Empowerment of the Holy Spirit

- **1 Peter 2:9** But you *are* a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light;
- We are no longer of this world, but children of God, Royalty of the kingdom of Heaven

Romans 8:16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs—heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with *Him*, that we may also be glorified together.

- We have been charged with the advancement of our Lord's mission.
- His kingdom and the conquest of it have become ours because we have been adopted into His lineage.

This is our position, we are repositioned in God

Note: Position always precedes power, we must be positioned in Christ before we can ever do anything for His kingdom in the Power of the Holy Spirit

Power we need

Luke 24:49 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."

This was a command, not a suggestion, or a recommendation. The promise: the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:4 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."

- The disciples were ready, they had received "infallible proof" of the resurrection of Jesus.
- They were ready they didn't need to be persuaded about Jesus and His resurrection, they needed the power of the Holy Spirit
- This is why Jesus says don't leave Jerusalem until you are filled with the Spirit's power
- **Jesus sets it up**, I am sending you to do something that will be difficult, but you will have help, supernatural power from on high.
- The Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Dont leave because you can't miss this
- Many may think that the disciples didn't have the Holy Spirit and needed to wait for the Holy Spirit —- but we received the Holy Spirit when we believed
- The disciples already had the Holy Spirit **John 20:21** So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.
- They had received the Holy Spirit before Jesus ascended to heaven.
- But... they still needed to be clothed with the power of the Holy Spirit that happened on the day of Pentecost
- · When we believe we become the temple of the Holy Spirt,

Ephesians 1:13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who[d] is the [e]guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

- 1 Corinthians 12:3 no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit.
- But the endued with power, the infilling of the Holy Spirit, the baptism of the Holy Spirit is a different experience

4 accounts in the Book of Acts Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all [a] 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.

- There were 120 disciples out of 500. What happened to the other 380, maybe they
 went back, or maybe they went to start churches, or maybe they went to start
 preaching.
- The 120 that remained and waited were baptized with the Holy Spirit.
- As they prayed in one Accord there was a sound from heaven, as a rushing mighty wind, the house was filled, tongues like fire, UPON, the disciples were filled (Gk-Satiate: to supply in excess) and they began to speak in other tongues (sign)
- The day of Pentecost opened a door for Peter to preach the Gospel to many who were in Jerusalem for the celebration. They heard the sound and came to see and then they heard the disciples speaking in tongues (earthly tongues)
- Peter rises and preaches the very first message after Jesus ascended to the Father
- An unprepared spontaneous message in the power of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:32 This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. 33 Therefore being exalted [j]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.

Peter preaching now in the power of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:37 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?"

- This is the power of the Holy Spirit moving as Peter preached the Gospel
- Every time we share the good news of Jesus we should expect the Holy Spirit to move in the hearts of those who are listening
- Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the [k]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."
- Peter makes it clear that not only is there forgiveness of sins in Christ but the promise of the Holy Spirit

 The promise of the Holy Spirit is available to all believers past, present, and future untill the Lord returns for His church

We need the power of the Holy Spirit

Phillip in Samaria Acts 8

- Phillip because of persecution in Jerusalem goes to Samaria and preached the Gospel
- Took the whole city, and revival broke out in Samaria
- Miracles, the lame being healed, deliverance from demonic possession and oppression, and great Joy in the city...... This was revival

Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. When they believed, they were born again, their sins were forgiven, they became the temple of the Holy Spirit, they were sealed with the Holy spirit, they became children of God, they became a part of the family of God, and their names were written in the Book of life

Acts 8:14 Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, **15** who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. **16** For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **17** Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

They had already received Salvation

- So why did the apostles send the two most respected apostles to Samaria 35 miles away by horse or walking for 2 or 3 days to get there?
- Because they needed to receive the Holy Spirit (the infilling, the power from on high, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit)
- Then when they laid their hands on them they received
- If we have believed, been saved, been born again, received Jesus, the Gospel, deliverance, healing. But if we haven't received the baptism of the Holy Spirit
- We like the Samaritans need to receive the Holy Spirit

Cornelius

Cornelius a Roman centurion, **Acts 10:2** a devout man and one who feared God with all his household, who gave]alms generously to the people, and prayed to God always. 3 About [c]the ninth hour of the day he saw clearly in a vision an angel of God coming in and saying to him, "Cornelius!"

At this point only the church was exclusively Jewish

The angel tells Cornelius to call Peter

Peter also has a vision and after Cornilus's men show up **Acts 10:19** While Peter thought about the vision, the Spirit said to him, "Behold, three men are seeking you. **20** Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them." When Peter comes to Cornilus's house

Acts 10:28 Then he said to them, "You know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation. But God has shown me that I

should not call any man common or unclean. **29** Therefore I came without objection as soon as I was sent for. I ask, then, for what reason have you sent for me?"

Cornelius tells Peter the vision and **Acts 10:33** So I sent to you immediately, and you have done well to come. Now, therefore, we are all present before God, to hear all the things commanded you by God."

They were ready to hear and receive what God had for them

That needs to be our heart's position, ready, present before God, (here I am Lord) to hear all of what God has commanded

Peter begins to preach the Gospel **Acts 10:44** While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. 45 And [o]those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. 46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.

- They were hearing the Word of God were baptized and spoke in other tongues.
- The Jews could not deny the evidence of God's Salvation among the Gentiles because they saw and heard the manifestation of God's power among them (the infilling of the Holy Spirit)
- they were shocked, God not only had salvation for the Gentiles but also the infilling of the Holy Spirit

The Ephesians

Acts 19:2 he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit. 3 And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism." 4 Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus." 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

- The very first thing that Paul asks these disciples is "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed"
- It should be the first question we ask any new believer
- Why was this so important to the early church? Because the empowerment of the Holy Spirit is essential to our new life and the mission of Christ
- When they heard the Gospel from Paul, they were baptized in water (confession of faith) they accepted Jesus
- But it didn't stop there Paul laid hands on them, The Holy Spirit came upon them and they spoke with tongues and prophesied
- They knew very little of Jesus and the Holy Spirit...
- But a few moments later they spoke in tongues and prophesied (they declared the message of Jesus Christ, the wonders of Jesus and the Gospel)
- This empowerment to prophesy what they didn't know just a few moments earlier was made possible by the Spirit of God

There are several occasions in the Book of Acts when believers were filled with the Holy Spirit followed by the phrase "and they"

Acts 2:4 and they began to speak in other tongues

Acts 4:31 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 10:46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.

Acts 19:6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

- There are several signs of the infilling of the Holy Spirit
- We remain with that speaking in tongues is the initial sign of the baptism of the Holy Spirit
- Many people who have beenwalking with God that receive this after years of walking with Christ, some receive the Holy Spirit on the day of
- Paul Says 1 Corinthians 14:5 I wish you all spoke with tongues,
- Some didn't speak in tongues
- If you do not speak in tongues that doesn't mean your not saved, it simply means there is more, maybe......
- I go back to Jesus telling his disciples to "stay in the city until you are endued with power from on high"

3 reasons

- 1. To overcome your weaknesses
- 2. To do the mission of Christ
- 3. To experience the Glory of God, the rivers of living water