

THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Texts: *Matt. 7:11; Luke 11:13; Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:1-13, 15-21; John 7:37-39*

God made a covenant promise to His people.

Part of that covenant promise is – **THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

A promise is a pledge; a vow; an oath, an affirmation; a declaration made by God in reference to the future.

Promises are only as strong as the one who gives them.

For God's people, it is important to know that God had made that promise – The Promise of the Holy Spirit. Knowing that brings hope, a feeling of expectation and desire for that particular promise to eventuate and it creates a feeling of trust with so much anticipation of what God will do in the future.

- A promise from God, our Father, brings hope for the future. *Heb. 10:3*
- It gives us energy or strength to keep us going each day. *Isaiah 40:31*
- It fills our heart with joy and peace. *Rom. 15:13*

In all of these, we need to realise and understand that the one who made the promise is faithful.

Num. 23:19 - *God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind...*

Heb 10:23 - *Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for He who promised is faithful.*

THE PROMISE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS CLEARLY STIPULATED IN THE BIBLE

A. The promise of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament

The presence and the activity of the Holy Spirit were expressed from Genesis chapter 1, during the time of creation and it was both implicitly and explicitly revealed on many books of the OT particularly in the book of *Joel chapter 2: 28-29*.

B. The promise of the Holy Spirit in the New Testament

- a. The preaching of John the Baptist – *Matt. 3:11*
- b. The preaching of Jesus – *John 14:16-17*
- c. Jesus instructed His disciples to *wait* until they received the “*Promised Holy Spirit*” – *Luke 24:49*
- d. The Preaching of Peter – *Acts 2:14-16*

WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF THE PROMISED HOLY SPIRIT?

- a. To give us divine power and boldness to be His witnesses – *Acts 1:8*
- b. To give us divine ability to do the works of God here on earth – *Zechariah 4:6; Isaiah 10:27; Isaiah 61:1-2*

c. The Promise of the Holy Spirit is given for the profit of all – *1 Cor. 12:7, 11*

Our relationship with the Holy Spirit is personal but never private.

WHAT SHOULD BE OUR ATTITUDE ABOUT THE PROMISED HOLY SPIRIT?

We need to be proactive and intentional in asking the Holy Spirit.

Luke 11: 9-13

9 “So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you.

10 For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

11 If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish?

12 Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!”

HOW DO WE EXPERIENCED THE PROMISED HOLY SPIRIT?

John 3:37-39 (NKJV) –

37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying,

“If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”

*39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for **the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.***

The first step for us to experience the fulfilment of the promised Holy Spirit is to come to Jesus.

The key to experiencing the promised Holy Spirit is to receive Jesus as your Lord and Saviour.

When Jesus rules and reigns within our hearts and He is glorified in our lives, the Holy Spirit is there working in us.