

God's Enabler - the Holy Spirit

A. The creation has been *damaged* & is *waiting* for the Sons of God to be *revealed*.

A-3. *Romans 8(14-16)*. ¹⁴ For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God. ¹⁵ For you have not received a spirit of slavery leading to fear again, but you have received a spirit of adoption as sons by which we cry out, "Abba! Father!" ¹⁶ The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are children of God,
Romans 8:14-16 / NASB

A-4. *Romans 8(19-22)*. ¹⁹ For the anxious longing of the creation waits eagerly for the revealing of the sons of God. ²⁰ For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it, in hope ²¹ that the creation itself also will be set free from its slavery to corruption into the freedom of the glory of the children of God. ²² For we know that the whole creation groans and suffers the pains of childbirth together until now.
Romans 8:19-22 / NASB

God will reveal *His Glory* (gifts & knowledge) through *His Sons* to restore the creation.

B. The Sons are to be baptized with the *Holy Spirit*, not just water!

B-2. *Acts 11(15-16)*.

C. The Sons will reveal the glory of God by the Holy Spirit through *Signs* (miracles)!

Mark 16 (15-18, 20). 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."
Mark 16:15-18 / NASB

C-1. The Church is to be a *Prophetic Community* that is powerful in *word & works (signs)*!

In too many places, the Church views itself as a didactic (teaching, instructional) community than a prophetic community, where doctrine is treasured above charismatic action.

C-2. As a prophetic community, God's people are to be active in service.

In too many places, the Charismatic & Pentecost movements focus on the emotional experience. They emphasize the blessing more than they do Spirit-filled, Spirit-led, & Spirit-empowered service.

There has been a shift from vocation to personal experience, from world-centered to self-centered.

C-3. *Acts 1(5-8)* ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.⁶ So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, “Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?”⁷ He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority; 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.”
Acts 1:5-8 / NASB

We are Baptize with the Holy Spirit to receive power & to be **witnesses** (not necessarily Pastors).
Vocation (primary occupation, life’s work, calling, mission).

D. Below are other examples of the Holy Spirit’s impact.

D-1. Great rejoicing by Jesus *Luke 10(21)*

D-2. Tongues speaking praise *Acts 2(11)*

D-3. Purifying the Church with a word of knowledge. Ananias & Sapphires *Acts 5(1-4)*

D-4. Impending famine is coming. *Acts 11(27-28)*. Agabus

D-5. Bonds of affliction awaiting Paul *Acts 21(10)*

The above highlight other effects of the Spirit beyond witnessing.

E. Luke is the only book in the New Testament to be written with a ***sequel to the book of Acts (the spread of Christianity)***.

Luke-Acts is the ***longest book*** & the ***largest part*** of the New Testament.

F. Just as Jesus begins his ministry ***anointed by the Holy Spirit***, so the disciples will not fulfill their ministry until they have been ***baptized with the Holy Spirit***.

The pouring out of the Spirit of prophecy is neither the birth of the Church nor merely a blessing for God’s people. Instead, it is vocational; that is, it baptizes & empowers a community of God’s people to witness prophetically the arrival of the Messiah Jesus Christ & the new age which His arrival had inaugurated.

G. Deacons were ***filled*** with the ***Holy Spirit***
Steven. *Acts 6(5&8)*. Phillip. *Acts 8(5-7)*

H. Speaking in tongues is an ***objective reality***. It is a gift from the Holy Spirit, not a religious rite.

I. Prayer to ***expand our view*** of God.
Ephesians 1(18-19).

Rhema Christian Center
Minister J. Skip Jones
Saturday & Sunday, May 14 & 15, 2022
9:30 a.m.