

The Outpouring of the Spirit

Isaiah 31-32

Isaiah 31:1 Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many and in horsemen because they are very strong, **but do not look to the Holy One of Israel or consult the LORD!**

Isaiah 31:6 Turn to him from whom people have deeply revolted, O children of Israel.

Isaiah 31:5 Like birds hovering, so the LORD of hosts will protect Jerusalem; he will protect and deliver it; he will spare and rescue it.”

Isaiah 32:1-4 Behold, a king will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule in justice.² Each will be like a hiding place from the wind, a shelter from the storm, like streams of water in a dry place, like the shade of a great rock in a weary land.³ Then the eyes of those who see will not be closed, and the ears of those who hear will give attention.⁴ The heart of the hasty will understand and know, and the tongue of the stammerers will hasten to speak distinctly.

Isaiah 32:13-14 for the soil of my people growing up in thorns and briers, yes, for all the joyous houses in the exultant city.¹⁴ For the palace is forsaken, the populous city deserted; the hill and the watchtower will become dens forever, a joy of wild donkeys, a pasture of flocks;

Isaiah 32:15-18 **until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high**, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest.¹⁶ Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field.¹⁷ And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever.¹⁸ My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

I. The Transformation of the Soul

Gen. 1:2 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.

Exodus 31:2-3 “See, I have called by name Bezalel the son of Uri, son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah,³ and **I have filled him with the Spirit of God**, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship,

Judges 6:34 But **the Spirit of the LORD clothed Gideon**, and he sounded the trumpet, and the Abiezrites were called out to follow him.

Ezekiel 11:5 And **the Spirit of the LORD fell upon me**, and he said to me, “Say, Thus says the LORD: So you think, O house of Israel. For I know the things that come into your mind.

*These were all one-time occasions where God worked through people in a special way. **But these works did not guarantee a change in the hearts of these people, and they were not meaning that these people were saved.***

Jeremiah 31:31-32 “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³² not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, **my covenant that they broke**, though I was their husband, declares the LORD.

Jeremiah 31:33-34 For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: **I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts**. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ **for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest**, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

Ezekiel 36:26-27 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And **I will put my Spirit within you**, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.

If God’s people were ever to share his character, an outcome devoutly to be hoped for, then it would have to come about through an infusion of God’s Spirit into human beings¹

Joel 2:28-32 “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, and your young men shall see visions. ²⁹ Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit. ³⁰ “And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. ³¹ The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ³² **And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved**. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

Mark 14:22-24 And as they were eating, he took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to them, and said, “Take; this is my body.” ²³ And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, and they all drank of it. ²⁴ And he said to them, “This is my blood of **the covenant**, which is poured out for many.

John 14:16-17 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, **to be with you forever**, ¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for **he dwells with you and will be in you**.

John 14:23 Jesus answered him, “If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and **we will come to him and make our home with him**.

John 15:26 “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, **he will bear witness about me**.

John 16:13-14 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. ¹⁴ **He will glorify me**, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Isaiah 32:15-18 **until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high**, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest. ¹⁶ Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field. ¹⁷ And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. ¹⁸ My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

¹ Oswalt, J. N. (1986). *The Book of Isaiah, Chapters 1–39* (p. 587). Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

Zechariah 12:9-14 And on that day I will seek to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. ¹⁰ “And I will pour out on the house of David and the inhabitants of Jerusalem a spirit of grace and pleas for mercy, so that, when they look on me, on him whom they have pierced, they shall mourn for him, as one mourns for an only child, and weep bitterly over him, as one weeps over a firstborn.

II. The Transformation of the Material World

Isaiah 32:15-18 until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest. ¹⁶ Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field. ¹⁷ And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. ¹⁸ My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

Isaiah 35:1-2 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; ² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the LORD, the majesty of our God.

Isaiah 55:13 Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall make a name for the LORD, an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.”

Isaiah 65:20, 25 No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. ²⁵ The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent’s food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain,” says the LORD.

Rev. 21:1-2 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ² And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

Rev. 21:3-4 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. ⁴ He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

Romans 8:16-19 The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, ¹⁷ and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and fellow heirs with Christ, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him. 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 For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God.

Romans 8:20-24 For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. ²³ And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. ²⁴ For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what he sees?

III. The Transformation of Society

Isaiah 32:15-18 until the Spirit is poured upon us from on high, and the wilderness becomes a fruitful field, and the fruitful field is deemed a forest. ¹⁶ Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and righteousness abide in the fruitful field. ¹⁷ And the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. ¹⁸ My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places.

John 14:26-27 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. ²⁷ Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

Isaiah 32:1 Behold, a king will reign in righteousness, and princes will rule in justice.

Rev. 21:3 And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God.

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Practical Takeaways

- The outpouring of the Holy Spirit is an important part of the New Covenant established by Christ on the cross.
- The salvation of the soul is always connected with being born again by the Holy Spirit when the Holy Spirit indwells a person.
- The Holy Spirit is committed to Christ, so He always makes Christ the center of the Christian's life, directing him to Christ, revealing Christ to him, magnifying Christ, and filling him with Christ.
- The Holy Spirit is changing the material world by producing God's work of healing today. One day He will change it radically, and to a greater extent during the millennial kingdom and into an absolutely new heaven and a new earth.
- The Holy Spirit changes society. He does this today by producing His fruit in the hearts of those who are saved and spreading righteousness and peace through them around them. He will do this to a large extent during the millennial kingdom. And He will do it absolutely in the new Jerusalem.
- Pray for the work of the Holy Spirit in your heart, as well as in the hearts of other people, your relatives and close ones, your friends, in your city, in your country. Expect the action of God's Spirit.