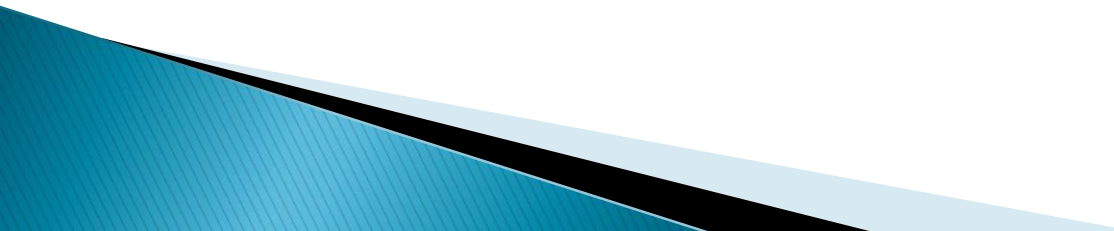



Come Expecting???

ACTS 1:11

WHOM ARE YOU EXPECTING



- ▶ When you came to Jesus what were you expecting?
 - ▶ What are you expecting from Jesus now?
 - ▶ What did we come expecting today?
 - ▶ What are you expecting for the future?
 - ▶ WHOM ARE YOU EXPECTING?
 - ▶ **The degree of disappointment is greater or equal to the degree of expectation!**
- 

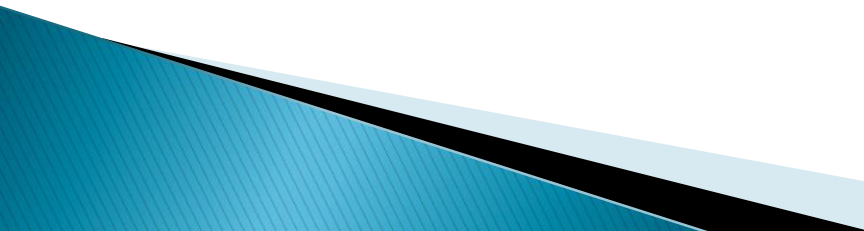
- ▶ **“You can’t have thunder without lightning!”**
- ▶ No, it is not **possible to have thunder without lightning.**
- ▶ **Thunder** starts as a shockwave from the explosively expanding **lightning** channel when a large current causes rapid heating (**Birth – Resurrection**).
- ▶ However, it is **possible** that you might see **lightning** and not hear the **thunder(Pentecost)** because it was too far away. ...

▶ **Thunder is caused by lightning.**

- ▶ **Acts 1:1-5** In my first book I told you, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began to do and 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 his crucifixion, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about the Kingdom of God. 4 Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, "Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. 5 John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." NLT

- ▶ Picture this with me - 3 years of discipling them. Now for 40 days after his resurrection and he is still trying to help them understand:
- ▶ The challenge for the disciples! The challenge for us!
 - Believe
 - Worship
 - Purpose
 - Understanding
 - Power
 - LESS LIKE ME!!!!!!

- ▶ The major thing that Jesus did between the lightning of the incarnation and the thunder of Pentecost was to be sure his disciples understood how he would continue his ministry with them.
 - Instruction through the Holy Spirit vs. 2
 - He was truly alive vs.3
 - He talked to them about the Kingdom vs. 3
 - Wait for the gift the Father will send you vs. 4
 - You will be baptized in the Holy Spirit vs. 5

 - ▶ **It is not what you know that you know, it is what you think you know that you don't know that is the problem!**
- 

▶ Concerning the Holy Spirit!

- But now their relationship with him would be radically different. He would not only be with them, but he would live in them!
- The power they would receive would not be *something* but Someone: Himself.
- The eternal word through whom God created the universe (John 1:1) who had to dwell among them and whom they had beheld in glory full of grace and truth (John 1:14) would be in them.
- Notice Acts 16:7 and Philippians 1:19 use the term “Spirit of Jesus” instead of Holy Spirit.

The Strategy Behind the Holy Spirit

- ▶ The power of Jesus Christ offers us and His spirit is a surging, rushing, relentless river of new life.
- ▶ Just as a river follows a path that has been cutout by the flowing water so the Holy Spirit is about the path of the Kingdom!
- ▶ It should not be surprising that he continues to teach what has been the central focus of his life, message, and ministry. He began his ministry declaring that the kingdom is at hand. (Mark 1:14)
 - The establishment of it in people's minds and heart was his daily purpose.
- ▶ **For Jesus, the kingdom meant the absolute reign and rule of God.**

- ▶ Jesus wanted his disciples prepared for Pentecost. Unless they had the kingdom as the basis of their life plan, the power soon to come upon them would but not be used for the purpose intended.
- ▶ He had to be sure that they understood what was the theme of his parables and one of the essential reasons for his death and resurrection.
- ▶ He had come to call the kingdom people - reconciled, forgiven people in whom He could live.
- ▶ Opening ourselves completely to the sovereign reign and rule of the Lord is an essential prelude to Pentecost.
- ▶ **What were you Expecting?**
 - They didn't get it that they didn't get it. Before I, or we get too self-righteous we need to check our own mindsets! Do we get it?

- ▶ **Acts 1:6-11** So when the apostles were with Jesus, they kept asking him, "Lord, has the time come for you to free Israel and restore our kingdom?"
- ▶ 7 He replied, "The Father alone has the authority to set those dates and times, and they are 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, and 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 will return from heaven in the same way you saw him go!"

▶ The time of preparation for this was coming to an end. Jesus would be ascending back to heaven where He would sit at the right hand of God the Father. And then, after a few days of waiting, they would be baptized with the Holy Spirit. This was the gift. But they still didn't get it.

▶ The challenge for the disciples! The challenge for us!

- Believe

- Worship

- Purpose

- Understanding

- Power

▶ It appears, they interrupted Jesus' stream of thought by asking: "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?"

- ▶ This question exposed the disciple's inner agenda. They were looking back hoping for the reestablishment of a previous glory, while Jesus was looking forward to an even more glorious future.
 - Expectations can and often affect how we listen!
- They were thinking of God's Kingdom in earthly, political terms.
 - Is it possible a lot of us still make that mistake today?
 - But Jesus never was about worldly politics.
- Helpful Background:
 - “The Lord shall will forever and ever” Exodus 15:18.

Expectations seemed to have had a large impact on their understanding!

▶ Position – Political power

- What does seem to be quite clear is that the disciples, who have spent 3 years with Jesus are still struggling with their expectations. They had joined with the crowds in singing "Praise God! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Blessings on the coming Kingdom of our ancestor David! Praise God in highest heaven!" (Mark 11:9-11)
- ▶ When they came to Jesus what were they expecting?
- ▶ After Jesus death and resurrection what were they still expecting?
- ▶ Who's expectation was the Father's gift and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit about?

- ▶ When you came to Jesus what were you expecting?
 - ▶ What are you expecting from Jesus now?
 - ▶ What did we come expecting today?
 - ▶ What are you expecting for the future?
 - ▶ **WHOM ARE YOU EXPECTING???**
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