

# ILLUSTRATED MESSAGE SERIES BY PASTOR RICHARD BASED ON THE AZUSA STREET PAPERS

## The Azusa Street Papers – Self-Denial of Biblical Evidence December 12th, 2021, Message 2

Please click on this [link to download Vol. 1. No.1](#) and read pages 5-9 pages for today's message.

The Azusa Papers says the following;

*“THE APOSTOLIC FAITH MOVEMENT. Stands for the restoration of the faith once delivered unto the saints – the old-time religion, camp meetings, revivals, missions, street and prison work and Christian Unity everywhere.”*

I can't think of a greater gift of the Holy Spirit to receive from God than that of speaking in tongues. The disciples of Christ operated in 7 out of 9 gifts of the Holy Spirit prior to being baptized in the Holy Spirit, when the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> gift of speaking in tongues and interpretation was given to them.

Let's look at the works of the Holy Spirit that preceded the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The first work is **Justification** which is the free grace of God that we receive, it's the remission of sins.

**Romans 3:23-26** says; “23 for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, 24 being justified [a]freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God set forth as a [b]propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”

**Acts 10:42-43** says; “42 And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead. 43 To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission[a] of sins.”

A portion of The King James Bible Dictionary says the following about **remission**; 5. *Forgiveness; pardon; that is, the giving up of the punishment due to a crime; as the remission of sins. Matthew 26:28. Hebrews 9:22.*

We were sinners before we were born again and our sins were remitted from us through faith in Jesus. Jesus removed our sins from us as far as the east is from the west.

**Hebrews 9:22** also says; “22 And according to the law almost all things are [a]purified with blood, and without shedding of blood there is no [b]remission.”

Jesus says in **Matthew 26:28**; “28 For this is My blood of the [a]new covenant, which is shed for many for the [b]remission of sins.”

The second work is **Sanctification**, the act of God's free grace by which He makes us holy.

Jesus says this in **John 17:16-19**; “you are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify[a] them by Your truth. Your word is truth. 18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.”

It's interesting to hear that Jesus sanctified himself so that we also may be sanctified by the truth.

Jesus also says in **John 15:3**; “3 You are already clean because of the word which I have spoken to you.”

After becoming born again, a new believer is sanctified by the washing of the word of God found in the Bible, and in obeying what it says about living a sanctified life that is set apart unto God.

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Again, the King James Bible Dictionary, from the Easton's Bible Dictionary, says this about sanctification; *"Involves more than a mere moral reformation of character, brought about by the power of the truth- it is the work of the Holy Spirit bringing the whole nature more and more under the influences of the new gracious principles implanted in the soul in regeneration. In other words, sanctification is the carrying on to perfection the work begun in regeneration, and it extends to the whole man."*

**Romans 6:13** says; *"13 And do not present your members as [a]instruments of unrighteousness to sin, but present yourselves to God as being alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God."*

**2 Thessalonians 2:13-15** says; *"13 But we are [a]bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning chose you for salvation through [b]sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth, 14 to which He called you by our gospel, for the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. 15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast and hold the traditions which you were taught, whether by word or our [c]epistle."*

The ASUZA PAPERS says;

*"The Baptism with the Holy Ghost is a gift of power upon the sanctified life; so when we get it we have the same evidence as the Disciples received on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:3,4), in speaking in new tongues."*

There are Christians today that believe that they have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and power because they are operating in the Gifts of the Holy Spirit but without the evidence of speaking in tongues. But like I said, if you study the disciples prior to being Baptized in the Holy Spirit, they operated in all the gifts of the Holy Spirit, except speaking in tongues and interpretation. Jesus saved the best for last when He baptized them in the Holy Spirit and power with the evidence of speaking in tongues, so if you don't speak in tongues, you have not been baptized in the Holy Spirit yet.

In **John 14:15-18**, Jesus promised another Helper; *"15 "If you love Me, [a]keep My commandments. 16 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another [b]Helper, that He may abide with you forever— 17 the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. 18 I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you."*

Jesus was speaking about a coming event which He knew would take place in the near future when the Father would send the Holy Ghost and they would be baptized in the Holy Ghost. The Holy Spirit leads us into truth and sanctification just as He did with the first disciples.

**Acts 1:4-8** talks about this promise being fulfilled; *"4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." 6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be [a]witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

So similar today, where many pastors want to set up the millennial reign of Christ now on earth, and or believe that we are already in the millennial reign of Christ, which is false teaching, and we must clarify here that even though we're talking about the Apostolic Faith Movement which started at Azusa Street, we are not talking about the false teachings in the New Apostolic Reformation (NAR), Dominion Theology, Kingdom Now, Third

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Wave, Latter Rain, etc. Although there are some similarities with Pentecostalism, especially with the Gifts of the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues and signs, wonders and miracles following the preaching of the gospel, the later organizations have fallen into false teaching.

On the Day of Pentecost, it's recorded in **Acts 2:3-4** says; "3 Then there appeared to them [a]divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

The disciples operated in the majority of gifts of the Holy Spirit prior to being baptized in the Holy Spirit, but it was obvious that Jesus knew they would need the power of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues to overcome persecution and build the Church without Him being with them.

### ASUZA PAPERS SAYS:

*"We are not fighting men or churches, but seeking to displace dead forms and creeds and wild fanaticisms with living, practical Christianity. "Love, Faith, Unity" are our watchwords, and "Victory through the Atoning Blood" our battle cry. God's promises are true. He said: "Be thou faithful over a few things, and I will make thee ruler over many." From the little handful of Christians who stood by the cross when the testings and discouragements came, God has raised a mighty host."*

Why would victory through the Atoning Blood of Jesus be our battle cry? We not only receive the forgiveness of sins by it, but also sanctification from all original sin, and freedom from all sins, and while living on earth we are also seated in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. So even though physically we are living on this earth, spiritually speaking, we're seated with Jesus in heavenly places. As a result of living a pure and holy life that is free from sin, we have power over what the world, the flesh and the devil would try to tempt us with, and on top of all this, we have the promise of healing for our bodies by the blood that Jesus shed on His body when He was flogged.

Sanctification is not only the saving of your soul but also the sanctification of your body. This is what **Isaiah 53:5** prophesies about Jesus; "5 But He was wounded[a] for our transgressions, He was [b]bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him, And by His stripes[c] we are healed."

It doesn't matter what disease a person inherited from the blood of their parents, their bodies can be sanctified and healed by the atoning blood of Jesus, and their salvation is not only for their souls, but also for their diseased body. This is all the more reason that Christians need the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and power to believe what the word of God says about healing, and give up those, 'if the Lord wills', prayers to be healed, and exchange it for, 'it is the Lord's will', to be healed, and then pray God's healing scriptures. Pray the prayer of faith, get rid of the stinking thinking that says, 'if it's the Lord's will' to heal you. Yes, it is the Lord's will to heal you, that's why He took the strips on His back for healing you. There is no question in it. It's not the Lord's will for you to be sick, and no, it's not God who put sickness on your body. He heals you, so don't listen to lies.

### The ASUZA PAPERS says;

*"We that are the messengers of this precious atonement ought to preach all of it, justification, sanctification, healing, the baptism with the Holy Ghost, and signs following. "How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?" God is now confirming His word by granting signs and wonders to follow the preaching of the full gospel in Los Angeles. -- W.J. Seymour."*

There's more than salvation as God's gift to you, there's also sanctification – being set apart and made holy, there's the healing of your body from whatever diseases that may be plaguing you, plus there is the baptism in

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the Holy Ghost with signs, wonders and miracles following. God lavishly pours out numerous gifts on His children whom He loves passionately.

**James 5:14-15** says; *“4 Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15 And the prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven.”*

In **Matthew 8:16-17**, Jesus says the following; *“16 When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, 17 that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: “He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses.”*

**Mark 16:16-18** also quotes what Jesus says; *“16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. 17 And these signs will follow those who [a]believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they[b] will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”*

The birth of the Early Church came about as a result of the disciples obeying Jesus’ last command. It was conditional, they had to obey. Had they not tarried for the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, who knows what would have happened. They needed the endowment of power from on high. Yes, they were saved, born again, operated in the miraculous, but they needed the power of the Holy Ghost and to speak in tongues, to overcome the persecution and to build Jesus’ church.

Jesus says in **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.”*

A lot of Christians today have not obeyed this commandment, and as a result, don’t speak in tongues and don’t have the power of the Holy Spirit or the Gifts of the Holy Spirit operating in their fullness as promised.

In **Acts 2:4** it says that they all spoke in tongues, all of them.

In **Acts 10:44-46** it says that tongues were the evidence that they were baptized in the Holy Spirit. It says; *“44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. 45 And [a]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. 46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.”*

About 29 years after Pentecost, we read in **Acts 19:1-6** the evidence of being baptized in the Holy Spirit was speaking in tongues. It says; *“19 And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples 2 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.” 3 And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?” So they said, “Into John’s baptism.” 4 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.” 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.”*

We see that these people were believers, they had been baptized into John’s baptism, so upon hearing that there was a Holy Spirit, they were baptized in the name of Jesus and they then were baptized in the Holy Spirit, and again, the evidence of that was speaking in tongues. Plus, they started prophesying which is one of the Gifts of

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the Holy Spirit! Wow! Believers in Jesus, baptized in water, baptized in the Holy Ghost and prophesying all on the same day!

The ASUZA PAPERS says;

*“Sister Wettosh, a German sister of Pasadena, who was in the darkness of Romanism and in great physical suffering about a year ago, but who was marvellously saved and healed, has been baptized with the Holy Ghost, received the gift of tongues, and has gone out to carry this Gospel. Her destination was Reno, Nev.*

*Canes, crutches, medicine bottles, and glasses are being thrown aside as God heals. That is the safe way. No need to keep an old crutch or medicine bottle of any kind around after God heals you. Some, in keeping some such appliance as a souvenir, have been tempted to use them again and have lost their healing.*

*Jesus said, "Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father in me, or else believe me for the very work's sake." He is showing signs in Los Angeles, and yet some doubt, as Philip did. If you cannot understand it, just take the word of God. He said, "These signs shall follow them that believe: In my name shall they cast out devils: they shall speak with new tongues; they shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover." Believe for the very work's sake. God is confirming His word with signs following."*

Jesus over and over again rebuked His disciples for doubting and not having faith. The same holds true today for Christians. The demonic spirit of doubt has to be repented of and faith needs to rise in Christians by reading the Bible, because faith comes by reading the Bible, Romans 10:17. Jesus cannot move on the prayers that say, ‘if it’s your will to heal me’. Jesus moves by your faith, not by your doubt.

It's time for Christians that don't speak in tongues to stop living in self-denial of the truth found in the scriptures we have read. You have not yet been baptised in the Holy Spirit and are believing a lie to say otherwise.

It's understandable that the devil would want Christians to remain in self-denial of these scriptures, because he knows that if they get baptized in the Holy Spirit and power with the evidence of speaking in tongues, they will have fulfilled Jesus' last command, and become a holy terror to the kingdom of darkness.

**James 1:22-25** says; *“22 But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. 23 For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; 24 for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was. 25 But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.”*

Jesus is saying to you today, be a doer of the word, be baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. Just like an earthly father will not give his child a stone if he asks for bread, likewise your heavenly Father will give you the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues if you ask. Today, Christian, you don't want to forget this word that has been preached, you need to be a doer of it and obey.

There are two roads you can choose;

1. You can;
  1. Be a doer of the word today or, 2. Ignore what has been preached.
2. You can;
  1. Apply the word spoken today, or 2. Not apply it.
3. You can;

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1. Remain born again, or 2. Be baptized in the Holy Spirit and power with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

Be a doer of the Word today, get in God's word and study what was preached and apply it to your life, don't settle for not being baptized with the Holy Spirit as it is God's will for your life, receive the gift of tongues, operate in signs, wonders and miracles, casting out devils in Jesus' name and with the authority He's given you, pray for others to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Don't be a double-minded man or woman tossed to and fro. Obey Jesus' command today, let the heavenly Father give you the gift of tongues, of stammering lips, and yes it may seem as the foolishness of the world, but your Father delights in confounding the wise of this world. Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit and go forward to build His church with Holy Ghost anointed power, being led by His truth and having the Helper with you.