The Promise of Pentecost

Agape Life Church

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*"**And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you;** but you are to stay in Jerusalem **until you are endued with power from on high."*** Luke 24:49

***When the Day of Pentecost had fully come,** they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. **And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.* Acts 2:1-4

Come Holy Spirit!

Ten days after the Ascension, Jesus would send the Holy Spirit which He had promised them – Acts 1:4-5

On the Christian calendar, Pentecost occurs 7 weeks after Easter. That's because the first Pentecost occurred 50 days after the ascension. It was on that day that the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the 120 believers in an upper room in Jerusalem as they awaited the baptism. Jesus had promised this event just before He ascended into heaven. He said, "For John truly baptized with water; but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

Jesus had already told the disciples that the Holy Spirit couldn't come, until He left; *"Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: f**or if I go not away, the Comforter will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you."*** John 16:7

The Israelites, led by Moses, have escaped Egypt. They crossed the Red Sea by God's hand, and they have arrived at Mt. Sinai, as Jewish scholars point out, on the day that would come to be known as the Feast of Weeks, or the Feast of Harvest, or the Day of Firstfruits, **or Pentecost.**

Jewish tradition had always associated storms, fire and a voice with the presence of God. **(Exodus 19:1-19)** A mighty wind like a storm, fire that looked like tongues resting upon each person on the day of Pentecost. **Pentecost was an updated Mt. Sinai.**

This was a fulfillment of a **promise of prophecy. Joel 2:23-29**

Core Point: When we experience a personal encounter with the Holy Spirit coming into us, we receive the power of a Spirit filled life. We begin to experience Christianity in the supernatural dimension God designed it to be.

What the Promise of Pentecost Means to Us

Bethlehem means **God is with us.** The cross means **God is for us, but Pentecost means _____!**

More than any single thing at stake in receiving the fullness of the Spirit is that we **understand the heart of Christ:** He called us to **receive the Holy Spirit** that we might have the **same power source** for everyday life and service **that empowered Him in His ministry. The source is always the secret to success.** (Zech. 4:6)

In the Book of Acts, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit is the key to the **replicating and multiplying of Jesus' ministry through people.**

This is what made the Church a **force** in the earth!

***But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you**, and you shall be **my witnesses** in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends (the very bounds) of the earth.* Acts 1:8 AMP

Receiving the Personal Ministry of the Holy Spirit

1. **He produces the _____ of God in our lives.**
   Galatians 5:22-25 2 Corinthians 3:18
2. **He is the searcher of our hearts.** (Romans 8:26-27)
3. He prompts us to pray and **guides our prayers perfectly.**
4. **He _____ talks** to us. (Revelation 2:7)

   *As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, **the Holy Spirit said,** Now separate to me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them.* Acts 13:2

   Recognizing and listening to the voice of God is a critical part of our relationship with Him. The question is not, "Will God guide me?" - but, "**Am I listening to His voice?"**

   Success with God is dependent on being **led by the Spirit**.
5. **He teaches us and reminds** us of all things. (John 14:26)

   The Spirit of God is the great revealer; He enables spiritual perception in our lives. (Ephesians 1:17)
6. **He reminds and reveals** scripture we can use in our lives.
7. He **shows us** things to come. John 16:13

Understanding the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives is crucial to living in the power of our new life in Christ. The work of the Holy Spirit should never be ignored or minimized, but embraced and developed.

Core Statement: I receive the power and influence of the Holy Spirit. I invite Him to come into my life in His fullness. I will learn from Him, and develop my relationship with God by His presence in my daily walk with God!