

RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is the Promise of the Father

- Acts 1:4 Jesus said to wait for *“the promise of the Father”*: the Father had promised the Holy Spirit.
- Luke 24:49 *“Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”*
- John 14:26 *“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 things that I said to you.”*

The Holy Spirit was promised in the Old Testament

- Joel 2:28 God says, *“It shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh”*. In Acts 2:17-21 Peter quotes from the prophet Joel.
- Ezekiel 36:26-27 *“I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. I will put My Spirit within you and cause*

you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgements and do them.”

The Holy Spirit was active in creation *“The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters”* Genesis 1:2.

The Holy Spirit at work in the Old Testament

- ➔ The Holy Spirit *“came upon”* men and empowered them to do mighty acts, giving them strength and boldness that they did not naturally have (Judges 6:34; Judges 14:6 & 19)

A change in the New Testament

- ➔ When Jesus came, He said there would be *“rivers of living water flowing out of your innermost being,”* (Jn.7:37-39), as a result of His redemptive work. The Holy Spirit would **‘come within’** every believer, giving us strength and boldness that we do not naturally have.

JESUS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT

- ❖ John recognised Jesus through the coming and manifestation of the Holy Spirit, (John 1:32-34). The Father had told John to look for the one: *“upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptises with the Holy Spirit”* (v.33).
- ❖ Jesus received the Holy Spirit in a manifest way at His baptism (Matt.3:16).

- ❖ Jesus received the Spirit *“without measure”* (Jn.3:34).
- ❖ Jesus was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil (Lu.4:1).
- ❖ Jesus came out of the wilderness in the power of the Spirit (Lu.4:14).
- ❖ Jesus was anointed with the Spirit for His ministry and mission in the world: *“the Spirit of the LORD is now upon Me because He has anointed Me ...”* (Lu.4:18).

Jesus did not begin His public ministry until He was filled and empowered by the Holy Spirit.

WHO IS THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Jesus spoke of the Spirit as:

- **another** [one of the same kind]; just like Himself (Jn.14:16)
- the **Comforter**, a *paraclete*, one who comes alongside to help (Jn.14:16, 15:26)
- a **Teacher**, who will teach us all things and remind us of what Jesus said (Jn.14:26, Lu.12:12)
- a **Guide**, who will guide us into all truth (Jn.16:13)
- the **Spirit of Truth**, who will dwell in us (Jn 14:17, 15:26)

Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would:

1. Dwell in you

He is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, *“but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you”* Jn.14:17.

2. Remind you of all things

He is sent by the Father and is our Helper, Teacher and the One who will *“bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you”* Jn.14:26.

3. Bear witness to Jesus

He is the Spirit that comes from the Father and bears witness to Jesus (Jn.15:26).

4. Could not come until Jesus returned to heaven

“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 depart, I will send Him to you” Jn.16:7.

5. Convict the people of the world

He is the Spirit who will convict the world of sin and of righteousness and of judgment Jn.16:8-11.

6. Guide the disciples into all truth

He is the Spirit who *“will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come”* Jn.16:13.

7. Reveal the things of Jesus

The Holy Spirit will always glorify Jesus, *“He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you”*

Jn.16:14. *“All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore, I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you”* Jn.16:15.

- Jesus told His disciples to expect to receive the Holy Spirit
- the Father’s promise is the Holy Spirit
- they were to be empowered by the Holy Spirit
- the empowerment is to witness to Jesus

HOW DID THE HOLY SPIRIT COME?

In Acts 2 the Holy Spirit came on the day of Pentecost.

The Holy Spirit came with power, supernatural signs and gifts.

- ❖ sound as of a mighty rushing wind,
- ❖ tongues as of fire were seen upon the disciples;
- ❖ they were *“filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues”* (Acts 2:2-8).

The result of being filled with the Holy Spirit

- boldness to preach the Gospel – Acts 2:22-36
- people believed and were baptised – Acts 2:38-41
- signs and wonders

“Then fear came upon every soul and many wonders and signs were done through the apostles.” v.43

RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT

In Acts 2:4 when the Holy Spirit came, one of the signs was that the believers *“began to speak in other tongues”*.

In Samaria, many had believed and been baptised, but they had not been filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:12,15 & 16). The apostles, Peter and John came and *“laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit”*.

In Acts 9, Saul [Paul] was filled with the Holy Spirit when Ananias laid hands on him (Acts 9:17). Later Paul said, *“I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than all of you”* (1Cor.14:18).

- Tongues are a sign that Jesus is with us (Mark 16:17)

In Acts 19:1-6 Paul met some disciples of John who believed in Jesus and were baptised in His name. Then Paul *“laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them and they spoke with tongues and prophesied”*.

- Speaking in tongues is for personal edification (1Cor.14:4)

When one speaks in a tongue one is **speaking to God** and **speaking in mysteries** (v.2).

- ❖ Minister the gift of the Holy Spirit
- ❖ Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues.

This is very powerful!

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