

Biblical Theology

Unit 6: Doctrine of The Holy Spirit – Lesson 4: Coming of the Holy Spirit

Coming of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is a gift of God's grace and was the fulfillment of promises made through the Prophets and through Jesus. And yet, the concept was utterly foreign to the disciples until Pentecost. The Scriptures describe the fulfillment of the promised coming of the Holy Spirit in various ways.

1. Outpouring: The coming of the Holy Spirit is wide spread.

- **Acts 2:1-8** - *When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language?"*
- **Acts 2:15-21** - *For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: "And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved."*
- **Acts 2:31-33** - *This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.*
 - **Isaiah 44:3** - *For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.*
- **Acts 10:45** - *And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles.*
- **Titus 3:5-6** - *he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior,*

2. Falling On: The coming of the Holy Spirit originates from God through Jesus.

- **Acts 8:16-17** - *he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit.*
- **Acts 11:15** - *As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning.*
- **John 14:16** - *And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever,*
- **John 16:7** - *Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.*
- **John 7:39** - *Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.*

3. Coming On: The coming of the Holy Spirit is a shift in the controlling nature of believer.

- **Acts 1:8** - 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.”
- **Acts 19:6** - And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying.
- **Luke 24:49** - And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

4. Baptizing: The coming of the Holy Spirit consumes and immerses the life of the believer.

- **Acts 1:5** - for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”
- **Acts 11:16** - And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’

5. Filling: The coming of the Holy Spirit penetrates the heart and guides the life of the believer.

- **Acts 2:4** - And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.
- **Acts 9:17** - So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”
- **Acts 13:52** - And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.
- **Acts 4:8** - Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them...
- **Acts 6:5** - And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch.
- **Ephesians 5:18** - And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,
- **1 Corinthians 6:19** - do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own,

Discussion Questions

1. As a Spirit-filled believer, imagine what following God on a daily basis must have been like to follow religious law without the consuming, controlling, guiding, penetrating, accessible presence of God’s Spirit as you walk with him. Do you treasure the Holy Spirit or take him for granted?
2. When you string all of these terms together, what does the coming of the Holy Spirit tell us about God? What does the coming of the Holy Spirit reveal about us?
3. Are these descriptive terms descriptive of your daily walk in Christ?