

Acts # 19 “Peter’s Explanation” Acts 2:14-16; Luke 4:1-30

Ascension day began in Jerusalem at the Mount of Olives and ended in glory at right hand of the Father in the Third Heaven, with Jesus Christ’s reception of the power and grace of God the Holy Spirit, only to freely send Him to the new Church.

Our Lord’s birth was a direct result of the Holy Spirit’s ministry and no doubt, during His first thirty years on earth in Nazareth, He was continuously filled with the Holy Spirit, being taught and influenced by His Mentor.

Jesus knew this full-well as He stood in the synagogue of Nazareth, conscious that the Spirit of the Lord was upon Him and that He had been anointed to preach the Good News.

It was in the power of the Holy Spirit that Jesus Christ offered Himself on the cross and through the Spirit of holiness, He was declared to be the Son of God with power by the resurrection from the dead and it was also through the enabling power of the Holy Spirit that He gave commands during the 40 days of His post-resurrection ministry.

Up until Jesus’ ascension, His Church was not baptized, indwelt, filled, sealed or gifted by the Holy Spirit. *But after His ascension, all this was changed when Jesus Christ entered the presence of God as the representative Man of all believers, the Pioneer Provider of His people.*

Acts 2 begins with the outpouring of the Spirit and ends with a wonderful picture of unconditional love and unselfishness, which led to the inner joy and simplicity of the Church.

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We don’t know the exact time the Holy Spirit arrived that morning but we do know that by 9 in the morning, the crowd has gathered and have already heard the Gospel in their own languages.

A quotation does not always interpret; a quotation sometimes illustrates.

Peter quotes Joel 2:28-32 and Pentecost is not the fulfilment of Joel 2:28-32 but simply an illustration to rebuke the accusation of drunkenness.

Peter’s point is: these believers are actually using the gift of tongues under the power of the Holy Spirit and they can no more be charged with drunkenness than the believers Joel is speaking of.

There are three categories who receive the filling of the Holy Spirit and they demonstrate that the filling of the Holy Spirit is not given on the basis of human merit but as a part of God’s grace package.

So, Peter’s point is: regardless of any distinctions in the human race; in the Millennium at the beginning, there are only believers and all believers receive the Holy Spirit without exception.

If there is a conflict between our emotions and what the Word of God says, the Word is right and the emotions are wrong.

The purpose of the filling of the Holy Spirit is to produce the character of Christ in us; it’s not to produce

emotional ecstasies; *Gal 4:19; 5:22-23.*

But the production of the character of Christ is not necessary in the Millennium because Jesus Christ is present.

So, the filling of the Holy Spirit in the Millennium is given to believers to appreciate Jesus Christ who is present and you can bank on it, this is done by way of emotional ecstasies.