

Elder Vernon Johnson

Numbers

Four

(Part IX) The Four Quarters, Four Winds, Four Directions

"Four quarters" is simply by definition four equal parts of the whole. "Four winds" refers to the directional blowing of the wind and the four directions are used as a navigation guide. As we have already shown there is a strong scriptural correlation between the number four and the subject of the work of the Spirit.

We begin by listing the scriptures that have the phrase "four quarters:"

1. Deu 22:12 "Thou shalt make thee fringes upon the four quarters of thy vesture, wherewith thou coverest thyself."
2. 1 Chr 9:24 "In four quarters were the porters, toward the east, west, north, and south."
3. Jer 49:36 "And upon Elam will I bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven, and will scatter them toward all those winds; and there shall be no nation whither the outcasts of Elam shall not come."
4. Rev 20:8 "And shall go out to deceive the nations which are in the four quarters of the earth, Gog and Magog, to gather them together to battle: the number of whom is as the sand of the sea."

Four quarters in the above represent the four parts of the vesture, four parts of the city, four parts of the heaven, and four parts of the earth. In addition, we note that in #2 the four quarters are equal to the four directions (east, west, north, and south).

Next, we list the scriptures that have the four directions:"

1. Gen 28:14 "And thy seed shall be as the dust of the earth, and thou shalt spread abroad to the west, and to the east, and to the north, and to the south: and in thee and in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed."
2. Num 35:5 "And ye shall measure from without the city on the east side two thousand cubits, and on the south side two thousand cubits, and on the west side two thousand cubits, and on the north side two thousand cubits; and the city shall be in the midst: this shall be to them the suburbs of the cities."
3. 1 Ki 7:25 "It stood upon twelve oxen, three looking toward the north, and three looking toward the west, and three looking toward the south, and three looking toward

the east: and the sea was set above upon them, and all their hinder parts were inward."

4. 1 Chr 9:24 "In four quarters were the porters, toward the east, west, north, and south."

5. 2 Chr 4:4 "It stood upon twelve oxen, three looking toward the north, and three looking toward the west, and three looking toward the south, and three looking toward the east: and the sea was set above upon them, and all their hinder parts were inward."

6. Psa 107:3 "And gathered them out of the lands, from the east, and from the west, from the north, and from the south."

7. Ezek 48:10 "And for them, even for the priests, shall be this holy oblation; toward the north five and twenty thousand in length, and toward the west ten thousand in breadth, and toward the east ten thousand in breadth, and toward the south five and twenty thousand in length: and the sanctuary of the LORD shall be in the midst thereof."

8. Ezek 48:16 "And these shall be the measures thereof; the north side four thousand and five hundred, and the south side four thousand and five hundred, and on the east side four thousand and five hundred, and the west side four thousand and five hundred."

9. Ezek 48:17 "And the suburbs of the city shall be toward the north two hundred and fifty, and toward the south two hundred and fifty, and toward the east two hundred and fifty, and toward the west two hundred and fifty."

10. Zec 14:4 "And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives, which is before Jerusalem on the east, and the mount of Olives shall cleave in the midst thereof toward the east and toward the west, and there shall be a very great valley; and half of the mountain shall remove toward the north, and half of it toward the south."

11. Luke 13:29 "And they shall come from the east, and from the west, and from the north, and from the south, and shall sit down in the kingdom of God."

12. Rev 21:13 "On the east three gates; on the north three gates; on the south three gates; and on the west three gates."

From the above we gather that generally when the directions are used together that things are often gathered or scattered in the four directions. The Holy Spirit gives us direction in our lives. The Spirit leads, guides, and directs the children of God:

1. Matt. 4:1 "Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil."

2. Rom. 8:14 "For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God."

3. Gal. 5:18 "But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law."

4. Eph. 4:8 "Wherefore he saith, When he ascended up on high, he led captivity captive, and gave gifts unto men."

5. Heb. 8:9 "Not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they

continued not in my covenant, and I regarded them not, saith the Lord."

6. Rev. 7:17 "For the Lamb which is in the midst of the throne shall feed them, and shall lead them unto living fountains of waters: and God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes."

Thirdly, we list the scriptures that pertain to the four winds:

1. Jer 49:36 "And upon Elam will I bring the four winds from the four quarters of heaven, and will scatter them toward all those winds; and there shall be no nation whither the outcasts of Elam shall not come."

2. Ezek 37:9 "Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

3. Dan 7:2 "Daniel spake and said, I saw in my vision by night, and, behold, the four winds of the heaven strove upon the great sea."

4. Dan 8:8 "Therefore the he goat waxed very great: and when he was strong, the great horn was broken; and for it came up four notable ones toward the four winds of heaven."

5. Dan 11:4 "And when he shall stand up, his kingdom shall be broken, and shall be divided toward the four winds of heaven; and not to his posterity, nor according to his dominion which he ruled: for his kingdom shall be plucked up, even for others beside those."

6. Zec 2:6 "Ho, ho, come forth, and flee from the land of the north, saith the LORD: for I have spread you abroad as the four winds of the heaven, saith the LORD."

7. Mat 24:31 "And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other."

8. Mark 13:27 "And then shall he send his angels, and shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from the uttermost part of the earth to the uttermost part of heaven."

Often times in the scriptures the Holy Spirit is represented by the blowing of the wind:

1. 1 John 3:8 "The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit."

2. Acts 2:2 "And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting."

3. Ezek 37:9 "Then said he unto me, Prophecy unto the wind, prophesy, son of man, and say to the wind, Thus saith the Lord GOD; Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live."

The scriptures plainly teach that there is more than one spirit in the world:

1. 1 John 4:1 "Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many false prophets are gone out into the world. 2 Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: 3 And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is it in the world." Thus there are the spirits of Antichrist.
2. Matt. 12:45 "Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last state of that man is worse than the first. Even so shall it be also unto this wicked generation." There are 32 verses of scripture in the New Testament in which the plural form of spirit appears and each of these has reference to some spirit other than the Holy Spirit.

The wind is sometimes used to represent these false spirits:

1. Eph. 4:14 "That we henceforth be no more children, tossed to and fro, and carried about with every wind of doctrine, by the sleight of men, and cunning craftiness, whereby they lie in wait to deceive."
2. James 1:6 "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering. For he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed."

With these thoughts in mind, we can go back to our verses and scripture and see both the working of the Holy Spirit in some verses, and the working of false spirits in others. Generally, we see the Holy Spirit gathering the Lord's people (from the north, south, east, and west) both in the resurrection and in the gospel ministry, whereas, we see the false spirits scattering them (to the north, south, east, and west). Furthermore, we see this work going on throughout the whole (four quarters) of the earth, and of the heaven (spiritual warfare). We also see the Holy Spirit working in the vestures of the porters, and in the twelve oxen (representing the gospel ministry) who were being directed (north, east, west, south) to their labors by the Holy Spirit. Likewise, we see ourselves being gathered by the work of the Holy Spirit both in the resurrection, in the new birth, and in the gospel calling. We have leadership and direction through the leading of the Holy Spirit in our daily lives.