

Sunday, May 23, 2021 – Day of Pentecost

Acts 2:1-21 - Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds

¹When the day of Pentecost had come, [the apostles] were all together in one place. ²And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

When and how have you experienced the Holy Spirit as like a dove? Like fire? Like the rush of a violent wind?

⁵Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language?

¹⁴But Peter, standing with the eleven, raised his voice and addressed them . . . ¹⁶"This is what was spoken through the prophet Joel:

¹⁷"In the last days it will be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh,
and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,
and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams."

One of strongest evidences and arguments for the reliability of the apostles' witness to the resurrection of Jesus is their changed lives after the resurrection.

*No matter how young or how old you are, do you still see visions and dream dreams?
If so, what visions do you see? What dreams do you dream?
How does the Holy Spirit help you see visions and dream dreams?*

¹⁸"Even upon my slaves, both men and women, in those days I will pour out my Spirit."

How was it different after the Day of Pentecost?

Psalm 104:24-35 - Send forth your Spirit and renew the face of the earth

24 - How manifold are your works, O LORD!

In wisdom you have made them all; the earth is full of your creatures.

25 - Yonder is the sea, great and wide, with its swarms too many to number, living things both small and great.

26 - There go the ships to and fro, and Leviathan, which you made for the sport of it.

27 - All of them look to you to give them their food in due season.

28 - When you hide your face, they are terrified;

when you take away their breath, they die and return to their dust.

If the rest of creation realizes its total dependence upon God, should not we do the same?

Romans 8:22-27 - Praying with the Spirit

9 – The Spirit of God dwells in you.

11 – If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

13 – If by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live.

15-16 – When we cry, “Abba! Father!” it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God.

Vs. Satan to Jesus – Matthew 4: 3 and 6 – “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread / throw yourself down”

23 - We ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies.

26 - The Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but that very Spirit intercedes with sighs too deep for words.

27 - The Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God.

John 15:26-27; 16:4b-15 - Christ sends the Spirit of truth

26 - The Spirit of truth who comes from the Father will testify on my behalf.

7 – It is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Advocate will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.

8 - He will prove the world wrong about sin and righteousness and judgment: ⁹about sin, because they do not believe in me; ¹⁰about righteousness, because I am going to the Father and you will see me no longer; ¹¹about judgment, because the ruler of this world has been condemned.

12 - I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. ¹³When the Spirit of truth comes, he will guide you into all the truth. . . . He will declare to you the things that are to come.

14 - He will glorify me.

Meaning to the Third Article in Martin Luther’s Small Catechism

I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith. In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith. In this Christian church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers. On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.