**Pentecost Is For Everybody**

***14****But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words.****15****For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day.[*[*b*](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=ac+2&version=ESV#fen-ESV-26953b)*]****16****But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel:*

***17****“‘And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams;* ***18****even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy.* ***19****And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke;* ***20****the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day.****21****And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.’ (Acts 2:14-21)*

 The Holy Spirit is for all of us.

 Greetings to you dear brothers and sisters as today we remember the resting of the Holy Spirit on the believers. We see in the Bible that the Holy Spirit, sometimes called “Spirit of God,” did not (usually) rest permanently on people throughout their life. Yes, He did so on prophets, but not on everybody (all the time, even though they were God’s people). That situation changed when the Spirit came down at Pentecost. God’s Spirit came for good and living within the gathered church, and His extraordinary way of coming down was a sign for His coming extraordinary means of working. Most importantly, by His coming and causing believers to speak in the foreign languages, he was showing the scope of God’s plan of salvation. Today we understand that salvation is for all of humanity. For that reason, the Apostles and their disciples were made to speak the languages of the known world. Thus, today we’re going to talk about what it means that the Holy Spirit is for all of us. Let us talk about the event for a moment or so…

 Pentecost is the beginning of God’s universal work through His Spirit. When Jesus departed from His Apostles, He had already told them that He was going to leave them alone. Rather, that they were going to receive the Promise of the Father. And now, He had done that, but in an unexpected and strange manner. The people that were nearby heard and saw what happened with the Christians – but there needed to be some clarification. And the Apostle Peter did exactly that with his message by connecting what had happened with the prophecy of Joel. Originally, the prophet’s words had been directed to the people of Israel shortly after a locust plague and a severe famine had taken their toll on the population. He had called the people to turn back to God from their sins, upon which God was sure to restore their land. God would send the Messiah, Joel would intimate, and then He would pour out His Spirit (the passage referred to by Peter) upon all of God’s people.

 Peter saw that what the prophet had said long ago about the Spirit coming down upon all people was taking place that very morning. That observation of universal descent was consistent with the prevalent belief of the Rabbis of the day that the Holy Spirit was no longer resting on Israel, but that He would return as a universal gift in the End Time. Peter considered the Pentecost event as the manifestation of that return, because everybody, men as well as women, received the Spirit and were prophesying, in other words, they were speaking that which the Spirit was causing them to speak. The prophet Joel had said that this would happen before the end of the world – and that those who called out to the Lord would be saved. Peter saw that the term “Lord” was appropriate to use for Jesus, whose followers would be saved at the Final Judgment.

 There was once a famous preacher who spoke quietly and without a lot of movement. His message, however, was so powerful that the whole crowd, as if urged on by an irresistible force, stood up at the high point of his message, and then sat down after a few seconds. There was a professor of homiletics there that day. A friend of his knew that he had come to criticize the preacher – so he asked him how he liked the elocution (or preaching style). The professor said only one word – “Elocution!” But the friend said, “That man doesn’t need elocution – he already has the Holy Spirit.” And that has been the secret of the attractive power of the man Jesus Christ, and it tells the story of every great preacher whom God has used in the drawing of souls to himself.

 Today is an extremely important day for the Christian Church (worldwide). Today we remember that you and I are not alone, but that Jesus is with us through the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God does not praise Himself – rather, He makes our walk easier, so that we can be like Jesus both in deeds and prayer, as well as in our overall life-journey. The Holy Spirit does not discriminate between people – whether man or woman, old or young, schooled or unschooled, the Holy Spirit came down that day in that Upper Room on all present and changed the world through them.

 Today, the Holy Spirit is changing your world if you are paying attention and to His direction. If you believe that Jesus Christ is Lord and Savior – the Son of God, God become man, who will return on the Last Day to Judge and to renew us – who is the only path to salvation (according to His words), then you can be sure that God will not give you a false spirit when you are genuinely seeking His will for your life.

 The Holy Spirit is for all of us. He guides us to know Jesus better – and He strengthens with faith, power, and even supernatural signs. May we not dare leave Him out of our lives! But rather, let us ask for Him to rest upon us every day, to guide us, to fill us, and to awaken God’s Words and the daily needed gift within us – so that we can accomplish all that God needs us to fulfill for the given day.

 May our prayer be, “*You are welcome Holy Spirit – come and rest on us*,” and “*Lead us and intervene in our lives…*”

 The Lord Bless You All – Amen.