

## **THE UNFORGETTABLE FIRE – 1-7-18**

**Hebrews 12:29** For our God is a consuming fire. (devouring)

Who is the Holy Spirit? Why is the Holy Spirit? What does He do? How does He do it? Jesus is very clear: the Spirit is our real and necessary Helper, Advocate, Counselor, Comforter, Teacher, Intercessor, & Strengtheners sent to assist us in living the Christian life.

***When we walk w/ the Holy Spirit, we have His power in our lives.***

**Matthew 3:11** I baptize w/ water those who repent of their sins & turn to God. But someone's coming soon who's greater than I am—so much greater that I'm not worthy even to be His slave & carry His sandals. He will baptize you w/ the Holy Spirit & w/ fire.

*All believers are entitled to, should expect and seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it, comes the power for life and service, & the gifts for the work of the ministry.*

**We are to be born of the Spirit; born again & filled w/ the Spirit**

**John 3:3** "I tell you the truth, unless you're born again, you cannot see the Kingdom of God." 4 "What do you mean?" exclaimed Nicodemus. "How can an old man go back into his mother's womb & be born again? 5 Jesus replied, "I assure you, no one can enter the Kingdom of God w/out being born of water & the Spirit. 6 Humans can reproduce only human life, but the Holy Spirit gives birth to spiritual life.

*By receiving Jesus as Lord, our spirit is made "alive" by the Holy Spirit.*

*The Holy Spirit is in us to fellowship and help us in every aspect of life.*

**John 14:16** And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, who will never leave you. **17** He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you know him, because he lives with you now and later will be in you. **18** No, I will not abandon you as orphans—I will come to you. **19** Soon the world will no longer see me, but you will see me. Since I live, you also will live. **20** When I am raised to life again, you will know that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you...

**23** Jesus replied, "All who love me will do what I say. My Father will love them, and we will come and make our home with each of them...

**26** But when the Father sends the Advocate as my representative—that is, the Holy Spirit—he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I have told you.

*The Holy Spirit was sent to remind us about Christ and empower us to live in light of the gospel.*

*He reminds us about all that Jesus has taught.*

**John 15:26** But I will send you the Advocate (Comforter or Encourager or Counselor)-the Spirit of Truth. He will come to you from the Father and will testify all about me.

*The Holy Spirit is all we need in life*

**John 16:5** “But now I’m going away to the One who sent Me, & not one of you is asking where I’m going. **6** Instead, you grieve because of what I’ve told you. **7** But in fact, it’s best for you (to your advantage) that I go away, because if I don’t, the Advocate won’t come. If I do go away, then I will send Him to you. **8** And when He comes, He’ll convict the world of its sin, of God’s righteousness & of the coming judgment. **9** The world’s sin is that it refuses to believe in Me. **10** Righteousness is available because I go to the Father & you’ll see Me no more. **11** Judgment will come because the ruler of this world has already been judged. **12** “There’s so much more I want to tell you, but you can’t bear it now. **13** When the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on His own but will tell you what He has heard. He will tell you about the future. **14** He will bring Me glory by telling you whatever He receives from me. **15** All that belongs to the Father is mine; this is why I said, ‘The Spirit will tell you whatever He receives from me.’”

**Jesus will send the Helper. V7**

**He convicts us of sin. V8**

**He guides us to truth. V13**

**He brings glory to Jesus. V14**

To receive the Spirit is to receive an Advocate, One who always point us to Jesus.

**Luke 24:49** “And now I will send the Holy Spirit, just as my Father promised. But stay here in the city until the Holy Spirit comes and fills you with power from heaven.”

*By being baptized w/ the Holy Spirit, we release His power, gifts, & spiritual prayer abilities.*

**Acts 1:1** In my first book, I told you Theophilus, about everything Jesus began to do & teach **2** until the day He was taken up to heaven after giving His chosen apostles further instructions through the Holy Spirit. **3** During the forty days after He suffered & died, He appeared to the apostles from time to time, & He proved to them in many ways that He was actually alive. He talked to them about the Kingdom of God.**4** Once when He was eating w/ them, He commanded them, **“Don’t leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the Gift He promised, as I told you before **5** John baptized w/ water, but in a few days you’ll be baptized w/ the Holy Spirit.”****6** When the apostles were w/ Jesus, they kept asking Him, Lord has the time come for you to free Israel & restore our kingdom? **7** He replied, **“The Father alone has the authority to set those dates & times, they’re not for you to know. **8** *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be My witnesses, telling people about Me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.*”** **9** After saying this, He was taken up into a cloud while they were watching, & they could no longer see Him. **10** As they strained to see Him rising into heaven, two white-robed men suddenly stood among them. **11**“Men of Galilee,” they said, “why are you standing here staring into heaven? Jesus has been taken from you into heaven, but someday He’ll return from heaven in the same way you saw Him go!” **12** Then the apostles returned to Jerusalem from the Mount of Olives, a distance of half a mile.**13**When they arrived, they went to the upstairs room of the house where they were staying. Here are the names of those who were present: Pete, John, James, Andy, Phil, Thom, Bart, Matt, Jim, Simon, & Judas (son of James). **14**They all met together & were constantly united in prayer, along w/ Mary the mother of Jesus, several other women, & the brothers of Jesus...

**Acts 2:1** On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. 2 Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, & it filled the house where they were sitting. 3 Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared & settled on each of them. 4 And everyone present was filled w/ the Holy Spirit & began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability. 5 At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. 6 When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, & they were bewildered to hear their own languages being spoken by the believers. 7 They were completely amazed. “How can this be?” they exclaimed. “These people are all from Galilee,<sup>8</sup> & yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! 9 Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, 10 Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome 11 (both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, & Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!” 12 They stood there amazed & perplexed. “What can this mean?” they asked each other. 13 But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, “They’re just drunk, that’s all!” 14 Then Peter stepped forward w/ the eleven other apostles & shouted to the crowd, “Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews & residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. 15 These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o’clock in the morning is much too early for that. 16 No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel: 17 *‘In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams. 18 In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on my servants—men and women alike— and they will prophesy...*

**33** Now He's exalted to the place of highest honor in heaven, at God's right hand. The Father, as He had promised, gave Him the Holy Spirit to pour out upon us, just as you see & hear today. **34** David himself never ascended into heaven, yet he said, 'The Lord said to my Lord, "Sit in the place of honor at my right hand **35** until I humble your enemies, making them a footstool under your feet."**36** "Let everyone in Israel know for certain that God's made this Jesus, whom you crucified, to be both *Lord & Messiah!*" **37** Peter's words pierced their heart & they said to him & to the other apostles, "Brothers, what should we do?" **38** Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins & turn to God & be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you'll receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. **39** This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away- all who have been called by the Lord our God." **40** Then Peter continued preaching for a long time, strongly urging all his listeners, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation!" **41** Those who believed what Peter said were baptized & added to the church that day—about 3,000 in all. **42** All the believers devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching, to fellowship, to sharing in meals (including the Lord's Supper), & to prayer.**43** A deep sense of awe came over them all, & the apostles performed many miraculous signs & wonders. **44** All the believers met together in one place & shared everything they had. **45** They sold their property & possessions & shared the money w/ those in need. **46**They worshiped together at the Temple each day, met in homes for the Lord's Supper, & shared their meals w/ great joy & generosity – **47** all the while praising God & enjoying the goodwill of all the people. And each day the Lord added to their fellowship those who were being saved.