

Holy Spirit Teaching Lesson 3 After Pentecost?

Next week: The Corinthian Church. The best and worst of Pentecost

Special Note: This Study is loosely based upon the book: QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT by Hal Donaldson, Ken Horn, and Ann Floyd

AGAIN, LET ME SAY, OUR STUDY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS TO BE A HANDS-ON APPROACH OF SEEKING GOD—NOT AN INTELLECTUAL EXERCISE OF BIBLICAL FACTS OR A DENOMINATIONAL DOCTRINE. FOREMOST, LET US SEEK THE GIVER (GOD) NOT THE GIFT! SEEK GOD AND IN THE PROCESS YOU WILL FIND HIM IN HIS FULLEST MEASURE! HE IS A REWARDER OF THOSE WHO DILIGENTLY SEEK HIM (HEBREWS 11:6)

TEXT: Acts 2:16-21 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Luke 11:13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Acts 2:38-47 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common; And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart, Praising God, and having favour with all the people. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Introduction: This is the 3rd lesson in our Holy Spirit Teaching Series: AFTER PENTECOST

I wish to focus on two areas in our Holy Spirit Study: 1. Complete our initial study of the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit as stated in Bible Prophecy, and 2. After Pentecost, the pattern for us today.

I. First, before moving forward in our study, I sense a need to revisit the prophecy in Acts 2 of the initial Holy Spirit Outpouring, - the signs from God. These signs show God's personal stamp of approval in the earthly arrival of the Holy Spirit!

- 1) *The Holy Spirit was introduced and prayed for by CHRIST*
- 2) *Sent to earth in answer to CHRIST'S prayer by GOD the FATHER*
 - *Arrived on earth with powerful Signs and Wonders confirming God's stamp of approval and the Holy Spirit's authenticity from God for all to see — (note: just as God's star shone down from the sky or heavens announcing the significates of the birth of Christ, God points the world to the importance and significates of the arrival of the Holy Spirit)*
- 3) *God's signs were in the opening day of the initial outpouring and continues throughout the duration of the LAST DAYS until the Church is taken in the Rapture*

Let us conclude from our text — GOD’S SIGNS and WONDERS didn’t end on the day of the INITIAL OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Ongoing Signs of Pentecost: *your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:*

- *I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: only 120 disciples received the initials outpouring- conclusion: this is an ongoing prophesy!*
- *The Upper Room Disciples’ Sons and daughter did not all prophesy in the initial outpouring- conclusion: this is an ongoing prophesy!*
- *The Upper Room Disciples’ young men and old men did not all see visions or dream dreams on the day of the initial outpouring- conclusion: this is an ongoing prophesy!*
- *All of God’s servants and handmaidens did not receive the gift of the Holy Spirit at the initial outpouring- conclusion: this is an ongoing prophesy!*

Also, God’s Signs & Wonders are Ongoing - *And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come.”*

Wonders in heaven (sky) above – SOME WILL DISREGARD THESE EVENTS AND SAY THAT THEY ARE ALL JUST COMMON NATURAL OCCURRANCES – MAY I REMIND YOU OF THE COMMON RAINBOW THAT GOD GAVE THE WORLD AS A SIGN AND AS A PROMISE!

- **Solar Eclipse** of April 8, 2024 – all over America, millions stopped and looked toward the sky to witness the sun darken – 31.6 million Americans lived within the path of totality and 150 million people lived within 200 miles of totality. **99% of all Americans could see a total or partial solar eclipse event** conclusion: this is an ongoing prophesy!
- **Signs in the Moon** - moon appears the same size as the sun but it is 400 times smaller. It exactly 400 times closer to the earth so they appear to be the same size. Is this a coincidence? I THINK NOT!
- **Lunar Eclipse or Blood Moons** – 2 to 4 each year
- **Tetrad Blood Moons** (4 consecutive Blood Moons) -occurred 5 times in last century, 1900-2000 – scheduled to occur 8 times in this century, 2000-2100, conclusion: this is an ongoing prophesy!
- **4 Consecutive Blood Moons in one year on Jewish Holidays** -occurred 4 times in the last 500 years (1492,1958,1967,2015) - last event occurred 4/15/14—4/4/15 (Passover & Feast of Tabernacle) conclusion: this is an ongoing prophesy!
- **Comets** – Hale Bopp – 1996-97 visible for over 18 months -- (I personally observed this comet with fascination many days before dawn as I was leaving for work) Halley’s Comet – 1986 (76 yr. cycle) conclusion: this is an ongoing prophesy!
- **Vapour of smoke – Volcanos** – 1350 active volcanos in the world; 50-70 erupt every year- will super volcanos erupt in the future? conclusion: this is an ongoing prophesy!
- **Signs in the earth beneath - Earthquakes-** 12,000 to 14,000 occur throughout the world each year conclusion: this is an ongoing prophesy!
- **Will there be additional Signs? maybe, but also remember – Matt. 16:1-4** *The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, and tempting desired him that he would show them a sign from heaven. He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, It will be fair weather: for the sky is red. And in the morning, It will be foul weather to day: for the sky is red and lowering. O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not discern the signs of the times? A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas.*

SIGNS OF PENTECOST ARE IN OUR PAST, IN OUR PRESENT, AND IN OUR FUTURE!

Yet, TAKE GOD AT HIS WORD! DON’T BE CAUGHT UP LOOKING OR WAITING FOR OTHER SIGNS!

II. After Pentecost: the pattern for us today.

What effect did Pentecost have in the life of the Believer? Should it not still happen to us today?

Kenneth Barney from the book, *QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT*. Chapter 2, pages 17 & 18. *The Day of Pentecost impacted Jerusalem. Jesus' enemies thought they were rid of him. Suddenly their dreams were shattered. Apostate religious leaders and heathen government officials realized they had a new force on their hands. An insignificant group of 120 suddenly grew to 3,120. All were declaring Jesus was alive. Joel prophesied, "It shall come to pass." Now it had come to pass. Jesus promised, "When he is come." Now He had come. He had come to live in Christ's followers...*

What adjective can do justice to the events of those hours?

But what about the next day, the day after Pentecost? Was everything over with the sunset? Did the revival subside in a few hours? Was the tremendous spiritual surge followed by a receding tide that never returned? NO. the true quality of Pentecost was demonstrated by what happened the next day, and the weeks, months, and years following.

What value can be placed on a Pentecost that has nothing left after the first thrill has subsided? Pentecost is not a one-shot spiritual high. It is not a euphoria that exhaust itself without leaving permanent effects. What remains after the high makes Pentecost what God intended it to be. As we follow the Early Church's ministry in the Book of Acts, qualities emerge which show the permanence of the Pentecostal experience. What was true then is a pattern for the church today. It must be if we are to fulfill our calling and mission.

****** WHEN the Holy Spirit enters the heart through Pentecostal Baptism - What comes next? ******

1) Pentecostal Baptism is a Personal Commission from God to Go Forth and Witness

Luke 24:49 JESUS COMMANDMENT TO HIS DISCIPLES - tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

Matthew 28:18-20 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world.

2) Pentecost brings a level of spiritual life unattainable by human effort!

Galatian 5:25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

3) Pentecost brings a Steadfast Commitment: a Sold-Out Heart - Acts 2:42 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all men, as every man had need. And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart

4) Pentecost brings a more powerful Prayer Life - Acts 2:42 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, **and in prayers**

Jude 20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, **praying in the Holy Ghost,**

5) Pentecost brings Joy – (they) did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

6) Pentecost brings Unity- Acts 2:46 And they, continuing daily with one accord in the temple

Acts 2:42 And all that believed were together, and had all things common

7) Pentecost brings Humility Acts 2:46 (they) did eat their meat with gladness and singleness of heart,

8) Pentecost brings a desire to study of God's Word – Acts 2:42 And they **continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine** and fellowship, and in breaking of bread

9) Pentecost brings a Higher level of Praise and Worship – Acts 2:46-47 And they, continuing daily... **Praising God,**

10) Pentecost brings Mighty Signs and Wonders - Acts 2:42-43 And they continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. **And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.**

Mark 16:17-18 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.