



Sermon, Sunday June 5, 2022 “The Coming of the Holy Spirit”

SCRIPTURE: Acts 2:1-13 ¹When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability. ⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?” ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God’s deeds of power.” ¹²All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “What does this mean?” ¹³But others sneered and said, “They are filled with new wine.”

Introduction: The Holy Spirit Comes

Today is Pentecost Sunday. Fifty days after the Hebrew people came out of Egypt in search of freedom after they had been slaves, in the wilderness of Sinai God gave Moses the stone tablets inscribed with the Law. These stone tablets contained the promises that the Israelites had to keep as God's holy people in the land of Canaan and on their journey in the wilderness. The people of Israel commemorated the day they were born again as God's holy people, and from this point on, the Jewish festival of Pentecost begins. (Exodus 19)

Today's text describes an event that took place on the day of Pentecost. All the believers were meeting together in one place. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. After this, an interesting thing happened.

Those gathered in Mark's upper room on the day of Pentecost began to speak in tongues, that is, in their local language. Most of Jesus' disciples who gathered in Mark's upper room were from Galilee and spoke Aramaic, but those who listened to them heard them in their own native language. That is, when I speak Korean, it sounds English to Americans, German to Germans, and Chinese to Chinese.

Today's text show that the barriers between words can disappear, and we can come to understand the words of our neighbors. People who could not communicate with each other came to understand and communicate through the work of the Holy Spirit.

In fact, the event of the presence of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost is the fulfillment of the prophecy of the prophet Joel in the Old Testament (Joel 2:28-29) and the promise of the “Comforter, the Holy Spirit” that Jesus promised to send to his disciples.

The Holy Spirit promised by Jesus is the Holy Spirit that is poured out on everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Him, as mentioned in Peter’s Pentecost sermon in Acts 2:39.

Through the presence of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, the first church came into being, and the Lord accomplishes the Lord's good works and the work of salvation through the church that was created through the presence of the Holy Spirit. **Acts 1:8 says: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit**



comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

Through Pentecost Sunday, I hope that we will deeply reflect on the preciousness of being filled with the Holy Spirit and the blessing of living with the Holy Spirit.

Body: What is a Holy Spirit-filled life?

My dear brothers and sisters!

Being filled with the Holy Spirit is not vague. Also, being filled with the Holy Spirit is not confined to the realm of personal mystical experience. True filling of the Holy Spirit means being “filled” with the “Spirit of God.” So, it means that our life is governed by the ‘Spirit of God’.

What we must not forget is that the 'Spirit' is the 'Spirit of God'. That is why the Holy Spirit is the **‘omnipotent One’**. Also, the Holy Spirit is the one who comes into our hearts from the moment believers accept Jesus Christ as our Savior and guides us to live according to the Lord's will. Therefore, those who are filled with the Holy Spirit will obey the will of the Lord. So, those who are filled with the Holy Spirit bear fruit through life changes. Then, what kind of life change does the filling of the Holy Spirit bring? Please consider whether these changes are happening in our lives as well.

First, if we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we will change from a ‘Self-centered life’ to a ‘God-centered life’.

Being filled with the Holy Spirit changes our values and attitudes toward life. In other words, our disposition, which had a sinful nature, is becoming like the disposition of Jesus. In simple terms, the image of becoming like Jesus is the image of a person filled with the Holy Spirit.

Many changes happen to this person. An unbeliever becomes a believer, and the heart that in the past was filled with worldly values such as money, fame, and power is now filled with love for God. Also, when the Holy Spirit dwells fully in them, their personality is changed. Life is changed. The language changes. A person who has not born any fruit begins to bear fruit.

Also, as the incident where tongues of the Holy Spirit's presence appeared on the Day of Pentecost shows us, broken relationships that we couldn't communicate because of our selfishness and self-centeredness are now reconnected.

In today's book of Acts, the disciples spoke in a local language other than Aramaic, not simply to show a wonderful miracle. It is an event that symbolically shows that broken relationships are restored when our hearts are filled with the Holy Spirit, and we can understand each other and achieve peace. So, when we change from a ‘self-centered life’ to a ‘God-centered’ life, it means that the Holy Spirit oversees things that we cannot do on our own. We should be able to pray with sincerity and holiness to allow the Holy Spirit to work wonderfully in us. What is another change in life that the filling of the Holy Spirit brings?

Second, if we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we will not be afraid of the world.

We see in all four Gospels how the cowardly Peter denied Jesus. But we soon realize that we are not qualified to criticize Peter. Because our conscience knows how easy it is to live in the world and compromise our faith with it. But when we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we do not fear the world. This is because we, who were infinitely small in front of the world, through experiencing the fullness of the Holy Spirit, discover the Lord who fought and won the world on our behalf. The disciples of the Lord, including Peter, John, James, and Paul, were able to preach the gospel to the world, not because they were especially strong-willed and more courageous than us, but because they were filled with the Holy Spirit. I hope that we too will be among those



who overcome the world boldly by being filled with the Holy Spirit. Then, what is the third change in life that the filling of the Holy Spirit brings?

Third, when we are filled with the Holy Spirit, power is revealed in our lives.

When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, power is revealed in our lives. **In Mark 16:17-18 we read, "And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well."**

When the power of the Holy Spirit is revealed in our lives, amazing things happen that we could not have done before. Things we couldn't decide on, things we couldn't even put our minds on, and things that weren't resolved until now; we personally experience God at work in our lives through the Holy Spirit. These experiences give us confidence and joy in the life of faith.

Then, what is the fourth change in life that the filling of the Holy Spirit brings?

Fourth, when we are filled with the Holy Spirit, amazing works of repentance will take place.

We see through the account of the Acts of the Apostles that after the descent of the Holy Spirit, mass conversion took place as in Jerusalem. Also, we see the conversion of a family in Philippi through the amazing work of the Holy Spirit. And even now, we witness the conversion of millions of people through the Holy Spirit. This amazing work of repentance is the fruit of the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

As C. S. Lewis said, 'Repent' is the same as saying to die to that person. In other words, repentance is something that happens when we are prepared to die. It's not that easy. But those things do happen. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, the work of repentance takes place.

In 1 Corinthians 15:31, the Apostle Paul confesses. "I die every day--I mean that, brothers--just as surely as I glory over you in Christ Jesus our Lord." So, what is the fifth change in life that the filling of the Holy Spirit brings?

Fifth, there is joy when we are filled with the Holy Spirit.

Look at Acts 2:26. "Therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; moreover, my flesh will live in hope." This verse is David's prophecy of the Messiah. David was able to make this confession because he had the hope of resurrection.

British preacher Pastor Charles Haddon Spurgeon said, "The greatest of all gifts is the gift of laughter." We must not forget that only those with the Holy Spirit can have true joy. May all of us overflow with joy in life through the filling of the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion: We hope that everyone will walk with the Holy Spirit.

Now let's summarize today's sermon. Today is Pentecost Sunday. Through today's message, we see the amazing fruits that the filling of the Holy Spirit brings. We hope that these fruits will be experienced in our lives as well.

Please do not forget that even now, the Holy Spirit is guiding our lives by walking in the lives of the children of faith. Also, I pray that we will not live a life that hinders the work of the Holy Spirit, but that we will live a holy life in which the Holy Spirit can work more abundantly.

