Now frankly, I find these contrasts between New Testament statements about the unregenerate state and Old Testament statements about the state of the Old Testament believer to be irreconcilable. There is abundant evidence that Old Testament believers manifested great faith, exemplified sincere repentance, pleased God, and brought forth the fruit of the Spirit in their lives (imperfectly, of course, as we do today). If all natural descendants of Adam are spiritually dead, and if the only way they can become spiritually alive is through regeneration, the Old Testament saints had to be regenerated in order to become spiritually alive. If only those who are spiritually alive can manifest spiritual life, and if the Old Testament believers manifested spiritual life, then Old Testament believers must have been spiritually alive. When John J. Davis concludes that "It would seem ... that there is no real ground for denying regeneration to a saved individual in any age,"[20] his conclusion would appear to be entirely warranted.

Now having considered the Holy Spirit's ministry of regeneration during the Old Testament period, let us move on to our second area of concern.

**The Holy Spirit's Ministry of Indwelling
During the Old Testament Period**

Recent Opinion on the Question

In this brief survey of recent writers on the subject we will begin with Lewis Sperry Chafer. In his *Systematic Theology* he claims:

> The fact that the Spirit indwells every believer is peculiar
> to the age of grace ... . under the law, there was no abiding
> character to the relationship between the Spirit and
> individuals upon whom He came (Ps 51:11). The Spirit
> came upon them, or departed, according to the sovereign
> purpose of God. Under grace, the Spirit is not only given
> to every believer, but he never withdraws.[21]

Rene Pache, in his book, *The Person and Work of the Holy Spirit*, states:

> Before the cross and Pentecost the Spirit could not do in
> men what He is doing now …. He could neither baptize
> them into one Body ... nor live eternally within them. The