

THE NEW CHURCH

Message from Bruce Van Blair

TNC BIBLE

QUESTION: What is a TNC Bible?

ANSWER: A TNC Bible is a Bible in which every passage that speaks of the Spirit is highlighted.

I am persuaded that very few people realize how much the Bible bears witness to the authority of the Holy Spirit. It seems to me, then, that every member of *The New Church* should have such a Bible. When you see a TNC Bible, you will be thunderstruck that the entire Christian world is not clear and adamant about the central importance and authority of the Holy Spirit.

So, how can I get such a Bible to each one of you? I have created a list (attached) of Spirit-related passages that are highlighted in one of my own Bibles, and I will arrange for every member of *The New Church* to receive a copy of the *Revised English Bible* (REB), a version I highly recommend. Once you receive it, hopefully you will then use the list and your new REB to highlight these passages and create your own TNC Bible. Of course, you can use any translation you wish and receive approximately the same effect. But note that a paraphrase version, like Eugene Peterson's *The Message*, excellent for many other purposes, will not give you the same picture. Going forward, we will send a *Revised English Bible* and this little project to any person who joins *The New Church*. In addition, we will post this list on our website along with my recommendations for creating a TNC Bible, in case others are interested in doing this as well.

It is hoped that members of *The New Church* will sometimes simply open a TNC Bible and browse – letting it sink in how central and fundamental the reality of the Holy Spirit was in the life of the early church. In most cases, the scriptural designation only points to verses where “the Spirit” is actually mentioned. As always, reading the context around the verse or verses highlighted will be important to understanding. If you make your own TNC Bible, you may wish to highlight more than the verses designated.

If you come across passages referring to the Spirit that are not included in the attached list, please [let me know](#). Sometimes, of course, the word “spirit” is mentioned without referring directly to the Holy Spirit or the Spirit of God. These instances are not included in the list. (And sometimes the inclusion is questionable.)

In addition, there are quite a few places where the Spirit is being talked about but the word “Spirit” is not directly mentioned – e.g., the passage in Jeremiah 31, which is included in the list. The New Covenant (and its reality) is, at least for most of us, clearly indicating the presence of the Holy Spirit. The second chapter of Colossians (not included in the list) is unintelligible apart from the reality of the Holy Spirit. In most cases, when the post-Resurrection Jesus is being talked about, the Holy Spirit of Jesus is the subject.

Why have I included Old Testament passages? It is important and interesting to see how the concept of “the Spirit” was understood (and developing) in Judaism prior to Jesus. As always, we don't get a very clear understanding of the New Testament unless we have some awareness of the background from which it came.

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Finally, we should add a word of caution. While it is hard to imagine anybody paying attention to the TNC Bible without getting a whole new and clearer picture of the place of the Holy Spirit in Christian Life and thought, it is possible that, with a little carelessness, we will create another fiasco: TNN (The New Nightmare). Hopefully we will never come anywhere close to it, but we do not need another “authoritative scripture” to usurp the place of the real Holy Spirit, to put anybody down, or to turn into one more false idol or false authority. The TNC Bible is intended to heighten our awareness, and to bring us to greater gratitude and greater appreciation for what Jesus is doing – for us, and for any others who are willing to give Him a little room in their lives.

Peace & Love,

Bruce

PS: Normal highlighters produce a “bleed through the pages” mess in most Bibles. But there are some dry highlighters made specifically for use in Bibles, and the [CBD Wordkeeper dry highlighter](#) comes in several colors and will not bleed through the pages. If you are unable to get one of these, [let me know](#) and I’ll send you one.

TNC BIBLE

IN ANY TRANSLATION, THE FOLLOWING PASSAGES WHICH SPEAK OF THE SPIRIT ARE HIGHLIGHTED

THE OLD TESTAMENT		THE NEW TESTAMENT		
Genesis 1:2	Isaiah 11:2	Matthew 1:18	Acts 8:29	Galatians 6:1
Genesis 2:7	Isaiah 32:15	Matthew 1:20	Acts 8:39	Galatians 6:8
Genesis 6:3	Isaiah 34:16	Matthew 3:11	Acts 9:17	Ephesians 1:13-14
Genesis 41:38	Isaiah 40:13	Matthew 3:16	Acts 9:31	Ephesians 2:18
Exodus 31:1-3	Isaiah 42:1	Matthew 4:1	Acts 10:19-20	Ephesians 3:14-16
Exodus 35:30-31	Isaiah 44:3	Matthew 5:3	Acts 10:38	Ephesians 4:3-4
Numbers 11:17	Isaiah 59:21	Matthew 10:20	Acts 10:44-48	Ephesians 4:30
Numbers 11:24-26	Isaiah 61:1-3	Matthew 12:18	Acts 11:12-16	Ephesians 5:18
Numbers 11:29	Isaiah 63:10-14	Matthew 12:28	Acts 11:23-24	Ephesians 6:17-18
Numbers 24:1-2	Jeremiah 31:31-34	Matthew 12:31-32	Acts 13:2-4	Philippians 1:19
Numbers 27:18-20		Matthew 28:19	Acts 13:9-10	Philippians 2:1
Deuteronomy 34:9	Ezekiel 1:12	Mark 1:8-12	Acts 13:52	Philippians 3:3
Judges 3:10	Ezekiel 1:20	Mark 3:29	Acts 15:8	Colossians 1:8
Judges 6:34	Ezekiel 2:2	Mark 12:36	Acts 15:28	I Thessalonians 1:4-6
Judges 11:29	Ezekiel 3:12	Mark 13:11	Acts 16:6-8	I Thessalonians 4:8
Judges 13:25	Ezekiel 3:24	Luke 1:15	Acts 19:2-7	II Thessalonians 2:13
Judges 14:6	Ezekiel 8:3	Luke 1:35	Acts 20:22-23	I Timothy 3:16
Judges 14:19	Ezekiel 11:1	Luke 1:41	Acts 20:28	I Timothy 4:1
Judges 15:14	Ezekiel 11:5	Luke 1:67	Acts 21:4	II Timothy 1:7
I Samuel 10:6	Ezekiel 11:19	Luke 1:80	Acts 21:11	II Timothy 1:14
I Samuel 10:10	Ezekiel 11:24	Luke 2:25-27	Acts 23:8	Titus 3:5-6
I Samuel 11:6	Ezekiel 18:31	Luke 3:16	Acts 28:25	Hebrews 2:4
I Samuel 16:13-15	Ezekiel 36:26-27	Luke 3:22	Romans 1:3-4	Hebrews 3:7
I Samuel 19:20	Ezekiel 37:1	Luke 4:1-2	Romans 5:5	Hebrews 6:4
I Samuel 19:23	Ezekiel 37:14	Luke 4:14	Romans 7:6	Hebrews 9:8
II Samuel 23:2	Ezekiel 39:29	Luke 4:14	Romans 8:2-7	Hebrews 9:14
I Kings 18:12	Ezekiel 43:4-5	Luke 10:21	Romans 8:9-17	Hebrews 9:15-16
I Kings 22:24	Joel 2:28-29	Luke 11:13	Romans 8:23	Hebrews 10:15-16
II Kings 2:9	Zechariah 4:6	Luke 12:10-12	Romans 8:26-27	Hebrews 10:29
II Kings 2:15-16	Zechariah 6:8	John 1:32-34	Romans 9:1	James 4:5
II Chronicles 15:1-2	Zechariah 7:12	John 3:5-8	Romans 12:11	I Peter 1:2
II Chronicles 18:23		John 3:34	Romans 14:17	I Peter 1:11-12
II Chronicles 20:14		John 4:23-24	Romans 15:13	I Peter 3:18-19
II Chronicles 24:20		John 6:63	Romans 15:16-19	I Peter 4:6
Nehemiah 9:20		John 7:39	Romans 15:30-32	I Peter 4:14
Nehemiah 9:30		John 14:16	I Corinthians 2:9-14	II Peter 1:21
Job 20:3		John 14:25-26	I Corinthians 3:16-17	I John 3:24
Job 32:8		John 15:26	I Corinthians 6:11	I John 4:2
Job 33:4		John 16:13-14	I Corinthians 6:19	I John 4:6
Job 34:14-15		John 20:21-23	I Corinthians 7:40	I John 4:13
Psalm 51:10-11		Acts 1:2	I Corinthians 12:3-13	I John 5:6-8
Psalm 104:29-30		Acts 1:5	I Corinthians 14:1-2	Jude 20
Psalm 139:7		Acts 1:8	I Corinthians 14:12	Revelation 1:10
Psalm 143:10		Acts 1:16	II Corinthians 1:21-22	Revelation 2:7
Ecclesiastes 12:6-7		Acts 2:4	II Corinthians 3:3	Revelation 2:17
		Acts 2:17-18	II Corinthians 3:6-8	Revelation 2:29
		Acts 2:33	II Corinthians 3:16-18	Revelation 3:6
		Acts 2:38	II Corinthians 5:5	Revelation 3:13
		Acts 4:8	II Corinthians 6:6	Revelation 3:22
		Acts 4:25	II Corinthians 11:4	Revelation 4:2
		Acts 4:31	II Corinthians 12:18	Revelation 14:13
		Acts 5:3	II Corinthians 13:14	Revelation 17:3
		Acts 5:9	Galatians 3:2-5	Revelation 21:10
		Acts 5:32	Galatians 3:14	Revelation 22:17
		Acts 6:3-5	Galatians 4:6	
		Acts 7:51	Galatians 5:5	
		Acts 7:55	Galatians 5:16-18	
		Acts 8:14-19	Galatians 5:22-25	

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THE OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 1:2	Job 20:3
Genesis 2:7	Job 32:8
Genesis 6:3	Job 33:4
Genesis 41:38	Job 34:14-15
Exodus 31:1-3	Psalms 51:10-11
Exodus 35:30-31	Psalms 104:29-30
Numbers 11:17	Psalms 139:7
Numbers 11:24-26	Psalms 143:10
Numbers 11:29	Ecclesiastes 12:6-7
Numbers 24:1-2	Isaiah 11:2
Numbers 27:18-20	Isaiah 32:15
Deuteronomy 34:9	Isaiah 34:16
Judges 3:10	Isaiah 40:13
Judges 6:34	Isaiah 42:1
Judges 11:29	Isaiah 44:3
Judges 13:25	Isaiah 59:21
Judges 14:6	Isaiah 61:1-3
Judges 14:19	Isaiah 63:10-14
Judges 15:14	Jeremiah 31:31-34
I Samuel 10:6	Ezekiel 1:12
I Samuel 10:10	Ezekiel 1:20
I Samuel 11:6	Ezekiel 2:2
I Samuel 16:13-15	Ezekiel 3:12
I Samuel 19:20	Ezekiel 3:24
I Samuel 19:23	Ezekiel 8:3
II Samuel 23:2	Ezekiel 11:1
I Kings 18:12	Ezekiel 11:5
I Kings 22:24	Ezekiel 11:19
II Kings 2:9	Ezekiel 11:24
II Kings 2:15-16	Ezekiel 18:31
II Chronicles 15:1-2	Ezekiel 36:26-27
II Chronicles 18:23	Ezekiel 37:1
II Chronicles 20:14	Ezekiel 37:14
II Chronicles 24:20	Ezekiel 39:29
Nehemiah 9:20	Ezekiel 43:4-5
Nehemiah 9:30	Joel 2:28-29
	Zechariah 4:6
	Zechariah 6:8
	Zechariah 7:12

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THE NEW TESTAMENT

Matthew 1:18	Acts 1:2
Matthew 1:20	Acts 1:5
Matthew 3:11	Acts 1:8
Matthew 3:16	Acts 1:16
Matthew 4:1	Acts 2:4
Matthew 5:3	Acts 2:17-18
Matthew 10:20	Acts 2:33
Matthew 12:18	Acts 2:38
Matthew 12:28	Acts 4:8
Matthew 12:31-32	Acts 4:25
Matthew 28:19	Acts 4:31
	Acts 5:3
Mark 1:8-12	Acts 5:9
Mark 3:29	Acts 5:32
Mark 12:36	Acts 6:3-5
Mark 13:11	Acts 7:51
	Acts 7:55
Luke 1:15	Acts 8:14-19
Luke 1:35	Acts 8:29
Luke 1:41	Acts 8:39
Luke 1:67	Acts 9:17
Luke 1:80	Acts 9:31
Luke 2:25-27	Acts 10:19-20
Luke 3:16	Acts 10:38
Luke 3:22	Acts 10:44-48
Luke 4:1-2	Acts 11:12-16
Luke 4:14	Acts 11:23-24
Luke 4:14	Acts 13:2-4
Luke 10:21	Acts 13:9-10
Luke 11:13	Acts 13:52
Luke 12:10-12	Acts 15:8
	Acts 15:28
John 1:32-34	Acts 16:6-8
John 3:5-8	Acts 19:2-7
John 3:34	Acts 20:22-23
John 4:23-24	Acts 20:28
John 6:63	Acts 21:4
John 7:39	Acts 21:11
John 14:16	Acts 23:8
John 14:25-26	Acts 28:25
John 15:26	
John 16:13-14	
John 20:21-23	

(NT continued)

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THE NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 1:3-4
 Romans 5:5
 Romans 7:6
 Romans 8:2-7
 Romans 8:9-17
 Romans 8:23
 Romans 8:26-27
 Romans 9:1
 Romans 12:11
 Romans 14:17
 Romans 15:13
 Romans 15:16-19
 Romans 15:30-32
 I Corinthians 2:9-14
 I Corinthians 3:16-17
 I Corinthians 6:11
 I Corinthians 6:19
 I Corinthians 7:40
 I Corinthians 12:3-13
 I Corinthians 14:1-2
 I Corinthians 14:12
 II Corinthians 1:21-22
 II Corinthians 3:3
 II Corinthians 3:6-8
 II Corinthians 3:16-18
 II Corinthians 5:5
 II Corinthians 6:6
 II Corinthians 11:4
 II Corinthians 12:18
 II Corinthians 13:14
 Galatians 3:2-5
 Galatians 3:14
 Galatians 4:6
 Galatians 5:5
 Galatians 5:16-18
 Galatians 5:22-25
 Galatians 6:1
 Galatians 6:8

Ephesians 1:13-14
 Ephesians 2:18
 Ephesians 3:14-16
 Ephesians 4:3-4
 Ephesians 4:30
 Ephesians 5:18
 Ephesians 6:17-18
 Philippians 1:19
 Philippians 2:1
 Philippians 3:3
 Colossians 1:8
 I Thessalonians 1:4-6
 I Thessalonians 4:8
 II Thessalonians 2:13
 I Timothy 3:16
 I Timothy 4:1
 II Timothy 1:7
 II Timothy 1:14
 Titus 3:5-6
 Hebrews 2:4
 Hebrews 3:7
 Hebrews 6:4
 Hebrews 9:8
 Hebrews 9:14
 Hebrews 10:15-16
 Hebrews 10:29
 James 4:5
 I Peter 1:2
 I Peter 1:11-12
 I Peter 3:18-19
 I Peter 4:6
 I Peter 4:14
 II Peter 1:21

I John 3:24
 I John 4:2
 I John 4:6
 I John 4:13
 I John 5:6-8
 Jude 20
 Revelation 1:10
 Revelation 2:7
 Revelation 2:17
 Revelation 2:29
 Revelation 3:6
 Revelation 3:13
 Revelation 3:22
 Revelation 4:2
 Revelation 14:13
 Revelation 17:3
 Revelation 21:10
 Revelation 22:17