


Come Expecting???

WHOM, OR WHAT, ARE YOU EXPECTING

Acts 1:4-5 "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

- ▶ 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!**
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- ▶ **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
- ▶ 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!

- What about this person – The Holy Spirit!
 - The person whom Joel had prophesied about! – **Joel 2:28-32**
 - The person John the Baptist spoke about! – **Matthew 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16**
 - The person even Jesus himself had spoken about! -
 - **John 14:15-19** "If you love me, obey my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor, who will never leave you. 17 He is the Holy Spirit, who leads into all truth. The world at large cannot receive him, because it isn't looking for him and doesn't recognize him. But you do, 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. NLT

- **John 14:26-28** But when the Father sends the Counselor as my representative — and by the Counselor I mean the Holy Spirit — he will teach you everything and will remind you of everything I myself have told you. 27 "I am leaving you with a gift — peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give isn't like the peace the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid. NLT
- **John 15:26-27** "But I will send you the Counselor — the Spirit of truth. He will come to you from the Father and will tell you all about me. 27 And you must also tell others about me because you have been with me from the beginning. NLT
- **John 16:12-15** "Oh, there is 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 be presenting his own ideas; he will be telling you what he has heard. He will tell you about the future. 14 He will bring me glory by revealing to you whatever he receives from me. 15 All that the Father has is mine; this is what I mean when I say that the Spirit will reveal to you whatever he receives from me. NLT

▶ Concerning the Holy Spirit!

- I need you to understand!
- 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.

The Strategy Behind the Holy Spirit

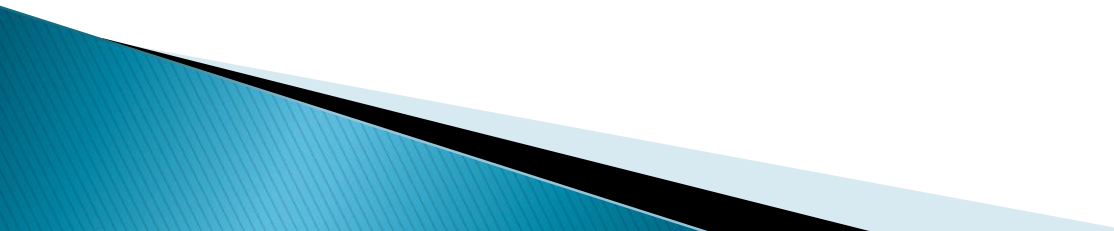
- ▶ The power of Jesus Christ offers us and His spirit is a surging, rushing, relentless river of new life.
- ▶ Just as a river follows a path that has been cutout by the flowing water so the Holy Spirit is about the path of the Kingdom!
- ▶ It should not be surprising that he continues to teach what 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.**

▶ What about us?

- Is there evidence of the Holy Spirit working in my life and the life of our church family?
- Are we rooted in God's truth, convicted of sin and pride, and living in humble submission to Jesus?
- Are we healthy fruitful believers?
 - Walking in Forgiveness
 - Overflowing with love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, gentleness, faithfulness and self control?
- Do we see the gifts of the Holy Spirit at work in us ?
- Do we see the power of God displayed, transforming hearts and healing people?

▶ 5 Encouragements for us: Acts 2

1. Trust the Lord to do what He said he would do!
 - a. We live with a constant tension.
 - b. Complacency – Self determined
 - c. Timing involves listening!

 2. The Holy Spirit does the filling. (Acts 2:3-4)
 - a. A little bit
 - b. Quite full
 - c. How about overflowing?
 - d. Our problem is we leak!!
 - e. We can't fill ourselves!
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3. The Holy Spirit was a gift (Acts 2:4)

- a. Difference between children and adults.
- b. Jesus said, “So if you sinful people know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give good gifts to those who ask him” (Matt. 7:11).
- c. We’re held back from accepting offers of help by our pride and self-reliance. We never want to admit that we need help.
- d. Come Holy Spirit!!

4. The Holy Spirit is about God’s Mission! (Acts 2:11;21)

- a. The Spirit is given to transform us for God’s service – for God’s mission.

- The Spirit doesn't breed consumers, but missionaries.
- The Spirit doesn't bend to our will, but bends the church to His will.
- The Spirit doesn't promise us an easy ride and a comfortable life, but promises comfort, boldness and gifts for whatever lies ahead.

b. Will I hand over the controller?

5. The Holy Spirit is about God's Glory (Acts 2:11)

- The Holy Spirit is to be a comforter to us but not ego builder!
John 16:12-15
- It would have been ridiculous for the colt carrying Jesus to take a bow or think all the shouting was for him!

- ▶ We desperately need the Spirit.
- We need the Spirit's timing, filling, gifts, mission and glory.
- We need all that the Spirit came to bring 2000 years ago, and all He continues to offer us right now,