

JOEL'S PROPHECY CONCERNING PENTECOST

“And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.”

Joel 2:28-29 (NKJV)

This is one of the great statements in the Bible as it relates to the present day outpouring of the Holy Spirit. This was a promise given to a prophet who was viewing the devastation to his nation and seeing the very life of it ebbing away. In the middle of this tremendous destruction, God gave him a promise of restoration. In spite of the judgment that was coming upon Israel because of their sin, God still had redemption in mind when he looked at His people.

God said that He was going to restore what had been taken away through judgment. What sin had opened the door to, righteousness was going to shut, and then open a new door for the redemptive work of the Spirit. The place where God was going to release this great outpouring was in the hearts of men and women, sons and daughters, servants, and all classes of people. There would be no exceptions, it was to be an inclusive work of the Spirit upon “*all flesh*”. Not just Jews, but all people. In Acts 10, we see this happening at Cornelius’s house, a sign given to the Christian-Jews that what they experienced on Pentecost was not for them only, but for all people, all ethnic races of people.

The experience of people receiving heavenly prayer languages as recorded in Acts 2, in Acts 10, is for us, today. In Acts 15 Luke records they understood, from the Scripture, that the birth of the Church happened so the Tabernacle of David would be restored, opening the floodgates to Gentiles coming into the Body of Christ. I am thankful that means we have a place at the table of fellowship with Jesus along side people from all ages. When God poured His Spirit in you at your salvation experience, He didn’t pour some substance apart from Himself, He gave you His nature, His Spirit, His very life. His Spirit was not something He possessed, it was who He was. God is a Spirit, He just doesn’t possess a Spirit, He is a Spirit!!

Think about this. The Peacemaker, the Anointing, the Healer, the Spirit of wisdom; anything that you can think of that relates to who God is, is in you. You didn’t get part of God anymore than your children received part of you when they were conceived and born. Obviously, how we demonstrate those characteristics may differ, but essentially, we are of the same seed as our parents. God’s seed has been planted in you and your birth was after the nature of God, not the nature of Satan. That is why we are so uncomfortable with the lifestyle and character of the world. It goes against our nature.

So whatever gift you are seeking for, consider that if you are part of the Body of Christ, then the Spirit of Christ indwells you (Romans 8:9). Are you looking for healing? The healer indwells you, begin declaring healing over your body. Are you looking for tongues, your prayer language of the Spirit? The Author of the heavenly language indwells you. Speak out those heavenly syllables as the Holy Spirit helps you hear them on the inside. Yes, it requires faith, believing that what is in the middle of your heart is real, but it is so rewarding.

I encourage you to begin thinking of yourself in different terms than that of the past. God has poured His Spirit in you. That statement should release in us such an appreciation of God that we stop wondering where the answer is coming from and recognize that it is within us. The gift that we seek, what we are asking for, resides in the Spirit of God, and He indwells us. So, start declaring as a fact what you have been hoping for to come in the future. Start declaring God’s Word over your circumstances, believing that God is present in your life and is releasing His power to change your life and that which surrounds you, your circumstances!