

Meeting the Holy Spirit

Who Is He, and Why Don't We Know Him So Well?



Meeting the Holy Spirit

- *The Spirit Before Pentecost*
- *The Explosion at Pentecost*
- *New Life in the Spirit*
- *The Spirit and the Flesh*
- *Where the Rubber Hits the Road*
- *The Gifts of the Spirit*



The Explosion at Pentecost

- Describe the church prior to Pentecost
 - How actively involved was the Holy Spirit with things between Easter morning and Pentecost?
 - Read Acts 1:1-2
 - How actively involved does *Dr. Luke* perceive the Spirit being between Easter morning and Pentecost?
 - Be honest here—how many of you have never really noticed that detail in verse 2?
 - Why does the Holy Spirit keep slipping under our radar as Christians?

(HINT: Why are we called “Christ-ians” rather than “YAHWEH-ists” or “Spirit-ites”?)

(being very careful to remember what Paul said in 1 Corinthians 2:2, what potential dangers are there to being so focused on Christ that we might tacitly marginalize the Father or the Spirit?)

(remember, if you read that verse in its context of 1 Corinthians 2:1-5, Paul wasn't talking about avoiding the rest of the Trinity in his preaching, but about keeping Christ the focus instead of clever philosophies)



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 - Read Acts 1:1-2
 - Read Acts 1:4-5
 - What would they have expected by that?
 - What was “baptism” and what was it all about?
 - How does that relate to anything that we've been talking about—for instance, with being “filled” with the Spirit, or with what we heard that King Saul was told in 1 Samuel 10:6?



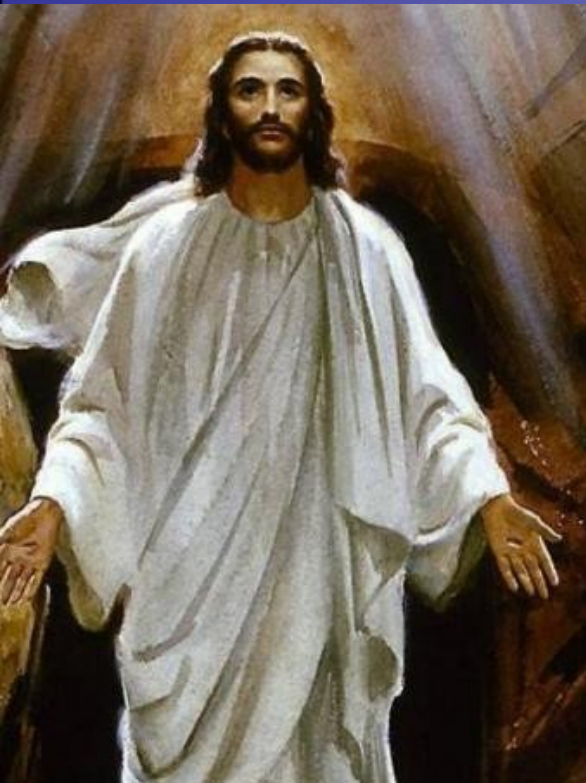
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 - What would they have expected by that?
 - What was “baptism” and what was it all about?
 - Would any of them have heard anything about this baptism in the Spirit before?
 - What had John the Baptist been preaching in Matthew 3:11-12?
 - What was John pointing to with that?
 - Would any of *them* have heard anything about this work of the Spirit before?
 - What had Isaiah been preaching in Isaiah 4:2-5?
 - What was Isaiah pointing to with that?



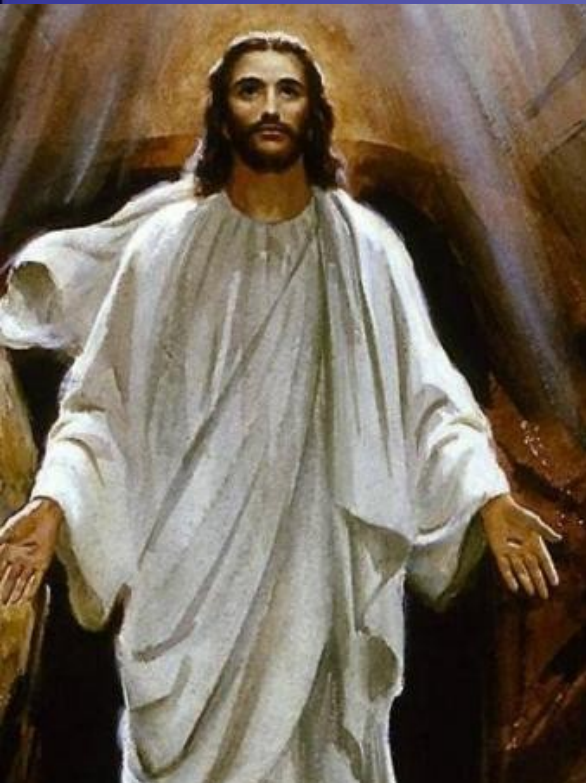
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 - Would any of *them* have heard anything about this work of the Spirit before?
 - What had Isaiah been preaching in Isaiah 4:2-5?
 - What was Isaiah pointing to with that?
 - So what would any of these people have been expecting by any of this?
 - Does that make the disciples' question in Acts 1:6 make more sense?



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 - Read Acts 1:1-2
 - Read Acts 1:4-6
 - Read Acts 1:7-8
 - How does Jesus respond to their question?
(specifically, how does He turn their expectations around 180 degrees?)



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 - How does Jesus respond to their question?
 - So *now*, what would they be expecting to happen?
 - What's the significance of calling them to witness "in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth"?
 - What would that look like for *us* here *today*? Be specific...



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 - Read Acts 1:4-6
 - Read Acts 1:7-8
 - Read Acts 1:15-17, 20
 - How connected to the work of the Spirit does Peter perceive the church to be, even before Pentecost?
 - How does that relate to, say, what Peter wrote later in 1 Peter 1:8-12?
 - Why is it important to note that *all* of this going on *long* before Pentecost ever even happened?



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 - How can we apply any of this to ourselves today?

