

At this point the question of what constituted the right relation of a Jew to God within the scope and purpose of Judaism might be asked. It is the Covenant theologian who advances at this point the assumption that the saints of the old order were regenerated and on the same basis of relationship to Jehovah as is accorded the saints of the New Testament.¹

Of the present ministries of the Holy Spirit in relation to the believer--regeneration, indwelling or anointing, baptizing, sealing, and filling--nothing indeed is said with respect to these having been experienced by the Old Testament saints, excepting a few well-defined instances where individuals were said to be filled with the Spirit. Old Testament saints, are invested with these blessings only theoretically, and without the support of the Bible, by those who read New Testament blessings back into the Old Testament. . . .

With respect to regeneration, the Old Testament saints were evidently renewed; but as there is no definite doctrinal teaching relative to the extent and character of that renewal, no positive declaration can be made.²

In Chapter VIII of his work, The Holy Spirit, Dr. John F. Walvoord discusses "The Old Testament Ministry of the Holy Spirit to Man." The four sections of this chapter are entitled as follows:

- I. Ministry to All Creation
- II. The Sovereign Indwelling of the Holy Spirit
- III. The Work of the Holy Spirit in Restraining Sin
- IV. Illumination and Enablement for Service
- V. Old Testament Miracles

The closest Dr. Walvoord comes to any mention of regeneration in the Old Testament period appears under the second section:

Important features of indwelling in the Old Testament. Several features of the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament are quite distinctive from the same ministry in the age of grace. It will be noted, first, that the coming of the Spirit to indwell individuals has no apparent relation to spiritual qualities. No record is found of regeneration in these cases as necessarily antecedent to the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Saul, it is true, received another heart (I Sam. 10:9), but this is not the normal experience judging

¹Ibid., pp. 104-5.

²Ibid., pp. 72-73.