

Holy Spirit Power

April 8th, 2018 - Holy Spirit Power Part 2

We continue today's message reading from **John 7:37-39**, where Jesus is talking to his disciples about the coming of Holy Spirit to them. It says; "*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. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water." 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.*"

This was before Jesus had even breathed on them where we read in **John 20:22** where it says; "*And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit'.*" But this was still not the endowment or gift of the Holy Spirit that he told them to wait in Jerusalem for. Just like the early disciples, some today say that they had already received the gift of the Holy Spirit here where we just read in these two verses, but it isn't, and it still wasn't the promise of the Father that Jesus told them to wait for.

We just read where Jesus said for everyone to come to him if they were thirsty and that they could drink from him. When you're thirsty, you just drink. You don't think about the complexities of how the body works to satisfy that thirst. It's an intuitive act to just drink to quench your thirst. It's something very simple, normal and part of your physical bodies needs.

But Jesus is talking about supernatural drinking. Jesus knows you're thirsty even though you may not show any physical emotion or action that you are. So he cries out to us as Christians today, to just drink freely from him. As you take a drink, Jesus says that out of you will flow rivers of living water. You take a drink and then you then give out to those around you what you have received from Him. Water in and water out.

A person can settle for the Holy Spirit in the salvation experience; born again, set free and maybe there are signs, wonders and miracles happening in your life, in various ways, or you can receive what Jesus is talking about here where he says your belly will be full of the Holy Spirit and out from that will flow rivers of living water into the lives of those around you!

Now, after Jesus rose from the dead he says in **Mark 16:14-17** in the Amplified Bible; "*Later, Jesus appeared to the eleven [disciples] themselves as they were reclining at the table; and He called them to account for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who had seen Him after He had risen [from death]. And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. He who has believed [in Me] and has been baptized will be saved [from the penalty of God's wrath and judgment]; but he who has not believed will be condemned. These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak in new tongues;"*

Jesus doesn't say that only a few will cast out demons or only a few will speak in new tongues, no he says to all who believe, this will naturally happen.

Just in review from last week's teaching, about 8 years went by after the day of Pentecost, when through Philips ministry the Samaritans are converted, baptized and many healings, miracles and the casting out of devils took place. Then Peter and John came and prayed for them and they received the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Remember, they all received immediately without having to wait, none of them were sent away empty, they were all filled with the same Holy Spirit that was sent on the day of Pentecost.

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An example of this, is if when going home from school and you were thirsty, did your parents say to you that you couldn't go to the fridge to get something to drink. Probably not, because a loving parent would never deny their child the necessities of life. It's the same here. You can drink freely, whenever, of the Holy Spirit.

Now let's look at another place in scripture in **Acts 10:44-46** where the Holy Spirit is given at the house of a Gentile Roman Soldier, ten years after Pentecost. This man it says, feared and worshipped the Jewish God, but he wasn't born again. Read the full chapter to see the dynamics of how this story comes about. This seems like this is the first time Peter had ministered salvation to Gentiles, because God clearly showed him while he was in a trance, to not call anyone unclean, whom God calls clean. So Peter with a few other Christian brothers go with these servants to Cornelius' house. It says the following; *"While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God."*

Keep in mind, these were Gentiles who when they were listening to the gospel being preached, they were saved, and then were filled with Holy Spirit immediately with the evidence of speaking in other tongues, without having to wait and tarry.

Now let's look at a place in scripture that took place twenty years after Pentecost. **Acts 19:1-6** says; *"And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit." And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism." Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus." When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. "*

These Ephesians whom Paul met, had put faith in John's baptism, they had faith that Jesus was to come, they hadn't heard about the Holy Spirit; so when Paul preached the gospel of salvation in Jesus, they believed and were baptized in the name Jesus, then they were filled with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. They ALL got everything all at the same time. There was no delay. They believed, they were baptized in water and they were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Backing up a bit to read of Paul's conversion and baptism in the Holy Spirit, we go to **Acts 9:17-18** where it says; *"And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized."*

There's no reference here that Paul spoke in tongues but if you go to **1 Corinthians 14:18** he says; *"I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all."* Speaking in tongues was a very big part of Paul's life. Paul was filled with the Holy Spirit and healed of blindness immediately when he was prayed for by Ananias.

We have to conclude that receiving the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues is not something new. It's not a new doctrine or teaching, even though some say that the Pentecostal, Charismatic, Holy Rollers or whatever terminology they use, is a NEW way. But it's not. It happened to the early church believers and its happening now. It's the same Holy Spirit that was given on the day of Pentecost with the evidence of speaking in tongues, and just like the believers for years after Pentecost were immediately filled with the Holy Spirit, so can we also now be immediately filled with the Holy Spirit without having to wait.

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You can argue as much as you want that you've got the Holy Spirit, which you do if your born again, but as it says in Acts 13:52, the disciples were continually filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit. They continued to be thirsty and to drink from the Holy Spirit and that life flowed out like a rushing river to everyone they came in contact with.

Acts 2:38 says; *"Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*

So if you are a Christian, you qualify for the free gift of the Holy Spirit just like the believers in Act 2:38. You qualify for what Jesus talked about in John 7:37-39 to drink deeply if you're thirsty. You're in a privileged place to receive the Holy Spirit. Note, he doesn't say you may or may not receive but rather you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

You can see from the scriptures when the disciple's hands were laid on believers, that they always received the Holy Spirit and so can you and you can speak in a supernatural language as the spirit gives utterance.

Acts 2:4 says; *"And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."* It's a work of the Holy Spirit. They were all filled, not just a few, all were filled.

1 Corinthians 14:2 says; *"For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries."* That's why some thought the first disciples were drunk and yet others heard them speak the mysteries of God in their own language. **Acts 10:46** says; *"For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God."*

God is not going to give you something that is not true, or a false spirit when you ask to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Jesus emphasizes this in **Luke 11:11-13** when he says; *"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? Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? 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!"*

There are so many that are the devil binds with fear thinking that they'll 'get in the flesh or be carnal' if they speak with tongues or that they'll look stupid and be embarrassed or that they're just speaking gibberish.' But the tongue that God placed in your mouth to speak with is flesh, tissue and blood.

You have to use that physical tongue to speak your own language and dialect, don't you? So it is with that same physical tongue that you use to speak the language that the Holy Spirit gives you. You can't speak at all if you don't have a tongue in your mouth. It's not carnal because we just read that the Father won't give you something evil or something that will harm you.

That same tongue that people use to gossip, slander, swear and curse people with, is the same tongue that the Holy Spirit wants to use to speak the mysteries of God and to build yourself up in. It's important for you to expect the Holy Spirit to give you utterance, and by the way, you do have the power to speak in tongues or not to after you are filled with the Holy Spirit. It's a supernatural move of the Holy Spirit using your natural tongue and mouth to speak in a supernatural language.

Isaiah prophecies about this in **Isaiah 28:11-12**; *"For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, to whom He said, 'This is the rest with which you may cause the wary to rest,' and, 'this is the refreshing'; yet they would not hear."*

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Joel 2:28-29 is the scripture that Peter quotes at Pentecost when they received the baptism in the Holy Spirit; *“And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.”*

This same scripture applies from the Book of Acts right through to today and beyond. So if you're a Christian this scripture' " *I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh*" includes you.