

The Promised Gift of the Father - Pt 1



Introduction

While God has given many promises, and many gifts, The Holy Spirit is the one gift specifically referred to as the **Promised Gift of the Father** and as such it is essential for us to understand and to take action on this important gift.

Point 1: Promises, Gifts and Fatherhood

- God's Promises Are Precious, Unchanging, and Trustworthy (Numbers 23:19, 2 Peter 1:4)
- Unlike human gifts that sometimes come with conditions, God's gifts are unconditional.
- God is a Good Father. (Ephesians 3:14-15, the Prodigal Sons - Luke 15:11-32)

Point 2: The first Scenario - Pentecost

- Jesus reiterates the Father's promise of the Holy Spirit - Acts 1:4-5
- The Spirit is poured out on them all at Pentecost - Acts 2:1-4
- Peter explains and refers to the Promise in Joel - Act 2:16-18, 21, 33
- Peter tells the people how they (and we) can receive the gift - Act 2:37-39

Point 3: The second Scenario - The Galatians

- Paul explains that Jesus' death on the cross set us free from the "curse of the law", and brought us into the "Blessing of Abraham" - Gal 3:13-14
- The summary - this place of blessing is called "the promise of the Spirit" - Gal 3:14
- He explains that we can never earn or deserve this gift - Gal 3:2-12

Conclusion: Practical Life Applications

- **Jesus Encourages Us to Ask for the Holy Spirit** (Luke 11:11-13)
 - God is a good Father who gives good gifts to those who ask.
 - The Holy Spirit is available to everyone who seeks Him.
- **It Is a Matter of Faith, Not Worthiness**
 - Many people struggle with feeling **unworthy** of the Holy Spirit.
 - The Bible makes it clear: **The Spirit is given as a gift, not as a reward.**

Questions

1. What does it mean that the Holy Spirit is a "promised gift" from the Father?
2. Why do you think some people struggle to receive the Holy Spirit as a free gift?
3. How can we actively rely on the Holy Spirit in our daily lives?