



## I. Promise of the Holy Spirit

### A. Old Testament Promises:

1. **Ezekiel 36:26** *“And I will give you a new heart, and a **new spirit** I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.”*
2. **Ezekiel 11:18-19** *“And when they come there, they will remove from it all its detestable things and all its abominations. And I will give them one heart, and a **new spirit I will put within them**. I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh.”*
3. **Jeremiah 31:33** *“But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law **within them**, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people.”*
4. **Hebrews 10:15-16** *“The Holy Spirit also testifies to us about this. First he says: ‘This is the covenant I will make with them after that time, says the Lord. I will put my laws **in their hearts**, and I will write them on their minds.’”*

### B. New Testament Promises:

1. **Matthew 3:11-12** *“I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He **will baptize you with the Holy Spirit** and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”*
2. **John 3:5-8** *“Jesus answered, ‘Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are **born of water and the Spirit**. Flesh gives birth to flesh, but **the Spirit gives birth to spirit**.’ You should not be surprised at my saying, ‘You must be born again.’ The wind blows wherever it pleases. You hear its sound, but you cannot tell where it comes from or where it is going. So it is with everyone **born of the Spirit**.”*
3. **John 16:5-7** *“But now I am going to him who sent me. None of you asks me, ‘Where are you going?’ Rather, you are filled with grief because I have said these things. But very truly I tell you, it is for your good that I am going away. **Unless I go away, the Advocate [Holy Spirit] will not come to you**; but if I go, I will send him to you.”*

## II. Purpose of the Holy Spirit:

- A. **Comforts the Disciples:** Jesus promised the Holy Spirit to comfort and guide the disciples. The Holy Spirit is the “*Paraclete*” or

Counselor/Comforter. *Paraclete* means, “to come along side.” The Holy Spirit comes beside us to guide, direct, and empower Christians.

1. **John 14:26-27** *“But the Advocate, **the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything** I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”*
2. **John 15:26** *“When the Advocate comes, whom I will send to you from the Father—**the Spirit of truth who goes out from the Father—he will testify about me.**”*

**B. Convicts the World:** A mission of the Holy Spirit is to convict the world of our need for God. The Holy Spirit inspired the sacred scripture to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and the judgment. The Holy Spirit convinces unbelievers of the divinity of Jesus Christ and the resurrection the dead.

1. **John 16:8-12** *“When he comes, he will prove the world to be in the wrong about sin, righteousness & judgment; about sin, because people do not believe in me; about righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; about judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. I have more to say, more than you can now bear.”*
  - a. **John 16:9 Conviction about guilt of sin** *“Sin, because people do not believe in me”* **Unbelief of Man/ Believing in God**
  - b. **John 16:10 Conviction about righteousness** *“Righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer”* **Believing in Resurrection/Heaven**
  - c. **John 16:11 Conviction about judgment** *“Judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned.”* **Condemnation of Sin/Believing in Hell**
2. **2 Peter 1:20-21** *“Above all, you must understand that no prophecy of Scripture came about by the prophet's own interpretation of things. For prophecy never had its origin in the human will, but prophets, though human, spoke from God as they were **carried along by the Holy Spirit.**”*

**C. Confirms the Truth:** The Holy Spirit transmits the truth and confirms the message as divine. The revelation of the new covenant could not be told until Jesus died on the Cross, was buried, and rose from the dead.

1. **John 16:13-15** *“But when he, **the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth.** He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the*

*Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”*

2. **John 14:16-18** *“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you. Before long, the world will not see me anymore, but you will see me. Because I live, you also will live. On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you.”*
3. **John 14:26** *“But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.”*
4. **Hebrews 2:4** *“God also testified to it by signs, wonders and various miracles, and by gifts of the Holy Spirit distributed according to his will.”*

**D. Creates Spiritual Fruit:** The Holy Spirit provides the power for spiritual transformation to stop sin and become like Christ. The Holy Spirit empowers the Christian to be spiritual.

1. **Galatians 5:22-25** *“But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law. Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit.”*
2. **Romans 8: 14-16** *“For those who are led by the Spirit of God are the children of God. The Spirit you received does not make you slaves, so that you live in fear again; rather, the Spirit you received brought about your adoption to sonship. And by him we cry, ‘Abba, Father.’ The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children.”*
3. **Romans 8: 26-27** *“In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans. And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God’s people in accordance with the will of God.”*

**E. Consecrates Our Salvation:** The Holy Spirit is the seal of our salvation consecrating our relationship with the God. The Holy Spirit marks us for salvation.

1. **Romans 8:9-12** *“You, however, are not in the realm of the flesh but are in the realm of the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, they do not belong to Christ. But if Christ is in you, then even though your body is subject to death because of sin, the Spirit*

*gives life because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies because of his Spirit who lives in you."*

2. **Ephesians 1:13** *"And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit."*
3. **1 Corinthians 12:13** *"For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink."*
4. **Colossians 1:27** *"To them God has chosen to make known among the Gentiles the glorious riches of this mystery, which is Christ in you, the hope of glory."*

III. **Power of the Holy Spirit:** The Holy Spirit was poured out from heaven in different manifestations to transmit God's will for mankind.

A. **Three Manifestations of the Holy Spirit:**

1. **1 Corinthians 12:1-7** *"Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed. You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols. Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, 'Jesus be cursed,' and no one can say, 'Jesus is Lord,' except by the Holy Spirit. **There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.** There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. **Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.** There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work."*
2. **Three Manifestations of the Holy Spirit:**
  - a. **Pouring: Baptism of the Holy Spirit**
  - b. **Personal: Indwelling Gift of the Holy Spirit**
  - c. **Potency: Miraculous Gift of the Holy Spirit**

B. **Pouring of the Holy Spirit – Baptism of the Holy Spirit:** Baptism of the Holy Spirit occurred two times to initiate the new covenant to the Jews and also to initiate the new covenant to the Gentiles. Baptism of Holy Spirit only occurred twice according to scripture. ("In the beginning..." **Acts 11:15, Act 2 & 10**) One baptism available for

everyone today. **(Ephesians 4:4-6)** Other baptisms: suffering (Mark 10:38-39), fire or hell **(Matthew 3:11-12)**, John's **(Matthew 3:6)**, Holy Spirit **(Acts 2, 10)**

1. **Acts 2:1-4** *"When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. **All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.**"*
2. **Acts 2:14-21** *"Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! No, this is what the prophet Joel spoke: 'In the last days, God says, **I will pour out my Spirit on all people.** Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions; your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy. I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke. The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord. And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved."*
3. **Acts 10:44-48** *"While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were **astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles.** For they heard **them speaking in tongues and praising God.** Then Peter said, 'Surely no one can stand in the way of their being baptized with water. They have **received the Holy Spirit just as we have.**' So he ordered that they be **baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.** Then they asked Peter to stay with them for a few days." The first Gentile converts received the out-pouring of the Holy Spirit or Baptism of the Holy Spirit exactly like the apostles had received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2 on the day of Pentecost.*
4. **Acts 11:15-18** *"As I began to speak, **the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning.** Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' So if God gave them the same gift he gave us who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could stand in God's way? When they heard this, they had no further objections and praised God, saying, 'So then, even to Gentiles God has granted repentance that leads to life.'" Baptism of the Holy spirit was a sign from*

God that Gentiles were acceptable disciples for the Kingdom of God just like Jews. Controversy over the water baptisms of Gentiles ended with the recounting of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit upon them by Peter since it was a statement directly from God in heaven.

**IV. Personal Holy Spirit – Indwelling Gift of the Holy Spirit:** The indwelling gift of the Holy Spirit is given at conversion. The Holy Spirit dwells within the disciple as the person of God. The indwelling Holy Spirit provides the power to live the Christian life.

**A. Acts 2:36-41** *“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah. When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, ‘Brothers, what shall we do?’ Peter replied, ‘Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will **receive the gift of the Holy Spirit**. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.’ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, ‘Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.’ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.”*

**B. Acts 8:12** *“But when they believed Philip as he proclaimed the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were **baptized**, both men and women. Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great **signs and miracles** he saw.”*

**C. Acts 8:35-38** *“Then Philip began with that very passage of Scripture and told him the good news about Jesus. As they traveled along the road, they came to some water and the eunuch said, ‘Look, **here is water**. **What can stand in the way of my being baptized?**’ Philip said, ‘If you believe with all your heart you may. The eunuch replied, I believe Jesus is the Christ the Son of God.’ And he gave orders to stop the chariot. Then both Philip and the eunuch went **down into the water and Philip baptized him.**”*

**V. Potency of the Holy Spirit – Miraculous Power of the Holy Spirit:** The miraculous power of the Holy Spirit advanced the gospel by confirming the messenger as inspired by God. Miracles are signs to point the listener to God realizing the messenger speaks truth. The laying on of the apostles’ hands transmitted the miraculous power of the Holy Spirit. When disciples did not have the Holy Spirit the apostles baptized them in the name of Jesus for forgiveness of sin and the indwelling gift of the Holy Spirit then laid hands on them to receive miraculous powers of the Holy Spirit. Apostles were able to pass on the gifts because they were apostles, i.e. were picked by Jesus and had witnessed His resurrection. **(Acts 1:21-22, 1 Corinthians 15:1-10)**

- A. **1 Corinthians 12:8-11** *“To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of **knowledge** by means of the same Spirit, to another **faith** by the same Spirit, to another gifts of **healing** by that one Spirit, to another **miraculous** powers, to another **prophecy**, to another **distinguishing between spirits**, to another **speaking in different kinds of tongues**, and to still another the **interpretation of tongues**. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.”* This verse describes the different miracles gifts of the Holy Spirit given to the church.
- B. **Mark 16:15-18** *“He said to them, ‘Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation. Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. 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.**”* This a list of the miraculous powers that some of the disciples displayed after the death of Jesus but it is not an all-inclusive list or promise that all disciples will do all these things.
- C. **Acts 8:14-19** *“When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. When they arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. **When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles’ hands**, he offered them money and said, ‘Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.’”*
- D. **Acts 19:1-6** *“While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples and asked them, ‘Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?’ They answered, ‘No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.’ So Paul asked, ‘Then what baptism did you receive?’ ‘John’s baptism,’ they replied. Paul said, ‘John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.’ On hearing this, **they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.**”* John’s disciples had to be re-baptized in Jesus name to be saved and received the indwelling of the Holy Spirit through water baptism. John’s disciples further received the miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit when Paul placed his hands on them to transfer miraculous manifestations of the Spirit as evidenced by their speaking in tongues or languages.



**E. 1 Corinthians 13:8-13** *“Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when completeness comes, what is in part disappears. When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me. For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known. And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”*

1. This passage prophecies miracles will cease. The question is when will the miracles cease. The scripture answers the question “when the perfect comes.” What is not perfect or complete is prophecy and when prophecy is finished then the miracles cease.
2. Prophecy was complete when the apostles completed the scriptures. Miracles ceased when the imperfect message (knowledge, prophecies) became perfect or complete.
3. **James 1:22-25** *“Do not merely listen to the word, and so deceive yourselves. Do what it says. Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.*
4. **Luke 16:31** *“He said to him, ‘If they do not listen to Moses and the Prophets, they will not be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.’”*
5. **Matthew 12:38-39** *“Then some of the Pharisees and teachers of the law said to him, ‘Teacher, we want to see a sign from you.’ He answered, ‘A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.’”*

**VI. Perversions of the Holy Spirit – Counterfeit Miracles & Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit:** Satan uses miracles to deceive people today, so we must love the truth, message. Blasphemy of the Holy Spirit: **(Matthew 12:31-32)**, False Spirits **(1 John 4:1)**, Unforgivable sin **(1 John 5:16-17)**, Deliberate sin **(Hebrews 10:26-31)**

**A. 2 Thessalonians 2:7-10** *“For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way. And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming. The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. **He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve***

*the lie, and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. **They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.** For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie and so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.”*

- B. 2 Corinthians 11:13-15** *“For such people **are false apostles, deceitful workers, masquerading as apostles of Christ.** And no wonder, for Satan himself masquerades as an angel of light. It is not surprising, then, if his servants also masquerade as servants of righteousness. Their end will be what their actions deserve.”*
- C. Matthew 12:30-32** *“Whoever is not with me is against me, and whoever does not gather with me scatters. And so I tell you, every kind of sin and slander can be forgiven, but **blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven.** Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone **who speaks against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven, either in this age or in the age to come.**”*
- D. Hebrews 10:26-31** *“If we deliberately keep on sinning after we have received the knowledge of the truth, **no sacrifice for sins is left,** but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has insulted the Spirit of grace? For we know him who said, ‘It is mine to avenge; I will repay,’ and again, ‘The Lord will judge his people.’ It is a dreadful thing to fall into the hands of the living God.”*
- E. 1 Corinthians 14: 1-40** *“1 Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy. 2 For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit. 3 But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort. 4 **Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church.** 5 I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. **The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be edified.** 6 Now, brothers and sisters, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction? 7 Even in the case of lifeless things that make sounds, such as the pipe or harp, how will anyone know what tune is being played unless there is a distinction in the notes? 8 Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle? 9 So it is with you. **Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are saying? You will just be speaking into the air.** 10 Undoubtedly there are all sorts of*

*languages in the world, yet none of them is without meaning. 11 If then I do not grasp the meaning of what someone is saying, I am a foreigner to the speaker, and the speaker is a foreigner to me. 12 So it is with you. Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church. 13 For this reason the one who speaks in a tongue should pray that they may interpret what they say. 14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. 15 So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding. 16 Otherwise when you are praising God in the Spirit, how can someone else, who is now put in the position of an inquirer, say "Amen" to your thanksgiving, since they do not know what you are saying? 17 You are giving thanks well enough, but no one else is edified. 18 I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. 19 But in the church I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue. 20 Brothers and sisters, stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults. 21 In the Law it is written: "With other tongues and through the lips of foreigners I will speak to this people, but even then they will not listen to me, says the Lord." 22 Tongues, then, are a sign, not for believers but for unbelievers; prophecy, however, is not for unbelievers but for believers. 23 So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind? 24 But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in while everyone is prophesying, they are convicted of sin and are brought under judgment by all, 25 as the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, "God is really among you!" 26 What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? **When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up.** 27 If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret. 28 If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God. 29 Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said. 30 And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop. 31 For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encouraged. 32 The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets. 33 **For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—as in all the congregations of the Lord's people.** 34 Women should remain silent in the churches. They are not allowed to speak, but must be in submission, as the law says. 35 If they want to inquire about something, they should ask their own husbands at home; for it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in the church. 36 Or did the word of*

God originate with you? Or are you the only people it has reached? 37 If anyone thinks they are a prophet or otherwise gifted by the Spirit, let them acknowledge that what I am writing to you is the Lord's command. 38 But if anyone ignores this, they will themselves be ignored. 39 **Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. 40 But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.**"

### Paradigmatic Passages:

#### I. 2 Thessalonians 2:1-12                      Antichrist

- A. (Vs. 1) *"Concerning the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ and our being gathered to him, we ask you, brothers and sisters."* The **Second Coming of Christ** was a hope the first-century Christians wanted realized in their lifetime due to the intense persecution the church endured. The disciples thought the Lord's return was imminent. As humans we look at events through our limited perspectives and therefore we do not always understand the plans of God and the bigger picture.
- B. (Vs. 2) *"Not to become easily unsettled or alarmed by the teaching allegedly from us—whether by a prophecy or by word of mouth or by letter—asserting that the day of the Lord has already come."* A false teaching circulating in the first century was the second coming had already occurred and some believers were excluded. Obviously, this was false but the lie did hurt the faith of some disciples and therefore had to be refuted.
- C. (Vs. 3) *"Don't let anyone deceive you in any way, for that day will not come until the rebellion occurs and the man of lawlessness is revealed, the man doomed to destruction."* The significant event that would mark the second coming of Christ according to Paul was the activity of the lawless one or Satan. Some events precluding the Coming of Christ included:
1. **Rebellion** – *"not come until the rebellion occurs"*
  2. **Antichrist** – *"not until the man of lawlessness is revealed"*
  3. **Idolatry** – *"not until he sets himself up in God's temple"*
- D. (Vs. 4) *"He will oppose and will exalt himself over everything that is called God or is worshiped, so that he sets himself up in God's temple, proclaiming himself to be God."* The Antichrist will claim to be God and oppose truth. Satan profanes the sacred and exalts himself above the Divine.
1. **Rebel** – *"He will oppose everything that is called God."*
  2. **Curse** – *"He will exalt himself over everything that is called God."*
  3. **Profane** – *"He will set himself up in God's temple."*
  4. **Blaspheme** – *"He will proclaim himself to be God."*
- E. (Vs. 5) *"Don't you remember that when I was with you I used to tell you these things?"* Paul had warned the Thessalonians false teachers and scoffers would come to deceive the church. Lies are insidious and difficult to detect until their bitter fruit reveals the deception.

- F.** (Vs. 6) *“And now you know what is holding him back, so that he may be revealed at the proper time.”* God reminds the Thessalonians that Satan has limited power. The Devil cannot tempt Christians beyond what can be endured. *“No temptation has overtaken you except what is common to mankind. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can endure it.”* **1 Corinthians 10:13**
- G.** (Vs. 7) *“For the secret power of lawlessness is already at work; but the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.”* The antichrist is active in the world even though limited. God allows Satan to tempt humans for the sake of free-will. We have a choice to follow God or Satan but God limits the devil otherwise the lawless ones activity would be overwhelming. The world seems incredibly evil even with Satan’s limitations.
- H.** (Vs. 8) *“And then the lawless one will be revealed, whom the Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming.”* God power over Satan occurs in the following ways:
- 1. Limitations** – *“But the one who now holds it back will continue to do so till he is taken out of the way.”*
  - 2. Doomed** – *“The Lord Jesus will overthrow with the breath of his mouth and destroy by the splendor of his coming.”*
  - 3. Exposed** – *“And then the lawless one will be revealed.”*
- I.** (Vs. 9) *“The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie,”* The description of Satan’s works include the following:
- 1. Counterfeit Miracles** – *“displays of power through signs and wonders”*
  - 2. False Doctrines** – *“all sorts of displays that serve the lie”*
  - 3. Sinful Deception** – *“all the ways that wickedness deceives”*
- J.** (Vs. 10) *“And all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.”* The way to avoid Satan’s deception is to **“Love the Truth!”** Truth-lovers guard their heart, soul and mind by the **Word of God**. Every teaching must be examined and analyzed through the sieve of scripture. **Orthodox Doctrine** guards Christians from Satan’s lies. **What is the book, chapter and verse for every doctrine?**
- K.** (Vs. 11) *“For this reason God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie.”* The road to hell is paved with lies, deception, counterfeit miracles, idolatry, immorality and false doctrine. God allows unbelievers to follow their choice of Satan in the following manner:
- 1. Delusion** – *“God sends them a powerful delusion so that they will believe the lie.”*
  - 2. Condemned** – *“And so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.”*
  - 3. Deceived** – *““And all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing.”*

- L. (Vs. 12) *“And so that all will be condemned who have not believed the truth but have delighted in wickedness.”* Believing the truth and purification from sin protects believers. Accepting falsehoods and delighting in wickedness seals the fate of the damned.

## II. 1 Corinthians 12:1-11

### Miraculous Gifts and Worship

- A. (Vs. 1) *“Now about the gifts of the Spirit, brothers and sisters, I do not want you to be uninformed.”* Paul explains the reason and the proper use of the gifts of the Holy Spirit to the Corinthians.
- B. (Vs. 2) *“You know that when you were pagans, somehow or other you were influenced and led astray to mute idols.”* He reminds them of their previous ignorance regarding the spiritual world. Worship of a monotheistic God is foreign to pagans who often espouse polytheism. In the ancient world only Judaism and Christianity were monotheistic.
- C. (Vs. 3) *“Therefore I want you to know that no one who is speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus be cursed,” and no one can say, “Jesus is Lord,” except by the Holy Spirit.”* Gifts of revelation are to reveal God. The purpose of miracles and spiritual gifts was to provide true knowledge of God.
  - 1. We are to seek the presence of God. Knowledge of God is gained through his presence.
  - 2. Worship is to commune in the presence of God. Worship is primary theology.
- D. (Vs. 4) *“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit distributes them.”* Miraculous gifts are diverse and no one possesses all the gifts. There is one Holy Spirit that manifests itself in through various gifts.
- E. (Vs. 5) *“There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord.”* Serving God can take various forms and utilizes different gifts and roles.
- F. (Vs. 6) *“There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work.”* There are many different kinds of spiritual gifts given by the Holy Spirit. (Vs. 4-6) Even the diverse gifts are intended to unite. But in Corinth the practice of the various gifts was causing competition and confusion. The triune Godhead is united and relational:
  - 1. Common source – God
  - 2. Common faith – Christ
  - 3. Common power – Spirit
- G. (Vs. 7) *“Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.”* Gifts are given for the common good to be shared with others. Gifts are to be given away! The ultimate goal of the church and the worship is to build up the body of Christ. “Manifestations” is a key word in deciphering the gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- H. (Vs. 8-10) *“To one there is given through the Spirit a message of wisdom, to another a message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still*

*another the interpretation of tongues.*” Paul begins a list of miraculous gifts to be used to reveal God.

1. The Gifts of Revelation include:
  - a. Gift of wisdom (Vs. 8)
  - b. Gift of knowledge (Vs. 8)
  - c. Gift of faith (Vs. 9)
  - d. Gift of healing (Vs. 9)
  - e. Gift of miraculous powers (Vs. 10)
  - f. Gift of prophecy (Vs. 10)
  - g. Gift to distinguish spirits (Vs. 10)
  - h. Gift of tongues (Vs. 10)
  - i. Gift of interpretation of tongues (Vs. 10)
- I. (Vs. 11) *“All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and he distributes them to each one, just as he determines.”* The Spirit determines who receives which gift. There is one Holy Spirit but many manifestations of spiritual gifts. The problem in Corinth was some members exalted one gift over another allowing pride and jealousy to dominate.

### III. 1 Corinthians 14:1-11                      Miraculous Gifts

- A. (Vs. 1) *“Follow the way of love and eagerly desire gifts of the Spirit, especially prophecy.”* Paul transitions from the chapter of love with an exhortation to live love or “follow the way of love.” He then introduces the next issue regarding tongues and prophecy. Pursue spiritual gifts to build up the body of Christ but especially prophecy because prophecy builds up the most people.
- B. (Vs. 2) *“For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God. Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit.”* Speaking in tongues is often a reference to the ability to speak in a foreign language but here the speaking in tongues seems to be a reference to ecstatic utterances. Ecstatic utterances edified the speaker but not the listeners.
- C. (Vs. 3) *“But the one who prophesies speaks to people for their strengthening, encouraging and comfort.”* Prophecy on the other hand edifies both the speaker and the listeners with specifically- encouragement, strength, and comfort. These three elements may be key to understanding the focus of preaching- strengthen the faith, encourage perseverance, and comfort pain.
- D. (Vs. 4) *“Anyone who speaks in a tongue edifies themselves, but the one who prophesies edifies the church.”* Worship is for mutual edification and not merely enhancement of our personal relationship with God. Both should occur in worship not just personal encouragement. The uninterpreted tongue-speech confuses the church.
- E. (Vs. 5) *“I would like every one of you to speak in tongues, but I would rather have you prophesy. The one who prophesies is greater than the one who speaks in tongues, unless someone interprets, so that the church may be*

*edified.*” This verse states a principle of worship: **Church-wide Edification.** We are to build up one another in the church.

- F. (Vs. 6) *“Now, brothers and sisters, if I come to you and speak in tongues, what good will I be to you, unless I bring you some revelation or knowledge or prophecy or word of instruction?”* Without the interpretation of tongues there is no revelation, knowledge, prophecy, or instruction. This list is also a guide for worship and preaching. Preaching should exhibit revelation, or knowledge, or prophecy, or instruction in the word of God. There is no profit if there is no understanding. Uninterpreted tongues do not build up the church because they have no meaning for the church. Tongues are only profitable if it contains some cognitive value (14:6).
- G. (Vs. 7-8) *“Even in the case of lifeless things that make sounds, such as the pipe or harp, how will anyone know what tune is being played unless there is a distinction in the notes? Again, if the trumpet does not sound a clear call, who will get ready for battle?”* Paul uses musical instruments as an illustration of the necessity of distinct interpretation and understanding of notes and by analogy words. Exact language and understandable thought are essential for communication.
- H. (Vs. 9) *“So it is with you. Unless you speak intelligible words with your tongue, how will anyone know what you are saying? You will just be speaking into the air.”* This is a bold rebuke for tongue-speakers who exalted ecstatic utterances above other spiritual gifts. Intelligible words and logical expression are the design of God.
- I. (Vs. 10) *“Undoubtedly there are all sorts of languages in the world, yet none of them is without meaning.”* This verse seems to turn the argument away from ecstatic utterances and indicate that speaking in tongues is in fact a foreign language unknown at times to the tongue speaker.
- J. (Vs. 11) *“If then I do not grasp the meaning of what someone is saying, I am a foreigner to the speaker, and the speaker is a foreigner to me.”* Meaning is essential for spiritual discourse and worship. Language without meaning does not represent greater spirituality as some of the Corinthians thought but lacks meaning.
- K. (Vs. 12) *“So it is with you. Since you are eager for gifts of the Spirit, try to excel in those that build up the church.”* Paul summarizes this section with refocusing the church on the purpose of spiritual gifts, edification of the church. The Corinthians placed a high value on seeking “spirits” and irrational ecstasy (14:12,14).

#### IV. 1 Corinthians 14:13-31      Practical Direction for Worship & the Use of Gifts

- A. (Vs. 13) *“For this reason the one who speaks in a tongue should pray that they may interpret what they say.”* Paul provides guidance that tongue speaking should be accompanied by interpretation.
- B. (Vs. 14) *“For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.”* The distinction between the spirit and the mind is useful in understanding edification and meaning. The mind must be engaged for both to occur.



- C. (Vs. 15) *“So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my understanding; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my understanding.”* Spirit and understanding are both necessary for edification and meaning. Ecstatic utterances that engage the spirit only lack full communion with God and others.
- D. (Vs. 16) *“Otherwise when you are praising God in the Spirit, how can someone else, who is now put in the position of an inquirer, say “Amen” to your thanksgiving, since they do not know what you are saying?”* Following the guiding principle of **Building up the Body** prohibits practices that exclude others in corporate worship especially visitors and guests. Worship should reveal God to all and not exclude inquirers/unbelievers. Worship in the assembly must: Praise God; Edify the Believer; Be Intelligible to the Visitor.
- E. (Vs. 17) *“You are giving thanks well enough, but no one else is edified.”* Personal edification occurs in tongue speaking without meaning but not communal edification.
- F. Vs. 18-19) *“I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you. But in the church I would rather speak five intelligible words to instruct others than ten thousand words in a tongue.”* Paul boldly pronounces judgment on tongue speaking in corporate worship without interpretation: **Stop exclusive practices of tongue speaking in corporate worship.**
- G. (Vs. 20) *“Brothers and sisters, stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults.”* Paul accuses the Corinthians of thinking like children. He is boldly challenging the church to grow up spiritually and not compete in exercising their gifts.
- H. (Vs. 21) *“In the Law it is written: “With other tongues and through the lips of foreigners I will speak to this people, but even then they will not listen to me, says the Lord.”* This verse references **Isaiah 28:22** referring to “tongues” as a sign of judgment.
- I. (Vs. 22) *“Tongues, then, are a sign, not for believers but for unbelievers; prophecy, however, is not for unbelievers but for believers.”* This verse clearly declares tongues are to be used to witness to unbelievers in reference to speaking the Word of God in their language while prophecy/preaching is for believers.
- J. (Vs. 23) *“So if the whole church comes together and everyone speaks in tongues, and inquirers or unbelievers come in, will they not say that you are out of your mind?”* Speaking in a foreign language to people who do not speak that language is fruitless. Without understanding there is no meaning. Ecstatic utterances and emotional babbling seems crazy to seekers who hear no meaning.
- K. (Vs. 24) *“But if an unbeliever or an inquirer comes in while everyone is prophesying, they are convicted of sin and are brought under judgment by all,”* Preaching God’s word and prophecy convicts sin through the power of the Holy Spirit.
- L. (Vs. 25) *“As the secrets of their hearts are laid bare. So they will fall down and worship God, exclaiming, “God is really among you!”* Worship is the

natural response to revelation. When God is revealed we prostrate ourselves in reverence and praise. The word of God judges the secret of our hearts and produces conviction and awe of God. The presence of God is recognized through conviction rather than by ecstasy.

- M.** (Vs. 26) *“What then shall we say, brothers and sisters? When you come together, each of you has a hymn, or a word of instruction, a revelation, a tongue or an interpretation. Everything must be done so that the church may be built up.”* **Guiding Principle: Build up the Church.** Paul is bold when he addresses issues that tear down the church and calls for **singing, teaching, revelation/preaching, and tongues with interpretation** only be practiced in the church for edification. In particular, one may have a hymn, which probably refers to “solos” or someone sharing with the congregation a hymn they have written, or a Psalm they have chosen to sing/chant before the church.
- N.** (Vs. 27) *“If anyone speaks in a tongue, two—or at the most three—should speak, one at a time, and someone must interpret.”* Paul provides practical guidance for the speaking in tongues in corporate worship. Only three people were allowed to speak in the assembly.
- O.** (Vs. 28) *“If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and to God.”* Silence and personal edification must be practiced in the church by tongue-speakers if there is no interpretation.
- P.** (Vs. 29) *“Two or three prophets should speak, and the others should weigh carefully what is said.”* Paul also allowed only three prophets to speak in the corporate worship. The church should “weigh” or analyze/examine the prophecy to determine the validity of the message. Did the prophecy agree with the written word of God?
- Q.** (Vs. 30) *“And if a revelation comes to someone who is sitting down, the first speaker should stop.”* Protocol and decorum was required in the church with never two speakers at the same time. Respect for the speaker is foremost in worship.
- R.** (Vs. 31-32) *“For you can all prophesy in turn so that everyone may be instructed and encourage. The spirits of prophets are subject to the control of prophets.”* Paul confirms that the prophet must exercise self-control in sharing prophecy. The Spirit does not take over a person or deny their free will.
- S.** (Vs. 33) *“For God is not a God of disorder but of peace—as in all the congregations of the Lord's people.”* **Guiding Principle: Peace and Order are the decorum of worship.** Paul is convinced that the goal of edification necessitates some "order" (14:40) in the assembly activities because God is the God of order (peace) rather than disorder (14:33). Paul corrects three kinds of disorder in this text:
1. First, tongue speakers were speaking without interpreters and they were all speaking at once. Paul wants only two (and at the most three) to speak. If there is no interpreter, then the tongue speaker should be silent (14:28). Tongue speakers should control themselves.
  2. Second, prophets should control themselves and speak in some kind of order. Two or three should speak while the other judge their prophecies. If

any prophet receives a revelation, the others should be silent (14:30).  
Prophets should control themselves.

3. Third, women should maintain order as well by being silent. Just as in the case of the tongue speakers and the prophets, this is not total silence. Just as the tongue speakers could still sing, pray, etc., so could the women. Silence is enjoined in a specific situation, which is alluded to in verse 35. Women should not act in an insubmissive (disruptive) manner.
- T.** (Vs. 34) *“Women should remain silent in the churches. They are not allowed to speak, but must be in submission, as the law says.”* The prohibition for women speaking in tongues or prophesying in the church is declarative. Paul has already explained the necessity for women to be under authority and in submission in the church. (**See 1 Corinthians 11**) Rather, Paul is applying the principle of order. Order means that the disorder of the Corinthians must be corrected. God is the God of order in all the assemblies of the church (14:33, and 33b belongs with verse 33a rather than with 34). Part of the "order" is that women act consistently with the "law" (Old Testament), that is, women act in a submissive manner. Order means that women do not violate God's intention for male "headship" which Paul has already discussed in 11:3-10. The Corinthian women were violating that "order" and thus Paul wants them to stop speaking in disruptive or insubmissive ways.
- U.** (Vs. 35) *“If they want to inquire about something, they should ask their own husbands at home; for it is disgraceful for a woman to speak in the church.”* The reference may be **Genesis 3:16**- *“To the woman he said, “I will make your pains in childbearing very severe; with painful labor you will give birth to children. Your desire will be for your husband, and he will rule over you.”*
- V.** (Vs. 36) *“Or did the word of God originate with you? Or are you the only people it has reached?”* Paul reminds the Corinthians of their place in the big picture. It seems they were thinking too highly of themselves. Spiritual pride is divisive and arrogant. The Corinthians are not the standard (14:36--the word of God did not originate with them, nor are they the only one's who have received the word). It seems Paul commands women to be totally silent in the assembly (e.g., no singing, no confessing, no praying, etc.), but this does not recognize the specific situation of this text and it contradicts 11:3-6. The verse prohibits women from either or all of the following: (1) asking their husbands questions during their prophesying, or (2) disrupting the judging of the prophets by asking questions, or (3) disrupting the assembly by insubmissive behavior. The law does not command silence. Rather, it commands submission. Silence is an application of the principle of submission in this specific situation.
- W.** (Vs. 37) *“If anyone thinks they are a prophet or otherwise gifted by the Spirit, let them acknowledge that what I am writing to you is the Lord's command.”* True prophets were to confirm Paul's instructions as inspired by God or Paul considers them false prophets.
- X.** (Vs. 38) *“But if anyone ignores this, they will themselves be ignored.”* Paul exercises his authority as an apostle by issuing judgment upon anyone who would reject this instruction.

Y. (Vs. 39) *“Therefore, my brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues.”* This verse summarizes Paul’s direction to emphasize prophecy in worship and minimize tongue speaking.

Z. (Vs. 40) *“But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way.”*

**Guiding Principle: Worship in an appropriate and orderly, disciplined manner.**

**V. 1 Corinthians 13:1-16**

**Love Defined**

A. (Vs. 1) *“If I speak in the tongues of men or of angels, but do not have love, I am only a resounding gong or a clanging cymbal.”* A problem in Corinth was a lack of Christian love for one another. Defining love in 13:4-7 means that the opposite was present in Corinth. The problem focused on the jealousies surrounding the various gifts. Tongues without love is an annoying noise to others.

B. (Vs. 2) *“If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.”* Love is the motive of everything good. Prophecy and faith without love may solve every mystery and possess all knowledge and do miracles but without true love the outcomes are not eternal. Performance without heart is nothing!

C. (Vs. 3) *“If I give all I possess to the poor and give over my body to hardship that I may boast, but do not have love, I gain nothing.”* Generosity without love is meaningless. Martyrdom without love is a worthless death. Nothing is gained and nothing is eternal without the proper heart, motivation, and glorification of God.

D. (Vs. 4) *“Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud.”* Love is at the root patient and kind. The foundation of true love is patience and kindness. Love is not:

1. Boastful- Not insecure or competitive
2. Proud- Not Arrogant or defensive
3. Rude- Not hurtful and insensitive
4. Self-seeking- Not selfish
5. Easily Angered- Not mad, unstable, short-fused
6. No Record of Wrong- Not unforgiving or vindictive

E. (Vs. 5) *“It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, and it keeps no record of wrongs.”* Love requires maturity, self-denial, and self-control. True love is forgiving!

F. (Vs. 6) *“Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth.”* (Vs. 7) *“It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, and always perseveres.”* Love does:

1. Not delight in evil- Love is righteous
2. Rejoices with the truth- Obeys the Word of God, Honest
3. Protects- Provides security, unconditional and steadfast love, grows in love
4. Trusts- Maintains covenant
5. Hopes- Believes and dreams
6. Perseveres- Remains faithful and committed

- G. (Vs. 8) *“Love never fails. But where there are prophecies, they will cease; where there are tongues, they will be stilled; where there is knowledge, it will pass away.”* Love lasts forever (13:8-13). True love is the ultimate spiritual sign! **John 13:35** *“By this all men will know that you are my disciples, by your love for one another.”* The miraculous gifts of tongues, prophecy, and knowledge will not last. **Love lasts!**
- H. (Vs. 9) *“For we know in part and we prophesy in part.”* What is partial? Our knowledge and revelation of God is incomplete, not finished or perfect. The inspired new covenant was not finished, whole.
- I. (Vs. 10) *“But when perfect [completeness] comes, what is in part disappears.”* A time is coming when only love will matter; only love lasts. At some part the covenant was completed until Christ return. **(See John 14:17- “The Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you.”** Promise of complete revelation to the apostles. **John 17:13-14** *“I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.”*)
- J. (Vs. 11) *“When I was a child, I talked like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I put the ways of childhood behind me.”* This analogy of looking in a mirror is also used in **James 1:23-25** *“Anyone who listens to the word but does not do what it says is like someone who looks at his face in a mirror and, after looking at himself, goes away and immediately forgets what he looks like. But whoever looks intently into the perfect law that gives freedom, and continues in it—not forgetting what they have heard, but doing it—they will be blessed in what they do.”*
- K. Vs. 12) *“For now we see only a reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.”* This seems to be referring to seeing Jesus face to face in heaven but I believe it is referring to looking into the perfect law of liberty, the word of God. In heaven we will still have love but not faith and hope since both hope and faith will have been realized. **(See Romans 8:24, Hebrews 11:1)**
- L. (Vs. 13) *“And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.”* The trinity of heaven is the Father, Son and Holy Spirit and the trinity of earth is Faith, Hope, and Love. Christians build their lives on Faith, Hope, and Love.

## VI. Acts 2:1-13 The Church Has Great Power – Holy Spirit

- A. (Vs. 1-4) The Baptism of the Holy Spirit occurred on Pentecost as the disciples were together.
  - 1. Significant characteristics of the Baptism/Immersion of the Holy Spirit included:
    - a. A violent wind filled the house. (Vs. 2)
    - b. Tongues of fire rested on each of them. (Vs. 3)

- c. Filled with the Holy Spirit (Vs. 4)
    - d. Spoke in tongues through the Holy Spirit (Vs. 4)
  - B. (Vs. 5-13) God-fearing Jews from every nation were in Jerusalem for Pentecost.
    - 1. They heard the disciples speaking the languages of all the nations. The speaking in tongues was the gift of foreign languages for evangelism. (Vs. 8)
    - 2. List of nations included: Parthians, Medes, Elamites, Mesopotamians, Judeans, Cappadocian, Pontus, Asia, Phrygian, Pamphylia, Egypt, Romans, Cretans and Arabs. (Vs. 10-11)
    - 3. Initially they dismissed the sign as drunkenness. (Vs 13)

**VII. Acts 10:24-48 Conversion of the First Gentiles**

- A. Peter went to Cornelius' house because he understood God's message to him. *"But God has shown me that I should not call any man impure or unclean."* (Vs. 28) Peter broke Jewish law to obey God.
- B. Cornelius gathered his family and close relationships at his home to hear the gospel from Peter. Cornelius was vigorously evangelistic before his conversion. (Vs. 24) Cornelius was a humble man who realized the significance of Peter's visit. (Vs. 25) *"He fell at his feet in reverence."* Peter also was humbled to be a servant of God, *"I am only a man myself."* (Vs. 26)
- C. Cornelius sent for Peter to hear God's word and worship. *"Now we are all here in the presence of God to listen to everything the Lord has commanded you to tell us."* (Vs. 33)
- D. (Vs. 34-43) Peter preaches the Gospel to the Gentiles, the good news of Jesus Christ.
  - 1. (Vs. 34) God shows no favoritism.
  - 2. (Vs. 35) God accepts people from all nations who fear him and do what is right.
  - 3. (Vs. 36) The message to the Jews was the good news of peace through Jesus Christ the Lord of all.
  - 4. (Vs. 37) Historical events of John the Baptist's preaching and baptism
  - 5. (Vs. 38) God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and miraculous power which he used to heal and overcome the power of the devil.
  - 6. (Vs. 39) The disciples are witnesses for Jesus of his death.
  - 7. (Vs. 40-41) Witnesses of the resurrection
  - 8. (Vs. 42) Disciples commission to preach and testify to the Lordship of Jesus as the judge of the living and the dead.
  - 9. (Vs. 43) The prophets testify to salvation in the name of Jesus by believing in him as the Christ for the forgiveness of sins.
- E. God expressed a sign that the Gentiles could be saved in the name of Jesus by sending the Holy Spirit upon all of them. (Vs. 44) The Jewish

witnesses with Peter acknowledge God had sent the Holy Spirit to the Gentiles. (Vs. 45)

- F. (Vs. 46) Evidence of the miraculous gift of the Holy Spirit was the speaking of tongues and praise of God.
- G. (Vs. 47-48) Peter understood the miraculous sign as testimony from God for the salvation of the Gentiles. (Acts 11:15-18) Since they had received the miraculous gift of the Holy Spirit to speak in tongues, Peter called for their baptism in the name of Jesus in water for forgiveness of sins. (Vs. 48) *“So he ordered that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ.”*

### VIII. Acts 2:1-13 The Church Has Great Power – Holy Spirit

- A. (Vs. 1-4) The Baptism of the Holy Spirit occurred on Pentecost as the disciples were together obeying the command of Christ from chapter one.
  - 1. (Vs. 1) *“1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.”* Significant characteristics of the Baptism/Immersion of the Holy Spirit included:
    - a. (Vs. 2) *“Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.”* A violent wind filled the house.
    - b. (Vs. 3) *“They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.”* Tongues of fire rested on each of them.
    - c. (Vs. 4) *“All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.”* Filled with the Holy Spirit
    - d. Spoke in tongues or foreign languages through the power of the Holy Spirit (Vs. 4)
- B. (Vs. 5-13) God-fearing Jews from every nation were in Jerusalem for Pentecost.
  - 2. (Vs. 5) *“Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven.”* They heard the disciples speaking the languages of all the nations.
  - 3. (Vs. 6) *“When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken.”* People were shocked they heard their foreign language in Jerusalem since Greek was the universal language.
  - 4. (Vs. 7) *“Utterly amazed, they asked: ‘Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans?’* The miracle was Galileans were speaking these foreign languages. The majority of the disciples were not from the educated class.
  - 5. (Vs. 8) *“Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language?”* The speaking in tongues was the gift of foreign languages for evangelism.

6. (Vs. 9) *“Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia.”*
7. (Vs. 10) *“Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome.”* This is the list of nations and foreign languages included: Parthians, Medes, Elamites, Mesopotamians, Judeans, Cappadocian, Pontus, Asia, Phrygian, Pamphylia, Egypt, Romans, Cretans and Arabs.
8. (Vs. 11) *“(Both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!”* God’s message or the gospel was being heard by God’s chosen people (Jews) and unchosen people (Cretans, Arabs-Muslims).
9. (Vs. 12) *“Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?”* The purpose of the miracle was not initially understood which is why Peter explained the sign was the fulfillment of scripture.
10. (Vs 13) *“Some, however, made fun of them and said, “They have had too much wine.”* Initially they dismissed the sign as drunkenness.

#### **IX. Acts 2:36-41 The Church Provides Salvation – Born Again**

- A. (Vs. 36) *“Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah.”* Gospel – Jesus is Lord and Christ. Our sin crucified Jesus.
- B. (Vs. 37) *“When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, “Brothers, what shall we do?”* The gospel must cut the heart producing the response – “What shall we do?”
- C. (Vs. 38-39) Promise of Salvation available to all. Promise includes:
  1. (Vs. 38) *“Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”* **Forgiveness of Sins and the Gift of the Holy Spirit** occurs after **Repentance and Baptism**. Baptism is in the sacred name of Jesus Christ. Invoking the name of Jesus elicits divine power.
  2. (Vs. 39) *“The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”* The promise of salvation was for Peter’s audience and everyone who hears and believes the gospel of Jesus Christ.
- D. Response to the gospel is specifically-
  1. **Believe Jesus is the Christ** acknowledging the deity of Jesus.
  2. **Confess Jesus as Lord** to become a disciple of Christ.
  3. **Repent of sin** to live like Christ.
  4. **Baptism in the name of Jesus Christ** with faith to receive forgiveness of sin and gift of Holy Spirit.
- E. (Vs. 40) *“With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, ‘Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.’”* The message of



salvation included many other words, arguments and pleadings. The call to action announced **“Save yourself from this corrupt generation.”**

- F. (Vs. 41) *“Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.”* Three thousand (3000) were baptized in the name of Jesus to begin the great Church of Christ on Pentecost.