

Introduction: Messiah & the Pouring Out of the Holy Spirit

- As the nation of Israel fell into sin and rebellion, the Lord sent prophets to them that both warned them of the coming consequences of their sin and assured them of the great salvation that He would provide for them in the latter days.
- That salvation would come to them personally in the form of the Messianic King who would Himself be filled with the Spirit of the Lord Who would be poured out on His people.
 - Isa. 11:1-2—¹ There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. ² And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him, the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
 - Joel 2:28-29—²⁸ “And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions.
 - Ezek. 36:26-27—²⁶ And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. ²⁷ And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.
 - ⇒ **These promises will be fulfilled in the _____ when Christ returns to reign on the earth during the Millennial Kingdom (Rev. 20)**
- The NT clearly identifies Jesus as the Messiah who brings salvation and pours out the Spirit.
 - Matt. 3:16—And when Jesus was baptized, immediately he went up from the water, and behold, the heavens were opened to him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and coming to rest on him
 - Acts 2:32-33—³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. ³³ Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.
 - 2 Cor. 2:20-22—²⁰ For all the promises of God find their ‘Yes’ in him. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory. ²¹ And it is God who establishes us with you in Christ, and has anointed us, ²² and who has also put his seal on us and given us his Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.
 - ⇒ **The blessings of salvation associated with God’s promises to Israel extend _____ to NT believers (the Church) because of our relationship to Jesus, the Messiah.**

Key Point: Through Christ we presently experience the blessings salvation, but we can also be assured that He will bring us safely into the place of _____ blessing (in His presence initially, and the new creation eventually).

Living as the Church in the World—Titus 3:1-10

The Trustworthy Saying — 3:4-7

⁴ But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, ⁵ he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ so that being justified by his grace we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

- The central focus of the trustworthy saying is God’s work of *salvation*. (3:4-5a)**
 - ⇒ Salvation is not merited by the ‘good works’ of sinners, but is accomplished by the work of Christ alone!

Rom. 5:19—For as through the one man’s disobedience the many were made sinners, even so through the obedience of the One the many will be made righteous.
 - ⇒ The Holy Spirit applies the merit of Christ’s work to sinners in order that we might be declared righteous and given new life in Him.

Eph. 2:4-5—⁴ But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, ⁵ even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved

the washing of regeneration and renewal
- The work of the Spirit in particular is highlighted and is set within the context of the OT expectation of God’s end-time work of salvation and renewal. (3:5b-6a)**

“whom he poured out”

 - ⇒ This language follows the apostles’ understanding of the Spirit’s coming as described in Acts (Acts 2:32-33).

Acts 2:18—...EVEN ON MY MALE SERVANTS AND FEMALE SERVANTS IN THOSE DAYS I WILL **POUR OUT** MY SPIRIT [JOEL 2:29]

Acts 10:44-45—⁴⁴ While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles.

“richly”

- **The Lord Jesus is identified as the one through whom the Spirit has come to believers. (3:6b)**

“through Jesus Christ our Savior”

⇒ The Lord Jesus Himself had promised this to His disciples (John 16:7; Acts 2:4-5).

John 16:7—Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will **send him to you**.

⇒ This was understood by the apostles (John 3:33-34; Acts 11:1-18).

John 3:33-34—³³Whoever receives his testimony sets his seal to this, that God is true. ³⁴For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for **he gives the Spirit without measure**.

Key Point: We must be reminded of the importance of Christ’s _____ I (Acts 2:33)

- **The purpose of the saving work of God is then identified (3:7)**

The ‘Heart’ of the Trustworthy Saying: *“...he saved us...so that...we might become heirs...”*

“we might become heirs”—κληρονόμος (*klēronomos*)—One who receives something as a possession; a beneficiary.

⇒ This imagery is associated with the doctrine of _____.

Gal. 4:4-5—⁴But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵to redeem those who were under the law, **so that we might receive adoption as sons**.

Rom. 8:15-17—¹⁵For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but **you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons**, by whom we cry, “Abba! Father!” ¹⁶The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that **we are children of God**, ¹⁷and **if children, then heirs**—heirs of God and **fellow heirs with Christ**, provided we suffer with him in order that we may also be glorified with him.

⇒ Heirs (*klēronomos*) are those who can expect to receive an inheritance (*klēronomia*).

Eph. 1:11—In him we have obtained **an inheritance**, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will

Eph. 1:13-14—¹³In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴who is the guarantee of **our inheritance** until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

“being justified by his grace”

⇒ We must be reconciled to God before we can rightly be called His _____.

Heb. 9:15—Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that **redeems them from the transgressions** committed under the first covenant.

“according to the hope of eternal life.”

⇒ The use of this phrase helps us to understand that although the full _____ of our inheritance is yet to come, it has benefits for us in the present as we live with confidence and hope!

Key Point: God’s Spirit has been given to us that we might presently experience the blessings of _____ that we will one day experience in full!

Concluding Thoughts

1. **Our inheritance is ultimately the Lord Jesus _____ and all that He has _____ for us!**

Rev. 2:7b—To the one who conquers I will grant to eat of the tree of life, which is in the paradise of God.

Rev. 2:11—He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches. The one who conquers will not be hurt by the second death.

Rev. 2:17b—To the one who conquers I will give some of the hidden manna, and I will give him a white stone, with a new name written on the stone that no one knows except the one who receives it.⁷

Rev. 2:26-28—²⁶The one who conquers and who keeps my works until the end, to him I will give authority over the nations, ²⁷and he will rule them with a rod of iron, as when earthen pots are broken in pieces, even as I myself have received authority from my Father. ²⁸And I will give him the morning star.

Rev. 3:5-6—⁵The one who conquers will be clothed thus in white garments, and I will never blot his name out of the book of life. I will confess his name before my Father and before his angels. ⁶He who has an ear, let him hear what the Spirit says to the churches.⁷

Rev. 3:12—The one who conquers, I will make him a pillar in the temple of my God. Never shall he go out of it, and I will write on him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, the new Jerusalem, which comes down from my God out of heaven, and my own new name.

Rev. 3:21—The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.

Rev. 21:7—He who overcomes **will inherit** (*klēronomeō*) these things, and I will be his God and he will be My son. (NASB)