

A Worthy Wait, A Wondrous Work

John Cole / General

The Journey, Becoming a Disciple / Holy Spirit / Acts 1:1–12

The OT foretold and Jesus Christ reaffirmed that the Holy Spirit would be poured out on God's people, transforming, empowering and gifting them. Do we value this powerful promise and provision? We will wait on Him for His filling and allow Him to work through us wondrous works?

Notice the Promise of the Father in vs 4.

Here we have the disciples assembled in faith and then in fear.

Jesus is with them after the resurrections and then He is not.

Their Leader is back, and then He is gone.

All they have is His promise.

His promise of the Holy Spirit.

When will they receive this Promise?

While waiting for Him in the most dangerous place they could be—Jerusalem.

Could you imagine going back to the very place where you witnessed Jesus' gruesome death, knowing they may do the same to you, and then just **waiting**?

It was a worthy wait.

It was an historic wait.

It was a prophesied wait.

The indwelling, filling, and outpouring of the Holy Spirit was a wait worth waiting for...

› THE PROMISE

OT promises of the Holy Spirit fulfilled in the OT

The promised Spirit enables prophecy

1 Samuel 10:6 KJV 1900

And the Spirit of the LORD will come upon thee, and thou shalt prophesy with them, and shalt be turned into another man.

The Spirit fulfils the promised presence of the Lord

Notice God's instruction to Moses:

Exodus 33:14 KJV 1900

And he said, My presence shall go *with thee*, and I will give thee rest.

See also Is 63:11; Is 63:14; Hag 2:5

OT promises of the Holy Spirit fulfilled in the NT

The Spirit implements the promised new covenant

Jeremiah 31:33-34 KJV 1900

³³ But this *shall be* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, And write it in their hearts; And will be their God, And they shall be my people.

³⁴ And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: For they shall all know me, From the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: For I will forgive their iniquity, And I will remember their sin no more.

See also

Romans 8:2 KJV 1900

² For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

Romans 8:9–10 KJV 1900

⁹ But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.

¹⁰ And if Christ *be* in you, the body *is* dead because of sin; but the Spirit *is* life because of righteousness.

2 Corinthians 3:3 KJV 1900

³ *Forasmuch as ye are* manifestly declared to be the epistle of Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.

2 Corinthians 3:6 KJV 1900

⁶ Who also hath made us able ministers of the new testament; not of the letter, but of the spirit: for the letter killeth, but the spirit giveth life.

Hebrews 8:10–11 KJV 1900

¹⁰ For this *is* the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, saith the Lord; I will put my laws into their mind, and write them in their hearts: and I will be to them a God, and they shall be to me a people:

¹¹ And they shall not teach every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the Lord: for all shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

The promised Spirit will renew Israel

Ezekiel 36:26–27 KJV 1900

²⁶ A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh.

²⁷ And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do *them*.

See also Eze 11:19; Eze 37:14

The promised Spirit is the guarantee for Israel's future

Isaiah 44:3 KJV 1900

For I will pour water upon him that is thirsty,

And floods upon the dry ground:

I will pour my spirit upon thy seed,

And my blessing upon thine offspring:

The promised Spirit will empower the life and work of the Messiah

Isaiah 61:1–2 KJV 1900

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD *is* upon me; Because the LORD hath anointed me to preach good tidings unto the meek; He hath sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives, And the opening of the prison to *them that are* bound;

²To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD, And the day of vengeance of our God; To comfort all that mourn;

See also

Isaiah 11:2 KJV 1900

²And the spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him, The spirit of wisdom and understanding, The spirit of counsel and might, The spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the LORD;

Luke 4:18–19 KJV 1900

¹⁸The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

¹⁹To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

The Spirit is promised for all people

Joel 2:28–29 KJV 1900

²⁸And it shall come to pass afterward, *That* I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; And your

sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions:

²⁹ And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids In those days will I pour out my spirit.

Peter preaching:

Acts 2:17–18 KJV 1900

¹⁷ And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

¹⁸ And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

Promises of the Holy Spirit in the NT

The promised Spirit fulfils God's word to Abraham

Galatians 3:14 KJV 1900

That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

The promised Spirit guarantees to believers their future inheritance

Ephesians 1:13–14 KJV 1900

In whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory.

The promise that Jesus Christ would baptise with the Spirit

Matthew 3:11 KJV 1900

I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire:

Acts 1:5 KJV 1900

⁵ For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

Acts 11:16 KJV 1900

¹⁶ Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.

The Spirit is promised by Jesus Christ

Luke 24:49 KJV 1900

And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

John 15:26 KJV 1900

²⁶ But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, *even* the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

John 16:7–15 KJV 1900

⁷ Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

⁸ And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

⁹ Of sin, because they believe not on me;

¹⁰ Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;

¹¹ Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

¹² I have yet many things to say unto you, but ye cannot bear them now.

¹³ Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

¹⁴ He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you.

¹⁵ All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you.

The Spirit is promised for the time after Jesus Christ's resurrection and ascension

John 7:39 KJV 1900

(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet *given*; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Acts 2:4 KJV 1900

⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:33 KJV 1900

³³ Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he hath shed forth this, which ye now see and hear.

› CONCLUSION

THE HOLY SPIRIT FILLING US IS WORTH THE WAIT

Romans 8:25 KJV 1900

²⁵ But if we hope for that we see not, *then* do we with patience wait for *it*.

Psalms 46:10 KJV 1900

¹⁰ Be still, and know that I *am* God: I will be exalted among the heathen, I will be exalted in the earth.

Ephesians 5:18 KJV 1900

¹⁸ And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

Wait—with expectation.

THE HOLY SPIRIT USING US IS WORTH THE WORK

2 Corinthians 4:7–10 KJV 1900

⁷ But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us.

⁸ *We are* troubled on every side, yet not distressed; *we are* perplexed, but not in despair;

⁹ Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed;

¹⁰ Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.

2 Corinthians 5:9–11 KJV 1900

⁹ Wherefore we labour, that, whether present or absent, we may be accepted of him.

¹⁰ For we must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things *done* in *his* body, according to that he hath done, whether *it be* good or bad.

¹¹ Knowing therefore the terror of the Lord, we persuade men; but we are made manifest unto God; and I trust also are made manifest in your consciences.

› INVITATION

Will you wait? Will you work?