

# The Promise of Power

- What does it mean to be a Pentecostal church?
- Who is the Holy Spirit and what does it mean for you & me?

*Pentecostal describes Christians who believe in, and experience, the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and His Gifts!*

## **1. The Person of the Holy Spirit**

### **▪ *Who is the Holy Spirit?***

*Acts 5:3-4, Hebrews 9:14, Psalms 139:7-10, 1 Corinthians 2:10-11, Luke 1:35.*

- He is God! (God the Father, God the Son, God the Holy Spirit).
- He is Eternal, Omnipresent, Omniscient and Omnipotent.
- He is a person-personality, character, emotions, feelings, etc.
- He has equal status with the Father and the Son.

*Matthew 28:19. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit*

*Do you want the Person of the Holy Spirit?*

## **2. The Promise of the Holy Spirit**

*Joel 2:28. And it shall come to pass afterward, I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh. And your sons and your daughters shall prophesy; your old men shall dream dreams; your young men shall see visions. (MKJV)*

### **▪ *Joel said - The Holy Spirit shall be available to all***

Under the Old Covenant the Holy Spirit was only given to selected people.

▪ ***Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to his disciples***

*John 14:16. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counsellor to be with you forever—the Spirit of truth.(NIV)*

*John 15:26. When the Counsellor comes whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father,*

*John 16:7. But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.*

▪ ***After his resurrection, Jesus told his disciples to wait in the city until the promised Holy Spirit was given***

*Luke 24:49. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high. (NIV)*

*Wait until!*

***Are we prepared to wait until we have been clothed with His power?***

### **3. The Presence of the Holy Spirit**

▪ ***Jesus spoke about the presence of the Holy Spirit***

*John 14:16. ...to be with you forever— the Spirit of truth*

*John 14:17. ...for he lives with you and shall be in you.*

*John 16:7. I will send him to you.*

▪ ***The Holy Spirit will bring the presence of God to us***

*Exodus 33:15. Then Moses said to him, "If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here.*

*Psalms 16:11. In Your presence is fullness of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.*

***Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would be with us and in us!  
Do you and I desire the presence of the living God?***

## 4. The Power of the Holy Spirit

*Luke 24:49. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high. (NIV)*

*Acts 1:8. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

### ▪ *Power when the Holy Spirit comes on you!*

#### • **Power to live the Christian life**

John 14:15-18, John 15:26, John 16:7-16, Acts 1:8.

- He will guide us into all truth
- He will convict us of sin
- He will teach us all things
- Power to lay down our lives as a witness for Christ.

### ▪ *How do we receive the Holy Spirit?*

*John 7:37-39. On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, “Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them.” By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.*

*Acts 2:1-4. When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*

*Acts 10:44-46. While Peter was still speaking these words, **the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.** The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. **For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.***

*1 Corinthians 14:4 NIV. **Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves,** but the one who prophesies edifies the church.*

*1 Corinthians 14:18. **I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.***

*Jude 20. But you, dear friends, **build yourselves up in your most holy faith and pray in the Holy Spirit,***

▪ ***Do you need the Holy Spirit?***

➤ Jesus, who was without sin, needed the Holy Spirit.

Matthew 3:11-17.

➤ Jesus told his disciples it would be better to have the Holy Spirit than his immediate presence and company. John 16:7.

➤ Jesus made it clear to his disciples not to leave Jerusalem until they received the Holy Spirit. Luke 24:49.

➤ The book of Acts reveals the centrality of the Holy Spirit in all aspects of Christian life, Church life and ministry. (Pentecostal was normal).

➤ Paul informed the Ephesus group they needed to receive the Holy Spirit. Acts 19:1-6.

➤ The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is the gateway to exercise the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. 1 Corinthians 12:1-11.

➤ The reason God gave us the Holy Spirit is to empower and strengthen us to live the Christian life.

▪ ***Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?***

*Acts 19:1-6. ...Paul ...arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples 2 and asked them, “**Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?**” They answered, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” 3 So Paul asked, “Then what baptism did you receive?” “John’s baptism,” they replied. 4 Paul said, “John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” 5 On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 **When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.***

- **Renounce** – 2 Cor. 4:2, Acts 5:32, Acts 19:18-19 (Any unconfessed sin, etc)
- **Relax** – Sit - Do not strive, strain or struggle
- **Receive** – Luke 11:13, Mark 11:24 (Jesus is ready to give...)
- **Respond** – Acts 2:4 (They began to speak as the Spirit enabled them...)

*They spoke with their voice as the Holy Spirit enabled them.*

- ***The Spirit filled believer and speaking in tongues***
  - Make speaking in tongues a regular part of your prayer life to strengthen, enrich and empower you!
  - Speaking in tongues will strengthen you and envelope you in His presence.
- ***Be filled with the Spirit!***
  - Are you thirsty for the Presence and Power of the Holy Spirit?
  - You can receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit today!

***Are you ready?***