



Holy Spirit – What is Pentecost?

Date: Sunday 6th May 2018

Speakers: Derek Morpew

Key Verses: Acts 1:4-5 & 8, Acts 2:1-4

Small Group Questions to help us start off this Holy Spirit Series

- What has been your experience with the Holy Spirit in church and out of church?
- The overarching question of the Holy Spirit Series is, "How are you and the Holy Spirit doing?" So, how are you and the Holy Spirit doing these days?
- As we move forward as a community and discuss different aspects of the Holy Spirit and our relationship to Him, what kind of questions do you have? Questions towards God and questions towards your own thoughts, feelings and experiences (or non-experience) with the Holy Spirit.
- What do you think your next steps are in your growth in knowledge of and experience with the Holy Spirit? (i.e. reading the Bible looking for how the Holy Spirit operates, asking for prayer in healing because you have been hurt by people who have you made feel guilty for not experiencing the Holy Spirit like them, going up to get prayer at the next ministry time, or set aside time every day to ask God for an obvious empowering of the Holy Spirit. This is not an exhaustive list, it just highlights that everyone is at different places and experiences the Holy Spirit in different ways.)
- What is holding you back from doing this next step? How can our community help you to take your next steps?

We encourage you to spend time thinking and praying further about these questions this week.

Derek referred to how the Vineyard movement began. Here's a really useful article from the VCUKI website on that topic:

<http://www.vineyardchurches.org.uk/articles/how-the-vineyard-began/>

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What is Pentecost?

"The 50th Day"

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The Puzzle - the Paralysis

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Paul:

Baptism in the Spirit

Luke:

Baptism in the Spirit

But they do not convey the same meaning

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Pentecostals

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Bap

Luke:

Baptism in the Spirit

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Diverse works of the Spirit

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1. We, and all creatures, relate to the Holy Spirit by virtue of **creation** (Genesis 1:2; Psalm 33:6; Psalm 104:29, 30).
2. We, and all humans, relate to the Holy Spirit by virtue of **human life**, making us divine image bearers (Genesis 2:7; Job 34:14 15; Ecclesiastes 12:7).
3. The Holy Spirit relates to unregenerate humanity through **conviction of sin** (John 16:8 11).
4. The Holy Spirit relates to Christians in terms of **regeneration** (John 3:3, 6).
5. The Holy Spirit relates to Christians in terms of **transformation** (2 Corinthians 3:18).
6. The Holy Spirit relates to the regenerate person in terms of **power for service (Pentecost)** (Acts 1:8).
7. The Holy Spirit will relate to regenerate humanity in terms of **glorification** (Ephesians 1:14; 1 Corinthians 15:51 54).

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The Command of Jesus

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1. Jesus commanded his disciples to wait for the empowering of the Holy Spirit (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-5; 8).
2. They obeyed this command and prayed, in unity, for 50 days for the Holy Spirit to come (Acts 1:14; 2:1).
3. Then the Holy Spirit fell on them at Pentecost, empowering them for mission.

How do we obey this command today, and how do we pray in this way?

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Conservative evangelicals

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Paul:

Baptism in the Spirit

the

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John Wimber, Howard Ervin, Peter Davids, Craig Keener

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Paul:

Baptism in the Spirit

Born again

↔

Luke:

Baptism in the Spirit

Prophetic empowering

More than one work of the Spirit

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Pentecost as succession narrative

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How Luke tells the story
Full of Old Testament allusions

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Jesus compares himself to Elijah/Elisha after his inaugural address (Luke 4:25-27)			
Prophetic power	Jesus	Elijah	Elisha
Healed leprosy	Luke 2:12-13		2 Kings 5:14
Multiplied food	Luke 9:16-17	1 Kings 17:16;	2 Kings 4:3-7, 42-44
Raised the dead	Luke 8:55	1 Kings 17:22	2 Kings 4:35
Gifts of knowledge	Luke 9:45; Mark 9:33		2 Kings 5:19-27; 6:12, 32
Power flowing out	Luke 6:19; 8:46		2 Kings 13:21
Bodily transportation	Mark 6:48; John 6:19; Matthew 14:25-26	1 Kings 18:12	
Sight of departure	Luke 1:9; Acts 1:9		2 Kings 2:1-14

Closest Old Testament anticipation of Jesus' ministry

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Old Testament: Commissioning then anointing		
Biblical Persons	Commissioning/Theophany	Empowering
Moses	Exodus 3:1-16	Numbers 11:14,17
The Elders	Exodus 24:9-11	Numbers 11:16-25
Joshua	Joshua 5:13; 6:7	Deuteronomy 34:9; Numbers 27:18-20
Gideon	Judges 6:11-25	Judges 6:34
Samson	Judges 13:2, 20	Judges 13:25; 14:5-19; 15:14-15
Saul	1 Samuel 10:1-2	1 Samuel 10:9-13

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What is Pentecost?

- A succession narrative
- The anointing following the commission
- Prophetic empowering/charismatic gifts
- Not when the disciples were born again

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- ### How do you know?
- This a distinctive work of the Holy Spirit that is more **outwardly manifest**, what you can "see and hear."
 - The one descriptive term used in scripture is to **prophecy**. Tongues is a form of prophecy, and is often a gateway gift.
 - If we examine how the word prophecy is used in the passages that describe this work of the Spirit, we will find that it includes a form of **ecstatic praise/worship**, in another language or ones own language.
 - It is a "coming on" or "falling" of the Spirit that often **overwhelms** the person in a way that affects the human body, mind and emotions.
 - The empowering of the Spirit often comes through the **laying on of hands**.
- The criterion: witnesses - charismatic gifts - power evangelism**

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Given this parallel, we can confidently infer that Luke saw Pentecost as a succession narrative. Just as Elisha "saw" Elijah ascend into heaven, and therefore received a "double portion" of his spirit (2 Kings 2:9), so that the company of the prophets could say, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha" (2 Kings 2:15), the apostles appointed by Jesus saw him being lifted up and taken out of their sight (Acts 1:9). As a result, the messianic anointing that was on Jesus during his ministry was poured out on them at Pentecost.

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How Matthew and Luke tell the story

- In Matthew, the mountain top experience (Matthew 28:16) recalls the mountain scene of Moses at Sinai. The **great commission** is given in that context (Matthew 28:18-20). The end of Luke and the beginning of Acts function in the same way. The commission that "repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name **to all nations**" (Luke 24:47), and that they will be his witnesses "**to the end of the earth**" (Acts 1:8), is given in the context of the cloud of glory taking Jesus up to heaven.
- Then, on the Day of Pentecost, the prophetic anointing on Jesus is transferred to them, empowering them to fulfil the commission.

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Don't get hung up on sequence and terms!

Jesus, Disciples, Samaritans, first Gentiles, Paul, Ephesians

It is a simple fact: God has a work of conversion; God has a work of empowerment. It can occur simultaneously, it can occur sequentially, it can occur with a long intermission in between the two, or it can occur in a short period of time, but the bottom line is that **it needs to occur**. It is the infilling empowering of the church and we need it in order to accommodate the work of God. Conversion is truly a **baptism** in the Holy Spirit. There is no reason that we cannot **use baptism** to refer to subsequent fillings of the Spirit as well, and I do.

John Wimber

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How do we obey the command of Jesus?

This is more than ministry time

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