

I Will Pour Out My Spirit on All Mankind

Joel 2:28-32

May 5, 2024

What is the Day of the Lord?

Knowing God and making Him known.

When will the Spirit arrive?

Afterward: A future blessing promised to Israel.

What did the Older Covenant people of God expect of the Kingdom?

How did Messiah fulfill those expectations?

What did Jesus do between His Ascension and Pentecost?

How does King Jesus celebrate His victory and utilize His power?

Who will receive the Spirit?

All Flesh

Moses longed for this day in Numbers 11:29.

For what purpose was the Spirit given in the OT? In the NT?

Why was the Spirit given in great abundance to all?

This promise of the Spirit in the prophets. (Isaiah 44:3; Ezekiel 39:29; Zechariah 12:10)

What does the Spirit empower us to do?

To know God and to make Him known.

What are the signs of the Spirit's arrival?

The Day of the Lord language; Apocalyptic language. (Matthew 24:27-29)

Who will survive the coming of the Spirit? v. 32

Whoever calls on the name of the Lord

What did this mean to the people in Joel's day? What does it mean to you?

Meditation

Taking the Spirit Seriously

The three basic truths about the Holy Spirit are: First, He is a divine person, the third within God's tri-personal being and a distinct participant with the Father and the Son in every divine action. Second, in the operational team that is God, the Spirit is, so to speak, the executive facilitator, through whose hands-on agency all tasks in creation and redemption are performed. Third, the mark of the entire biblical presentation of the Spirit is a certain indirectness. His executive role is a supportive one; His task, and His achievement, is always to exalt the Father and the Son.

Among the signs that the Spirit is being taken seriously will be:

- Christians conscientiously pursuing personal holiness, practicing the disciplines of discipleship and making full use of the means of grace and growth (Bible-reading, daily prayer, regular fellowship, active worship and witness, sharing in Holy Communion, and so on).
- Christians conscientiously seeking congregational renewal, in worship, fellowship, maturity and outreach, with pastor and people collaborating to ensure that all minister and are ministered to with the gifts for service that the Holy Spirit has given.
- Christians conscientiously studying and adhering to sound doctrine, because it is the truth that the Spirit teaches in and from Scripture and is the means through which He feeds, and brings health and strength to, believers' hearts.
- Christians conscientiously working and praying for the spread of the gospel, and the extension of Christ's kingdom throughout the world — the grand project that the Spirit has been given to energize (see Jn. 16:7-11).
- Christians conscientiously trusting, loving, adoring, thanking, praising and aiming to please the Lord Jesus Christ, their Savior and Friend, whom the Spirit is with us and in us to glorify (Jn. 16:14).

Quietly and thoughtfully, now, let us ask ourselves directly: how seriously do we take the Holy Spirit? And how seriously are we going to take Him from now on?

JI Packer