1. **Intro:**

   
   1.1.1. Tonight we are going to talk not about “the Honorable Bird”, but about God the Spirit.
   
   1.1.2. **Q: Do you have any Holy Spirit hang ups?**

   1.2. One pastor joked, “We Presbyterians believe in God the Father, you Baptist in God the Son, & the Pentecostals in God the Spirit”.

   1.2.1. So the church has seemed to have done a wonderful job in dissecting God into 3 equal parts, & making the Triune God into Tri-theism.

   1.3. The section we will take tonight is actually ch.3 in the Hebrew bible.

   1.3.1. So, it is its own section.

   1.4. This section is like Joel waking up one day & finding a Lap Top lying next to his bed. Then describing it.

   1.4.1. He's describing something off into the future.

   1.4.2. what a wild concept back then to have the H.S. on everyone.

2. **HOLY SPIRIT POURED OUT! (28,29)**

   2.1. These verses refer especially to the future day of the Lord, but Peter’s use of them at Pentecost suggests that they have a spiritual application today. (let’s go there Acts 2:17-21)

   2.2. “All flesh(mankind)” – Ultimately fulfilled in the millennium.

   2.3. **What Peter had to say regarding this:**

   2.3.1. What happened at Pentecost was the beginning of God’s blessing on Israel.

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1 Intro by Philip Yancey in Robertson McQuilkins book, Life in the Spirit.
2.3.2. He 1st shares about these outpourings “beginning” (17,18); then about its “ending” (19,20).

2.3.2.1. Its dawning of this age & its sunset!

2.3.3. Q: What was different regarding the H.S.’s role on that day of Pentecost?

2.3.3.1. The Spirit previous to this was only poured out on a select few, & at special times with them.

2.3.3.2. Q: Name an example of the H.S. coming upon someone in the OT?

2.3.3.3. Q: Name an example of the H.S. being taken away in the OT?

2.3.4. Let’s run back to Moses & hear his heart on this subject.

2.3.4.1. Numb. 11:16-29 (esp. 29)

2.4. All would be ministers of God:

2.4.1. Not merely a special corps of workers…but “all”.

2.4.2. The Holy Spirit is the Master Equalizer!

2.4.2.1. Col. 3:11 “there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcised nor uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave nor free, but Christ is all and in all.”

2.4.3. A new era had emerged.

2.4.3.1. Acts 2:42 “Now all who believed were together, and had all things in common.”

2.5. All would have special tasks:

2.5.1. They will not all necessarily do the same work…but all will have work to do.

2.5.2. Also, all will be indwelt with the H.S. so that the work can be done effectively.

2.5.3. The outpouring of God’s Spirit supercedes gender (sons/daughters); supercedes age (old/young); & supercedes class (men/maidservants).

2.5.4. History:

2.5.5. Back in the reformation there was an important phrase that came forth, “priesthood of all believers”.

2.5.5.1. Q: What do you think the Protestants were addressing?

2.5.5.2. A: The Problem of the division between the “clergy” & “laity”.
2.5.6. **3 false ideas have arisen:**

2.5.7. [1] The work of the church is to be done by those paid to do it. And the role of the layman is at best to support these works financially. 

2.5.7.1. Of course this is what caused most of the problems in R.C. history.

2.5.7.2. Those who favor this view say it goes back to the apostles. {This is false!}

2.5.7.3. The NT records many times uses the word “minister” or “ministry” to refer to what all Christians are & do.

2.5.7.4. Sometimes clergy wants to dominate & other times the laity wants to sit back & let the pastor do it.

2.5.7.5. “Shepherd the flock of God which is among you, serving as overseers, not by compulsion but willingly, not for dishonest gain but eagerly; nor as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock;”

2.5.8. [2] A reaction to the 1st…a rejection of any leaders.

2.5.8.1. I saw this take place in our valley back in 1990. A small group started a fellowship with the idea that no one in leadership was the way of “Acts”!

2.5.8.2. But of course we see in many of Paul's Epistles the biblical mandate, & a regular practice, of raising up leadership in the local church.

2.5.9. [3] You have both groups, but they are so clearly outlined that ultimately they never work together.

2.5.9.1. Thus there is no being part of “one” body. - **Unity problems.**

2.5.9.2. Then, **Rivalry** enters in.

2.5.10. **The true pattern?** – Eph.4:11-13

2.5.10.1. There is supposed to be a proper relationship between the 2. And it is **Service!**

2.5.10.2. The clergy equip(assist,train) the saints for the work of the ministry.

2.5.10.3. Thus helping them with what they should be & what they should do(i.e. proclaim the gospel)

2.5.10.4. The perfect model of course being Christ…who came to serve…!

3. **WRAP UP! (30-32)**

3.1. (30,31) These are seen in the wrap up of the Tribulation.

3.2. (31b) Read Mt.24:29-31…it goes here!
3.3. (32) So what happens between Pentecost & the Doom of the day of the Lord?...Salvation, that’s what happens!

3.3.1. “Calls on” not w/ a ceremonial or heartless repetition of phrases, but w/ spiritual heartfelt worship.

3.3.2. Q: How do you escape the wrath of God? (see 3:1,2)

3.3.2.1. You escape it by becoming the true Israel. – Not Israel according to the flesh, but Israel according to the spirit!

3.4. What a wonderful balance of the human & the heavenly: “whoever calls”; & “whom the Lord calls”.

3.5. Deliverance – This will be the ultimate deliverance experience.

3.5.1. Jesus is coming back! This time not to die, but to bring about His kingdom on earth, gather His people unto Himself, & destroy all His enemies.

3.6. How can we sum up the Spirit’s work in our lives?

3.6.1. The Spirit created us in his very image; then we chose to abandon that love relationship & went our own way.

3.6.2. So, He gave us the revelation of truth (this exposed our true condition & God’s salvation...thus hope was born!).

3.6.3. In responding to His truth w/ repentance & faith we realize the H.S. regenerated us, forgave us, redeemed us, changing our very nature & came to live in us.

3.6.4. He transforms us; He fills us; He makes us overcomers; He gifts us; He sends us; & He glorifies us.

3.6.5. He Teaches us; Sanctifies us; Illuminates us; Baptizes us; & He brings us Comfort!

3.6.6. Q: How much time do you give in thinking about the H.S.?

3.6.7. Q: How about thanking Him for all He has done or is doing in your life? (I know not to pray to him per se)

3.7. Read Rom.5:5 – Poured!

3.7.1. The Holy Spirit didn’t use an “Eye Dropper”, He didn’t use “tweezers” to put agape love in our hearts, but some God sized Pouring device!