecy foretells Jesus as the Branch from the line of David, empowered by the Holy Spirit with seven divine attributes.

3. Fulfillment in John 1:32

John 1:32 (AMP): 'John testified saying, "I have seen the Spirit descending as a dove out of heaven, and He remained upon Him [without ever departing]."'

Summary: John the Baptist confirms the fulfillment of Isaiah 11:2, witnessing the Holy Spirit descend and rest on Jesus, empowering Him for ministry.

4. The Role of the Holy Spirit in Jesus' Ministry

Luke 4:18-19 (NIV): 'The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to set the oppressed free, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.'

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Summary: Jesus declares that His ministry is carried out by the Spirit's anointing, fulfilling His mission with power and purpose.

5. The Holy Spirit in Believers

John 14:16 (NIV): 'And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever-the Spirit of truth.'

Summary: Jesus promises the Holy Spirit as our Helper, living within us and empowering us with wisdom, guidance, and strength.

6. Jesus as the Perfect Example

2 Corinthians 5:21 (NIV): 'God made him who had no sin to be sin for us, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.'

1 Peter 2:21 (NIV): 'To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.'

Summary: Jesus, being sinless, is the perfect model for us to follow as we strive to live empowered by the Spirit.

7. Call to Action

James 1:5 (NIV): 'If any of you lacks wisdom, you should ask God, who gives generously to all without finding fault, and it will be given to you.'

Galatians 5:16 (NIV): 'So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh.'

Summary: Scripture encourages us to seek the Spirit's wisdom and guidance, allowing Him to lead us daily.