

## Handout: Isaiah Lesson 6

As the voice of Yahweh, Isaiah recounts a series of divine judgments in 9:7-10:4 (in some translations these verses are numbered 9:8-10:4). Each section is divided by the key statement that occurs four times: “Yet for all this, his anger is not turned spent. No, his hand is still raised!” (see 9:11/12, 16/17, 20/21; 10:4):

1. Judgment of Israel through other nations (9:7/8-11/12)
2. Judgment against Israel’s leaders (9:12/13-16/17)
3. Judgment by famine and natural disasters (9:17/18-20/21)
4. Judgment against the unjust who oppress the humble (10:1-4)

The Spirit of God is found to be active throughout salvation history. A few examples:

- Before creation the Spirit hovered above the waters of creation (Gen 1:2).
- The Spirit breathed life into Adam and all creatures (Gen 2:7; Ps 33:6; 104:29-30; Ez 37:5-6, 9-10).
- The Spirit gave Joseph son of Israel his wisdom (Gen 41:38).
- The Spirit of God gave skill to the craftsmen who constructed the desert Sanctuary (Ex 31:3; 35:31).
- The Spirit took possession of the desert Tabernacle and Jerusalem Temple (Ex 40:34; 1 Kng 8:10-11).
- The Spirit gave the men God appointed to judge the covenant people their discretion and inspired them (Num 11:17; Judg 3:10; 6:34; 11:29).
- The Spirit inspired God’s prophets (Num 11:17; 24:2; 1 Sam 10:6, 10; 19:20; 2 Sam 23:2; 23:2; 2 Kng 2:9; 2 Chr 15:1; 20:14; 24:20; Mic 3:8; Ez 13:3; etc.).
- God’s Spirit fell upon David when Samuel anointed him (1 Sam 16:13).
- The Holy Spirit came upon the Virgin Mary at the Incarnation (Lk 1:35).
- The Holy Spirit came upon Jesus at His baptism by St. John (Mt 3:16).
- The Holy Spirit came upon the assembly of Jesus’ disciples on the Feast of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-11).
- The Holy Spirit fills and indwells every baptized Christian, giving a new, spiritual life (Jn 3:3, 5).

The word *netzer* = “branch” referring to the Davidic Messiah is found in Is 11:1; 14:19; 60:21; Dan 11:7. Some Biblical scholars think *netzer* is the root for the word Nazareth (Heb. = *natseret*), and the prophecy St. Matthew refers to in Matthew 2:23

Isaiah’s gifts of the Spirit given to the Davidic Messiah and also his other characteristics in Isaiah 11:1-5 (from the Septuagint and Latin Vulgate translations):

1. He will be filled with the spirit of God like the prophets (verse 2a).
2. God’s Spirit in him will generate the attributes of divine wisdom, insight, good counsel, power/fortitude, knowledge, piety and reverent fear of Yahweh which will be the inspiration for His mission (verses 2b-3a).
3. He will establish in society the integrity and justice which is the reflection of God’s sanctity on earth, not by the teachings of others but by His own knowledge of the Lord God, being consistently merciful to the righteous and delivering justice to the wicked (verses 3-5).

# The Gifts and Fruits of the Holy Spirit

