

## How The Holy Spirit Revealed The Gospel

John 14:12-29

## HOW THE HOLY SPIRIT REVEALED THE GOSPEL

- There are many Old Testament prophecies of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28-29; Isaiah 32:15; 44:3; 59:21; Zechariah 12:10)
- John the Baptist prophesied that Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit. (Matthew 3:11)
- Jesus preached, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." (Mark 1:15)
- Jesus prophesied He would build His church. (Matthew 16:18)
- Jesus prophesied the Kingdom would come very soon and with power. (Mark 9:1)

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- In John 13, Jesus is together with the 12 apostles (see Matthew 26:20; Mark 14:17; Luke 22:14). In verse 30, Judas leaves the Lord and the other 11 apostles.
- In John chapters 13 through 16, Jesus tells the apostles about coming events beginning later that night, referencing his imminent arrest, torture, crucifixion, resurrection, and return to Galilee (Matthew 26:32).
- Jesus also promises, following his ascension, the coming of The Holy Spirit, also called "the Comforter," "the Helper," and "the Spirit of truth" whom He would send to the apostles from the Father.

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- Jesus explains that those who keep His word will have both the Father and the Son abiding with them. He promises the coming of the Holy Spirit after His death and ascension, and that "He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you." (John 14:12-29)
- Jesus promises that the Helper, the Spirit of truth, would testify about Him, so that they could also testify, "because you have been with Me from the beginning." (John 15:26-27)
- Jesus promises, "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth ..." (John 16:5-15)

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- Jesus instructs His apostles to stay in the city until they are clothed with power from on high. (Luke 24:44-53)
- Luke provides more details about the Lord's instructions to the apostles to return to Jerusalem, that they would soon be baptized with the Holy Spirit, and how they would "receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth." (Acts 1:1-8, see also Matthew 28:18-20; Mark 16:15-20; Luke 24:44-53)

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- On the day of Pentecost, the 12 apostles (including Judas' replacement Mathias) receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit that Jesus had promised and begin to preach the gospel in many different languages that they had never learned. (Acts 1:26-2:11)
- Devout Jews from every nation under heaven heard the word of God in their own language and 3,000 souls obeyed the gospel and were added by the Lord into the church Jesus had promised to build. The saved were added into the kingdom Jesus said would come with power, the same kingdom Daniel prophesied (Daniel 2:44) that God would set up and would never be destroyed but would endure forever. (Acts 2:14-47)

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- What is "the gift of the Holy Spirit" mentioned in Acts 2:38? If it were miraculous gifts such as the apostles were given, then Acts 2:43 would say, "... many wonders and signs were taking place through all the believers," but instead, it says, "... many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles." As the church grew, many more wonders and signs were performed by the apostles. (Acts 3:6; 4:33; 5:12)
- The "gift of the Holy Spirit" is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord (Romans 6:23), salvation by the forgiveness of sins. (Luke 1:77)
- The purpose of miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit was to confirm that the word spoken by those who performed them came from God (Mark 16:20; Acts 14:3; Hebrews 2:3-4)

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- Gifts of the Holy Spirit (great wonders and signs) were bestowed upon seven men by the laying on of the apostles' hands. (Acts 6:5-6)
- Philip was one of the seven, and performed miracles in Samaria, causing the Samaritans to believe the gospel and obey, including Simon the sorcerer. Acts 8:18 confirms that the laying on of the apostles' hands was the only way spiritual gifts could be passed on to someone else. (Acts 8:6-18)
- Cornelius and his household were the first gentiles to be added to the church. Peter and his six companions were witnesses to the baptism of the Holy Spirit upon gentiles, proving that "in every nation under heaven, the man who fears Him and does what is right is welcome to Him." (Acts 10:34-48)

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### CONCLUSION

- The Baptism of the Holy Spirit was never commanded, only promised to a very few ... the apostles. It was also given to Cornelius and his household and witnessed by an apostle to prove to Jewish Christians that God now accepts the Gentile Christians into the kingdom of God.
- Gifts of the Holy Spirit (tongues, interpretation, wisdom, knowledge, faith, prophecy, healing, miracles, and distinguishing spirits) were given to the apostles and to those upon whom the apostles laid their hands. The Holy Spirit regulated which gift each one received and how it would be used. (1 Corinthians 12:4-13ff)

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- After the last apostle died, and after the last Christian upon whom an apostle had laid his hands died, miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit ceased.
- Miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit were temporary. They were used to confirm the word until the complete (perfect) message had been revealed. (1 Corinthians 13:8-13)
- **The complete word of God has been revealed!** (Ephesians 3:3-5; Jude 3, 17; James 1:25; 2 Timothy 3:16-17; 1 Corinthians 15:1-2; 2 Peter 3:1-2, 1 Thessalonians 2:13)
- God's warnings about false prophets are many. (Deuteronomy 18:20-22; Jeremiah 14:14, Ezekiel 13:9; Matthew 24:11, 24; Mark 13:21-23; 1 John:4:1)

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- "But false prophets also arose among the people, just as there will also be false teachers among you, who will secretly introduce destructive heresies, even denying the Master who bought them, bringing swift destruction upon themselves." (2 Peter 2:1)
- Notice how Peter says false prophets arose (past tense) and there will also be false teachers (future tense). False teachers will exist until the end of time, but all true prophecy ended soon after Peter wrote. Since Holy Spirit inspired prophecy ceased no later than the 2<sup>nd</sup> Century, everyone claiming to be a prophet since then is a liar and should not be believed.

## THE INVITATION OF CHRIST TO RECEIVE THE GIFT OF ETERNAL LIFE

- Hear (Romans 10:14-17; James 1:21)
- Believe (Hebrews 11:6; Ephesians 2:8-10)
- Repent (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30)
- Confess (Romans 10:10; Matthew 10:32-33)
- Be Baptized (Mark 16:16; Galatians 3:23-27)
- Remain Obedient (Matthew 7:21; Revelation 2:10)