

Pentecostal Prayer

In our continuing study of Pentecost; I want to look at Acts 2.

In understanding what attracted Holy Spirit to the disciples and what attracts Holy Spirit to the church as followers of Jesus today.

Acts 2:3 “Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.”

AMP: v.2 – “Then, what looked like flames appeared and settled on each of them.”

God’s Word: “Tongues that looked like fire appeared to them. The tongues arranged themselves so that one came to rest on each believer.”

The early church was able to give language and explanation to the move of Holy Spirit because of their understanding of Scripture.

- On the Day of Pentecost, Peter was able to boldly stand and declare “This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel in response to the Acts 2:16 outpouring— Joel 2:28.”
- It is the synergy of the Word and Spirit that create a compatible landing strip for the fire of God to fall.

The Holy Spirit makes His presence available where the Word is honored and preached and obeyed.

- Where people are willing to risk being ostracized by liberal Christians, non-believers who reject the Word of God as Truth and the guideline for Christian living.
- He comes where He is made to be welcome through the Word – an open altar space and & welcoming His presence.

We cannot experience open Heavens without open altars!

Pentecostal fire is ready to fall on any open altar; but open altars demand a risk.

The altar in the Bible has always been the place where fire is attracted:

Author Kim Owens in “Doorkeepers of Revival” says:

“The place of encounter has been lost in many modern church settings.

The altars have been replaced with additional seating, and less time spent available for people to tarry before the Lord.

The altars have been replaced with competing secular attractions and sins that fill our schedules and minds.

The byproduct of empty hearts that lack zeal, shallow relationships with Jesus, and a lack of the fire of Holy Spirit in our atmospheres. We cannot expect to have revival if the place of encounter is replaced.”

An altar is not a wooden kneeling bench or an Old Testament piece of furniture:

The altar is a place of divine encounter

- **Encounters of the holy blood of Jesus meeting and cleansing our sins.**
- **Encounters where fire of Yahweh meets the sacrificed/surrendered life.**

There are no “3 steps to Glory” or “7 keys/secrets to revival” that call the fire of God from heaven.

There is only one way to experience the Pentecostal fire life:

Rom. 12:1 “Therefore, I urge you, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God – for this is your true and proper worship.”

- True & Proper worship: Worshiping God in Spirit and in Truth – John 4:24
- You have an understanding of who God is and you approach Him with more than just singing songs, real worship involves the offering of yourself to Him.
- You give Him His rightful place of honor as: HOLY, He’s Sovereign, Lord, Creator, Savior, your All in All.

Fire always falls on sacrifice:

The Lord is looking for followers who will offer to Him a living sacrifice of their total lives, not a dead sacrifice of what remains or is left over.

- If you want to be marked and used by Heaven – you have to position yourself on the altar to become the sacrifice.
- He’s not looking for a perfect person – He’s looking for **Yielded** ones.
He’s not looking for the one who has their act together – He’s looking for transparency and honesty.
He’s looking for the one who will offer up their good and bad – their addictions and habits & struggles.
He’s looking for ones who’ll let nothing be hidden or secret from Him.

Your open invitation to Him will bring a realm of encounter with Him

Heb. 4:16 is the Divine invitation to whosoever to come into His presence:

“Let us come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.”

GW- “So we can go confidently to the throne of God’s kindness to receive mercy and find kindness, which will help us at the right time.”

AMP: “Let us then fearlessly and confidently and boldly draw near to the throne of grace [Gods’ unearned favor to sinners] that we may receive mercy [for our failures] and find grace to help in good times for every need [the appropriate help], coming just when we need it.”

- Boldly/confidently = not timidly or cowardly in guilt.
Our boldness in His presence is because of the Jesus’ blood shed on our behalf.
- To the throne of grace = not to some ethereal concept or spiritual idea; but to an experiential dimension in the Spirit realm.
This is the place of encounter with the Living God not just a religious idea.

There is a revelation of divine mercy available in the presence of God.

He receives us as a gracious Heavenly Father, not angry – but One who has offered His very Son to bring us into relation with Him.

It’s the enemy who’s always whispering or yelling at us:

- “You’ve messed up” “You’re no good to anybody” “You’ve done X Y Z and because of your sin, you are not allowed and never will be allowed into God’s presence until...”
- The enemy will always attempt to convince you that no matter how many times you ask for forgiveness, you have to go through some penance process in the attempt to make yourself holy enough to be accepted by God.

But God’s plan to invite us into His presence is:

1. To receive the revelation of His mercy you can have because of the blood of Jesus being given on your behalf which grants you access into His very presence. –
Heb. 10:19 “We have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus.”
Eph. 2:13 “You have been united with Christ Jesus. Once you were far away from God, but now you have been brought near to Him through the blood of Jesus Christ.”

The Gospel’s Good News is that by Jesus’ atoning work, once and for all, a way is made for us to come boldly into the grace at any time, in any condition.

2. There is Supernatural Grace found in the presence of the Lord.

- Mercy grants us access into His presence because of Jesus' atoning work on our behalf, but the revelation of grace is what provides supernatural transformation through the power of Holy Spirit functioning in our lives to bring us forth as a new creation.

**The blood grants us the access to God's presence in our struggling state,
But it's the power of Holy Spirit that refuses to leave you a struggler!**

In order for you to receive this empowering grace to walk in victory over sin, you must have a solid revelation of the permanence of the finished work of Jesus on your behalf.

Jesus cried out on the cross: **It Is Finished!**

John 19:30 "When He had received the drink, Jesus cried – It Is Finished. With that, He bowed His head and gave up His spirit."

It is the power/infilling/indwelling Holy Spirit that Jesus has sent to us as the Promise from the Father that gives us divine power to walk/live victoriously against sin and the struggles attempting to keep us beneath our divine destiny.

Where does this take place? **AT THE ALTAR OF ENCOUNTER**

The Lord is asking you daily to come to an altar and spend fellowship with Him as your offer yourself as the living sacrifice.

We ask you to respond by coming to the altar so you can have the opportunity to present yourself before the Lord for:

- **Forgiveness – Cleansing – Healing – Filling of more – Consecration – A Holy Encounter with a Living Lord.**

Our desire is to make Holy Spirit comfortable so He can minister freely to you. We encourage you to make the altar a place where you are drawn out of your comfortable status quo.

Altars filled with broken – hungry – empty people attract the fire from Heaven!

