

* ACTS

The Continuing Work of Jesus

What does this mean?

➤ Peter's Pentecost Sermon

1. These events signaled the eschatological outpouring of the Holy Spirit promised in Scripture
2. This outpouring of the Spirit is the work of the Lord Jesus, signifying His exaltation as Lord and Messiah (Acts 2:33)

* Acts 2:14-21

The Spirit and the Last Days

¹⁴But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: "Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give heed to my words. ¹⁵For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is *only* the third hour of the day; ¹⁶but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ 'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says,
'THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND;
AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY,
AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS,
AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS;

¹⁸ EVEN ON MY BONDSLAVES, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN,
I WILL IN THOSE DAYS POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT
And they shall prophesy.

¹⁹ 'AND I WILL GRANT WONDERS IN THE SKY ABOVE
AND SIGNS ON THE EARTH BELOW,
BLOOD, AND FIRE, AND VAPOR OF SMOKE.

²⁰ 'THE SUN WILL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS
AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD,
BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD
SHALL COME.

²¹ 'AND IT SHALL BE THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE
NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.'

The Spirit and the Last Days

➤ Prophecy of Joel

1. A time of an unprecedented pouring out of God's Spirit on all His people universally
2. Followed by a climactic, devastating judgment of all the nations

The Spirit and the Last Days

1. We are in the “last days”
 - the last days were inaugurated by the coming of Jesus and the outpouring of the Spirit (cf. Heb. 1:2, 1 Pet. 1:20; 1 Cor. 10:11)
 - these days will be consummated by the return of Jesus and the Day of the Lord

The Spirit and the Last Days

2. We have the unprecedented gift of the Spirit
 - all believers in this age enjoy the gift of the “prophetic Spirit” unlike the believers under the Old Covenant
 - cf. Jeremiah 31:29-34; Ezekiel 36:25-27; Isaiah 44:3-5

The Spirit and the Last Days

2. We have the unprecedented gift of the Spirit
 - the prophetic Spirit brings a new relationship between God and His people marked by an immediate knowledge of God
 - this presence of the Holy Spirit is displayed in many ways, including Spirit-prompted speech about God

...be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; ²⁰ always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father;

(Ephesians 5:18-20)