## The Coming of the Promised Holy Spirit Acts 1:1-14

The context of this passage is Luke 24:46-49 (NKJV) <sup>46</sup>Then He said to them, "Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day, (Message) <sup>47</sup>and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. (Ministry) <sup>48</sup>And you are witnesses of these things. <sup>49</sup>Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." (Method)

How did the coming of the promised Holy Spirit effect the lives of the disciples?

## 1. They were witnesses to the resurrection and the expectations of the Holy Spirit (1-3)

Acts 1:1-3 (NKJV) <sup>1</sup>The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, <sup>2</sup>until the day in which He was taken up, after He through (that which intervenes between the act of the will and the effect, and through which the effect proceeds, meaning through,) the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, <sup>3</sup>to whom He also presented (to place or set before someone, present, exhibit) Himself alive (everything recorded in the Book of Acts hinges on the resurrection of Jesus) after His suffering by many infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God. (Jesus gave them instructions about the organization, spread, and edification of His church.)

Can I say no to the assignment and still receive the Holy Spirit? Will the Holy Spirit come into my life and make an exception for the fact I just want to go to heaven when I die?

**Application:** Study Jesus commands about the Kingdom and see if you ever or really wanted to be part of His Kingdom. Realize we cannot resist the Holy Spirit. Every Spirit filled person is called to be a witness to the risen Savior.

## 2. They would be baptized into the universal body of Christ (4-8)

<sup>4</sup>And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," *He said*, "you have heard from Me; <sup>5</sup>for John truly baptized (To baptize or immerse in or wash with water in token of purification from sin and spiritual pollution) with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

This Spirit baptism is referred to in <u>1 Cor. 12:13</u> as an act performed by God in joining all true believers to the body of the Lord Jesus.

1 Corinthians 12:13 (NKJV) <sup>13</sup>For by one Spirit we were all baptized (universal) into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink <sup>9</sup>into one Spirit. Matthew 3:11 (NKJV) <sup>11</sup>I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit <sup>9</sup>and fire. <sup>12</sup> His winnowing fan *is* in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather His wheat into the barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire."

To be baptized in fire stands in contrast to the baptism in the Spirit. Those who refuse to be joined into the body of Christ through the energy of the Holy Spirit will suffer the consequent punishment.

**Acts 11:15-17 ( NKJV )** <sup>15</sup>And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, 'John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>17</sup>If therefore God gave them the same gift as *He gave* us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?"

Another group was the disciples of John in Acts 19:6.

Acts 19:1-7 ( NKJV ) ¹And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples ²he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit." ³And he said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" So they said, "Into John's baptism." ⁴Then Paul said, "John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus." ⁵When they heard *this*, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup>And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

<sup>6</sup>Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" <sup>7</sup>And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. Jesus said it's not about over. It's about to get good! <sup>8</sup>But you shall receive (to actively take) power (especially achieving power. All the words derived from the stem *duna*— have the meaning of being able, capable. It may even mean to will it stresses the factuality of the ability, not necessarily the accomplishment.) when the Holy Spirit has come (resting upon and operating in a person) upon you; and you shall be witnesses (One who has information or knowledge of something, and hence, one who can give information, bring to light, or confirm something) to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

**Application:** Every Sunday School Administrator should be developing a prospect list for their class. Every Fellowship leader should be planning outreach fellowships away from church for non-church members. Does anyone remember the prospect cards from March?

## 3. They were promised Jesus would return (9-14)

Acts 1:9-14 (NKJV) <sup>9</sup>Now when He had spoken these things, while they watched, He was taken up, and a cloud received Him out of their sight. <sup>10</sup>And while they looked steadfastly toward heaven as He went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel, <sup>11</sup>who also said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand gazing up into heaven? This *same* Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will so come in like manner as you saw Him go into heaven." <sup>12</sup>Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey. <sup>13</sup>And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James *the son* of Alphaeus (Al-phee-us) and Simon the Zealot; and Judas *the son* of James. <sup>14</sup>These all continued with one accord (With one mind, with unanimous consent, in one accord, all together) in prayer (house of prayer) and supplication, (petition for oneself) with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.

**Matthew 16:18 (NKJV)** <sup>18</sup> And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build My church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.

**Application:** Pray for unity. If a unified church is unstoppable, how is it possible that the church in America is in full retreat? Pray until you are prepared for the coming of the Holy Spirit.