LIVING IN ANTICIPATION OF THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Class 6: The Gift of the Holy Spirit

John Harrigan

I. THE HOLY SPIRIT IN REDEMPTIVE HISTORY

A. Creation

The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And *the Spirit of God* was hovering over the face of the waters. ³ And *God said*, "Let there be light," and there was light. (ESV Genesis 1:2-3)

By the word of the LORD the heavens were made, and *by the breath of his mouth* all their host. ⁷ He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap; he puts the deeps in storehouses. ⁸ Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him! (ESV Psalm 33:6-8)

B. Consummation

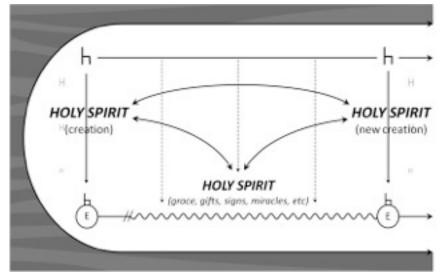
And Jesus said to them, "Truly I say to you, that you who have followed Me, in *the regeneration* [Gk. *paliggenesia*, "renewal" NIV/NLT, "new world" ESV] when the Son of Man will sit on His glorious throne, you also shall sit upon twelve thrones, judging the twelve tribes of Israel. (NASB Matthew 19:28)

And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also *give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit*, who lives in you... ¹⁸ For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. ¹⁹ The creation waits in eager expectation for the sons of God to be revealed... ²² We know that the whole creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. ²³ Not only so, but we ourselves, who have *the firstfruits of the Spirit*, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for our adoption as sons, *the redemption of our bodies*. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. (NIV Romans 8:11-24)

C. This Age

It is impossible for those who have once been enlightened, who have tasted the heavenly gift, who have shared in *the Holy Spirit*, ⁵ who have tasted the goodness of the word of God and *the powers of the coming age*, ⁶ if they fall away, to be brought back to repentance... (NIV Hebrews 6:4-6)

Now we know that if the earthly tent we live in is



destroyed, we have a building from God, an eternal house in heaven, not built by human hands. ² Meanwhile we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling, ³ because when we are clothed, we will not be found naked. ⁴ For while we are in this tent, we groan

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and are burdened, because we do not wish to be unclothed but to be clothed with *our heavenly dwelling*, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. ⁵ Now it is God who has made us for this very purpose and has given us *the Spirit as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come*. (NIV 2 Corinthians 5:1-5)

II. THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER

A. The Counselor

I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-- ¹⁷ the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you... ²⁶ But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will *teach you all things* and will remind you of everything I have said to you. (NIV John 14:16-26)

When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father, *he will testify about me*. ²⁷ And *you also must testify*, for you have been with me from the beginning. (NIV John 15:26-27)

B. The Witness

Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for *the gift my Father promised*, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be *baptized with the Holy Spirit*... ⁸ you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and *you will be my witnesses* in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth. (NIV Acts 1:4-8)

He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one whom God appointed as judge of the living and the dead. ⁴³ All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name." ⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. (NIV Acts 10:42-44)

And he said to them, "Go into all the world and *proclaim the gospel* to the whole creation. ¹⁶ Whoever believes and is baptized *will be saved*, but whoever does not believe *will be condemned*. ¹⁷ And *these signs will accompany those who believe*: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; ¹⁸ they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover." ... ²⁰ And they went out and *preached everywhere*, while the Lord worked with them and *confirmed the message by accompanying signs*. (^{ESV} Mark 16:15-20)

III. THE TESTIMONY OF THE CROSS

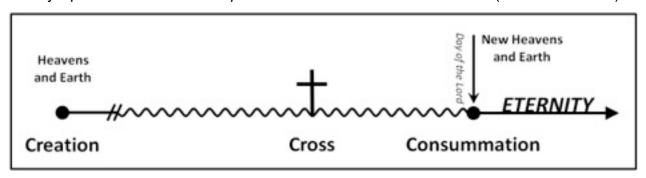
A. Confirmation of Grace

At Iconium Paul and Barnabas went as usual into the Jewish synagogue. There they spoke so effectively that a great number of Jews and Gentiles believed... ³ So Paul and Barnabas spent considerable time there, speaking boldly for the Lord, who *confirmed the message of his grace* by enabling them to do miraculous signs and wonders. (NIV Acts 14:1-3)

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In love he *predestined us for adoption* through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have *redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses*, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will... ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, *the gospel of your salvation*, and believed in him, were *sealed with the promised Holy Spirit*, ¹⁴ who is the *guarantee of our inheritance* until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory. (^{ESV} Ephesians 1:5-14)

"And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants *to continue to speak your word with all boldness*, ³⁰ while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." ³¹ And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and *continued to speak the word of God with boldness*. (ESV Acts 4:29-31)



B. Walking According to the Spirit

"I have been *crucified with Christ* and I no longer live, but Christ lives in me. The life I live in the body, I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. ²¹ I do not *set aside the grace of God*, for if righteousness could be gained through the law, Christ died for nothing!" ^{3:1} You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed *as crucified*. ² I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit *by observing the law, or by believing* what you heard? ³ Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to *attain your goal* by human effort? ⁴ Have you suffered so much for nothing—if it really was for nothing? ⁵ Does God give you his Spirit and work miracles among you *because you observe the law, or because you believe* what you heard? (NIV Galatians 2:20-3:5)

Look out for the dogs, look out for the evildoers, look out for those who mutilate the flesh. ³ For we are the real circumcision, who worship by the Spirit of God and glory in Christ Jesus and put no confidence in the flesh- ⁴ though I myself have reason for confidence in the flesh also. If anyone else thinks he has reason for confidence in the flesh, I have more: ⁵ circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; ⁶ as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness, under the law blameless. ⁷ But whatever gain I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. ⁸ Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count

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Class 6: The Gift of the Holy Spirit

them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ ⁹ and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God that depends on faith- ¹⁰ that I may know him and the power of his resurrection, and may share his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, ¹¹ that by any means possible I may attain the resurrection from the dead. ¹² Not that I have already obtained this or am already perfect, but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own. ¹³ Brothers, I do not consider that I have made it my own. But one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead, ¹⁴ I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. (^{ESV} Philippians 3:2-14)

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. ² For the law of the Spirit of life has set you free in Christ Jesus from the law of sin and death. ³ For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do. By sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh *and for sin*, he condemned sin in the flesh, ⁴ in order that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, *who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit*. ⁵ For those who live according to the flesh *set their minds on the things of the flesh*, but those who live according to the Spirit *set their minds on the things of the Spirit*. ⁶ To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. (ESV Romans 8:1-6)

C. The Apostolic End

Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for *the gift my Father promised*, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit... ⁸ you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and *you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth*. (NIV Acts 1:4-8)

For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, ³¹ even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy. ³² For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all... ^{12:1} I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that you present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable to God, which is your reasonable service. ² And do not be conformed to this world (Gk. aiōn), but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. (NKJV Romans 11:30-12:2)