

## Receive The Holy Spirit pt4 – Empowered!

Pastor John Carmichael

[Jhn 20:22 NASB95] 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

[Mar 16:15-18 NASB95] 15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. 16 "He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned. 17 "These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues; 18 they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly [poison,] it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."

[Luk 24:46-51 NASB95] 46 and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem. 48 "You are witnesses of these things. 49 "And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high." 50 And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. 51 While He was blessing them, He parted from them and was carried up into heaven.

[Act 1:4 NASB95] 4 Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," [He said,] "you heard of from Me;

[Act 1:8 NASB95] 8 but you will 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."

[Act 2:1-4 NASB95] 1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

[Act 2:12-13 NASB95] 12 And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13 But others were mocking and saying, "They are full of sweet wine."

[Act 2:16-21 NASB95] 16 but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel: 17 'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says, 'THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND; AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS; 18 EVEN ON MY BONDSLAVES, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, I WILL IN THOSE DAYS POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT And they shall prophesy. 19 'AND I WILL GRANT WONDERS IN THE SKY ABOVE AND SIGNS ON THE EARTH BELOW, BLOOD, AND FIRE, AND VAPOR OF SMOKE. 20 'THE SUN WILL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD SHALL COME. 21 'AND IT SHALL BE THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.'

- People sometimes wonder why God does not do more supernatural things. Yet, when He does, we just mischaracterize it.

## Receive The Holy Spirit pt4 – Empowered!

Pastor John Carmichael

- Acts 2:12-13 – What is this? Oh, they are drunk. SMH
- Acts 2 is the empowerment of the Church. Many did not understand it then. Many do not understand it now.
- A lack of understanding will cause abuse or neglect.

### What do we need to understand concerning the empowerment of the Holy Spirit?

Here are five issues concerning the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.

#### I. It's A Command

- You... this was written in a command form – there seemed to be an expectation that they would want to wait for it.
- [Act 1:4 NASB95] 4 Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," [He said,] "you heard of from Me.
- Notice the word "commanded."
- Do you have to "have" to experience the Baptism with HS to go to heaven? No... John 20:22, "And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit." They were born again at that point... later experienced BwHS.
- This command is NOT a condition for SALVATION, but a pre-requisite for SERVICE!
- Acts 6:2-4 - 2 Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, "It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. 3 Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; 4 but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."
- It seems that Jesus is expecting His disciples to experience this empowerment of the Holy Spirit in addition to salvation.

#### II. Its Weight.

- We are told that Spirit Baptism is unimportant and irrelevant. Some say it CARRIES NO THEOLOGICAL WEIGHT.
- Sure, some want it right and balanced, but in my experience, their arguments are based on the following:
  - Opinionated preference – I don't like it.
  - Object of unbelief – I don't believe it.
  - Outright disobedience – I'm not doing it.
- Why is there weight to this experience?
  - Delayed mission – WEIGHT defined by the WAIT; the delay defines the importance.
    - After the resurrection, the disciples were told to wait.
    - Evangelism (preaching the Gospel) had to wait.
    - Because the message was incomplete? NO! The messengers were incomplete!

## **Receive The Holy Spirit pt4 – Empowered!**

### **Pastor John Carmichael**

- What is “weightier” than evangelism? As weighty as evangelism is, Jesus thought Spirit Baptism was important.
- Fulfilled prophecy –
  - Joel 2:28-29
  - Isaiah 28:11-12
  - I Corinthians 14:21
- Multiple mentions.
  - [2Co 13:1 NASB95] 1 This is the third time I am coming to you. EVERY FACT IS TO BE CONFIRMED BY THE TESTIMONY OF TWO OR THREE WITNESSES.
  - See also Deuteronomy 19:15
  - Mentioned in both OT and NT

### **III. It’s Universal.**

- Until you (in plural or universal sense) are endued with power from upon high.
- “You” could be a specific person or a general group.
- Characters – Who were filled?
  - Is it just for a certain group of chosen, or is it for everyone?
  - Mark 16 sign for all believers.
  - Acts 2 all filled.
  - 5 Mentions of Spirit Baptism - EVERY TIME EVERYONE was filled.
- Characteristics – What is the evidence?
  - Initial – tongues – of the 5 mentions, 3 specifically mention tongues (Acts 2:4; 10:45-46; 19:6); 2 inferences (Acts 9:17- Paul – I Corinthians 14:18; Acts 8:17-18 Simon saw something).
  - Ongoing – Love – [Rom 5:5 NASB95] 5 and hope does not disappoint because the love of God has been poured out within our hearts through the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

### **IV. It’s A Promise.**

- Joel prophesied – Joel 2.
- Jesus preached – Luke 24:49 – Promise of the Father – [Luk 11:13 NASB95] 13 "If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will [your] heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"
- Peter proclaimed – Acts 2:16 – “this is that” meaning the promise is fulfilled.
- Paul pronounced – [Gal 3:14 NASB95] 14 in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might come to the Gentiles, so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

### **V. It’s Unity.**

- Spirit Baptism was not intended to be DEVISIVE, BUT DISTINCTIVE.
- Acts 2 – they were all in one accord.
- Notice: Multi-ethnic (all flesh, Jew & Gentile, all races), Multi-generational (young, old), and Gender-inclusive (men & women)
- Also, never a point of diminished faith

## **Receive The Holy Spirit pt4 – Empowered!**

**Pastor John Carmichael**

- [Gen 11:5-8 NASB95] 5 The LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. 6 The LORD said, "Behold, they are one people, and they all have the same language. And this is what they began to do, and now nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them. 7 "Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, so that they will not understand one another's speech." 8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of the whole earth; and they stopped building the city.
- If unified evil people can do impossible things, how much more can a unified faith-filled spirit-baptized Bible-believing church accomplish?
- **The Holy Spirit wants us to understand the necessity of everyone being empowered so we can be witnesses according to His promise as a unified people for the Kingdom.**