

THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Joel 2:28-32

Introduction: The Bible is so amazing and so alive. God spoke through Joel about some day there would be an outpouring of the Holy Spirit and Acts 2 describes that predicted event in wonderful detail called the day of Pentecost. Jesus was starting His Church and thus a fulfillment of that prophecy made to Joel which ushered in the age in which we live, the age of grace - the Christian age - the coming judgment time for those who reject the call of the Holy Spirit which God calls the "unpardonable sin."

I. THERE HAS BEEN A WONDERFUL VISITATION FROM HEAVEN

1. No doubt the world has seen some breath taking days, but according to God's Word, there are even greater days yet to come.
 - Every page of the Bible announces a greater day coming.
2. God is always on the advance - creation to redemption to sanctification to glorification.
 - Christian! Don't be troubled for our God is moving on!
 - God has already set the dates for us.
3. **Joel 2:28-32** - The Holy Spirit was to come, and the Holy Spirit did! (All in God's timing).
 - The incarnation, the birth place, the Passover observance, ordinance of bread and wine, the death, the resurrection, the return of the Lord Jesus Christ, all know to God.
4. Pentecost was no "accident" it was the chosen time, even before the foundation of the world, God had it all planned.
5. Christian, God is with us, even at this very moment - a wonderful visitation from Heaven.

II. A NEW ABODE FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. In the Old Testament days the Holy Spirit's abode was in the tabernacle, the temple, the Ark of the Covenant.
 - There was a time when Jesus Christ had no human physical body, but now He has.
 - The Holy Spirit is NOW in Jesus' Church, living within every single believer in Jesus Christ.
2. The presence of the Holy Spirit within the Church is seen by the fact that the Church is still here.
 - God created Adam and gave him breath and made him a living soul.
 - Jesus created/built His Church and gave it life with guidelines, ordinances, disciplines, tasks and the Church needed God's breath and so the Holy Spirit came into the Church.
 - The Church became alive when the Holy Spirit came. on that day of Pentecost.

III. THE UNIVERSALITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. All who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ shall have the indwelling Holy Spirit.
2. In the Old Testament times the Holy Spirit came to certain ones (Samson, Samuel, etc.) for a short period of time only.
3. In this Church age, the Holy Spirit indwells entire Church Congregations, every believer is privileged to rise greater than David, Samson, Samuel, even Paul and the apostles.
 - History reveals great preacher rose into being who were but slaves, unlearned men from all countries of the world.

- The Holy Spirit is given without measure to every household of faith.
- 4. The Church is to be made up of old people, young people, rich people, poor people, men, women, children, grandparents, the whosoever's that would believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and every "whosoever" shall be indwelt with the presence of the Holy Spirit.

IV. THE EFFECTS OF THE OUTPOURING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. There is forth telling, witnessing of divine things.
2. Young, old, experienced, inexperienced, educated, uneducated, all witness of the Lord Jesus Christ.
3. All ages of believers in Jesus attempting great things for God, believing great things from God and accomplishing great things for God.
4. The world is being witnessed to by believers empowered by the indwelling power of the Holy Spirit.

CONCLUSION:

1. God is not glorified by empty chairs and vacant pews in His Church buildings.
 - God is not glorified by streets filled with lost, forgotten, neglected people.
2. Remember when Peter preached to several thousand and over 3,000 became believers, all in a single service? The Holy Spirit was there!
3. Greater works than what happened then can happen right now, right here.
4. The Holy Spirit is the believer's power, victory, nothing else matters, nothing else can replace the Holy Spirit.
 - Christian, pray for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in your own life and in the life of your Church.