

Sermon Title: “When Heaven Pours Out”

Text: Joel 2:28–29

Series: Pentecost – Week 1

The Holy Spirit’s power is available for all of God’s people

Ask God to pour out His Spirit in your life

INTRODUCTION: When Dry Places Finally Receive Rain

“Have you ever seen land so dry it cracks under pressure? Nothing grows there. Nothing lives there. But the moment water touches it—everything begins to change.”

That’s the picture Joel gives us.

Before the Spirit is poured out...

The land is dry

The people are empty

The nation is desperate

But then God makes a promise:

Joel 2:28

“I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh...”

Not sprinkle

Not touch

Pour out

1. THE PROMISE OF THE POURING

Throughout Scripture, the Holy Spirit is described like water:

- Isaiah 44:3 — **“I will pour water on the thirsty land”**
- Ezekiel 39:29 — **“I will pour out my Spirit”**
- Romans 5:5 — **“God’s love has been poured into our hearts”**

Joel connects:

- * **Rain on land**
- * **Spirit on people**

Spiritual Truth:

What rain is to dry land... the Holy Spirit is to dry souls.

Without Him:

- We go through motions
- We look alive... but feel empty

With Him:

- Life returns
- Power flows
- Purpose awakens

2. THE PEOPLE OF THE POURING “ALL FLESH.”

Joel 2:28

“I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh...”

This was revolutionary.

In the Old Testament:

- The Spirit came on the **prophets**
- The Spirit came on **kings**
- The Spirit came on **chosen individuals**

But now...

Sons AND daughters
Young AND old
Servants AND leaders

Everyone can receive

Greek/Hebrew Insight:

The Hebrew phrase “**kol basar**” (**all flesh**) doesn’t mean random humanity...

It means **all of God’s covenant people**

Application:

There are no “VIP Christians” in the Spirit.

The same Spirit that filled prophets...

Is available to YOU

This prophecy is fulfilled in Acts 2 at Pentecost.

The apostle Peter explains that what is happening is the fulfillment of Joel’s prophecy.

This shows that:

- The Spirit is no longer limited to Israel
- God’s covenant is being extended through Christ

Who Are God’s Covenant People Now?

Under the New Covenant:

God’s covenant people are:

- Those who believe in Jesus Christ
- Both Jews and Gentiles
- All who receive the Holy Spirit

As Paul writes in Galatians 3:28, all are one in Christ Jesus.

3. THE EVIDENCE OF THE POURING

Joel 2:28

“Your sons and daughters will prophesy...”

This isn’t just emotional...

It's transformational.

The Spirit brings:

- **Revelation** (you begin to hear God clearly)
- **Vision** (you see what God is doing)
- **Dreams** (God deposits purpose)

Application:

When the Spirit is poured out:

- You don't just attend church
You become part of what God is doing

4. FROM DRYNESS TO LIFE (ILLUSTRATION)

Imagine cracked ground.

Nothing grows.

But then rain comes consistently...

Seeds begin to sprout
Life begins to emerge
Growth becomes inevitable

That's what happens when the Spirit is poured out.

Think of a moment when an entire crowd is unified, like a championship victory.

Everyone:

- Feels it
- Experiences it
- Is changed by it

Now multiply that spiritually.

That's what Pentecost is:

A whole people touched by one Spirit.

5. THIS IS THE MARK OF GOD'S PEOPLE

1 Samuel 3:1 says:

“The word of the Lord was rare...”

That was the OLD era.

But Joel says:

The NEW era will be marked by:

- God speaking
- God moving
- God filling His people

Truth:

The presence of the Spirit is the identity of the church.

Not programs

Not buildings

Not personalities

The Spirit

APPLICATION: ASK FOR THE POURING

This is not automatic...

Joel says it will happen—but we must respond.

Ask yourself:

- Where am I dry?
- Where do I feel empty?
- Where do I need God's power?

Call to Action:

Ask God:

- “Pour out Your Spirit on me”
- “Fill the dry places in my life”
- “Give me fresh fire, fresh vision, fresh hunger”

ALTAR

“Lord, we don’t want just religion... we want Your Spirit.”

- Fill us again
- Renew us again
- Pour out again

CLOSING

“When God pours out His Spirit, dry places come alive, ordinary people become vessels, and the church becomes unstoppable.”