The Ministry of the Holy Spirit from the Resurrection of Jesus to the Day of Pentecost

Experiencing the Transformation of Our Lives by a Supernatural God

John 20:19-22

On the evening of the first day of the week, when the disciples were together, with the doors locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood amongst them and said, "Peace be with you!" After he had said this he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were overjoyed when they saw the Lord.

Again, Jesus said, "Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you." And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone his sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

What did Jesus say first to his disciples?

"Peace be with you!"

"As the Father has sent me, I am sending you"

Their failure did not alter God's will for their lives

Jesus breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit"

They were set free from their broken emotions

Saul / Paul: 'the worst of sinners' (1 Timothy 1:16)

"...the blood of Jesus purifies us from all sin" (1 John 1:9)

'Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ' (Romans 5:1)

"So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed" (John 8:36)

"...the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being" (Genesis 2:7)

'Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come' (2 Corinthians 5:17)

A new purpose in life – a new way of living – a new destiny

"...you received he Spirit of sonship. And by him we cry, "Abba, Father." The Spirit testifies with our spirit that we are God's children" (Romans 8:14-16)

Acts 1:1-3

In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles he had chosen. After his suffering, he showed himself to these men and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God.

'They asked each other, "Were not our hearts burning within us while he talked with us on the road and opened the Scriptures to us?" (Luke 24:32)

'All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness, so that the man of God may be thoroughly equipped for every good work' (2 Timothy 3:16).

"...faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word of Christ" (Romans 10:17)

Luke 24:48-49

"You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."

Acts 1:4-5, 8

'On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command, "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you heard me speak about. For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit...But you will receive power when the Spirit comes on you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 2:1-4

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

Peter quotes Joel 2:28-29 in Acts 2:17-18

'In the last days, God says, "I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and your daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy."'

John the Baptist in Luke 3:16

"I baptise you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

'Do not put out the Spirit's fire' (1 Thessalonians 5:19).

"...fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands" (2 Timothy 1:6).

'Do not neglect your gift, which was given you through a prophetic message when the body of elders laid their hands on you' (1 Timothy 4:14).

"...our gospel came to you not simply with words, but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction" (1 Thessalonians 1:5).

'My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of he Spirit's power, so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power' (1 Corinthians 2:4-5).

'Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good...the message of wisdom...the message of knowledge...faith...gifts of healing...prophecy...distinguishing between spirits...speaking in different kinds of tongues...the interpretation of tongues' (1 Corinthians 12:7-11).

1 Corinthians 14

'I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you' (14:18).

'Therefore, my brothers, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues (14:39).

"...eagerly desire spiritual gifts, especially the gift of prophecy" (14:1).

Outpourings of the Holy Spirit in the Book of Acts

The converts in Samaria: 'Then Peter and John placed their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit' (8:17).

Ananias comes to Paul in Damascus: '...so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit' (9:17).

Peter preaches in the house of Cornelius: 'While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God' (10:44-46).

Paul prays for disciples in Ephesus: 'When Paul placed his hands on them, they spoke in tongues and prophesied' (19:6)

1 Corinthians 12:13

For we were all baptised by / in (en) **one** Spirit into / for / in regard to / with the purpose of (eis) **one** body – whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free – and we were all given the **one** Spirit to drink.

Note that 'one' is repeated three times.

The context is the unity of the body (the local church) and the need to avoid divisions.

The two anointings of Jesus with the Holy Spirit

At Jesus' baptism in water by John the Baptist for his earthly ministry:

When all the people were being baptised, Jesus was baptised too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened and the Holy Spirit descended on him in bodily form like a dove' (Luke 3:21-22).

At Jesus' Ascension for His rule of heaven and earth:

"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" (Acts 2:33).

The Outpouring of the Spirit on the Disciples Occurred after Jesus Ascended to the Right Hand of the Father

'On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within him." By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. **Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified**' (John 7:37-39).

The Basis of Our Faith: What Jesus Has Done

If you need forgiveness – look to the Cross where Jesus died for you

If you need assurance that you have eternal life – look to the Resurrection of Jesus

If you need the baptism in the Holy Spirit and the anointing of the power of God for Christian service – look to the fact that Jesus ascended to the right hand of the Father and IS pouring out the Holy Spirit NOW

Luke 11:13

"If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him."

Acts 1:5, 8

"For John Baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit...You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses..."