

THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER

(Acts 1:4)

“And gathering them together, He commanded (paragello/ a.a.ind.3ps) [to pass on an important announcement] them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, which He said, ‘you heard from Me.’”

Notice that just prior to His ascension Jesus gave two commands as His Directive Will to His disciples. One was negative (don’t leave Jerusalem) and one was positive (But wait for the promise of the Father).

(Luke 24:49)

“And behold, I am sending forth **the promise of My Father** upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”

This lesson will show five ways The Promise of the Father is the same as Jesus’ baptism of Holy Spirit.

1. “For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” (Acts 1:5)

“Not many days from now” will occur after Jesus’ Ascension and Session. It will begin at the Feast of Pentecost (10 days from Acts 1:1-11).

We have learned that Jesus’ baptism of The Holy Spirit has four phases to it in Book of Acts:

- (Acts 2) Jewish believers;
- (Acts 8) Samaritan believers;
- (Acts 10-11) Gentile believers;
- (Acts 19) Dispersed disciples of John the Baptist.

We also learned that the divine purpose of Jesus’ baptism of The Holy Spirit was to incorporate Jewish Age believers into the body of Christ and to establish the Church of Jesus Christ in the world by the end of the Book of Acts (1 Cor.12).

(Eph.5:23) “For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ is also the head of the church, He himself being the Savior of the body.” (Eph.1:20-23)

2. We learn from the Jerusalem Pentecost of 30AD that the Promise of the Father was attached to the messianic prophecy of Joel 2:28-32.

The Feast of Pentecost recorded in Acts 2 goes back to Lev.23:15-17 (Moses) [15th century BC].

Jesus’ baptism of The Holy Spirit was the first phase of the fulfillment of that messianic age prophecy of (Joel 2:28-32) (835 BC) and recorded in (Acts 2:16-21) (30 AD).

Remember that in the old Covenant (OC) there was no concept of a First and Second Coming of Christ. Joel is a classic example of this principle (Acts 2:14-21)

- “**Last days**” (compare Acts 2:17 with Joel 2:28)
- “**Call upon the name of Lord will be saved**” (compare Acts 2:21 to Joel 2:32).

Therefore, the Joel passage in Acts 2:17-21 covers **both** the First and Second Coming of Christ.

3. What the Jewish believers experienced in Acts 2 will be the pattern for the Samaritans, the Gentiles and the 12 disciples of John the Baptist (JB).

- **Jewish believers:** (Acts 2:4)
 - “And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.”
- **Samaritan believers:** (Acts 8:14-19)
 - “Then they (Peter and John) [Apostolic authority] (Gal.2:8-9) began laying hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.” (Gal.2:17)
- **Gentile believers** (Acts 10:27-29, 44-48; 11:1-3, 9-10, 15-18)
 - “And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He use to say, ‘**John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.**’ Therefore, If **God gave them the same gift in the lord Jesus Christ**, who was I that I could stand in God’s way.” (Acts 11:15-17) (Acts 1:4-5)
- **Dispersed disciples of JB in Ephesus** (Acts 19:1-7)
 - “And when Paul had laid his hands upon them (apostolic authority), the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.” (Acts 19:6)

4. Joel referred to it as “pouring out of the Holy Spirit.” (Joel 2:28; Acts 2:17; Isa.44:3).

(Acts 10:45) “All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.”

It is the first official act of Jesus Christ seated in Session.

(Acts 2:33) “Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the **Father the promise of the Holy Spirit**, He has **poured forth** this which you both see and hear.”

Read first Apostolic decree recorded at the First Church Conference:

(Acts 15:5-9) “But some of the sect of the Pharisees who had believed stood up, saying, “It is necessary to circumcise them and to direct them to observe the Law of Moses.”

The apostles and the elders came together to look into this matter. After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brethren, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles would hear the word of the gospel and believe. And God, who knows the heart, testified to them giving them the Holy Spirit, just as He also did to us; and He made no distinction between us and them, cleansing their hearts by faith.