

Acts 2:33
The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit

³³ Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.

Acts 2:29-36:

²⁹ “Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. ³⁰ Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, ³¹ he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. ³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ³³ ***Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.*** ³⁴ For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says,

“The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
³⁵ until I make your enemies your footstool.”

³⁶ Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.”

Prayer:

Heavenly Father, on this Pentecost Sunday when we remember that first great outpouring of the HS upon the disciples of our Lord Jesus, we thank you that you have considered your people so important and so worthy of your grace, that you would pour out your precious and eternal HS upon redeemed sinners such as us.

Thank you that when you received your Son back into heaven at your right hand, you did not leave your disciples alone, you did not leave us as orphans, but sent even your very own Spirit to live in our hearts, to fill us with your holy presence.

On, blessing upon blessing, how can we be so blessed? Come now, by your Spirit, and teach us your Word today. We pray in Jesus' great name. Amen.

Sermon Goal

To show that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost was a long-anticipated event involving all three persons of the Triune God.

Context:

Historical/Biblical significance

“Pentecost is Greek name, 50 Days after Easter, called Feast of Weeks (7 weeks after Easter or Passover?). Marked beginning of wheat harvest. So appropriate that on

that first Christian Day of Pentecost, you began harvesting the great harvest of both Jews and Gentiles into the kingdom of Christ.

Deut. 16:16-17

¹⁶ Three times a year all your men must appear before the Lord your God at the place he will choose: at the Festival of Unleavened Bread, the Festival of Weeks and the Festival of Tabernacles. No one should appear before the Lord empty-handed: ¹⁷ Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you.

Who is the HS?

At creation

Artwork in Temple

Exo. 31:2-4

² “See, I have called by name ^(A)Bezalel the son of Uri, son of ^(B)Hur, of the tribe of Judah, ³ and I have ^(C)filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with knowledge and all craftsmanship, ⁴ to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze,

Associated with God: Isa. 48: 16

^(X)Draw near to me, hear this:

from the beginning I have not spoken in secret,
from the time it came to be I have been there.”

And now ^(Y)the Lord GOD has sent me, and his Spirit

Anointed the Messiah

Isa. 11:1-2

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of ^(A)Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.

² And ^(B)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 the fear of the LORD.

Isa. 61:1-2 - ^(A)The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has ^(B)anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;^[a]
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and ^(C)the opening of the prison to those who are bound;^[b]
² ^(D)to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
^(E)and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;

His outpouring on the people of God was Long-anticipated:

Isa. 32:15 - until ^(S)the Spirit is poured upon us from on high,
and ^(T)the wilderness becomes a fruitful field,
and the fruitful field is deemed a forest.

Isa. 44:2-3

^(C)Fear not, O Jacob my servant,
^(D)Jeshurun whom I have chosen.
³^(E)For I will pour water on the thirsty land,
and streams on the dry ground;
I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring,
and my blessing on your descendants

Ezek. 39:29 - ²⁹^(A)And I will not hide my face anymore from them, when ^(B)I pour out my Spirit upon the house of Israel, declares the Lord GOD.”

Joel 2:28-29

²⁸ ^[a] ^(A)“And it shall come to pass afterward,
that ^(B)I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh;
^(C)your sons and ^(D)your daughters shall prophesy,
your old men shall dream dreams,
and your young men shall see visions.
²⁹ ^(E)Even on the male and female servants
in those days I will pour out my Spirit.

Jesus’ predictions:

John 7:38-39 - ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, ^(A)as^[a] the Scripture has said, ^(B)‘Out of his heart will flow rivers of ^(C)living water.’” ³⁹ Now ^(D)this he said about the Spirit, ^(E)whom those who believed in him were to receive, ^(E)for as yet the Spirit had not been ^(G)given, ^(H)because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Jo. 14: 16-18 - ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper,^[f] to be with you forever, ¹⁷ even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be^[g] in you.

The Promise of the Father:

Luke 24:49 -

And behold, I am sending **the promise of my Father** upon you. But stay in **the city** until you are clothed with power from on high.”

Acts 2:33 -

Being **therefore** exalted at **the** right hand of God, and having received from **the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit**, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.

Gal. 3:14 - ¹⁴ so that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham might ^(A)come to the Gentiles, so that ^(B)we might receive ^(C)the promised Spirit^[a] through faith.

Link with Father and Son

Christ's exaltation set in motion the continuing execution of the eternal plan of God to not only redeem a people for his name but to fill them with his HS that they might continually know fellowship with him, learn of Christ, and grow in his likeness.

Exaltation of Christ leads to his receiving promise of the HS from the Father and then pouring it out on his church.

What we see is all three persons of the triune God working together to extend the presence of God within the people of God.

[Tie this in with John 3 (new birth) and John 14-16:]

John 3:3-8

³ Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is ^(G)born ^(H)again^[b] he cannot ^(I)see the kingdom of God." ⁴ Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" ⁵ Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born ^(J)of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. ⁶ ^(K)That which is born of the flesh is ^(L)flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.^[c] ⁷ ^(M)Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You^[d] must be born ^(N)again.' ⁸ ^(O)The wind^[e] blows ^(P)where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."

John 3: The Necessity of Spiritual Birth

Spiritual birth, birth by the HS, is essential to see, to enter the kingdom of God.

This great transforming was manifested in power on the Day of Pentecost. The HS was sent from heaven and brought spiritual birth to many.

This spiritual birth never could have happened unless Jesus had been exalted and had poured out the Spirit.

The Exaltation of Christ was the foundation, the prerequisite for the outpouring of the HS on his people.

No exaltation of Christ; no outpouring of the HS, no reception of the HS, and no new births.

John 14-16: the three persons of God working in our salvation, specifically the impartation of the HS

Jo. 14: 16-18 - 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper,^[f] to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be^[g] in you.

Note: the Father, the Helper

John 14:26 - 26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you.

Note: The Helper, the HS, the Father, in my name, recalling Jesus' teaching

John 15:26 - 26 "But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.

Note: the Helper comes, Jesus sends him from the Father, he proceeds from the Father, he bears witness of Jesus

John 16:7-11- ...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. 8 And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment: 9 concerning sin, because they do not believe in me; 10 concerning righteousness, because I go to the Father, and you will see me no longer; 11 concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.

Note: the benefit of Jesus departure, the work of the HS in convicting

John 16: 12-14:

12 "I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come. 14 He will glorify me, for he will take what is mine and declare it to you.

Note: Spirit guides into truth; glorifies the Son

Structure of the text

Christ is exalted to the Father's right hand

Jesus received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father

Jesus has poured out the Spirit in observable phenomena

I. Christ is exalted to God's right hand

What this does not mean

That Christ was not already in a place of equality in glory and honor with the Father before his incarnation, that is, in eternity past.

What this does mean

No mere creature can be exalted in God's presence, only someone equal to God.

As a result of his perfect obedience and execution of the Father's will in dying for the elect, he has been crowned with glory and honor in a new and special way that was not possible before his incarnation.

It is a fulfillment of prophecy:

Psalm 110:1

^(A)The LORD says to my Lord:

^(B)"Sit at my right hand,

^(C)until I make your enemies your ^(D)footstool."

It is a fulfillment of Jesus' own words regarding his return to the Father.

There is a man at God's right hand – the incarnation is permanent.

He didn't exalt himself, but God did.

II. Jesus received the promised HS from the Father

What this does not mean

That the Son had no contact or relationship with the HS until then.

In fact, There is an eternal equality and fellowship of the 3 persons within the one God.

What it does mean

In the functions among the three persons of the Trinity, the Father is the one from whom the HS proceeds (define: ".is sent forth from...") before he is sent forth by the Son.

Nicene Creed

And [we believe] in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets. [Eastern, Orthodox Statement]

And we believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life.

He proceeds from the Father and the Son,

and with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified.

He spoke through the prophets. [Western, Roman Catholic/Protestant version]

III. Jesus poured out the HS on believers

What this does not mean.

That OT believers had no acquaintance with or experience of the HS.

Examples: anointing to do work of craftsmanship

Exo. 31:2-4 –

²"See, I have called by name ^(A)Bezalel the son of Uri, son of ^(B)Hur, of the tribe of Judah, ³and I have ^(C)filled him with the Spirit of God, with ability and intelligence, with

knowledge and all craftsmanship, ⁴ to devise artistic designs, to work in gold, silver, and bronze,

Psa.51 – 11-12

^(W)Cast me not away from your presence,
and take not ^(X)your Holy Spirit from me.

¹²Restore to me the joy of your salvation,
and uphold me with a willing spirit.

Promise of coming indwelling HS:

Jer. 31:33 - ³³ ^(E)For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: ^(E)I will put my law within them, and I will write it ^(G)on their hearts. ^(H)And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

Ezek. 36:26 - ²⁶ And I will give you ^(A)a new heart, and ^(B)a new spirit I will put within you. ^(C)And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ ^(D)And I will put my Spirit within you, ^(E)and cause you to walk in my statutes and ^(E)be careful to obey my rules

What this does mean:

The Promise of the New Covenant was being implanted/fulfilled.

The Age of the Spirit in regard to the people of God had begun.

It was a visible demonstration of the HS's presence.

After Christ's finished work and ascension to the Father's right hand, he sends forth the HS on his people so that he resides within their hearts in a permanent and dynamic way. It was

This is a continual ministry of the Son throughout the Messianic Age as each believer is brought by the grace of God into salvation and fellowship with God.

The HS is given permanent residence in each believer's life.

Each believer is a temple of the HS.

He Lord's temple is to be holy.

The HS teaches, guides, convicts the believer and teaches him/her of Christ and the Word of God.

We should not grieve the HS

We should be in continual submission to the HS.

We should seek continual filling of the HS, be continually open to him

We should worship him, along with Father and Son as the Triune God.

We should declare the Gospel to our generation, looking to the HS to empower, confirm, and verify our witness.

APPLICATIONS:

1. **Be thankful that God has poured out his Spirit to indwell our hearts – to be so close to us, intimate to our lives: he is us and we in him.**

2. **Be continually filled with the HS**
Be. Open to the Spirit – to be filled by him.
Eph. 5:8-9

3. **Worship God with fervor and devotion for his “no holds barred” action to fill his people with his Spirit.**

4. **Go forth as a witness.**
Go forth in power of HS to be a witness to our generation. This is our time in history – in this place - to witness of Jesus – and the HS will make our witness true and powerful and effective to convince people of sin, righteousness, and judgment.

Closing prayer.

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