

# **The Role of the Holy Spirit in the Life of the Believer**

**The Holy Spirit in the  
Old Testament**

**The Holy Spirit in the  
New Testament**

**The Holy Spirit Today**

**Panel Discussion about  
the Holy Spirit**

# Introduction

- **The work of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament was to supernaturally empower some people to accomplish a specific work for God.**
- **The new ministry of the Holy Spirit that began at Pentecost is to empower all believers to be like Christ in their words and actions so as to continue the work of Jesus in making disciples.**
  - **Not every manifestation of the Spirit that occurred in the early church must take place today**
  - **But the connection between the forward movement of the Gospel and the role of the Holy Spirit means that there must be continuity**

# Introduction

- **The New Testament teaches that the Holy Spirit is essential for the mission of Jesus to be fulfilled in this age. This is by divine design.**
- **The book of Acts records the reality that the new relationship with God through Christ brings with it a new relationship with the Holy Spirit so that Christ's purposes in the world can be completed. That will be our focus this evening.**
- **The New Testament also teaches specifically how the Holy Spirit enables believers today to experience all that God intends for us as recipients of His grace. That will be the focus of our study next week.**

**A New Relationship with  
the Holy Spirit  
Anticipated**

**Baptism With the Spirit Predicted**

- By John – Mark 1:8 “I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”
- By Jesus – Acts 1:5 “for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

**A New Relationship with  
the Holy Spirit  
Anticipated**

**Ministry of the Spirit Predicted**

- He will be the Helper Who will remain with believers forever – John 14:16
- He will be the Spirit of truth Who will dwell in us – John 14:17
- He will be the Teacher Who will bring Jesus' words to remembrance – John 14:26
- He will be the Witness Who will enable our witness – John 15:26-27
- He will be the Convicter Who will bring people to repentance – John 16:8-11
- He will be the Guide Who will point to the Glory of Christ – John 16:14-15



# **A New Relationship with the Holy Spirit Announced**

**The Context of the Announcement**

- **Teaching about the Kingdom of God**

Acts 1:1-3 In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

- **Question about the Kingdom of God**

Acts 1:4-7 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority.

# **A New Relationship with the Holy Spirit Announced**

**The Content of the Announcement**

- **Power by the Spirit**
- **Witness by the Spirit**

Acts 1:8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

*Note that this statement comes as an answer to the question about kingdom power and is not a command, but a prediction.*

# **A New Relationship with the Holy Spirit Announced**

**The Consequences of the  
Announcement**

- **Jesus is free to return to heaven**

Acts 1:9 And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight.

- **The disciples are perplexed**

Act 1:10-11 And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

*The only strategy that Jesus left with us for making disciples among all people was to fill us with His Word and empower us by His Spirit – and this was better than His own presence on earth!*

**John 14:12 "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father."**

**John 16:7 "Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you."**



# **A New Relationship with the Holy Spirit Activated**

**Power for Communication**

- Resolution for their ignorance  
Acts 2:14-21; 4:8-13
- Resolution for their timidity  
Acts 2:22-23; 4:31

# **A New Relationship with the Holy Spirit Activated**

**Power for Continuation – Acts 2:42-43**

**Power for Communion – Acts 2:44-47**

The New Testament  
teaches that the power  
to experience what God  
intends for us as  
believers comes directly  
from the Spirit of God  
within us

- Romans 15:13 – May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.
- 1 Corinthians 2:4 – and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power.
- Ephesians 3:16 – that according to the riches of his glory he may grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being,
- 1 Thessalonians 1:5 – because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction.

# Conclusion

**How do you receive the  
power of the Spirit?**



# **There is only one command recorded in Acts 1:1-8**

**Acts 1:4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, “you heard from me.”**

- The book of Acts is not a record of human foibles and experiments.
- It is not about the starts and stops of frail men.
- It is the illustration of what Christianity looks like when the people of God are wholly submissive to the Word of God and are therefore empowered by the Spirit of God.
- It is the story of bold, passionate, obedient brothers and sisters who know what it is to be filled with the Spirit.