

GFBC Thursday Night's Scriptural Study
Lesson # 108
Scripture Reading: Acts 10:44-46 {KJV}
Teaching Verses: 44~45 {The Message Bible}

March 14, 2024

TEXT ~ ACTS 10:44~45

TITLE ~ THE NEW WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

VV~44~45-{The Message Bible}~"No sooner were these words out of Peter's mouth than the Holy Spirit came on the listeners. The believing Jews who had come with Peter couldn't believe it, couldn't believe that the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out on "outsider" non-Jews, but there it was—they heard them speaking in tongues, heard them praising God.

"The New Work Of The Holy Spirit." The new work of the Holy Spirit is a new work, but not the new work of another Spirit. The Holy Spirit is doing a new work, but the new work is of the same Spirit.

The new work of the Holy Spirit is the work of the Spirit of God. The Spirit of God is the Holy Spirit.

Like God and Jesus, the Holy Spirit is consistently and perpetually the same. God in the fullness of Himself remains eternally the same. Hebrews 13:8 in the King James translation of the Bible says, "**Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today, and forever {Hebrews 13:8, KJV}.**

The new work of the Holy Spirit is not the work of a new Spirit, it is the work of the same Spirit who is the third person in the Godhead. This is the same Spirit that moved upon the face of the waters before creation.

This is the same Spirit that manages the will, the word, implement the plans, fulfills divine prophecies, promises, and purposes of God. The new work of the Holy Spirit is not a new Spirit.

The new work of the Holy Spirit is the same Spirit that made John the Baptist leap in his mother's belly before he was born. The same Spirit that overshadowed the Virgin Mary and conceived in her the seed of the Son of God. The Holy Spirit is the same Spirit that maintains a safe distance between the sun and the moon.

This is the same Spirit that descended upon Jesus in the form of a dove after He was baptized in the Jordan River by John the Baptist. The Spirit that fell upon Cornelius and his household is the same Spirit that led Jesus up into the wilderness where He fasted for forty days and forty nights.

And the Scripture says, He afterward Jesus hungered. In Jesus' hunger, the devil tried to tempt Him. The tempter told Jesus, "**If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread**" {Matthew 4:3, KJV}.

The humanity of Jesus was hungry, but the mistake the devil made was, he couldn't use the same trick on Jesus that he used on Adam and Eve. The tempter told Jesus, "**If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread.**"

Jesus was hungry, but He was full of the word. Jesus said, **“It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God” {Matthew 4:4, KJV}.**

You can't allow the enemy to play you with “if.” If has consequences. If can turn your life upside down.

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If can create anxieties. If can make you shortchange yourself. If can cause you to vacillate, hesitate, and fluctuate.

If can manipulate you into doing stuff that can affect you for the rest of your life. But when you have faith and confidence in God and His word, you can resist the devil's “if's.”

Satan told Jesus if you are the Son of God command these stones be made bread. Satan's “if” suggest the need for evidentiary proof of Jesus' authenticity. Satan's and his “if” tried to delegitimize the truthfulness of God's confirmational announcement.

Remember after Jesus' baptism, the Scripture says, **“the heavens were opened unto him (John the Baptist), and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon Him (Jesus): And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased” {Matthew 3:16b-17, KJV}.**

When Satan told Jesus, **“If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread,”** His goal was to discredit God's announcement.

God said, **“This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”**

The two-letter word “if” can disengage your faith, diminish your confidence, distract your focus, and or devalue who the LORD says you are. I need somebody to know tonight in real time that in Christ, you don't have to prove yourself!

God has already announced your relationship with Him. You don't have to prove yourself to anybody because you are a child of God, and joint heir with Christ” {Romans 8:16}. You don't have to prove yourself because Psalms 139:14 KJV says, **“You are fearfully and wonderfully made.”**

I need you to fully understand that as a believer in Jesus Christ, you don't have to prove yourself to anybody. No matter what you are going through, in Christ, you are more than a conqueror.

Romans 8:37 KJV, says, **“we are more than conquerors through Him that loved us.”** When you have been anointed, announced, and declared to be a child of God by God, there is no need for you to prove or authenticate yourself to anybody.

When you know who you are and whose you are, when you keep it real, you don't have to fake it until you make it. You have God's favor! You have the anointing! You have the Holy Ghost in you!

The Holy Ghost is non-denominational. The Holy Ghost is not Baptist, AME, COGIC, Catholic, Episcopalian, Methodist, Pentecostal, Evangelical, Lutheran, or Presbyterian. The Holy Ghost is for whosoever.

Acts 2:21, {KJV} says, **“whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be saved.”** The Holy Ghost does not discriminate. The only requirement for the whosoever is: to admit, believe, and confess the LORD Jesus Christ.

The Scripture says, **“That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the LORD Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised Him from the dead, thou shalt be saved” {Romans 10:9, KJV}**. The Bible says, you **“are saved by grace through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God” {Ephesians 2:8, KJV}**.

Watch this! Although Peter and the Apostles and the disciples were saved and filled with the Holy Ghost, they had not been fully delivered from aspects of their social and religious culture. As Jews, they had been taught that Jews didn't have any dealing with Gentiles, and or anyone that was of a

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biracial ethnicity.

The Samaritan woman that met Jesus at the well near Samaria was biracial. In John 4:9, KJV, when Jesus asked the Samaritan woman for a drink, she asked Jesus, **“How is it that thou, being a Jew, askest drink of me, which am a woman of Samaria? For Jews have no dealings with Samaritans.”**

And so, if the cultural philosophical view had prevailed, it could have *“par-a-lyzed,”* and prevented the gospel of Jesus Christ from being exposed to all nations. The work of the Holy Spirit is unstoppable.

The teaching text informs us of a new work of the of the Holy Spirit. The teaching text introduces us to a man by the name of Cornelius. Cornelius was a Gentile.

Cornelius loved God and he was very benevolent to the Jews. He worshipped God. Cornelius was a close follower of the Jewish tradition.

He was a devout man. He prayed three times a day. Cornelius loved God, but deep down within Cornelius, there was a greater yearning.

And the greater yearning was for the gospel of Jesus Christ. And while Cornelius was praying, the LORD sent an angel to tell him that his prayers and alms had come up for a memorial before God {Acts 10:4}.

While the LORD was ministering and revealing unto Cornelius what He was going to do, He was also dismantling Peter's cultural wall and biases and preparing Peter to be a witness of what God was preparing to do globally with the gospel.

The new work of the Holy Spirit was to demonstrate God's love for both Jews and Gentiles. When Peter and his entourage arrived at Cornelius' home, after pleasantries, Cornelius told Peter, we are all here, tell us everything that God had to say {Acts 10: 33, KJV}.

And what Cornelius really wanted to hear was the gospel of Jesus Christ {Acts 10: 37-43}. And after Peter had shared with Cornelius all that God had commanded him to do and the gospel of Jesus Christ, the teaching text says, **“No sooner were these words out of Peter's mouth than the Holy Spirit came on the listeners.”**

The New King James translation of Acts 10:44 says, **“While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.”** This was the new work of the Holy Spirit.

The middle wall was demolished between Christian Jews and Christian Gentiles. The new work of the Holy Spirit was to make the two, one in Jesus Christ.

The new work of the Holy Spirit is to demonstrate that, **“There is one body, and one Spirit, even as ye are called in one hope of your calling; One LORD, one faith, one baptism, One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all”** {Ephesians 4: 4-6}.

Therefore, Romans 10:12-13, {KJV} says, **“there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek: for the same LORD over all is rich unto all that call upon Him. For whosoever shall call upon the name of the LORD shall be save.”**

LLM~3-14-2024