

Great Chapters – Acts Chapter Two

The Gift of the Holy Spirit Is Foretold in All Four Gospels

- *Matthew 3:11, "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."*
- *Mark 1:7, "I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."*
- *Luke 3:16, "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."*
- *John 1:33, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit."*

Jesus said He would send the Holy Spirit

- *John 14:15-17, 26, "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor...."*
- *John 15:26, "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father...."*
- *John 16:7, 13-15, 24, "I will send Him to you."*

Jesus breathed on the disciples after the resurrection so they could receive the Holy Spirit.

- *John 20:22, "And with that He breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'"*

Later still, Jesus told them not to go anywhere until they received (more) power. Jesus' attitude is that it takes God's power to do God's work.

- *Luke 24:49, "but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."*
- *Acts 1:4-5, 8, "but wait for the gift my Father promised..." ... "but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ... "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you."*

Two Sundays

Resurrection Sunday – John 20:19-22 On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews,^[c] Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." ²⁰ When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." ²² And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

- They received divine breath that gives life and salvation.
- They received eternal life.
- They received authority to forgive sins.
- They moved from death to life.
- Romans 10:9,10 – confess, believe, saved.
- Jesus breathed His new life into them, just as God breathed new life into Adam Gen. 2:7
- They received the Holy Spirit for salvation and new life.
- They were victorious over sin (forgiven), Satan (delivered from penalty of sin) and death (eternal life).
- This was wonderful but incomplete:

- No real direction – Peter went fishing.
- No impact on Jerusalem – they were there daily, but no ministry.
- No power – they were to tarry and wait until they received more. (Acts 1:4-8).

Day of Pentecost – The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

- Acts 2:1-4
- Mighty rushing wind – audible
- Flaming tongues of fire – visible and audible
- Speaking in other tongues – visible and audible
- All received – Spirit is for everyone.

Peter's Sermon

- Fulfilling OT prophecy
- You killed Jesus
- God raised Jesus from the dead.
- We are his witnesses.

The People's Response to Peter's Sermon

- What must we do?

Peter's Instruction

- Repent
- Be Baptized
- Receive the Holy Spirit

The Results

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe^[a] came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Pentecost Sunday (49 days later, 10 days after the Ascension)

- Promise of the Father Fulfilled
- Spirit came down from above and immersed (drench completely) the disciples.
- The overflow was a supernatural language, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
- Matthew 12:34 – out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaks.
- Disciples received supernatural power.
- Disciples received boldness to witness.
- Disciples were released into apostolic ministry (signs and wonders).
- Disciples received insight into scripture – Peter reference to Joel.
- Immediate impact on Jerusalem
- Was manifest to others – 9 o'clock in the morning.
- 3000 became believers.
- Transformation – signs, wonders, generosity, prayer, breaking break, fellowship, study

RESURRECTION SUNDAY

Resurrected Jesus
Spirit of God imparted/breath
Result: Life

PENTECOST SUNDAY

Ascended and Glorified Jesus
Spirit of God Poured Out – visible/audible.
Result: Power

Five Categories of People Regarding the Holy Spirit

1. Longing – Acts 2 – Day of Pentecost
2. Receptive – Samaria – Ministry of Phillip Acts 8:14-23
3. Hostile – Persecution of the church in Jerusalem, Saul's aggression Acts 8:1,3; 9:1-2
4. Uninformed – Paul in Ephesus – Acts 19:1-6
5. Unlikely – Peter in Acts 10:44-47 – Gentile Pentecost

The Impact and Implications for the Church Today

- New Birth – John 3:3-8 – spiritual rebirth – Note: Ephesian 2:1-8
- New Family – John 1: 11-13 – child of God
- Freedom from the Law – Romans 8:1-3
- Adoption through the Holy Spirit – Romans 8:14-16
- The Holy Spirit helps us to pray – Romans 8:26
- The Holy Spirit gives us understanding – reveals Jesus – Ephesians 1:17-18
- The Holy Spirit conforms us into the image and likeness of Jesus – 2 Cor 3:18
- The Holy Spirit bears fruit in each of us – John 15; Galatians 5:22-23
- The Holy Spirit gives gifts – 1 Cor 12; Romans 12, Ephesians 4
- The gifts are free

- Everybody gets at least one
- They are for the common good

Four ways to know if you are operating in the gifts the Spirit has given you

1. You will like and enjoy what you are doing
2. The gift will compliment who you already are – it fits your temperament
3. The gift will bear fruit
4. The gift will be affirmed by others

The Holy Spirit empowers you for ministry and witness – Acts 1:8

The Holy Spirit gives us power over **THE OLD NATURE** – 2 Cor 5:17

The Holy Spirit gives us power to overcome **TEMPTATION** – 1 Cor 10:13; 1 John 4:4

The Holy Spirit gives us power to **TREAD UPON SERPENTS** – Luke 10:17-19

The Holy Spirit gives us the power to do the works of **JESUS** – John 14:12

The Lord tells about the Holy Spirit:

- **John 14:26** *“He will **TEACH** you all things.”*
- **John 14:16** *“And I will ask the Father and he will give you another **HELPER***
- **John 16: 13** *“He will **GUIDE** you to all truth.” He will disclose to you what is to **COME**.*
- **John 16: 8** *“He will convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment.”*

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is central to the Christian life. It is neither an option nor something only for the elite but is something Jesus said would be given to all who ask. Jesus told us the importance of the Holy Spirit and that it is better that He go to the Father because He would send us the Holy Spirit which would enable us to do the things He did.

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| • Because of the Holy Spirit there are gifts given to the body of Christ for ministry. | 1 Corinthians |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is fruit in the Christian life. | 12:1-10 |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is power to live victoriously. | Gal 5:22-23 |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is the ability to witness. | Rom 6:10-14 |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is healing, evangelism, social justice, and outreach | Acts 1:8 |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is love in our hearts. | John 14:12 |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is guidance and revelation of Truth | Rom 5:5 |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is true worship. | John 16:13 |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit we are born again. | John 4:23 |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit we can put to death the deeds of the flesh | John 3:3-8 |
| | Gal 5:16 |
| • Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit | Luke 1:35 |
| • Jesus was baptized by the Holy Spirit | Luke 3:22 |

- Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit
- Jesus ministered in the power of the Holy Spirit
- Jesus was raised from the dead by the Holy Spirit
- We are to be born again by the Holy Spirit
- We are to be baptized in the Holy Spirit
- We are to be filled with the Holy Spirit
- We are to be led by and minister in the power of the Holy Spirit
- We are to be raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit

Luke 4:1

Luke 4:18

John 3:3-8

Mark 1:8

Acts 2:4

Rom 8:14

Rom 6:4

You cannot read the book of Acts without noticing the centrality of the work and ministry of the Holy Spirit as manifest through the early church. The early church was filled with the Holy Spirit and walked in signs, miracles, and wonders.

There were healings, deliverances, conversions, transformations, and even raising people from the dead. There was preaching with boldness; they stood firm before kings and religious rulers; they evangelized entire cities and brought Christianity to the Gentiles.

A quick synopsis of the early church, compared to most mainline churches in the west, shows a startling contrast. The Holy Spirit was vibrant in the early church; thus, first century Christians had a vitality that was compelling and attractive. People were attracted, joined the church, and were transformed, being set free from sin. All of this is the work of the Holy Spirit.