

The Holy Spirit #2

INTRO:

Our Text is Acts 2:1-12 NKJV *When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born? Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs--we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God." So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "Whatever could this mean?"*

I) Our purpose is to answer the question asked at the end of verse 12..."Whatever could this mean?"

A) What does "Holy" mean?

- 1) Refers to persons or things which are pure and devoted to ritual and God's sacred uses
 - (a) Removed from the realm of normal and common into the supernatural and sacred
 - (b) Times and places can also be holy when consecrated to God
- 2) When the word applies to God it signifies His separation over all His creation and includes His transcendence over all things
 - (a) It connotes majesty, supremacy
 - (b) It depicts the eternal, ethical and spotless character of God
- 3) In the OT the emphasis of the word Holy is on the difference between the sacred and secular. Holy things were never to be used in common or profane uses instead they belong to God alone and forever.
 - (a) Holiness can apply to ritual and religion.
 - (i) Adherence to standards and restriction of use
 - (ii) Hence things were called clean or unclean
 - (b) Morals are a part of a holy lifestyle
 - (c) Keeping oneself from sin maintained the sacred use
 - (d) Breaking God's commandments defiled a holy person or object
 - (e) Links directly to God and reflects upon Him directly
 - (f) Brings honor or dishonor on God
- 4) In the NT there are three Greek words to mean holy
 - (a) Hieros is similar to the OT concept of holy and the ritual aspect
 - (b) Hagios expresses the nature of the relationship of man with God and His profound holiness. It speaks of the obligation of man to The Creator and the moral nature of that
 - (c) Hosios is used to express the piety and devoutness in respect to the Godhead
 - (d) In general in the NT, the emphasis is more on the practical and applied side of holiness vs. the OT sacred emphasis

B) **Lev 11:44 NKJV** *For I am the LORD your God. You shall therefore consecrate yourselves, and you shall be holy; for I am holy. Neither shall you defile yourselves with any creeping thing that creeps on the earth.*

I Peter 1:15 NKJV *"...but as He who called you is holy, you also be holy in all your conduct, because it is written, "BE HOLY, FOR I AM HOLY."*

- 1) When we speak of holy in terms of instruments and articles it is not that the items themselves are holy—but that they are set aside for sacred service and dedicated only to that purpose.
 - 2) We are dedicated and set aside to the Lord as well. We are not holy in ourselves, it is the dedication and specific purpose that is holy!
 - 3) In OT Hebrew qadosh is the main word for holy and designates heavenly beings (angels or deity) saints are mortals of high spiritual worth
 - 4) When we speak of Christ-likeness we are referring to holiness. To be holy is to be Christ like!
- C) It is the work of the Holy Spirit to minister Christ to the Church (us)...Exercise of Love is means that God uses to develop Christlikeness in us.
- 1) In the strictest sense of holiness—God is the only absolutely holy one
 - 2) The essential nature of the Godhead is holy
 - 3) The Holy Spirit is GOD...
 - 4) To use the term holy to refer to mortal man or things is not to refer to the qualities they have made, but reflects the qualities of God shown through them. God’s holiness in man shows or reflects in them
 - 5) Our holiness then becomes a “sun and moon” relationship.
 - (a) Moon has no light of its own
 - (b) Sun’s light is reflected or shown in the moon
 - (c) Our holiness is a reflection of God’s holiness in us... we are a reflection of God’s holiness
- D) Why do we use the term Holy Spirit? Why not say Holy Father and Holy Son too?
- 1) We are speaking of the Spirit of the Holy One—God
 - 2) He is a person of the Godhead and an integral part of our God despite the fact that He does not have a form that human eyes can see
 - 3) Hebrew word Ruah is translated spirit and is an invisible force, wind or breath, immaterial and powerful
 - 4) Greek word is Pneuma which has the same time meaning
 - (a) Invisible power or force
 - (b) Constructive or destructive like the wind
 - (c) Breath is vital to life
 - 5) Breath and Blood are very critical to life and work together
 - 6) Spirit carries with it God’s dynamic creative activity.
 - 7) Without HIS Spirit all will perish **Job 34:14-15 NKJV** *If He should set His heart on it, If He should gather to Himself His Spirit and His breath, all flesh would perish together, and man would return to dust.*
 - 8) **Ps 104:29-30 NKJV** *You hide Your face, they are troubled; You take away their breath, they die and return to their dust. You send forth Your Spirit, they are created; and You renew the face of the earth.*
 - 9) This inward invisible force is God’s direct touch by which He upholds all—He provides a vital touch to us!
- E) The Holy Spirit is a person of the Trinity whose office work is to sustain life in every creature, animate every rational being and dwell in the hearts of the elect!
- 1) Executive agent of Godhead Who executes, carries out, follows through, completes, performs and fulfills in accordance with a design or plan. He executes the will of another.
 - (a) Agent=power to act
 - (b) Moving force but not a human being
 - (c) Acts for or in place of another
 - (d) Executor or will of Father and Son
 - (e) Spirit of God, Father of the Son
 - 2) His whole purpose is to testify of Them!
 - (a) Does not speak of self, but only what heard...**John 16:13 NKJV** *However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.*

Closing: As we draw close to God, the Holy Spirit helps us hear and take steps of faith as the Father and Son direct. The more we understand the Holy Spirit, the closer we are to understanding God’s will for our lives. Keep seeking HIM!