

“Outpouring of the Holy Spirit - OT Messiah”

Scripture: Isaiah 11:1-5; 61:1-2

Graphics: Holy Spirit, outpouring, water flowing

Big Truth: The Holy Spirit was not only poured out into the church at Pentecost, but has been poured out on the world since the beginning. The Holy Spirit brought new life from chaos at Creation. The Holy Spirit gives wisdom, courage, and vision to judges, warriors, and prophets. The Holy Spirit prepares the way for the Messiah, who saves. The Holy Spirit empowers and fills the church for mission. We will be ready to receive new life, wisdom and strength, preparation for the Messiah, and power and infilling when we allow the Holy Spirit to work in our lives.

Focus Phrase: The Holy Spirit’s outpouring empowers me to be used by God to change the world.

1. Introduction

- A. **PRAY! (Jesus, You are Lord...)**
- B. (favorite garden tool) This is my **favorite garden tool**. It’s not super old, but if you look at the tines on it, you’ll see that it gets a ton of use. As we’ve transitioned our garden from a bigger area that required my trusty Troy-Bilt rototiller to a smaller raised bed, this tool has become even more valuable to the well-being of our garden...and my soul. These four little tines are pretty sharp. They get right in between the plants and dig down deep to pull up any weed shoots that appear. I can even get pretty close to the plants in order to cultivate the soil, allowing more water to get to the roots. This tool is mostly the only one I use and it not only weeds and cultivates, but it helps the garden in multiple ways. It has a **purpose**.
- C. This tool is a great reminder of Jesus Christ. And it’s a great reminder of the purpose to which you and I are called as followers of Jesus.
- D. When the Holy Spirit was poured out on Jesus as his baptism, it was the beginning of His earthly ministry...a ministry to change the entire world and continues to change our world today. He was a **holy tool** that released the world from our bondage to sin and restored the image of God into our lives. And it was specifically his role as **Messiah** which did that.
- E. When the Holy Spirit is poured out on YOU, God uses you for His holy purposes. And that purpose is to change the world for and with Jesus.
- F. Write this down: **The Holy Spirit’s outpouring empowers me to be used by God to change the world.**
- G. We sang the song *Jesus Messiah* earlier this morning. The term Messiah means *anointed one* or *chosen one*. The Jewish people, from the beginning of time, really, were waiting - hoping and praying - for the Messiah - the anointed one - to come and, not only free them from the bondage of foreign oppressors, but to restore the nation of Israel to the glory days when they were faithful as God’s chosen people.

- H. Since the Fall of man after Creation, God’s plan was to send a Savior - the Messiah - to be born for that purpose - to save and to restore.
- I. WE know that tJesus Chris is that Messiah...that Savior. But what does that mean and how did the people of Israel understand the coming Messiah?
- J. This whole sermon series has been about an Outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament. First, we learned that as the Holy Spirit was poured out on the world at Creation, new life was born. Then, last week, when the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Judges, Warriors, and Prophets, supernatural wisdom, courage, and vision came flooding into their lives...and ours!
- K. Before we get to the celebration of Pentecost next week (which will be awesome!), we will take one final look at the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Messiah. And what we’ll find is that the Messiah, who was prophesied about for hundreds of years, is the anointed one from God, who will save the people from their sin and restore God’s image in His people.
- L. And, praise God, because that Messiah is Jesus...and Jesus is OUR Lord and Savior...we get to participate in the world-changing ministry of God’s kingdom here on earth...and in our lives.
- M. We, indeed, are empowered by an outpouring of the Holy Spirit to change the world around us!
- N. Let’s find out what that means today. To do that, we’ll start with the prophecies about the Messiah. Turn with me to the OT book of Isaiah, starting in chapter 11, verse 1.
- O. Let’s find out how to be holy tools today, ready and willing to be used for God’s holy purpose to change the world.

2. Scripture

A. READ Isaiah 11:1-9

- i. Isaiah had a grand vision from God about the Messiah, the one who would come from the *stump of Jesse*.
 - a. Jesse, you may recall, was the father of King David, the most famous King in all of Jewish history. It was prophesied in 2 Samuel 7 that the Messiah - the anointed one - would come from the family line of David. They didn’t know exactly WHO the Messiah would be, but they knew that God said the Messiah would come from the lineage of David.
 - b. Here’s what Nathan, the prophet, said to David in 2 Samuel 7:12-14, “When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me...”

- c. Isaiah then, generations later, had a vision of WHAT would happen when the Messiah came...knowing that the Messiah - the anointed one - would come from the line of David...which Jesus did.
- d. Isaiah prophesied that the Holy Spirit - the *ruah elohim* - would rest on Him, this Messiah to come. And that outpouring would do several things:
 - i) It would give the Messiah wisdom and understanding to rightly know the hearts of people and the world.
 - ii) The Spirit would give the Messiah counsel and might, so that the Messiah would discern perfectly and act confidently.
 - iii) The Spirit will give knowledge and fear of the Lord, fully knowing and bowing before the Father in reverence, which Jesus did perfectly. And that fear and awe would be a delight to Jesus.
- e. The rest of this passage in Isaiah is about what the Messiah would DO when He came to earth to save and restore the world for God.
 - i) The Messiah would see below the surface, into the hearts of women and men to judge their hearts...and bring justice for the oppressed and help the poor.
 - ii) Isaiah prophesied that the Messiah would impact the world with the Word of God. In John 1, we read that Jesus WAS the Word of God made flesh...the very light of the world.
 - iii) And then, Isaiah gave the people a vision of the world CHANGED because of the Messiah: predators and prey living in harmony... strong and weak living together without harm to the weaker...the vulnerable and naive child protected from the viper's venomous bite.
 - iv) Then, in verse 9, "They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain, for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea."
 - v) This is a picture of what the Messiah DOES in the world and in our lives when the Holy Spirit is poured out onto Him and us!
- f. We KNOW that Jesus is the Messiah. And we know that at the end of all things, when He returns, all this will be a reality. Yet, we clearly look around and see that our world is NOT YET what this prophecy picture paints. Right? There pain and heartache and brokenness and isolation and loneliness...war, division, and anger are commonplace.
- g. So what's the deal, Jesus? What are we supposed to do?

B. READ Isaiah 61:1-4

- i. Well, if we turn to Isaiah 61, God gave Isaiah some more insight into the work of the Messiah, as the Spirit is poured out onto this descendent of David and Jesse. Here's what Isaiah 61 says...listen for the Spirit of God calling YOU and ME in this:
- ii. The spirit of the Lord God is upon me
because the Lord has anointed me;
he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed,
to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives
and release to the prisoners,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor
and the day of vengeance of our God,
to comfort all who mourn,
to provide for those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a garland instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.
They will be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.
They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
- iii. In Isaiah 11, we get God's future reality when the Messiah comes and the *ruah elohim* is poured out onto Him. In this later passage in Isaiah 61, Isaiah gave a clear picture of the work of the Messiah in the here and now.
 - a. To bring Good News to the oppressed and bind up the broken-hearted.
 - b. To proclaim liberty and release to those in captivity.
 - c. To talk about God's favor and his grace and love to all who are mourning and broken.
 - d. And those who're saved and restored will be raised up to rebuild the world.
- iv. Do you see it? Are you hearing it? **When the Messiah does the work of restoration in the lives of those who believe in Him, those saved and restored ones are then the ones who do the work of salvation and restoration for the world!**
- v. Guess who that is? Who is it? ME! YOU! Yes!
- vi. The CHURCH of Jesus Christ, because of the Messiah, IS the holy tool that God anoints and uses for His holy purposes to live out the mission

described in Isaiah 61...and that will lead to the vision of the future in Isaiah 11!

- C. In Luke 3:21-22, we read where it all started for the world through Jesus: “Now when all the people were baptized and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the **Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form** like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”
- D. The Son of God would come from Jesse and David. That Messiah would be the Anointed One. And on THAT famous day, at the Jordan River, when Jesus was baptized, Jesus Christ of Nazareth, after an outpouring of the Holy Spirit, became the fullness of the Messiah that’d been prophesied to the people of God for centuries. And...and...Jesus Christ is OUR Messiah...the One who saves and restores us...and the world through us!
- E. What that means is that YOU and I are now the ones who are anointed by a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit to change the world for Jesus Christ, our Messiah.
- F. The Holy Spirit’s outpouring empowers me to be used by God to change the world.

3. Application

- A. (tool) Are you willing to be a holy tool used by God to change the world for Jesus Christ the Messiah?
- B. God has a purpose for your life and mine, and it’s the same purpose as every other person that’s following Jesus for life. That purpose is to **change the world around you for Jesus**...to point people to the fact that Jesus died on the cross for your sin, was buried, then walked out of his own grave under his own power to show the world that new life is God’s plan for all who believe. We have NO OTHER HOPE! Jesus IS the Way, the Truth, and the Life!
- C. That work takes a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit onto your life...not just once when you are saved...but every day! Every morning when you wake up, allow the Holy Spirit to fall afresh on you, like at Jesus’ baptism.
- D. When you do that, you have new vision to see the world in a very different way than the world sees itself. Where the world sees is a dysfunctional, polarized mess we’ve made, Jesus sees beneath the surface to the hurting and lost people in whom God put a longing to believe in and be in relationship with the One who created them.
- E. Pointing people to God is pretty simple: God made you. God woos you. God wants to save you. God is waiting for you to come so He can restore you.

- F. And, listen, it's simple math: the more people that know Jesus and follow Him as Lord and Savior (as Messiah) the more peace and justice will prevail in our world. It's all based in love for God and love for neighbor.
- G. And Jesus wants to pour out His Holy Spirit onto YOUR life to empower you to be the agent of peace and justice, grace and mercy, for the world.

4. Conclusion

- A. As we get ready to celebrate Pentecost next Sunday, make sure you make it a priority to be in worship together as a church. We're in the process of being reborn and the day of Pentecost is the day to mark on your calendar.
- B. As you prepare - every morning this week, intentionally pray for the Holy Spirit to be poured out into your life. That Spirit will create new life from chaos. The Spirit will give you supernatural wisdom, courage, and vision. And, the Holy Spirit, poured out into your life, will empower you to change the world for Jesus Messiah.
- C. Are you willing to be a holy tool, being used for God's glory and to restore the world around you through an outpouring of the Holy Spirit?
- D. Today, we'll end worship in a little different way. As we sing the last song, come forward to be anointed with oil. There will be some members of the Worship Team up front to anoint you. Anointing with oil is a symbol of the abiding presence and outpouring of the Holy Spirit into our lives. When a person is anointed, the lingering presence of the oil on your skin is a reminder that the Holy Spirit is working in your life.
- E. As you are anointed today, you're empowered to remember the presence of the Holy Spirit every day. **YOU ARE A HOLY TOOL THAT GOD IS USING TO CHANGE THE WORLD. YOU!**
- F. Let's pray and then let's get anointed today to change the world!
- G. PRAY!**
- H. (Oil anointing during the final song)