

We are women who know the joy of the Spirit-filled life. We live and abide in the love of Jesus, trusting that He is enough to meet every need and satisfy every heart.

The Promise of the Father, The Reign of the Son, and The Gift of the Holy Spirit A Trinitarian Beginning

And so... Acts begins with these instructions from Jesus, "Wait for the Promise of the Father." God's story does not end with the resurrection. In fact, God's redemptive story is only just beginning, and this next chapter is as revolutionary as the incarnation. God is coming again to His people, and in Acts chapter 1, Luke gives the disciples the final instructions of Jesus. "Wait, for the promise of the Father."

And then Jesus gives 2 promises...

You will be baptized with the Holy Spirit (1:5).

You will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth (1:8).

The promise of the Father and the promises of the Son are for us today!

The story of redemption from Genesis 12—Revelation 22 tells the story of God's promise to His people. The writings of Luke in the gospel and the book of Acts declare, through story, the faithfulness of God to keep His promises throughout human history. He is trustworthy and faithful, and His Word is true.

The story in Acts begins with a new promise – a promise that God would come and dwell, not among His people, but within His people. The new dwelling place of God on the earth will be in those who believe Jesus is Lord. The body of Christ becomes the dwelling place of God in the world, and through the Holy Spirit of Jesus, the love of the Father for His world is made known. As in baptism, a believer identifies with Christ; in the baptism of the Holy Spirit, God identifies with His people and comes to make them His dwelling place! The astounding and eschatological nature of these promises is life-changing. The witness to Jesus will come to all believers when God Himself makes His home in us. After these promises are given, Jesus ascends to the right hand of the Father! He Reigns! He Reigns Now! He reigns over the past and He reigns over the future. Psalm 2 is fulfilled as Jesus takes His place with the Father. Jesus, in His physical body, is at the right hand of God the Father, and thus, the new creation has begun. Resurrection life has begun; eternal life comes to the lives of those who believe in the Lord Jesus and are filled with His Spirit.

Then, in Acts 2, the Holy Spirit is given! The fulfillment of the promises of the Old Testament is completed at Pentecost! The Son of Man has ascended to the Ancient of Days and the Spirit of God has been poured out on His people (Daniel 7 and Joel 2). Acts 1-2 are the fulfillment of all that has gone before and the beginning of God's work in the world through the body of Christ by the power of the indwelling Holy Spirit. God's promises are as real to us as they were to the disciples in the upper room.

Are we ready to receive the promise of the Father? Are we willing to live under the reign of Jesus? Have we been filled with the Holy Spirit of God? This is His Trinitarian Invitation to His people.