

It's Time for More

Sunday, June 9, 2019

Introduction

- Today is Pentecost Sunday, and we recall the outpouring of the Holy Spirit
- Read **Acts 2:1-4 (ESV)** (1) *When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. (2) And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. (3) And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. (4) And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.*
- Jesus had told them to wait - and they did - about 120 of them (see the sermon two weeks ago)
- On Pentecost Sunday the Lord Jesus poured out His Spirit on the group that were gathered, and they changed the world! About 3000 saved that first day, miracles, community, etc.
- **Point:** Today - we need more of the Spirit - another Pentecost

The precedent for more

They were re-filled

- The Spirit was poured out on Pentecost
- But by the 4th chapter - they were re-filled.
- Consider **Acts 4:31 (ESV)** (31) *And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.*
- They'd faced opposition - and came together to pray, and the Lord filled them again
- The infilling of the Spirit is not a "toggle" - yes I am/no I'm not - rather more like a gauge. How filled am I right now?

See the admonition to the Ephesians

- Another example comes from Paul's letter to the Ephesians
- Best I can tell the most "Spirit filled / Spirit Anointed" ministry took place in the 18 months Paul ministered in Ephesus
- Miracles, power, signs, preaching - etc.
- Later Paul encourages them **Eph 5:18 (ESV)** (18) *And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,*
- Instead of seeking to get drunk - be filled

- Continual - be being filled.
- **Note:** Kind of disappointed how much we've allowed alcohol in to the pentecostal church - and how little of the Spirit we have. Used to teach just the 2nd half of this passage - but I guess I need to include the first.
- **Point:** We should constantly be seeking to be filled afresh and anew with the Spirit!

Why we need more

So we can endure to the end

- Enemy knows time is short! He is stepping up the attack on the lives o
- Jesus tells them to interpret the times in which we live
- Looking makes it obvious things are ready
- Consider Paul's warning to Timothy **2 Tim 3:1-5 (ESV)** (1) *But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. (2) For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, (3) heartless, unappeasable, slanderous, without self-control, brutal, not loving good, (4) treacherous, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, (5) having the appearance of godliness, but denying its power. Avoid such people.*
- This has entered the church
- Remember what Jesus said? **Luke 18:8 (ESV)** (8) *I tell you, he will give justice to them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?"*
- The battle has ramped up, and believers are falling down. We are more than conquerors - **Rom 8:37 (ESV)** (37) *No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.*
- **Point:** Are you living an overcoming life?

So that our love overflows

- Love of most will grow cold **Matt 24:12 (ESV)** (12) *And because lawlessness will be increased, the love of many will grow cold.*
- We live in selfish days (see last text) and this permeates our church
- But we are to be defined by our love. See **John 13:34-35 (ESV)** (34) *A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. (35) By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another."*
- Spirit alone produces love (as we've discussed)
- **Point:** Are you loving like Jesus loved? So much of Christianity majors on the minors, and we overlook this one thing: we are called to love. This gets harder as we draw near his return
- Consider **Rev 3:1-6 (ESV)** (1) *"And to the angel of the church in Sardis write: 'The words of*

him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. "I know your works. You have the reputation of being alive, but you are dead. (2) Wake up, and strengthen what remains and is about to die, for I have not found your works complete in the sight of my God. (3) Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you. (4) Yet you have still a few names in Sardis, people who have not soiled their garments, and they will walk with me in white, for they are worthy. (5) The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. (6) He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.'

So that our witness bears fruit

- We are called to reach the world - see [Matt 28:19-20](#) (ESV) (19) *Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (20) teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.*"
- See
- Consider the parable of the soils - only some seed bore fruit - and that's supposed to be us
- See the context of the passage that's our text:
 - Arrested and persecuted
 - Released and ordered to keep silent
 - Return to the believers - and share what's happened
 - Then they pray: [Acts 4:29-31](#) (ESV) (29) *And now, Lord, look upon their threats and grant to your servants to continue to speak your word with all boldness, (30) while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus." (31) And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.*
- Remember [Acts 1:8](#) (ESV) (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."*

How we receive more

Make the fullness of the Spirit our priority

- This message is good - but what do we do with it?
- Are we content with what we have?

- Will we seek more of the Spirit?
- **Note:** We will continue to come together corporately for prayer

Ask (and keep asking)

- See again the promise of the day **Luke 11:13 (ESV)** (13) *If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"*
- Recognize our need - seek His provision
- Don't be content - but be being filled!
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