

The Fire Fell – and the Word Spread

Scripture Passages: NAS 2020

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: The Holy Spirit has always been active in the world, but a **significant change** ➔ took place 50 days after Easter and ➔ applies to us today!

1. **The Spirit BEFORE Pentecost:** He was **WITH** God's people but not yet living IN God's people.
 - a. **Moses** – **Numbers 11:24–25** ...Moses... gathered seventy men... and positioned them around the tent. Then the LORD came down in the cloud and spoke to [Moses]; and He took away some of the Spirit who was upon [Moses] and placed *Him* upon the seventy elders. And when the Spirit rested upon them, they prophesied. // What does that mean? *They proclaimed what God wanted them to make known!*
 - i. **Most** prophecy in Scripture is **FORTH-telling** – *Proclaiming God's truth to people in the present.*
 - ii. **Some** prophecy is **FOREtelling** – *Revealing future events.*
 - b. **Samson** – **Judges 14:5-6** ...a young lion came *roaring* toward him. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon him, so that he tore it apart... // Not **IN**, but **UPON!**

- c. **Samuel** – **1 Samuel 16:13** ...Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed [David]...; and the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon David... // Not in him, but upon him!

2. **Promises POINTING TO Pentecost:** Note the **future** tense!

- a. **OT** – **Ezekiel 36:26-27** [Notice the LORD's work of transformation – **changes on the inside**, **the Spirit dwelling within**, and **obedience on the outside**:] ...**I will** give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and **I will** remove the heart of stone... and give you a heart of flesh. And **I will** put My Spirit within you and bring it about that you walk in My statutes and are careful and follow My ordinances. // Are such things true in your life – **inner change**, **the Spirit dwelling inside**, and **outward obedience**?
- b. **OT** – **Joel 2:28-29** “...**I will** pour out My Spirit on all mankind; And your sons and daughters **will** prophesy, Your old men **will** have dreams, Your young men **will** see visions. And even on the male and female servants **I will** pour out My Spirit in those days.” // In the OT, *the HS worked through prophets and kings, but now He is at work in and through all believers!*
- c. **During Jesus Ministry** – **John 7:37-39** ...on... the great day of the feast [of Booths], Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. The one who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’” But this He said in reference to the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him **were to receive**; for the Spirit was not yet given... // Jesus poured out the Holy Spirit 50 days after Easter!

d. **On the Day Jesus Ascended – Acts 1:4–5, 8** ...[Jesus] commanded [His disciples] not to leave Jerusalem, but to **wait for what the Father had promised**, “Which,” He said, “you heard of from Me; for John baptized with water, but you **will** be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now. ...you [y’all] **will** receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses...” // Wait 10 days, then use the power to tell others about Me!

3. **The Spirit Poured Out at Pentecost: Acts 2:1–4** When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a noise like a violent rushing wind came from heaven, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And tongues that looked like fire appeared to them, distributing themselves, and a tongue rested on each one of them. And **they were all filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak with different tongues, as the Spirit was giving them the ability to speak out. // The Holy Spirit had been **WITH** the believers and now He was dwelling **IN** them – so they could speak out! **How** and **to whom** is the Lord calling us to speak out?

4. **The Spirit Living in Believers:**

a. **Romans 8:9–11** ...if anyone does **not** have the Spirit of Christ, he does **not** belong to Him.... **But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He... will also give life to your mortal bodies...** // **Resurrection to life** is coming for all who know Jesus **and** have the HS! ✦ **Jesus** and ✦ **the HS** will do it!

b. **1 Corinthians 6:19–20** ...do you not know that **your body [singular] is a temple [singular] of the Holy Spirit**

within you, whom you have from God, and that **you are not your own?** For **you have been bought for a price: therefore, glorify God in your body.** // Each Christian body is a temple of the HS! Since God has made us His own, *let us be obedient unto His glory!*

5. **The Spirit CAUSING OUTWARD CHANGES in Believers:**

- a. **1 Corinthians 12:3** ...no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus is accursed”; and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit. // Are you aware of the Spirit’s important work in your life?
- b. **Galatians 5:22–25** ...the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. Now those who belong to Christ Jesus crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let’s follow the Spirit as well. // When the HS is on the inside, *He will show on the outside!* His ways are best, *so let us follow Him!*
- c. **2 Timothy 1:7** ...God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but [the Spirit] of power and love and discipline. // As people who have the Holy Spirit, **He does not make us shy**; instead, He gives us ☞ courage to speak and ☞ love for the salvation of others!

Let Us Pray: Dear Holy Spirit, TYSM for ▶ living in us and ▶ blessing us in many ways! Each moment, *help us to perceive Your leading*, and respond with ☞ courage and ☞ love!

Website: www.BLC7500.com; **YouTube and Podcast:** “Benefit from the Bible”
Facebook: “Bethlehem Parma” / **Pastor:** RevRLGreen@aol.com; 440-292-5915
7500 State Road, Parma, Ohio 44134 / 440-845-2230