***“HERE COMES THE POWER*”**

**ACTS 2:1-8**

**VIDEO –** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CGBmYHbE1UE>

**AMEN! Do you believe that God is pouring out his Holy spirit today? Let me share with you a couple of ways the Holy Spirit showed up while I was preparing for this message. For weeks I’ve known that I was preaching and every time I would try to think about it write something down the only thing that would come to mind was TONGUES. Pr. Tom and the Elders didn’t think I should share the sermon speaking in tongues. :-) I had practically everyone I knew praying for me. One of our beloved members even gave me a link to sermon video from a Pentecostal Pr.**

**The Holy Spirit started giving me little nuggets for the sermon here and there. On Wed I spoke with Lois, and she had all the songs I requested, and we were done with the music in minutes. Another beloved member had a word for me from the Holy Spirit, “Connecting to the Holy Spirit Power” which confirmed my sermon title “Here Comes the Power.” On Thursday I had an appointment with a man I’d never met before and guess what??? He was brought up in the Pentecostal tradition. We talked for over an hour, and both believed it was a divine appointment. My Power Point and my sermon were done before noon on Saturday. Yes, the Holy Spirit is pouring out power.**

**Our scripture for today is Acts 2:1-8 (read off slide) Remember Jesus before His Ascension into heaven had told them to stay in Jerusalem, they were all together praying some translations say they were all in accord/unity praying. Jews were there from many nations and each one heard about the mighty works of God in their own language. Hearing in their own language would be like Christians from every nation coming together and hearing the message without an interpreter. Imagine it, Africans (all their dialects), Chinese, English, German, French, Russian to name a few all hearing it in their own language.**

**There were 3 times a year that Jews from all nations would come to Jerusalem. The FEAST of PASSOVER, FEAST of PENTECOST and the FEAST of TABERNACLES/BOOTHS. Pentecost which means 50 in Greek it was 50 days after the PASSOVER. Pentecost is also known as the Feast of Weeks or Feast of the First Fruits where they bring their first fruits of the wheat harvest in thanksgiving and hope for continued blessing with their crops.**

**The coming of the Holy Spirit was prophesied in the Old Testament in Ezekiel 36:27, 37:5 and Joel 2:28 READ SLIDE**

**Now let's look at some of the different translations of what the Holy Spirit is referred to. He COMFORTS us in our pain and suffering, COUNSELS us tells us what to do. Don’t make any decision without praying about it. He a HELPER helps us US TESTIFIY ABOUT JESUS, helps us look like Jesus, TELLS US THE TRUTH. HE’ an ADVOCATE on our side. He advocates for us with THE FATHER AND THE SON ONLY SPEAKS WHAT THEY TELL HIM.**

**Some of the things the Holy Spirit does (READ SLIDES) TEACH YOU remind you of what Jesus said brings scripture to. (Jn 14:26) TEACHES what to say. Tells you to not be anxious and gives you the words. (Lk 12:11-12). COVICTS US OF SIN (Jn 16:8) also remember Ezekiel *“cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.”*  POWER – (Acts 1:8) they were performing signs and wonders, healing, casting out demons. Jesus had told them they would do greater things than He. SPEAK THE WORD WITH BOLDNESS – (Acts 4:31) 3000 were added after Peter’s sermon. TALKS TO US (Acts 13:2) gives us direction GIVES US HOPE (Ro 15:13) REGENERATION the impartation of divine life which is manifested in that radical change in the moral character of man, from the love and life of sin to the love of God and the life of righteousness (2 Corinthians 5:17 “New Creation” The church calls it JUSTIFICATION**. **RENEWAL**– is **ongoing the church calls it SANTIFICATION (Titus 3:5)** **PROPHECY (2Pe 1:21) BUILDS US UP AND KEEPS US IN THE LOVE OF GOD** (Jude 1:20-21a)

**LET’S LOOK AT THE GIFTS** READ THE SLIDE **Ro12:4-8, 1Cor 12:4-11, 1Cor 12:27-30, Eph 4:11-16. Notice PROPHET AND PROPHECY ARE LISTED IN ALL 4**

**THE FRUITS WHICH WE ALL NEED 😊 are listed in Gal 5:22-23.**

**Now I’m going to talk about TONGUES because the Holy Spirit told me. Nobody wants to talk about them. They are considered kind of like Satan is considered in the church. Either people do not believe they exist, or people overemphasize them. Paul designates a whole chapter in 1 Cor 14. NOT A SIGN OF SALVATION we are saved by grace. Paul says to SEEK PROPHECY OVER TONGUES because you can understand prophecy and it edifies church. Tongues are a prayer language SPEAKS TO GOD NOT TO MAN it edifies the individual praying. We aren’t to use the gift in church unless there is an interpreter. We need to maintain order in the church. FALSE TONGUE 1 COR 12:3 Therefore I want you to understand that no one speaking in the Spirit of God ever says, “Jesus is accursed!” and no one can say “Jesus is Lord” except in the Holy Spirit. 1st John 4:1 tell us to test the spirit so if you have the gift of tongues, start praying and try to say LORD JESUS CHRIST and if you can’t it’s false and quit praying in it.**

**The next 2 slides are about prophetic words that were given to me by someone in our very own church. They gave me permission to use them. The words highlighted in red are theirs and the black are the scriptures that I tested the words with. If you think you get a word from God always test against scripture. He will not say anything that goes against his Word.**

**“Connecting to the Holy Spirit Power”**

**To be a friend of Jesus, To hunger and thirst the power, To repent from every known sin, Cry out to connect to the power.**

**“Here Comes the Power”**

**Love me and keep my commands JOHN 14:15, Worshiping, Fasting ACTS 13:2, Repent and be Baptized ACTS 2:38 Ask, Seek, Knock MATTHEW 7:7**

**Why do we need this power? To be a conqueror. To confront the powers of darkness.**

**To be unstoppable. The power makes away when there is no way. Reveals the glory of God.**

**I added a few. To confess sin and pray for one another to be healed JAMES 5:16. To be a light in the world of darkness ROMANS 2:19. Cast out demons and heal the sick MARK 16:17-18. To do God’s will, follow His commands EZEKIEL 36:27. To bear witness, to make disciples JOHN 15:26. To bring unity in the church EPHESIANS 4:3**

**We need the power, and the power is here today and everyday IF we tap into it, if we stoke the flame. Sometimes we drift, get a little crispy, and the flame almost burns out.**

**So my question for you, What are you doing to keep your Pentecostal Holy Spirit flame burning? Are you using all the gifts the Lord has given you?**

**NT Wright a New Testament scholar and Pauline theologian the person I stole my title from says “when it comes to Pentecost it’s far more important that you are out there in the wind, letting it sweep through your life, your heart, your imagination, your powers of speech, and transform you from a listless or lifeless believer into someone whose heart is on fire with the love of God.” Get ready cause “Here Comes the Fire”!**

**We’re going to close singing a song from a clip.** [**https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0KtmlMJ8Xg**](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D0KtmlMJ8Xg) **The song is HOLY, HOLY, HOLY. It’s a familiar song and think we all know the words.**

**The clip is taken from an outpouring of the Holy Spirit at Augsburg University in Kentucky that started on Feb 8th when some students continued to pray and worship after a Chapel service (they were kindling the flame) and went on non-stop till Feb 24th. People from all denominations and all over The US came to seek the Lord. People confessed their sins and prayed for each other. People were healed from addictions, resentments were forgiven, families reunited, conflicts resolved, and many left to bring revival back to their own communities. As you watch it look at all the different generations and different ethnic groups.**

**BENEDICTION – NOW MAY THE SAME HOLY SPIRT POWER OF THAT FIRST PENTECOST FILL YOU, GUIDE YOU, BLESS YOU, AS YOU GO FORTH TO BRING THE TRUTH AND HOPE OF THE GOSPEL TO THE WORLD AROUND YOU! AMEN**