

Healing Through the Word – Session 4

A little side trip today -

Praying and worshiping in preparation for tonight several things were impressed upon me:

*Romans 1:16 – “For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the **power** of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.”*

*1 Corinthians 2:1-5 – “And I, brethren, when I came to you, did not come with excellence of speech or of wisdom declaring to you the testimony of God. ² For I determined not to know anything among you except Jesus Christ and Him crucified. ³ I was with you in weakness, in fear, and in much trembling. ⁴ And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, **but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power**, ⁵ that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.”*

On Mount Olivet Jesus’ commands are made known before His ascension –

Luke 1:1-2 – “The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, ² until the day in which He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen,”

Jesus began it, we are to finish the job:

*Acts 1:4, 5, 8 – “And being assembled together with them, He commanded them 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.”*

*“⁸ But you shall receive **power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*

Then came Pentecost and the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

I don’t care (comparatively) whether you speak in tongues or not, but that seems to be the primary focus of much of the full gospel church, but where is the power? Have you seen the power? – One man’s revelation in 30 years becomes ritual. We

have seen people coach tongues, even saying, “Repeat after me, ‘Yabba Dabba Do.’”

I have seen too much and been used by God too much to remain silent in the face of not seeing the power transform as it did in the early church. I cannot forget what I have seen of the **power** of the gospel. We talk about power but rarely see it.

That word translated power is “dunamis” from which we get the words dynamo and dynamite. Have you seen any of that? I want to again see the glory and power of God move that we are healed and that by the demonstration of that power thousands are added to the church daily.

John Knox in Scotland faced with persecution by the Roman Catholic Mary, Queen of Scots, cried out to the Lord, “Give me Scotland, or I die.” After seeing so much I have become comfortable, and this quote humbled me. Have we become too comfortable in our faith? I have been terribly uncomfortable with where we are, and my desire is for you to be equally uncomfortable that we would be healed and minister the gospel in the power the Bible promises.

It is by the power of the Holy Spirit that we are transformed and have our minds renewed and it is by the power of the Holy Spirit that we believe. This power is necessary for us to believe and walk in our own healing, and to minister that power to others. It is by this power that the world was turned right side up.

Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed?

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit

John the Baptist made a distinction and clearly separated water baptism from the baptism in or with the Holy Spirit:

Matthew 3:11 “¹¹ I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit ^[a]and fire.”

Mark 1:7, 8 “⁷ And he preached, saying, ‘There comes One after me who is mightier than I, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. ⁸ I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.’”

Luke 3:16 “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 loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.’”

The words of Christ confirm this:

John 7:37, 38³⁸ “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.’³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those [a]believing in Him would receive; for the [b]Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.”

Post resurrection Christ breathed on the disciples to receive the Holy Spirit, but Scripture proves this not to be the baptism with the Holy Spirit as He had not yet been glorified. As the first born from the dead, this is likely their baptism into Christ, by the indwelling of the Spirit:

John 20: “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’”.

Immediately before His ascension, 40 days after His resurrection, Christ commanded His disciples to wait for the “Promise of the Father.” This is the baptism of the Holy Spirit with power to be witnesses, in power:

Acts 1:4, 5, 8 “⁴ And being assembled together with them, He commanded them 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.⁸ But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be [c]witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.’”

Three days in the grave since His death on Passover and 40 days on the earth He ascended into heaven and then 7 days later – a total of 50 days after Passover, came Pentecost and the baptism in the Holy Spirit:

*Acts 2:1-4 “When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all [a]with one accord in one place. ² And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ Then there appeared to them [b]divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. ⁴ And **they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and (they) began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.**”*

This not only fulfilled John the Baptist’s prophesy but Christ’s own words and before that, the Prophet Joel’s:

“¹⁴ But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, ‘Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. ¹⁵ For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only ^[e]the third hour of the day. ¹⁶ But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel’:

*¹⁷ ‘And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,
That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh;
Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
Your young men shall see visions,
Your old men shall dream dreams.*

*¹⁸ And on My menservants and on My maidservants
I will pour out My Spirit in those days;
And they shall prophesy.*

*¹⁹ I will show wonders in heaven above
And signs in the earth beneath:
Blood and fire and vapor of smoke.*

*²⁰ The sun shall be turned into darkness,
And the moon into blood,
Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord.*

*²¹ And it shall come to pass
That whoever calls on the name of the Lord
Shall be saved.’”*

This baptism in the Holy Spirit was not just for that one day for those assembled at that time, but it is a Promise of the Father to all generations:

Acts 2:38, 39 “³⁸ Then Peter said to them, ‘Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the [k]remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.’”

In Samaria the people came to salvation through Philip the deacon and then the apostles came down and they received the baptism in the Holy Spirit – distinctly separate events. Simon the sorcerer saw or heard something that informed him that the Holy Spirit had been received by the believers:

Acts 8:12-17 “¹² But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. ¹³ Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was

baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done.

14 Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, 15 who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

18 And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, 19 saying, 'Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit.'"

Salvation, belief in Christ always precedes water baptism and the baptism with the Spirit as Philip ministers. We see three separate events:

Acts 8:35-37 “³⁵ Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. ³⁶ Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, ‘See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?’

³⁷ [\[1\]](#) Then Philip said, ‘If you believe with all your heart, you may.’

And he answered and said, ‘I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God.’”

We see that Paul came to salvation, then was baptized with the Holy Spirit and then received water baptism as a sign:

Acts 9:17, 18 “¹⁷ And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, ‘Brother Saul, the Lord [\[2\]](#) Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.’ ¹⁸ Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized.”

Peter went to Cornelius' house and preached Jesus, they believed and received the baptism with the Holy Spirit and we see the Jews with Peter had an evidence of this:

Acts 10:44-48 “⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. ⁴⁵ And **those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the**

Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. 46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.

Then Peter answered, ⁴⁷ ‘Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?’ ⁴⁸ And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.” Here they received the baptism in the Spirit before being water baptized.

Believers in Ephesus had not even heard of the baptism in the Holy Spirit so Paul laid hands on them and Jesus who is the baptizer, baptized them in the Holy Spirit with an initial evidence:

Acts 19:1-5 “And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples ² he said to them, ‘Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?’

So they said to him, ‘We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.’

³ And he said to them, ‘Into what then were you baptized?’

So they said, ‘Into John’s baptism.’

⁴ Then Paul said, ‘John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.’

*⁵ When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ **And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.”***

Seek the baptism in the Holy Spirit and in faith believe for nothing less than your Promise of the Father for yourself. The Holy Spirit will give you the utterance all you must do is speak. ...but expect the power!

Remember that this is not the gift of the Spirit of tongues which requires interpretation – 1 Corinthians 12.

Prayer in tongues edifies yourself and builds you up on your holy faith:

Acts 14:2, 4 “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. ⁴ He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself,”

Jude 20 “²⁰ But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,”

Does God not want you to edify yourself and build yourself up on your most holy faith? The Promise is for you!

My challenge to you is to be like the Bereans: *Acts 17:11– “These were more fair-minded than those in Thessalonica, in that they received the word with all readiness, and searched the Scriptures daily to find out whether these things were so.”*

Don’t just trust or believe me or any other teacher or preacher, search the Scriptures to see if these things are so. Even when a prophet speaks the Scripture tells us the other prophets are to judge, don’t just swallow what you’re told.

Romans 12:1, 2

Luke 13: 10-16

Hebrews 7:22

Hebrews 8:6

Jehovah Rapha - *Exodus 15:26 – “...and said, ‘If you diligently heed the voice of the Lord your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will **put** none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the Lord who heals you.’”*

Again, recalling the relational compound redemptive Name of Jehovah Rapha, “I am the Lord who heals you.” Please don’t look for a way to think that God is waiting for an opportunity to “put something on you.”

Don’t dismiss His Name and Who He is relationally to you because He never changes. The Egyptians had no relationship with Jehovah, in fact they rejected Him and sought to end the Jewish lineage. Pharaoh had sown what Egypt would later reap.

You can’t honestly believe that the God who loves you the same as He loves Jesus, and the Jesus who loves you the same as the Father loves Him, would put your hand in the flame to teach you it’s hot or want to give back to you, that from which

He had already redeemed you. Selah. Don't be led by feelings, but by the Word and Spirit. God's will to heal is who He is, in Name and Word.

Don't look for the exit!

When things don't come easily or don't "happen," in our humanity we often look to put the responsibility on someone or thing else, something external and to bear no personal responsibility of faith. "Well, that's not for today." "That ended after the Bible was written." "Maybe it's not God's will." Why do we look to be the negative exception or look at someone else?

"So and so didn't get healed."

Like Jesus told Peter to mind his own life and business when he questioned John's future after telling Peter his future, *John 21:21, 22* – "*Peter, seeing him (John), said to Jesus, 'But Lord, what about this man?' 22 Jesus said to him, 'If I will that he remain till I come, what is that to you? You follow Me.'*"

What is that to you? You, follow Jesus!

Don't look to exempt, to disqualify yourself, don't look to dismiss, don't look to disregard, to nullify, or find a way out of God's promises; don't look for the "But what about?" Yes, there are "what abouts," ... but why would we focus on that and look for the example of someone who wasn't healed? Just how would that help us? ...or them? You follow Me!"

"Yah, but" will never get you any of God's promises. Countless "...ites," like the Jebusites and the Hitites tried to keep the Israelites from possessing their Promised Land. If we agree with the "Yah but sites" it will keep us out of our Promised Land.

Every time we question God's Word with a "Yah but... or but what about..." we are actually agreeing with the enemy and really asking the original demonic question that led to the fall of man, "Has God really said?" – The oldest trick in the book, and it will lead to our fall. Again, if God doesn't mean what He says He should say what He means. Be like a Berean!

He is either I am the God that heals you or He is not. Pick one for He cannot be both. ...you know that kingdom divided stuff...

Unintentional and Unintended Double-Mindedness –

Consider this, every time we question, every time we say things counter to the Word of God, counter to the following prophetic word over 700 years before Christ's birth, what are we really saying and believing? I have heard Christian ministers; leaders say that these verses aren't talking about physical healing but only pertain to soul healing. I have one thing to say about that:

Save this for after I read Isaiah 53 - If that's true about soul healing, what do you do with *Matthew 8:16, 17*?

Isaiah 53: 4, 5 – “Surely He has borne our griefs (H2483 - malady, calamity, disease, sickness) And carried our sorrows (H4341 - anguish, affliction, pain); Yet we esteemed Him stricken, Smitten by God, and afflicted. ⁵ But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace was upon Him. And by His stripes we are healed.”

Is that how we see Christ and His passion in relationship to ourselves?

He bore our griefs - our maladies, diseases, and sicknesses; He carried our sorrows - our anguish, affliction, and pain. He was stricken and smitten with these by God in our place and afflicted, He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities. He got the chastisement, and we got the peace. It's easy to say we're saved, but what does it mean?

How can we say we believe that and yet think or say that God wants to put disease back on us? Why would God put sin, sickness, and disease, and its consequences on Jesus only then to want to put it back on us, on you? Is God confused? Is the Kingdom of God divided?