

St. Timothy's Banner

Pentecost 2021



Lk. 24:49 “I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

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Divine Power

To receive My Power
You need to be obedient to My Commands.
These are given to keep you safe,
And to protect you from many trials and temptations.
My power is like a Holy Fire
That burns away your lower self.
That self always seeks its own glorification
Which is the essence of sin.
My Spirit in your spirit
Puts Me at the center of yourself,
And transforms all unholy desires
Into the desire of knowing and loving Me.
Only there can you be safe,
And develop into the beauty
Of bearing My Kingdom Light!
This Light is Life, that lives forever
And lies at the heart of the reason
For your very creation!
You become My beloved child
When My Spirit breathes My Life
Into your personal command center.
Live in Me, for I long to live in you,
And build My Kingdom in your heart.
Then you can be a channel
Of Life, Love, and My Glory, to others.



What if they hadn't waited?

By Rev. Dan Endresen



1 Cor. 12:4-13 NET ⁴ Now there are different gifts, but the same Spirit. ⁵ And there are different ministries, but the same Lord. ⁶ And there are different results, but the same God who produces all of them in everyone. ⁷ To each person the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the benefit of all. ⁸ For one person is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, and another the message of knowledge according to the same Spirit, ⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, ¹⁰ to another performance of miracles, to another prophecy, and to another discernment of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. ¹¹ It is one and the same Spirit, distributing as he decides to each person, who produces all these things. ¹² For just as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body—though many—are one body, so too is Christ. ¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body. Whether Jews or Greeks or slaves or free, we were all made to drink of the one Spirit.

Luke 24:44-49 NET⁴⁴ Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the law of Moses and the prophets and the psalms must be fulfilled.” ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and said to them, “Thus it stands written that the Christ would suffer and would rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And look, I am sending you what my Father promised. But stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”⁴ While he was with them, he declared, “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait there for what my Father promised, which you heard about from me. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” ⁶ So when they had gathered together, they began to ask him, “Lord, is this the time when you are restoring the kingdom to Israel?” ⁷ He told them, “You are not permitted to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the farthest parts of the earth.”

At the beginning of Acts the disciples of Jesus had been encountering the risen Lord for forty days. Jesus had been “speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God”, and no doubt it was not as it had been before that. They got it this time round. They had burning hearts when he was with them and finally understood who he really was as, He had overcome death – “My Lord and my God” as Thomas exclaimed. They believed, and they had great excitement – great news. So why not just return to their homes after Jesus ascended and get on with their Christian lives and witnesses there? Well, because their Lord had instructed them to wait in Jerusalem to receive power when the Holy Spirit would come upon them. He said, “And you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the farthest parts of the earth.” What if one or more of them, (not out of disobedience or anything like that, but out of obligation), had had to get back to

work in Galilee and couldn't spend another ten days (or however many days it might be as Jesus didn't tell them) to wait for the promise of power when the Holy Spirit would come upon them? Well, I suppose they would have lacked the power to be effective witnesses of Jesus.

The disciples – even after they had been with the risen Jesus still had the wrong focus. They were still focusing on the kingdom of Israel and its restoration – wondering if it would happen just then. But Jesus turned their focus to the Kingdom of God in the whole world. Where is our focus as Jesus' disciples today? Is it on what Jesus wants? Is it on the kingdom of God in the world beginning exactly where we are and waiting for power to be his witnesses wherever he sends us? Are we desiring the promise of the Father to be empowered for that purpose? Do we think we already have that power?

I don't know about you – but I don't see that same powerful witness today coming from Christ's Church in the West. In fact, the Church looks quite hopeless in this time. Jesus wondered out loud, if when he returned, he would find any faith on the earth (Luke 18:8) and we must wonder too. I think if those fellows and gals who saw Jesus alive again after death had returned home without waiting, their excitement in sharing about Jesus would soon have worn off. Sure, they would have retained their own faith their whole lives through, but few, back home, or anywhere else, would have joined with them in believing. If many others were to believe there had to be the Holy Spirit's divine power at work in their lives which would be obvious and visible to others ... even unusual. Otherwise, they may have been wasting their time. Is not the same true for us today?

What do you think of the above epistle? Is that our Church – our experience? Are those gifts for today? Do we want them to be for today or are we content to do without them for now and simply wait for heaven? If we are content to wait for heaven perhaps there will be no faith on the earth when Jesus returns. I don't know about you, but I think we need a Pentecostal experience afresh today. I don't want to pass away without my children seeing God's power manifested to their generation. I am tired of trying to be the Church with little of the Spirit's gifts and power. What a poor witness that is of our God. Will you claim the promise for our generation? Will you wait with me this week, ...this month in our Jerusalem? If we ever needed it – we need it now.



Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me



The day of Pentecost was a milestone in the redemptive history of the church in the world. It was Inauguration Day as the Holy Spirit demonstrated the provision of God, the prophecy of the Old Testament, the promises of Christ, faith in the prophecy of the Old Testament, and the words of Jesus. This Pentecost, and every day, is a day to reorient our lives to the mission of God. When we appropriate the power of God available to us in Christ, we are more nearly fulfilling the Great Commission, and in doing so we sing that beautiful spiritual song of the late Presbyterian minister, David Iverson. "Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me; use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me."

Submitted by Barrie Fox

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS

DUTY TO GOD

Protection of ...

1. God's Sovereignty
("No other gods")
2. God's Service
("No graven images")
3. God's Sanctity
("No Profanity")
4. God's Sabbath
(Remember the Sabbath")
5. God's Servants
(Honor parents")

SUMMARIZED

"You shall love THE LORD your God with all your heart" (Mt 22:37)

DUTY TO MAN

Protection of ...

6. Man's Life
("Do not murder")
7. Man's Mate
("Do not commit adultery")
8. Man's Property
("Do not steal")
9. Man's Reputation
("No false witness")
10. Man's Heart
("Do not covet")

SUMMARIZED

"You shall love your neighbor as yourself" (Mt 22:39)

Smith, J.E. (1993). The Pentateuch (2nd ed., p. 304). Joplin, MO: College Press Pub. Co.

Submitted by Deacon Alan Arnold

Mt. 22:37 Jesus replied; "Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind."

THE LAW OF LOVE

By Do Fox

To know My Love
You need to know My Nature,
It is written into what I have made.
Look around you, at the natural world.
You can see Me in the stars,
In sun rise, and sun set,
In the greens and blues I have chosen
To clothe the earth and the sky.
I am as close to you as your heartbeat,
Or the breath in your lungs.
If you love life, you love Me
Because I am the author of life.
Learn to live in My Love
For this is the reason I created you.
I will teach you My way of Love,
But you need to grow still,
And desire this, deeply.
Desire is the highway
Into My Kingdom of Love.
For as a river flows in a channel,
So My Love flows along the path
Of your desire to know Me.
Love and knowledge are linked.
I will cause both to grow within you,
And you shall revel in My Love,
As it embraces, protects, and enlightens you,
Causing you to become My Kingdom child.





An Experience of HOLY SPIRIT LEADING

By Suzanne Weagle



A bit of background here will help. I was born again in 1974, in a time known as the Charismatic Renewal. Within two years of that experience, I heard so much preaching, teaching on the HOLY SPIRIT, and what Scriptures teach us about HOLY SPIRIT. We all receive HIM when we are born again, but there is also a Baptism in the HOLY SPIRIT, to empower and enable us to be HIS witnesses.

I just believed GOD'S WORD. I could hardly put the Bible down, I read about the HOLY SPIRIT, and what FATHER and JESUS said about HIM. I knew I needed this relationship with HOLY SPIRIT. I asked FATHER and HE baptized me in the HOLY SPIRIT.

Moving forward, my husband was transferred from Toronto to Montreal in 1981, so "cold turkey", we moved here. The following year, I met Margaret Robinson, with her children at the Bus stop. We soon knew we were believers.

After Christmas 1982, Margaret invited me to the Ladies Home Bible Study group at Linda Taylor's. I went. That led to attending St. Barnabas Church. It was a welcoming group; many had received the Baptism in the HOLY SPIRIT too. I had known for a while I had to be in a local church. St. Barnabas was local to me. FATHER began to teach me how to recognize the leading and instruction of the HOLY SPIRIT. One example is the following account of one lesson.

I found myself, gently, but repeatedly, thinking about a young woman in the congregation. Apart from my once-a-month Nursery class on Sunday's I did not know her.

I realized that HOLY SPIRIT was putting her on my heart. I prayed simple prayers, Lord, whatever she needs, help her. After two months this was still going on. It never occurred to me to ask if I was supposed to do something more.

A sidestep here, I needed new shoes. I have hard to fit feet, and could not find a pair of shoes suitable to fit me anywhere within a 20 mile radius of my home.....Hmmm?

FATHER, what is going on? You know my need, am I missing something here? Is there some place I am falling short of doing what you want? Immediately, this precious woman's name and face came to mind.

I knew FATHER wanted me to contact her. She welcomed my phone call and my subsequent visit.

I was nervous. In the natural, I felt like I was about to jump off Jacques Cartier Bridge. As I did what I was supposed to, HIS GRACE came to me and this precious sister. I do not even recall her name, but I do remember what FATHER did by HIS SPIRIT for her, and for me.

She had recently had a baby and suffered serious post partem depression. It was necessary to separate her from children to recover. She recovered and returned to church services.

For what ever reason, she felt others were possibly judging her as they were polite but kept their distance. I was sent to bring comfort, truth and HIS peace. Her troubled thoughts left, we hugged. Her heart and mind were at peace. I left, relieved I had not been imagining this, repentant that it took that long for me to understand and obey.

I learned a lasting lesson through that experience. The HOLY SPIRIT baptises us to empower, to enable us to do simple things in obedience, to comfort others and to build up the BODY of CHRIST in LOVE.

I am so thankful that FATHER gave me HIS HOLY SPIRIT. Walking with our LORD JESUS is NOT an easy journey. FATHER and JESUS know this, and did not leave us comfortless.



Humour



ITEMS TO PONDER

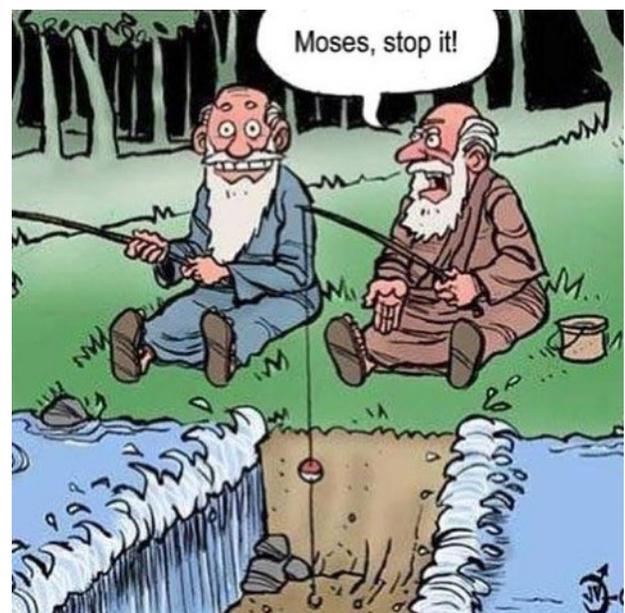
1. Don't sweat the petty things and don't pet the sweaty things.
2. Atheism is a non-prophet organization
3. I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, "where is the self-help section?" she said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose.
4. If someone with multiple personalities threatens to kill himself, is it considered a hostage situation?
5. Is there another word for synonym?
6. What do you do when you see an endangered animal eating an endangered plant?
7. If a parsley farmer is sued, can they garnish his wages?
8. If a turtle doesn't have a shell, is it homeless or naked?
9. Can vegetarians eat animal crackers?
10. If the police arrested a mime, do they tell him he has the right to remain silent?
11. One nice thing about egotists, they don't talk about other people.
12. Does the Little Mermaid wear an algebra?
13. If one synchronized swimmer drowns, do the rest drown too?
14. If you ate both pasta and antipasto, would you still be hungry?
15. If you try to fail and you succeed, which have you done?
16. Whose cruel idea was it for the word "Lisp" to have "S" in it?
17. Why are hemorrhoids called "hemorrhoids" instead of "assteroids"?
18. Why is it called tourist season when we can't shoot at them?
19. Why is there an expiration date on sour cream?
20. Can an atheist get insurance against acts of God?

If you can start the day without caffeine,
If you can always be cheerful, ignoring aches and pains,
If you resist complaining and boring people with your troubles,
If you can eat the same food every day and be grateful for it.
If you can understand when your loved ones are too busy to give you any time,
If you can take criticism and blame without resentment,
If you can conquer tension without medical help,
If you can relax without alcohol,
If you can sleep without the aid of drugs,

Then you are probably...



the family dog.



From Bob Sumner's files

Submitted by Barrie Fox



Pentecost

Acts 2



V T L K Q T Y M H J X C J J T S A M W X
 H K R D P G I Q S L E K M N P X H T K P
 C S E U G N O T J J P M T I U H Y R N D
 S U S E J V F P B E E I R I T M F O X O
 J U U L X V O J E Y K I F S T E R Z S E
 B F R N M O E T X T T C U D U L K P P E
 V H R R C K Q Q L W E S O K F A H D D D
 N C E F K X E P G U W R G K J S P M Z M
 P R C V P V C U I C L U A D O U D Y A U
 H U T K Z S G B G Y G O R E Y R A T X L
 L H I G Q R L I Z V P I S J F E Q C O Z
 B C O U S S X O G H Q Y F O Q J W Q Q Q
 E V N R O V U S F J T T F S G C X J Y K
 X U H X D I H U F F F J H E X E N C I J
 B R P E Z Y F Q I T I L M G A W L R O L
 R C H Y O Q E F Q Z S R M U Q S P Y W V
 H A Q L T L G A Q C E M E R N G T Y S W
 S E L O C J L V V J I A K R Z V F M B N
 C B W H R C A O R R W D I S Y A D L X F
 U B P S W W B P W U Z D H R N D B C P Z

JESUS
 DAYS
 SPIRIT
 TONGUES

RESURRECTION
 FEAST
 PETER
 FIRE

FIFTY
 HOLY
 JERUSALEM
 CHURCH