

Take It Home

Applying the Preached Word



Acts: The Spirit Falls

March 21, 2010

Jared Mellinger

NOTE: In addition to the Take It Home questions below, further information and application questions related to this message are available in the Acts Study Guide. The Study Guide can be picked up on a Sunday morning or accessed as a PDF file on our web site (www.covfel.org) by going to the HOME PAGE > RESOURCES > CURRENT SERIES. Then scroll down to the study guide link. Each study corresponds to a preaching passage in the series.

Text: Acts 2:1-41

Main Point: Acts 2 is essential in our understanding and experience of the Holy Spirit.

Key Ideas: In Acts 2 we encounter:

1. The Promised Spirit.

- The Holy Spirit had been expected to be poured out by God's people based on the promises and prophecies of God's word prior to Pentecost. This specifically includes the promises of Jesus.
- The promise of the Spirit was not just for an Old Testament empowering for a specific task, but for a full and overflowing experience in all of life, and among all of God's people.

2. The Christ-centered Spirit.

- Once Peter begins his sermon in verse 14 the focus is on Christ, not on the Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit is not Spirit-centered; He is Christ-centered. He draws attention to Christ, not Himself.
- The first and greatest measure of spirituality is not our experience, but our love and obedience to the Savior.

3. The Dynamic Spirit.

- The Spirit inaugurates and defines the Last Days. We are living in the era of the Holy Spirit.
- When the Spirit falls on someone in Acts, it is invariably a dynamic and invasive experience.
- We want to avoid charismania – being so focused on the power of the Spirit that we lose sight of whom the Spirit is promoting – Jesus Christ.
- We want to avoid charisphobia – being so averse to spiritual experience that we deny the work that the Spirit is doing as he promotes Jesus Christ.

Take It Home

Applying the Preached Word



Fellowship Starters

Treasure - Application to stir our love for Christ

1. See the questions in the Acts Study Guide under study 3.
2. Describe how this message affects your understanding of Acts 2 from previous teachings and study.
3. Describe your first significant awareness of the Holy Spirit's operation in your life.
4. Describe how the Spirit of God has promoted love and obedience to Jesus in your life.

Grow - Application to stir our obedience to Christ

5. Where would you tend to find yourself leaning – toward charisma or charisphobia? Why do you tend to go in that direction?
6. Where are you sensing a need for the power and presence of the Holy Spirit in a dynamic way right now?
7. Pray for folks to be filled with the Holy Spirit based on their response to question 6.

Proclaim - Application to stir our witness for Christ

8. How should this message affect how you pray when you find yourself with a Gospel outreach opportunity?

Song Set

A Mighty Fortress – traditional hymn

How Great Thou Art – traditional hymn

Holy Spirit, Dispel Our Sadness - traditional hymn

How Sweet and Awesome in the Place – traditional hymn

I Will Glory In My Redeemer – found on the album *Songs For the Cross Centered Life* by Sovereign Grace Music