

## SUDDENLY FROM HEAVEN

A Case Study of How the Holy Spirit Comes Upon Individuals to Baptize Them in His Power and Presence

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**Sermon in a Sentence:** You can be baptized in the Holy Spirit like the believers at Pentecost.

**Sermon Purpose:** That the listeners be filled and/or refilled with the Holy Spirit according to the biblical pattern of Pentecost.

**Text:** Acts 2:1-4

### Introduction:

1. In our text we read about the Day of Pentecost.
2. The disciples' experience at Pentecost serves as a pattern for us today.
3. You can expect the Holy Spirit to come upon you and fill you just as the filled the believers on the Day of Pentecost.
4. There are six things you can expect to happen when you come to be filled with the Holy Spirit:

### I. You Can Expect the Holy Spirit to Come upon You Suddenly.

- A. Note how the Spirit came on the day of Pentecost:
  1. v. 2 "*SUDDENLY* there came a sound . . ."
  2. The same thing happened at the household of Cornelius (Acts 10:44).
  3. The same thing still happens today.
- B. Here is what you can expect to happen:
  1. As you pray you will sense the presence of the Spirit coming upon you.
  2. The moment you believe, you will receive the Spirit.
  3. At that point, act in faith and speak out.

### II. You Can Expect the Holy Spirit to Come upon You Supernaturally.

- A. Look what happened on the Day of Pentecost:
  1. v. 2 there came a sound "*FROM HEAVEN,*" that is, from God.
  2. The Spirit came with supernatural manifestations of God's presence:
    - a. A supernatural sound of wind
    - b. A supernatural fire
    - c. Supernatural tongues
- B. Being baptized in the Holy Spirit is a supernatural event.
  1. It is a mighty visitation from heaven.
  2. It is a Person-to-person encounter with a living God.
  3. It is a dynamic life-changing event.
- C. When you come, expect to feel the mighty presence and power of God!

### III. You Can Expect the Holy Spirit to Come upon You Powerfully.

- A. Note that on the Day of Pentecost the Holy Spirit did not only come as a wind, He came as a *MIGHTY RUSHING WIND!*
  1. v. 2 "a sound of a mighty rushing wind. . ."
  2. Describe the scene!
- B. When the Holy Spirit comes, He comes in power, resulting in . . .
  1. A powerful empowering (Acts 1:8)
  2. A powerful inner change (i.e., Peter)

### IV. You Can Expect the Holy Spirit to Come upon You Personally.

- A. Look how He came on the Day of Pentecost!
  1. v. 3 "there are appeared to them . . . fire *AND ONE SAT UPON EACH OF THEM.*"
  2. Describe the scene!
  3. Each one had a unique and personal encounter with God!

- B. The Holy Spirit will come upon you as an individual.
  1. He knows you, personality, and your needs.
  2. Don't feel you have to receive the Holy Spirit in exactly the same way others have received.

**V. You Can Expect the Holy Spirit to Come upon You Pervasively.** (Note: "Pervasively" means filling every part).

- A. On the Day of Pentecost the Spirit's presence filled two things:
  - a. v. 2 He "filled the whole house where..."
  - b. v. 4 "*they were all filled* with the Holy Spirit..."
- B. When the Holy Spirit comes upon you He will come to fill every fiber of your being.
  - a. He will fill you body, spirit, and soul.
  - b. He comes three ways:
    - 1) As an invasion from without (i.e. He will "come upon you").
    - 2) As a total immersion in (He will "baptize" and "clothe" you.)
    - 3) As a permeation within (He will "fill" you).  
**ILLUS:** Like water fills every cell of a sponge.
- C. When you come to be filled expect to be immersed in the power and presence of God.

**VI. You Can Expect the Holy Spirit to Come upon You Verifiably.**

- A. When He fills you, there will be no doubt.
  1. He will give you an undeniable evidence.
  2. You will speak in tongues as the Spirit enables you.
- B. At Pentecost "they were all filled...and began to speak in other tongues..." (Acts 2:4).
  1. They didn't have to wonder or debate!
- C. The same thing happened at Caesarea
  1. Read: Acts 10:45-46

2. Tongues settled the question! (vv. 46-47).

- B. When you come to be filled expect a wonderful miracle to take place.

1. You will speak in other tongues as the Spirit gives you utterance.
2. You will know God has filled you.

**Conclusion and Altar Call**

1. You can be filled with the Spirit today, just like the people on the Day of Pentecost.
2. Come now to be filled.

— Denny Miller