

To Be Filled With The Holy Spirit

(Part 6)

“When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.” (Acts 2:1-4)

The Holy Spirit that came on the disciples on the day of Pentecost was seen as tongues of fire and heard as blowing of violent wind. So the Holy Spirit can be seen and can be heard. Some people they say we felt The Holy Spirit but that is not correct because feelings can mislead us. So we ought to see and hear The Holy Spirit movement in our lives.

“⁵ Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard them speaking in his own language. ⁷ Utterly amazed, they asked: “Are not all these men who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ Then how is it that each of us hears them in his own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome ¹¹ (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” ¹² Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?” (Acts 2:5-12) So here we found the manifestation of The Holy Spirit Baptism is clear in the life of the disciples of Jesus. The Holy Spirit gave them the speaking in new tongues to declare the wonders of God in each and every person language. In addition to that The Holy Spirit Baptism gives the following:

1- Power: To live boldly and courageously testifying to the world the goodness of the Lord. As we know that the disciples were afraid from the persecution of the Jews. They were living behind locked doors. But when The Holy Spirit filled them He gave them the courage to face a big crowd of Jews without fear testifying to them Jesus good news.

2- Wisdom: As the Jews heard them speaking in new tongues, *“¹³ Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.” (Acts 2:13)* But here the Holy Spirit gave wisdom to the disciples in answering them. *“¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: “Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. ¹⁵ These men are not drunk, as you suppose. It’s only nine in the morning! ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ “In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. ¹⁸ Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. ¹⁹ I will show wonders in the heaven above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. ²⁰ The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. ²¹ And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.” (Acts 2:13-21)* The Holy Spirit gave Peter the wisdom how to explain to them the phenomenon of speaking in new tongues they never knew before. The Holy Spirit reminded Peter about the prophecy of the prophet Joel and enabled him to link it with what they experienced.

3- Memory: The Holy Spirit is a big aid to us and works as memory to remind us about the things that God wants us to remember. Peter knew the prophecy of Joel but The Holy Spirit reminded him at the right time about the exact word of God that he needs to use to explain to the people. Jesus also spoke about that when He said, *“²⁶ But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.” (John 14:26)*

4- Change the person characters for the Glory of God: As we know that Peter was with a shaken personality. Hurry to answer, doing mistakes, having fear, easy to run away, etc. But what we found here is that Peter *stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd.* The Holy Spirit filled Him with boldness and confidence to do the work of God. No more fear but He raised his voice and addressed the crowd confidently with the message.

5- Gives us the message: *“²² Men of Israel, listen to this: Jesus of Nazareth was a man accredited by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did among you through him, as you yourselves know. ²³ This man was handed over to you by God’s set purpose and foreknowledge; and you, with the help of wicked men, put him to death by nailing him to the cross. ²⁴ But God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him. ²⁵ David said about him: “I saw the Lord always before me. Because he is at my right hand, I will not be shaken. ²⁶ Therefore my heart is glad and my tongue rejoices; my body also will live in hope, ²⁷ because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. ²⁸ You have made known to me the paths of life; you will fill me with joy in your presence.” ²⁹ “Brothers, I can tell you confidently that the patriarch David died and was buried, and his tomb is here to this day. ³⁰ But he was a prophet and knew that God had promised him on oath that he would place one of his descendants on his throne. ³¹ Seeing what was ahead, he spoke of the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to the grave, nor did his body see decay. ³² God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. ³³ Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear. ³⁴ For David did not ascend to heaven, and yet he said, “The Lord said to my Lord: “Sit at my right hand ³⁵ until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet.”” ³⁶ “Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Christ.” (Acts 2:22-36)* For every crowd of people there is a certain message God wants us to speak to them. Baptism with The Holy Spirit would equip us and makes us ready to do that.

6- Drawing people toward us and direct us to the people to give them the message: The big Jews crowd in Jerusalem was drawn by God to the disciples to hear the message and got convicted by the Holy Spirit to repent, receive Christ and to get water baptized. *“³⁷ When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?” ³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.” ⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.” (Acts 2:37-41)* God would prime the hearts of the people and make them ready to hear the message from our mouths.

My prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord fills me with The Holy Spirit and equips me so that I can serve you and tell others about your salvation. Answer my prayer in Jesus name, Amen.