



**Into:** Last week we began our sermon series entitled Pour. We began looking at the person and role of the Holy Spirit. We began by just brining some clarification through the Scriptures concerning a couple of misconceptions.

Joel 2:28-29 ““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, Your young men shall see visions. 29 And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

Notice:

The Holy Spirit will be poured out and made available to ALL...

Jew, Gentile, Old, Young, Man, Woman...God's not reserving His Spirit for a select few!

The Holy Spirit is promised to be poured out, but there is never any mention that it is only for a set time frame or that it will be withdrawn.

The gift of the out pouring of the Holy Spirit was a gift given to EMPOWER followers of Christ, the church, to witness to Jesus' life death and resurrection. The Holy Spirit was given to empower the church to preach the good news! **If the church needed it then, why wouldn't we need it now?**

The Father Promised it, Jesus testified of it , operated in the power of it and then poured it out...Why wouldn't we want it?

I want to dive in a little bit deeper today and continue brining some clarification specifically about the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and perhaps the most misunderstood, confusing manifestation of the Holy Spirit...Speaking in tongues.

**Acts 2:1-4** “When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. **2** And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. **3** Then there appeared to them 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.”

**Vs.3 “Divided tongues of fire...on each of them”**

- Notice again ALL received.
- **Why tongues of fire?** Mark 16:17 Jesus had told them “These signs will follow those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues.”
- This new experience of tongues that accompanied the outpouring of the Holy Spirit came with the manifestation of a flame of fire. Throughout the Old Testament the presence of the

Spirit of God was visibly seen in the form of fire. (Burning Bush w/ Moses, Pillar of Fire led Israel, Fire fell from heaven and consumed the sacrifice with Elijah etc.) The fact that tongues of fire rest on them as they spoke with the new tongues that Jesus had described served as a confirmation that “this is that” which had been promised!

#### **Vs.4 “Filled, Spoke, Utterance”**

- **How's this work? Is it just me making up words? Is the Holy Spirit speaking through me?**
- They were filled
- **THEY SPOKE...**
- **Spoke** - Grk = “Laleo” = utter a voice, emit a sound, to speak and utter articulate sounds.”
- The Holy Spirit didn't possess them or force them. HE didn't take hold of their tongue wiggle it around and make them do something outside of their control.
- **THEY spoke...as the Spirit gave them UTTERANCE.**
- **Utterance** - Grk = “apoph-theng-omai” = to speak out...not an everyday word but one belonging to dignified and elevated discourse.”
- The Holy Spirit gives you the ability and belonging (the right and prerogative) to speak at an **elevated** discourse.
- Elevated = above natural understanding.

In this instance the speaking in a “new tongue” was the empowerment to speak words that testified of Jesus in a language they didn't know, but those around them understood.

**Just because that's what it was in this instance doesn't mean that is what it is every time.**

Paul refers to speaking in tongues as speaking in “the tongue of angels.” (1Cor.13:1)

Whether it is an unknown earthly language or unknown heavenly language, **it is Holy Spirit inspired but humanly implemented. The Holy Spirit gives the right and ability to speak out in a dignified and elevated manner, but the speaking is done by the person. THEY spoke as the Spirit gave them UTTERANCE.**

**In this instance speaking in tongues helped them testify of Jesus.**

**Most often when we pray in tongues it edifies, strengthens, encourages spirit.**

1 Corinthians 14:4 “He who speaks in a tongue **edifies himself...**”

Jude 1:20 “But you, beloved, **building yourselves up on your most holy faith**, praying in the Holy Spirit,

**Our mind may not understand what is being said, but our spirit is praying and being edified.**

1 Corinthians 14:14 “For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful.”

**Praying in the spirit (praying in tongues) accompanies our natural prayer language.**

1 Corinthians 14:15”...I will pray with the spirit and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit and I will also sing with the understanding.”

**Conclusion:**

The baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues is:

The Promise of the Father (Acts 1:4),

Poured out by Jesus (Acts 2:33)

An activity encouraged by Paul. (1 Corinthians 14:5 & 39).

**Why wouldn't we want it?**

**How do I receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**

Misconception: I just have to wait and pray and keep waiting until God pours it out?

In **Acts 2** we see that the disciples were waiting and praying in obedience to the command Jesus gave them. Once the Holy Spirit was poured out on the day of Pentecost we don't see the need to "tarry...wait and wait" for it again in Scripture.

**Acts 4:31** the company was filled with the Holy Spirit **as they were simply gathered together praising and praying.**

**Acts 8:15-17** Peter and John laid hands on and prayed for the Samaritan believers to receive the Holy Spirit

**Acts 9:17** Paul received the Holy Spirit when Ananias laid hands upon him and prayed for him.

**Acts 10:44 & 11:15** Cornelius and his family, **Gentiles**, received the Holy Spirit while Peter was preaching.

**Acts 19:6** Paul laid hands on and prayed for the believers in Ephesus who then spoke in tongues and prophesied.

**Only one time do we see a reference to "waiting."**

**Once the Holy Spirit was poured out the most common method of receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit seen in Scripture was through the laying on of hands and prayer.**