

Power of the spirit

“We are not going to move this world by criticism of it or conformity to it, but by the combustion within it of lives ignited by the Spirit of God”

Vance Havner

This marvelous outpouring of God’s Spirit provided the supernatural power for believers to take the life-changing message of the gospel to the ends of the earth. This is the day Christ made good on His promise to send another Helper, the Comforter, the Holy Spirit who would take up permanent residence in those who put their faith in Christ. The Father poured out of His Spirit into the lives of 120 believers resulted in the effective pouring out of His glory, changing the lives of three thousand people in one day!

Acts 2:1-13 ESV

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. ⁵ Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷ And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? ⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹ both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.” ¹² And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³ But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

John 14:26 ESV

But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance **all** that I have said to you.

John 16:5-15

But now I am going to him who sent me, and none of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’⁶ But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart.⁷ Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.⁸ And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:⁹ concerning sin, because they do not believe in me;¹⁰ concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer;¹¹ concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.¹² “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.”¹³ When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.¹⁴ He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.¹⁵ All that the Father has is mine; therefore I said that he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Luke 24:49

And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

Acts 1:8 ESV

But you will receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my **witnesses in Jerusalem** and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

Acts 2:2 ESV

And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.

- What filled the house where they were sitting?
- A sound, this drew the crowd.

Acts 2:3 ESV

And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them.

- Divided tongues – Babel’s reversal.
- Now the Spirit, as promised, would dwell in us permanently rather than on us intermittently.

John 14:16-17 ESV

And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

John 7:37-39 ESV

On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.”³⁸ **Whoever believes in me**, as the Scripture has said, ‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’”³⁹ **Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given**, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

- Why did Jesus have to be glorified – crucified and resurrected?
- To cleanse the temple, His body. And fill it with His Spirit!

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 ESV

Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,²⁰ for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.

John 16:7 ESV

Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.

Acts 2:4 ESV

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

- So there were 3 signs at the coming of the Holy Spirit:
- A sound like a mighty rushing wind.

- Tongues as of fire appeared and rest on each one.

Acts 2:4 ESV

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

- Jews believed that the wind of God's Spirit would precede and announce the coming of the messianic age.

John 3:8 ESV

The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit.”

- As for tongues of fire – they can be set on fire by heaven or hell!

James 3:5-6 ESV

So also the tongue is a small member, yet it boasts of great things. How great a forest is set ablaze by such a small fire! ⁶

And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body; setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by he

- When this member is set on fire by Heaven the mighty works of God are spoken powerful and supernatural ways.
- We witness with our tongue – speak life!
- We are instruments of truth, peace, hope, life and love.
- Prayer – “speak to me and through me”.

*O Thou who camest from above, the pure celestial fire to impart;
Kindle a flame of sacred love on the mean altar of my heart!
Jesus, confirm my heart's desire to work, and speak, and think for Thee;
Still let me guard the holy fire, And still stir up Thy gift in me.*

John Wesley

Acts 1:3-5 ESV

He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. ⁴ And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me”; ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

- Baptized – immersion. We by God's hand are belong to Christ.

Romans 8:9 ESV

You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

1 Corinthians 12:13 ESV

For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit.

- This is what took place at Pentecost and takes place when someone put their trust in Christ Jesus as Lord.

Acts 10:44-48 ESV

While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶ For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, ⁴⁷ “Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?” ⁴⁸ And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.

- We see 2 baptisms here, one from heaven and the other on earth.
- Water baptism is a public witness of a believer's immersion in Christ.
- Spirit baptism is poured out from heaven and seals a saint in Christ.

Acts 2:5-13 ESV

Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷ And they were amazed and astonished, saying, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? ⁹ Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, ¹¹ both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and

Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God.”¹² And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?”¹³ But others mocking said, “They are filled with new wine.”

Ephesians 5:18 ESV

And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit

The Spirit is the power for the new life. He begins a lifelong process of change as believers become more like Christ. Those who receive Christ by faith begin an immediate personal relationship with God. The Holy Spirit works in them to help them become like Christ.

Galatians 3:3 ESV

Are you so foolish? Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?

Philippians 1:6 ESV

And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.

Invitation / prayer