

It started with an outpouring

Jesus told His disciple that it would be better if He left and the Holy Spirit came.

But in fact, it is best for you that I go away, because if I don't, the Advocate won't come. If I do go away, then I will send him to you.

– *John 16:7*

- The reason why it would be better was because then He could multiply Himself in every single believer, by filling them with His Spirit.
- Jesus is calling every believer to do the works He did (Joh 14:12), and to do this we need the power Jesus had to do what He did – and this power is the power of the Holy Spirit

When we read The Book of Acts, we see that Christianity started as an outpouring of the Holy Spirit – and from Jerusalem it quickly changed the whole world.

On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

– *Acts 2:1-4*

When God does something, He does not start strong and end weak and exhausted – the later glory will be greater.

- If you read on, you see that the immediate result of this outpouring was 3000 getting saved – and salvation should always be one of the fruits of a Holy Spirit outpouring.

- Leonard Ravenhill said: “In Acts 2, Peter preached one sermon and 3000 got saved. Today we preach 3000 sermons and 1 get saved”
- When we no longer impact our surroundings with the Gospel (the power of God), it is a sign that we need a new outpouring of the Holy Spirit.
- Some say: “We don’t need pray for a new outpouring, because The Holy Spirit has already come”. Or some might say “We have the Bible”.
 - Well, if you see the same results as in The Book of Acts I will not argue with you. But if not, and you still think you don’t lack something – then I think there is something seriously wrong with your theology.
- **What we often miss is that it’s not only about what WE need, but what the world needs.**
 - We don’t need a new outpouring just for our self. There is a world full of people struggling with addiction, suffering from all kinds of sicknesses, and without hope or direction.
 - Many are leaving church because they see it as irrelevant, and instead they are embracing all kinds of New Age philosophies.
- In Acts 1:8 Jesus said that the outpouring of the Holy Spirit would give us power to be effective witnesses for Him.
 - If we no longer are effective witnesses for Him, then there is a good chance that we need to new infilling.

Being filled in not a onetime thing

- In Acts chapter 2 we read about a mighty outpouring of the Holy Spirit – but only two chapters later we see yet another outpouring.

After this prayer, the meeting place shook, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit. Then they preached the word of God with boldness.

– Acts 4:31

- When Paul wrote to the Ephesian church his exhortation was “... be filled with the Holy Spirit ...”.

Don’t be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit,

– Ephesians 5:18

A constant renewal

Our walk with God is not supposed to be a walk in the desert, where we have to survive on a minimum of water to refresh us.

- Under the new covenant we can live every day with having the Holy Spirit refresh us every time we get thirsty.

“Anyone who is thirsty may come to me! Anyone who believes in me may come and drink! For the Scriptures declare, ‘Rivers of living water will flow from his heart.’” (When he said “living water,” he was speaking of the Spirit, who would be given to everyone believing in him. But the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus had not yet entered into his glory.)

John 7:37-39