



## **FIRM FOUNDATION** Series **The Promise of the Holy Spirit**

The New Testament is very distinct in its organization.

Matthew, Mark, Luke and John give us the blessed historical account of the birth, life and ministry of Jesus Christ. They also give us the account of the glorious gospel of the death, burial and resurrection of Jesus Christ. As the gospels come to a close, there are multiple accounts of miraculous visits by a resurrected Savior to His disciples.

Throughout His earlier teaching and also these last visits, Jesus declared a promise of great significance.

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

**John 14:16** *And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;*

**John 14:17** *Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*

Jesus declares that He dwells with you, but the promise is that **HE SHALL BE IN YOU!**

**John 14:26** *But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*

The Promise of the Holy Spirit is given a host of descriptive names and descriptions in the teachings of Jesus.

**Comforter** - John 14:16, 26

**Spirit of Truth** - John 14:17

**Holy Ghost** - John 14:26, John 7:39

**Born of the Spirit** - John 3:5

**Baptism of the Spirit** - Acts 1:5

**Promise of the Father** - Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4

## The commission of “remission of sins” and the “promise of the Spirit.”

**Luke 24:47** *And that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.*

**Luke 24:48** *And ye are witnesses of these things.*

**Luke 24:49** *And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.*

- The Holy Ghost is called the Promise of the Father.
- This identifies with John 14:26 “whom the Father will send in my name.”

### A significant command for this promise is given in Luke 24:49.

- Waiting in Jerusalem, it was a promise yet to come.
- Every command of the Lord is significant. The Lord directed Moses to take the children of Israel to the Red Sea. This was to be their baptism by water and Spirit.

**John 7:37** *In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink.*

**John 7:38** *He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.*

**John 7:39** *(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)*

The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John end:

- WITHOUT the Promise of the Holy Ghost being poured out.
- WITHOUT the church being established.

The book of Acts begins as Luke writes of the last days of Jesus in Chapter 1. He reemphasizes again that the Holy Ghost is the promise of the Father.

**Acts 1:4** *And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.*

**Acts 1:5** *For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.*

The disciples and followers of Jesus were waiting in Jerusalem.

## Acts Chapter 2 is the fulfillment of this waiting.

**Acts 2:1** *And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.*

**Acts 2:2** *And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.*

**Acts 2:3** *And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.*

**Acts 2:4** *And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

- This fulfillment is what they had been waiting for. They had been given a promise and were told to wait. Now it had come to pass.
- As they were filled with the promise they began to speak in other tongues. A heavenly and unknown language.
- They were not waiting to speak in tongues, they were waiting to be filled. The evident sign of being filled was God's choice, not of man's wisdom.
- We do not teach to be filled with tongues, but rather to be filled with the Spirit. If you desire to be filled, God will fill the surrendered vessel and you will speak in other tongues.

**Acts 2:12** *And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meaneth this?*

**Acts 2:13** *Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine.*

- This was an amazing circumstance to the believer and to the unbeliever. Some believed, some did not, some even mocked and made fun.
- Because there was some confusion, Peter who had been given the keys to the Kingdom began to preach the first sermon of the Church.

**Acts 2:14** *But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:*

**Acts 2:15** *For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day.*

**Acts 2:16** *But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel;*

**Acts 2:17** *And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:*

- Peter declared that this is the promise of the Old Testament also. The outpouring of the Spirit upon all flesh.

**This is that, or This is it!**

## Peter preaches the life, the ministry and death of Jesus Christ.

**Acts 2:22** *Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:*

**Acts 2:23** *Him, being delivered by the determinate counsel and foreknowledge of God, ye have taken, and by wicked hands have crucified and slain:*

**Acts 2:24** *Whom God hath raised up, having loosed the pains of death: because it was not possible that he should be holden of it.*

**Acts 2:32** *This Jesus hath God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses.*

**Acts 2:33** **Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted,** and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

- Peter makes two powerful declarations in this verse:
  - A. Jesus has ascended to a place of power by the right hand of God.
  - B. Everything He spoke on earth is now given to him in authority to fulfill.

**Acts 2:33** *Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and **having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost,** he hath shed forth this, **which ye now see and hear.***

- I. This is the fulfillment Promise of the Father. This is the Holy Ghost.
  - No other place in Scripture declares that this is it, that this is the promise of the Holy Spirit.
  - No where else is such a momentous event in all of scripture that would be the fulfillment of this great Promise.
2. It is evidenced by which ye see and hear. **They spoke in other tongues.**

**Acts 2:37** *Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do?*

**Acts 2:38** *Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.*

We preach Acts 2:38 as the centrality of the Salvation message. The events and sermon of Acts chapter 2 are the culmination of the promises in Matthew, Mark, Luke, John and Acts Chapter 1. This fulfillment is the reason for the death, burial and resurrection.

## Is the promise of the Holy Spirit essential?

Paul gives us a very clear understanding of the essentiality of receiving the promise of the Spirit in Romans 8.

**Romans 8:5** *For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.*

**Two conditions that divide the entirety of mankind.**

1. Those that walk after the flesh (In the flesh).
2. Those that walk after the Spirit (In the Spirit).

**Romans 8:6** *For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.*

**The end result of these two separate conditions.**

1. To walk after the flesh is death.
2. To walk after the Spirit is life and peace.

**Romans 8:7** *Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.*

**Romans 8:8** *So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.*

**The flesh/carnal mind is the enemy of God, and by it alone we cannot please God.**

**Romans 8:9** *But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.*

**The discerning of these two separate conditions.**

1. In the Flesh – Have NOT the Spirit of Christ.
2. In the Spirit – Spirit of God dwell in you.

**John 14:17** *Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*

**Romans 8:12** *Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.*

**Romans 8:13** *For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live.*

**To gain eternal life you must continue to live after the Spirit.**