



The First Pentecost —Part Three
Glorification and Tribulation Acts 2:11-13
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Introduction: *The Disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit three times and serve as examples for us to follow. Christ's Promise:* **Lu. 3:15-18** Everyone was expecting the Messiah to come soon, and they were eager to know whether John might be the Messiah. ¹⁶ John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork *is* in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather the wheat into His barn; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire." **Acts 1:4-5, 8** And Jesus being assembled together with *them*, commanded His followers not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," *He said*, "you have heard from Me; ⁵ for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now. you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me^[a] in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

1) John 20:19-22 Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled,^[a] for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace *be* with you." ²⁰ When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. ²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained. The Holy Spirit took up residence in them and they were born again (**John 3:3; 1 Peter 1:23; Matthew 18:3; 2 Cor. 5:17**)

2) Acts 2:1-4 *Pastor Dan:* On the Day of Pentecost the disciples, along with over a hundred other believers, were baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. They were empowered for service (**Acts 1:8**) through this encounter with God. **3) Acts 4:27-31** For truly against Your holy Servant Jesus, whom You anointed, both Herod and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles and the people of Israel, were gathered together ²⁸ to do whatever Your hand and

Your purpose determined before to be done.²⁹ Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word,³⁰ by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus.”

³¹ And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

Pastor Dan: The disciples—this same group of people are filled with the Holy Spirit again thus teaching us that there is a need for us to continually be filled with the Holy Spirit.

(3000 saved that day to the glory of God!!!!)

#1. *Glorification* (*Acts 2:4, 6-12* *They were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance ... when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language... how is it that we hear, each in our own language in which we were born ...we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.”*¹² *So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “Whatever could this mean*)

A. *Pastor Dan:* The purpose of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and all the accompanying gifts is to bring glory to God by drawing attention to Him through their use.

***John 14:13-14* If you ask anything in my name, you shall receive it that the Father may be glorified in the Son.**

1. *Praying in Spirit glorifies God* (*Mk.16:17* *These signs shall follow them that believe; in my name they cast out devils, they will speak with new tongues ... they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover.)*

a. *I Cor. 14:21-22* Tongues, then, are for a sign not for believers but for unbelievers (*Is. 28:11-12*)

b. *Eph. 6:18* Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

c. *Spirit Filled Life Bible:* Prayer is to include supplication in the Spirit, a phrase that elucidates (explains) *Ro. 8:26-27* and *Jude 20* The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings and utterances that cannot be expressed in words.²⁷ And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.

d. In *1 Cor 14:14-15* Paul clearly shows that praying in the Spirit is praying in a tongue not known to the person praying. For if I pray in tongues, my spirit is praying, but I don't understand what I am saying.¹⁵ Well then, what shall I do? I will pray in the spirit, and I will also pray in words I understand. I will sing in the spirit, and I will also sing in words I understand.

e. *John 6:63* It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. *Pastor Dan:* Many of our prayers are self-motivated and centered around our desire for ease. We want God to make life easy for us. But when we pray in the Spirit we always get it right, always communicating directly with God and His will for our lives.

f. *1 Cor. 14:2* For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands *him*; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.

g. *Brother Lawrence:* Let us thus think often that our only business in this life is to please God.

2. **Power to witness** (*John 16:7-15* *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 depart, I will send Him to you.* ⁸ *And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:* ⁹ *of sin, because they do not believe in Me;* ¹⁰ *of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more;* ¹¹ *of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged.* ¹² *“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.* ¹³ *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.* ¹⁴ *He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.* ¹⁵ *All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you)*
- a. **Acts 1:8** you shall received power—power to witness and bring glory to God through the work of the Holy Spirit in your life.
 - b. **Phil. 3:10** That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection The Holy Spirit works in us empowering us to live a life that pleases God; the Holy Spirit works through us so that which God has done in us He will do through us.
 - c. **Andrew Murray:** Christ must be all to us every moment. It is of no avail to me that I have life on earth unless that life is renewed every moment by my breathing fresh air. Even so God must actually renew and strengthen the divine life in me every moment. He does this for me in my union with Christ. Christ is simply the fullness of God, the life of God and the love God prepared for us and communicating itself to us.
 - c. **1 Thes. 5:16-18** rejoice evermore, pray without ceasing.
 - d. **R.T. Kendall:** Prayer can no more be divorced from worship than life can be divorced from breathing. If we follow His impulse, the Holy Spirit will always lead us to pray. When we allow him to work freely, he will always bring the Church to extensive praying.
 - e. **C.S. Lewis:** The salvation of human souls, is the real business of life.
 - f. **Luke 18:1**
 - g. **Samuel Chadwick:** I owe everything to the gift of Pentecost. For fifty days the facts of the Gospel were complete, but no conversions were recorded. Pentecost registered three thousand souls. It is by fire that a holy passion is kindled in the soul whereby we live the life of God. The soul's safety is in its heat. Truth without enthusiasm, morality without emotion, ritual without soul, make for a Church without power.
- #2. **Tribulation** (*Acts 2:13* *So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “Whatever could this mean. Others mocking said, “They are full of new wine.”)*
- A. **G.K. Chesterton:** *Jesus promised his disciples three things: that they would be completely fearless, absurdly happy and in constant trouble*
1. **Blessed are the persecuted** (*Matt. 5:11-12* *Blessed are you when they revile and persecute you, and say all kinds of evil against you falsely for My sake.* ¹² *Rejoice and be exceedingly glad, for great is your reward in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you.)*
- a. **Phil. 3:10-14** that I may know Him ... and the fellowship of His sufferings

- b. **1 Pet. 4:14** If you are reproached for the name of Christ, blessed *are you*, for the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you. On their part He is blasphemed, but on your part He is glorified.
- c. **Seneca:** In the midst of the flame and the rack I have seen men not only groan, that is little; not only not complain, that is little; not only not answer back, that too is little; but I have them smile, and smile with a good heart.
- d. **2 Tim. 3:12** All who will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution.
- d. **An Amish Bishop:** Prosperity has often been fatal to Christianity, but persecution never.
- e. **Ro. 8:18** For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy *to be compared* with the glory which shall be revealed in us
- f. **Psalms 34:19** Many are the afflictions of the righteous but the Lord delivers him or her from them all.
- g. **Walter Hilton:** When your enemies see that you are so determined that neither sickness, fancies, poverty, life, death, nor sins discourage you, but that you will continue to seek the love of Jesus and nothing else, by continuing your prayer and other spiritual works, they will grow enraged and will not spare you the most cruel abuse.
- h. **Justin Martyr:** You can kill us, but you can't hurt us.
- i. **Is. 54:17** No weapon formed against you will prosper.
- j. **Sundar Singh:** The true Christian is like sandalwood, which imparts its fragrance to the axe which cuts it, without doing any harm in return.
- k. **A. M. Rosenthal; New York Times:** One of the shocking untold stories of our time, is that more Christians have died the 20th century simply for being Christians than in any century since Christ was born.

Closing and Invitation: On the morning of April 18, 1906, a massive earthquake shook San Francisco, California. Though the quake lasted less than a minute the city was devastated, and its immediate impact was disastrous. The quake ignited several fires around the city that burned for three days, destroying nearly 500 city blocks. An estimated 3,000 people died in the fires and the earthquake; half the city's 400,000 residents were left homeless.

On April 9, 1906, nine days before the San Francisco Earthquake, four hundred miles away in Los Angeles, a spiritual earthquake began that shook Los Angeles. The aftershocks of this quake continues today and has spread, affecting the third, fourth and fifth generations of people since 1906. Pentecostalism was reignited and now, one hundred years later, seven hundred million people, one fourth of 21st Century followers of Jesus have experienced what the Apostles of Jesus; Mary His mother, His brothers and 100 other believers experienced on the Day of Pentecost fifty days after Jesus was crucified (Acts 1:14-15). Acts 2 records what happened, "When the Day of Pentecost was fully come they were one accord in one place when suddenly a sound came from heaven like a rushing mighty wind and it filled the house where they were sitting. Divided tongues like as of fire sat on each of them and they were all baptized in the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Holy Spirit gave them an utterance.

What did the believers at Azusa Mission have in common with the 120 followers of Christ who were baptized in the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost? They had a great hunger for God and wanted to know the Lord in His fullness. They came to the mission expecting an encounter with God Himself. That expectancy and the reality of God's presence made them oblivious to things that seem to matter so much today: beautiful sanctuaries, neatly packaged and on time

services, the hype of visiting star quality speakers and singers, social recognition and ecclesiastical power.

An individual attending Azusa Mission writes, “As the people sought God the Holy Spirit would fall upon the congregation. God Himself would give the altar call. Men would fall all over the house, like those slain in battle; there were times when people rushed to the altar en masse, to seek God. The preacher knew when to quit and when he spoke we all obeyed. It seemed a fearful thing to hinder or grieve the Holy Spirit. The whole place was steeped in prayer. God was in Holy people ... and the Shekinah glory rested there ... the presence of the Lord was so real.

Seven hundred million Pentecostal and Charismatic followers of Jesus (one fourth of the followers of Jesus worldwide) trace their roots back to that dynamic and powerful move of the Holy Spirit in Azusa Mission in 1906. Further back in their spiritual genealogical roots they recognize that it all really began on the Day of Pentecost when the Apostles sought the Lord and were baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues as the Holy Spirit gave them utterance. Assembly of God General Superintendent George Wood declared, “We were founded to do the greatest work of evangelism the world has ever seen. Missions and evangelism are in our spiritual DNA. That’s why the Holy Spirit has been given, that we may become empowered to be His witnesses.”