

The Promised Gift of the Father - Pt 2



Introduction

The Holy Spirit is the “promised gift of the Father” Let’s look at the historical significance of this promise, and trace the journey of God’s Spirit from creation to restoration.

Point 1: Connection and Disconnection

- Creation of humanity and God’s connection through His Spirit (Genesis 2:7)
- The fall of humanity (Genesis 3)
- Up until the Flood - Separation from God's life source, but God’s Spirit was still living with and “striving” with men (Gen 6:3)

Point 2: Up until Jesus

- Covenants and promises (Isaiah 11:1-2, Isaiah 61:1-2)
- Spiritual laws
- Selective anointing of specific individuals

Point 3: Jesus and the Holy Spirit

- Jesus' baptism (Matthew 3)
- Jesus' promises about the Holy Spirit (John 7:37-39, John 14)
- On the first day of Jesus’ resurrection - “receive the Spirit” (John 20:22)
- Pentecost and beyond - The Samaritans, Cornelius, at Ephesus.

Conclusion: Practical Life Applications

- Ask - Luke 11:11-13
- Believe - Gal 3:2-6
- Commence - We must step out in faith and act on our belief that we have been filled. Speak and act as if you have received.

Questions

1. Have you ever felt disconnected from God? Can you share a moment when you felt spiritually "unplugged" and what it was like?
2. What does it mean to you to be "filled with the Holy Spirit"? How might that look different from just being a believer?
3. If the Holy Spirit is a gift that anyone can receive simply by asking, why do you think some people might be hesitant to ask or receive it?