

CP - 9/25/22

## Acts 10:44–48 - The Gentiles Receive the Spirit

### Sermon Outline

#### 1. The Holy Spirit falls. (10:44)

- *He falls and interrupts the preaching.* “these things” - They were believing and He fell. The “everyone who believes” struck them. The Spirit’s prerogative to come when He desires, to blow where He wishes - our entire message is an invitation - if the Spirit works in you during the message, RESPOND!
- *He falls on all without distinction.* - Salvation is for all!
- *He falls on all who hear and believe the gospel.* The gospel must be shared before people believe. Romans 10:14–17: Faith comes from hearing the word of Christ.

#### 2. The Jewish believers are amazed as the Spirit is poured out. (10:45–46)

- *He is poured out.* - passive - Acts 2:33 (Jesus pours out), Titus 3:5–6 (Father pours out); He falls actively in v. 44! Trinity working in unity!
- *He is poured out as a gift of grace.*
  - “gift” - “doera”, “A free gift with emphasis on its gratuitous character.”, “poured out” - “give generously” - from Jesus, from His work
  - They had not done anything to receive the Spirit - no Mosaic law, no circumcision, no food laws followed, no sacrifices offered, no baptism, - you don’t have to clean up your life - God cleans his fish after he catches them! - simple faith
- *He is poured out on the Gentiles.* - Gentiles are not holy; they are dogs. But they have now been given the Holy Spirit! - “On the Gentiles” prophecy and promise of Joel fulfilled (“all flesh - Joel 2:28!
- *He is poured out as a sign.*
  - signs - speaking in tongues and extolling God (visible/audible)
  - sign of similarity - They saw the work of the Spirit - similar in Jerusalem, similar in Samaria, similar here.
  - not mandatory for salvation as seen in Acts (1 Cor. 12:27–31)

#### 3. Peter commands baptism for Cornelius/family/friends and remains with them. (10:47–48)

- *Peter does not withhold what God had already given.* Peter asks a rhetorical question. God baptized them with the Spirit. We will baptize them with water. *What are you/me/we withholding from others that God has already given them?*

- Peter is not commanding Cornelius' family but the Jewish brothers with him to baptize - Peter like Paul (1 Cor 1) shows that anyone can baptize.

- *Peter stays to demonstrate that the Gentiles are family.* - He remains (prolong a stay) with them - eats, stays, fellowships, accepts - picture of what God had already done for us in the gospel - God welcomes us, accepts us, remains with us, invites us to his table, sits with us, eats with us, lives with us.

### **Small Group Questions**

1. What from the Bible passage and sermon spoke to you?
2. How does the Holy Spirit show His sovereignty in interrupting Peter's message? What was happening in the hearts of Cornelius, his family, and his friends? Why must we remember and submit to the sovereignty of the Spirit to interrupt/do as he pleases? What are some ways the local church everywhere can do better in submitting to the Holy Spirit?
3. Why were the Jewish believers amazed? What were their presuppositions of the Gentiles, and how did God confront these biases and overcome them? How is the Spirit shown to be a gift of grace?
4. Discuss the signs of the Holy Spirit coming on the Gentiles (tongues and extolling God). Are tongues mandatory for salvation? How does the book of Acts show otherwise? How did these signs help Peter and the Jewish believers?  
(This is the fun question for the evening!)
5. How did Peter demonstrate that the Gentiles were equal heirs in Christ and part of their spiritual family? How can we as the church do a better job showing the same? What do we withhold from others that God has already given them?