

After the Resurrection

After the Resurrection, Jesus prepared the people for the next spiritual happening. Luke 24:49 says, "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high." The next spiritual happening was prophetic, just like the death and resurrection of Jesus. This one was going to be what Isaiah and Joel prophesied about as believers were going to be endued with power from on high. Jesus commanded His disciples to go and wait in Jerusalem until the Promise of the Father came upon them. His apostles and disciples had seen many miracles, signs, and wonders, but the best was yet to come.

The Outpouring

Jesus told His disciples in Acts 1:8, "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." What they had seen Jesus do, now they would be able to do. John 14:12 says, "Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater *works* than these he will do, because I go to My Father." The disciples needed the Holy Spirit in order to do what Jesus had done. They needed the power, which comes from the Holy Spirit, so the Lord had to pour out of His Spirit. The Scripture in Joel 2:28 could then come to pass. The disciples were all filled with the Holy Spirit and fire, just as Jesus had promised and the born again, Spirit-filled church came into being.

Six Things

As the disciples waited for the outpouring, there were six things that the present-day church needed to be doing. First was to Expect. The disciples were expecting the promise of the Holy Spirit. Second was to be Obedient. They were commanded to go to Jerusalem and wait for the outpouring. Third was to be United. The Bible says that the disciples were in one accord, so unity is a very important factor. Fourth was Prayer and Supplication. The Church needs to be doing more prayer and supplication for the lost and for His Promises to come to pass. Fifth, we must Wait. The waiting is very important because we do not want to get ahead of God like so many in the Bible had done. Sixth is to Believe. The disciples believed that whatever God said would come to pass. The Church nowadays needs to position themselves like they did then because, just like the disciples, we are living after the Resurrection and God is still pouring out His Spirit upon all flesh.

Conclusion

The Spirit of God is still being poured out to this day to individuals, groups, and churches. These are the people God is going to use in the end time revival. Are you one of those people? Are you preparing yourself for God's people?

A Mother's Day Story...

Once there was a mother who loved her daughter very much. She would want to hold her daughter's hand, give her daughter hugs, and caress her daughter's face. There was a problem, though, because the daughter was very ashamed of her mother. She always told her mother that she had ugly hands. When the mother tried to hold her daughter's hand, the daughter said, "Mom, don't hold my hand because your hands are ugly." When the mother tried to hug her daughter, the daughter said, "Mom, don't hug me because your hands are so ugly." When the mother tried to caress her daughter's

face, the daughter said, “Mom, please don’t caress my face. Your hands are so ugly and I just don’t want you to touch me. Why are your hands so ugly?” The mother was crushed, but looked at her daughter intently and said, “When you were a baby, our home caught on fire. I got out of the house, but realized that they had not got you yet, so I ran back into the house only to find that your crib was on fire. I reached through the fire to pull you out to safety.” The little girl, with tears in her eyes by now, said, “Mom, don’t ever stop holding me again. Please don’t ever stop hugging me again and never ever stop caressing my face again.” Just as this mother risked her life for her daughter, Jesus risked His life for you. As Isaiah 53:5 says, “But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.”

The Ladies Encounter with the Cross...

On June 5-7, 2009, Church of the Living God will be hosting a Women’s Encounter with the Cross. This is a three day getaway where you will experience the presence of God like never before. You will come back refreshed, renewed, rejuvenated, and restored. You will come back being a better mother to your children, a better daughter, a better member to your church, and, most of all, a better Christian to your community. For more information, call (419)423-3285. Registration starts immediately, so call and sign up today.

National Day of Prayer...

Don’t forget National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 7th at 12pm. The event will take place at Dorney Plaza in downtown Findlay. In case of rain, the event will take place at The Docks at St. Mark’s United Methodist Church. This year’s keynote speaker will be Pastor Juan Salinas from Church of the Living God Ministries.

Joke...

Two muffins were in the oven. One muffin says to the other, “It’s burning hot in here.” And the other muffin said, “Hey look! A talking muffin.”