

THE PROPHECY OF JOEL
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Banská Bystrica, 28th May 2023

Joel 3:1-5

וְהָיָה אַחֲרֵי־כֵן אֲשַׁפּוּד אֶת־רוּחִי עַל־כָּל־בָּשָׂר
וְנִבְאוּ בְנֵיכֶם וּבְנוֹתֵיכֶם זְקֵנֵיכֶם חֲלֹמוֹת
יַחְלְמוּן בַּחֲוִירֵיכֶם חֲזִינֹת יִרְאוּ
וְגַם עַל־הָעֲבָדִים וְעַל־הַשִּׁפְחוֹת בַּיָּמִים
הַהֵמָּה אֲשַׁפּוּד אֶת־רוּחִי
וְנָתַתִּי מוֹפְתִים בַּשָּׁמַיִם וּבָאָרֶץ
דָּם וְאֵשׁ וְחִמְרוֹת עָשָׂן⁴ תִּשְׂמַשׁ יִהְיֶה
לְחֹשֶׁךְ וְהַיָּרֵחַ לְדָם
לִפְנֵי בּוֹא יוֹם יְהוָה הַגָּדוֹל וְהַנּוֹרָא
וְהָיָה כָּל אֲשֶׁר־יִקְרָא בְּשֵׁם יְהוָה יִמָּלֵט כִּי
בְּהַר־צִיּוֹן וּבִירוּשָׁלַם
תִּהְיֶה פְּלִיטָה פֶּאֶשֶׁר אָמַר יְהוָה
וּבְשָׂרֵידִים אֲשֶׁר יְהוָה קָרָא

Joel 2:28-32

"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. ²⁹ Even on the male and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit. ³⁰ "And I will show wonders in the heavens and on the earth, blood and fire and columns of smoke. ³¹ The sun shall be turned to darkness, and the moon to blood, before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ³² And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved. For in Mount Zion and in Jerusalem there shall be those who escape, as the LORD has said, and among the survivors shall be those whom the LORD calls.

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0. INTRODUCTION

0.1. THE FEAST OF PENTECOST (SHAVUOT)

- celebrating: wheat harvest (Ex 34:22); receiving Torah at Sinai; the Messianic Age...

0.2. THE ERA OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- **Zech 4:6** Not by might (חַיִל), nor by power (כֹּחַ), but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.
- Joel → The *last word of God* before **Judgment** (creation; history; Israel; Jesus; Church → judgment) the Spirit at CREATION (Gn 1:2) ↔ the Spirit at PAROUSIA (Rev 22:17)...
- prophecies → Jeremiah; Ezekiel → Acts 1-2 → waiting for the Holy Spirit (the Promise of the Father)

0.3. A CONTROVERSIAL THEME?

[TOZER *Mystery of the Holy Spirit*] The Holy Spirit never enters a man and then lets him live like the world. You can be sure of that. Incidentally, that is the reason most people do not want to be filled with the Holy Spirit; they want to live the way they want to live and have the Holy Spirit as a bit of something extra, as you might have a diamond stickpin or something very beautiful on your clothing. They want the Holy Ghost to be something added, but the Holy Spirit will not be an addition. **The Holy Spirit must be Lord or He will not come at all.**

- **Mk 3:28** People will be forgiven for their sins and whatever blasphemies they utter, but whoever blasphemes against the Holy Spirit can never have forgiveness.
- Montanism (3rd century Phrygia) [SCHAFF:] "a morbid overstraining of the practical morality and discipline of the early church"
- *Filioque* controversy (y.1054) ...Pentecostalism (20th ct) ...Charismatic movement...
- **1Jo 4:1** Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world...

1. THE IDENTITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

1.1. "SPIRIT"

- as the divine *substance*: **John 4:24** God is spirit... → the life in created beings (breathing); (**Ps 104:29** when you take away their breath, (תִּסַּף רִיחָם) they die and return to their dust)
- as the divine *name*: (1) "Father" → plan, (2) "Son" → love, (3) "Spirit" → action (life, power, movement, implementation) → the holy life in the redeemed (worship)

1.2. "HOLY"

- holiness → "victorious purity" (not just *innocence*)
- **Hg 2:12-13** 'If someone carries holy meat in the fold of his garment and touches with his fold bread or stew or wine or oil or any kind of food, does it become holy?' The priests answered and said, "**No.**"¹³ Then Haggai said, "If someone who is unclean by contact with a dead body touches any of these, does it become unclean?" The priests answered and said, "It does become unclean."
- **Ex 29:37** Whatever touches the altar shall become holy.

1.3. PERSONALITY

- grammar?
 - Hebrew: feminine; Greek: neuter → grammar does not solve the problem of identity
 - **John 16:13** When the Spirit of truth comes (ἐκεῖνος, τὸ πνεῦμα τῆς ἀληθείας), he will guide you into all the truth,
- the Holy Spirit (1) thinks, (2) wills, (3) feels...

1.4. THE DIVINE ATTRIBUTES

- All the attributes of the Living God belong to the Holy Spirit as well.

1.5. THE TRINITY

- **John 15:26** But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.

2. THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

2.1. IN CREATION

- **Gn 1:2** And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.
- **John 6:63** The Spirit gives life...

2.2. IN REDEMPTION

- NEW LIFE
 - **John 3:5** Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God"
- PROPHECY
 - **Rev 19:10** ...the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.
- UNDERSTANDING
 - **John 16:13** When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth, for he will not speak on his own authority, but whatever he hears he will speak, and he will declare to you the things that are to come.
- PROTECTION
 - **Eph 1:13** ...believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit.

2.3. IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- **John 14:17** he Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you...

2.4. THE NAMES OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- Isaiah 11:1-2 → wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord

A shoot will come up from the stump of Jesse; from his roots a Branch will bear fruit. The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him the Spirit of (1) wisdom [חֵכֶמָה] and of (2) understanding, [בִּינָה] the Spirit of (3) counsel [עֲצָתָהּ] and of (4) might, [גְּבוּרָתָהּ] the Spirit of the (5) knowledge [דַּעַת] (6) [pietas] and (7) fear of the Lord [יְרֵאָתָהּ יְהוָה] And his delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.
[נִהְרֵיחוּ בְּיְרֵאָתָהּ יְהוָה]

2.5. THE SYMBOLS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

- **SEAL** → 2Cor 1:22; Eph 1:13; 4:30
- **OIL** → richness; healing; calling; commission → anointing (1) kings, (2) prophets, (3) priests
- **FIRE** → purity; cleansing → Acts 2:3
- **WATER** (RAIN, RIVER, DEW) → cleansing; life (drinking) → John 4:14; **John 7:38** Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart (ἐκ τῆς κοιλίας αὐτοῦ) will flow rivers of living water.'
- **LIGHT** → guidance; truth; life → 1John 2:27: "But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him."
- **WIND** → power; destruction; judgment → Acts 2:1-2;

- **DOVE** → love; gentleness; → Jesus' baptism
- **WINE** → joy; release → Psa. 51:12: "Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; Drink offerings → usually wine but also "strong drink" (Num 28:7). → Rom 14:17

3. NEW TESTAMENT PROMISES

- **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.

3.1. THE PARACLETE

- **παράκλητος** → called 'to one's aid, assisting, esp. in a court of justice, Lat. advocatus : hence a legal assistant, advocate
- **John 14:16** And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever...
- **Rom 5:5** God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us... (**John 14:18** I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you)
- **Gal 4:6** And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son (τὸ πνεῦμα τοῦ υἱοῦ αὐτοῦ) into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"
- **Rom 8:16** The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God...
- **Mk 13:11** And when they bring you to trial and deliver you over, do not be anxious beforehand what you are to say, but say whatever is given you in that hour, for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit.

3.2. THE SANCTIFIER

- **Eze 11:19** 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 - **Eze 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
- **2Thess 2:13** ...God chose you as the first fruits to be saved, through sanctification by the Spirit and belief in the truth.
- **Rom 8:26** For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words

3.3. THE CREATOR OF COMMUNITY

- 1Cor 12 → the *charismata* → the *life of the Body*...

3.4. THE EVANGELIST

- **John 16:14** He will glorify me...
- **Acts 1:8** you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses...
- **John 16:7-8** 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. ⁸ And when he comes, he will convict the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment:
- **Eph 5:18** And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit,

4. TO REMEMBER

- The Holy Spirit is to be *worshipped* with the Father and the Son. But through Christ *in the Spirit* we have access to the Father (**Eph 2:18** For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father)
- The Holy Spirit is known through his work and his presence.

- We can serve the Lord with joy and power when we are daily being filled with the Spirit. (Rom 14:17 → Kingdom of God is (1) righteousness, (2) peace, (3) joy in the Holy Spirit).