

The Holy Spirit

Is He Making a HUGE
Difference in Your Life?

Saturday, 5/30 at 4:00 | Sunday, 5/31 at 9:00

The Day of Pentecost – 2020

Introduction: Dear friends in Christ: We know about the Triune God – *Father, Son, and H.S.* The Father planned creation and salvation; *then the Son accomplished those things.* However, *when it comes to the H.S., He seems like a silent partner: not heard, nor seen, nor remembered.* Today, *on the Day of Pentecost 2020,* we turn our attention to the H.S. Even though He is out of sight and can be out of mind, *let us realize that His work is critical in many ways!* Today we are in **Acts chapter 2**, it is 50 days after Jesus was raised from the dead, and the promised H.S. is going to be poured out upon the believers. **BEFORE** the believers received the H.S., *they were powerless and afraid*; however, **AFTER** receiving the H.S., *they were powerful and fearless!*

- The Spirit Enabled Miraculous Speaking:** ¹ **When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place** [the apostles, other believing men, and believing women]. ² **And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind** [which was used to alert the believers and draw

others to come, hear, and benefit], 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 [fulfilling Mt. 3:11; Lk. 3:16] and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. // **BEFORE** the H.S. filled them, the believers were **not** out among the people and **not** able to speak the native languages of the many who had gathered in Jerusalem for the OT Feast of Pentecost. But **AFTER** the H.S. came, He enabled their miraculous speaking and gathered the people to hear! We received that same H.S. when we were baptized!

- The Spirit Caused a Crowd to Gather:**⁵ Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout [God-fearing] men from every nation under heaven.⁶ And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered [confused], because each one was hearing them speak in his own language.⁷ And they were amazed and astonished [marveled, wondered], 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 [the language spoken in the place where each of us was born]? [This list of peoples and nations is from east to west:]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 [non-Jews who converted to Judaism], Cretans and Arabians-- we hear them telling in our own [native] 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."

- a. Why did some scoffers make the “new wine” comment? Because they were speaking in the native languages of others **or** because they were telling “**the mighty works of God**” **or maybe for both reasons!** When people oppose God, they have an M.O. – a method of operation: *They disrespect God’s Word and those speaking it!* They hope to appear right, but, in the end, *they only expose the unbelief in their hearts.*
- b. Has anyone ever criticized you by saying, Can’t you speak or act on your own? *Some people seem to be that way!* However, regarding a spiritual thing – *like* ♦*understanding the Bible* **or** ♦*believing in Jesus* **or** ♦*telling others about Jesus*, let us understand that we **cannot** speak or act on our own! In today’s text, the H.S. was needed to ♦enable the miraculous speaking **and** ♦draw the crowd to hear what was said!
Therefore, let us rely **not** on ourselves, **but on the H.S.!**

3. ***The Spirit Moved Peter to Tell the People about Jesus:***

¹⁴ **But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. For these people [men and women believers] are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day [between 8 and 9 in the morning].** ¹⁶ **But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:** // In the sermon two weeks ago, *Paul was among Gentiles*, so the H.S. moved him to start with creation. Here, *Peter is speaking to Jews – who believed the OT Scriptures*, so the H.S. moved him to explain how the events of that very day were a fulfillment of a prophecy in the OT book of Joel.

- a. ¹⁷ **“And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and**

your daughters shall prophesy [*proclaim what God wants to make known – like His mighty works*], **and your young men shall see visions** [*supernatural appearances*], **and your old men shall dream dreams** [*supernatural impressions*]; ¹⁸ **even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.** // What was going on? *The male and female believers were speaking God’s Word! Was that speaking of God’s Word a one-day event? By no means! It began on that day and should continue through all believers until Jesus’ returns!*

- b. ¹⁹ **And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; ²⁰ the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent** [*splendid, glorious, remarkable, wonderful*] **day.** ²¹ **And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.”** // What’s the BIG picture? *The H.S. was promised in the OT; then He was poured out on the Day of Pentecost! Now, and until Jesus returns, the H.S. will keep moving believers to speak God’s Word to others. Then, when Jesus does return, everyone who has called on Him – thus trusted in Him, will be saved!*

This Week’s Challenge: As the Holy Spirit used Peter on the Day of Pentecost, may He also use us to tell people about Jesus!

Let Us Pray: Dear Holy Spirit, TYSM for living in us believers! As you powerfully used others long ago, *so make us willing and useful instruments today to tell others about Jesus!*

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