

Luke 24:48, 49
Acts 1:4-8
Acts 2:1-4, 14-21, 37-39

May 29, 2016

The Spirit that is Experienced
The Holy Spirit through the Eyes of Luke
“The Spirit Experienced at Pentecost”

Introduction: And so now we move to Pentecost

Quick Review—Series Focus

- Focus of this series is to understand how Luke described the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of the believer.
- Paul spoke primarily in initiation, conversion, salvation, verbiage.
- Luke is more experiential theology (baptism/filled).
- Draws his experiential theology of the Spirit from the Old Testament narratives.
- Notion of transfer, sign, and vocation are prevalent.
- Written in context of inter-testamental longing for Spirit-anointed Messiah who would uniquely bear the Spirit (Messianic Age).
- Eschatological Age (end times/last days) Spirit poured out

Last Week

- Spirit of God active in both the birth and inaugural narratives of Luke.
- Pious believers longing for Messiah and EXPERIENCED the Spirit (Zachariah, Elizabeth, Mary, Simeon, Anna).
- Their experience was prophetic= Spirit-inspired speech.
- Jesus anointed, as the unique bearer of the Spirit in the inauguration narrative at baptism.
- Tempted in wilderness but left in power of Spirit.
- Declared Himself that Spirit-anointed Messiah.

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.” 20 Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. 21 And He began to say to them, “Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.” Luke 4:18-21 NKJV

- Ministry was prophetic (like Elijah/Elisha).
- Spirit experienced and vocational.
- Disciples instructed they needed the same.

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.” Luke 24:49 NKJV

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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." Acts 1:4-5 NKJV

IMPORTANT

In Luke—The birth and inaugural narratives of Jesus introduce and define the mission of Jesus and show that He will carry out His ministry in the power of the Spirit.

In Acts—The Pentecost narrative introduces the future mission of the disciples and the complementary empowering of the Spirit.

- ✓ Story of the transfer of the charismatic Spirit from Jesus to His disciples.
- ✓ Jesus became the unique bearer of the Spirit at His baptism and becomes the baptizer at Pentecost.

Therefore being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear. Acts 2:33 NKJV

- ✓ Disciples now become the successors to the early ministry of Jesus and will continue to do and teach what Jesus started.

The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach. Acts 1:1 NKJV

- ✓ But this promise of the Father not limited to the 1st century church—for us as well.

For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." Acts 2:39 NKJV

Four-fold Perspective of Luke regarding the Spirit's Outpouring

I. The Promise of Pentecost

A. Clothed with power

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." Luke 24:49 NKJV

1. Putting on or wearing of garments
 - a. John the Baptist wore clothing of camel's hair.
 - b. Father wanted best robe put on prodigal.
 - c. Jesus was clothed in purple.

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2. Similar to the Old Testament Septuagint

But the Spirit of the Lord came upon Gideon; then he blew the trumpet, and the Abiezrites gathered behind him. Judges 6:34 NKJV

Then the Spirit of God came upon Zechariah the son of Jehoiada the priest, who stood above the people, and said to them, "Thus says God: 'Why do you transgress the commandments of the Lord, so that you cannot prosper? Because you have forsaken the Lord, He also has forsaken you.'" 2 Chronicles 24:20 NKJV

3. Promise consistent with promise to the disciples

When He called His twelve disciples together and gave them power and authority over all demons, and to cure diseases. Luke 9:1 NKJV

4. This kind of power seemed to clothe Jesus.

And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for power went out from Him and healed them all. Luke 6:19 NKJV

B. Baptized with the Spirit

1. Contrasted with John's ministry

John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. Luke 3:16 NKJV

2. Jesus promised this to His disciples

For John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." Acts 1:5 NKJV

3. Note the similarities of Jesus' baptism/Disciples at Pentecost

- a. Both praying
- b. Spirit descends
- c. Physical manifestation
- d. Both ministries begin with a sermon

C. Empowered by the Spirit

1. Promised in Acts 1:8

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Acts 1:8 NKJV

2. For witness

Beginning from the baptism of John to that day when He was taken up from us, one of these must become a witness with us of His resurrection." Acts 1:12 NKJV

3. Spirit comes upon you—similar to Old Testament

And Balaam raised his eyes, and saw Israel encamped according to their tribes; and the Spirit of God came upon him. Numbers 24:2 NKJV

The Spirit of the Lord came upon him, and he judged Israel. He went out to war, and the Lord delivered Cushan-Rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed over Cushan-Rishathaim. Judges 3:10 NKJV

When the Spirit of the Lord came upon Jephthah, and he passed through Gilead and Manasseh, and passed through Mizpah of Gilead; and from Mizpah of Gilead he advanced toward the people of Ammon. Judges 11:29 NKJV

4. Spirit came upon Samson
5. Assured the disciples that Jesus will not abandon them to their own resources—they will receive the same power He had to carry-out early ministry

THIS IS THE PROMISE OF PENTECOST!

II. The Miracle of Pentecost

A. The Description (hear but don't feel wind, tongues of fire that don't consume, all hear God being praised in own language).

B. The Attribution

1. Drunk
2. Narrative—filled with the Holy Spirit

C. The Uniqueness—filled with the Spirit

Text	Person	Phenomenon
Luke 1:15	John	Prophetic Ministry
Luke 1:41	Elizabeth	Prophecy
Luke 1:67	Zacharias	Prophecy
Acts 2:4	Disciples	Glossolalia/Prophecy
Acts 4:8	Peter	Witness
Acts 4:31	Disciples	Witness
Acts 9:17	Paul	None Recorded
Acts 13:9	Paul	Judgment Promised
Acts 13:52	Disciples	Joy

D. Observations

1. Gift of the Spirit is not an isolated event (before and after Pentecost)
2. Both individual and collective phenomenon
3. Not once and for all experience
4. Always describes inspiration—prophetic speech, prophecy, witness, tongues
5. Summary: Filled with a Spirit throughout Luke—Acts always describes a specific through potentially repetitive act of prophetic inspiration

III. Peter's Pentecost Interpretation (2:14-21)

But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. 15 For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. 16 But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. 18 And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy. 19 I will show wonders in heaven above and signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke. 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord. 21 And it shall come to pass that whoever calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.' Acts 2:14-21 NKJV

NOTE: This parallels Jesus in Luke 4:18

"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed. Luke 4:18 NKJV

It fulfills Joel's prophecy—"This is that"

A. Gift of the Spirit is eschatological (a gift of last days)

1. Eschatological age of Spirit began when prophetic activity in birth narrative (after 400 years of silence)
2. Pentecost was but one of many manifestations

B. Gift of Spirit is prophetic

'And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. Acts 2:17 NKJV

C. Gift of the Spirit is universal

1. Not gender, not geographical
2. Not just for leaders
3. It is for all

For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." Acts 2:39 NKJV

IV. Peter's Pentecost Application

Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men and brethren, what shall we do?" 38 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. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." Acts 2:37-39 NKJV

- A. Points them to the way of salvation (respond...and be baptized)

NOTE ALSO:

And with many other words he testified and exhorted them, saying, "Be saved from this perverse generation. Acts 2:25 NKJV

- B. This gift is restricted to the penitent, the saved. Not just all of Israel—all who respond.
- C. This gift is potentially universal

NOTE: From generation to generation

For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call." Acts 2:39 NKJV

V. Pentecost and Moses

A. Wind and Fire demonstrate God was powerful and active

And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night. Exodus 13:21 NKJV

Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. Exodus 14:21 NKJV

B. Transfer of Spirit from Moses to 70 in analogous to Pentecost

1. New era of Israel's leadership (Moses/Joshua)
2. As a result the 70 prophesy

NOTE: Disciples are no longer apprentices but are now equipped for new responsibility. As a result, they prophesy.

3. Transfer from single individual to a group

Then Moses said to him, "Are you zealous for my sake? Oh, that all the Lord's people were prophets and that the Lord would put His Spirit upon them!" Numbers 11:29 NKJV

VI. The Transformative Experience of Pentecost

A. Prior to Pentecost (scattered, denied, shattered, disillusioned, afraid, returned to occupations—even Peter)

NOTE: Now Peter (and others)—Bold and confident!

Why? Resurrection!

B. Acts indicates Spirit infilling was not just a new belief/forms the reason

1. Promise

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." Acts 1:8 NKJV

2. Filled with Spirit made the difference

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

Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Israel. Acts 4:8 NKJV

And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness. Acts 4:31 NKJV

C. While transformative, the experience was not given for its own sake—other experiences

1. Moses—burning bush (Exodus 3:2)

PURPOSE:

Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." Exodus 3:10 NKJV

2. Isaiah's vision

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. 2 Above it stood seraphim; each one had six wings: with two he covered his face, with two he covered his feet, and with two he flew. 3 And one cried to another and said: "Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; The whole earth is full of His glory!" 4 And the posts of the door were shaken by the voice of him who cried out, and the house was filled with smoke. Isaiah 6:1-4 NKJV

PURPOSE:

Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying: "Whom shall I send, And who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I! Send me." Isaiah 6:8 NKJV

3. Saul's encounter was the Risen Christ

Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the Way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. 3 As he journeyed he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from heaven. 4 Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?" 5 And he said, "Who are You, Lord?" Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. It is hard for you to kick against the goads." 6 So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Acts 9:1-6 NKJV

PURPOSE:

But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. Acts 9:15 NKJV

NOTE: True significance of these events is not found in the dramatic experience of the burning bush, vision of the Lord, or the blinding sight of the Risen Christ. It's found in the call, "I will send you!" "Go!" Bear My Name before the Gentiles!

D. Pentecost had a purpose—you shall be witnesses to me!

Conclusion: Gift of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost is complex

1. 5-fold description (clothing, baptizing, empowering, filling, outpouring)
2. Continuity with Spirit's work in the Old Testament.
3. Spirit at work in Jesus/John—parallels work with the Disciples.
4. It is more than the birth of the Church or initiation of the Disciples.
5. Spirit-empowered Christ launched disciple's mission with the Spirit not creating the Church
6. Gift of the Spirit is not for salvation—for witness and service.