2023 05 28 DAY OF PENTICOST

John 7:37-39. 20:1-23. Acts 2:1-21. 1 Corinthians’ 12:3b-13.

I have a hand, I feel emotions, I think, I am a father, a husband and so on – many different but integrated things yet I am one person.

God said ‘let us make man in our own image – in the image of God He made them – male and female God made us.”

We read of three aspects of God – “the Spirit hovered over the tumult that was the planet earth and God Spoke – let there be … and it was so”

Father, Spirit, Word”. We know God as Father Son Spirit – one God – three Presences.

This is the day that we especially remember and joy in the Spirit of God coming in fullness and permantencly to dwell in us. Our Lord Jesus said that when he left this physical realm of earth that he would ask the Father to send the Holy Spirit – the gift of the Father to come and be in us permanently –‘WHY THIS DISTICTION TO WAIT until JESUS THE Son returned to his eternal state, the ‘Word’ returning to the Speaker – I dare not even think about it is far beyond my mind or emotions to understand – God in GODS FULNESS is complete in our physical space and in what we call heaven – there is no loss? OR REDUCITON IN God with Jesus here because God is in JESUS and Jesus is in us and us in God – John 14.

This being Penticost Sunday were we especially consider the Holy Spirits coming in undeniable public power. We will look at the times that the Lord promises the Holy Spirit or Living Water:

1. Startt with Joel xxxxx years before Jesus birth in Bethlehem and quoted in Acts 2:17-21 “I will take away their hearts of stone and give them a heart of flesh – I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh and whoever calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Notice it is us calling on Jesus – not us ‘accepting Jesus into our lives’ – we call out for His presence and forgiveness as we acknowledge our guilt and receive His forgivness and Gods righteousness in its place.. The Spirit grows us into the person that God the Father always intended us to be.

2. John the baptizer said that he baptized with water but that One/Jesus would come who would baptize them in the Spirit and power………..

3. when Jesus asked the lady at a well for water he said to her – “if you knew who I am you would have asked me for living water and never be thirsty again.

4. ……Thirst – a prerequist is to ‘thirst’ –‘as the dear pants after the water brook so my soul pants after you o Lord”…do we know that we are thirst no matter how we try and compensate for it. The brook, the water of life is prepared but we need to come to it, come to Jesus, know, admit, be honest at whatever stage of honesty and self awareness we can be – come – yet this is not enough – we may stand still and feel our lives, feel our story feel, obsesess about our needs and sorrows and know that we have only to ask, cry for Jesus to come in an dwell in us and Jesus has.

Yet we still lack – not salvation, not eternal life but a fullness of living now whatever our situation, health etc is -**we must drink from the Spirits Presence Gods Presence as the Spirit brings Jesus to us** ! John 14-16.

We have Gods Presence in us if we have called out to Jesus for forgivness, we are in Gods Country on this earth we have what we call the fruit of the spirit/Spirit dormant IN US – new born – love, joy, peace, kindness, faith…. It will flow out from us to other people as we let it out, maybe our hurts and ways of life and sins of the pass make a river of rocks that Gods love will have to flow around and over – yet notice when water trickles over rocks in a brook, what a gentle musical melody it makes. Sometimes there is a might roar as the water tears through the big rocks and boulders – a sound of strength and wonder. So it is with us – times of Gods Spirit quietly trickling through our days and emotions and actions and sometimes we feel like we are being torn apart – all is good. We know that OUR God is there and our god loves us individually and created us to be the unique person we are – yet being polished and tumbled but never alone or abandoned.

## 5. v39 the gift of the Spirit was future promise for Jesus was not yet risen – salvation into God family was not yet complete or secure -the dread of the cross – of my sins – your rebellions, had not yet fully come into Jesus. Jesus perceived the horror of it but maybe not the separation ffrom God as nothing evil can come into Gods direct intimate presence – a grain of dirt pollutes an entire ocean of pure water. Yet Jesus cried out– not my will Lord but yours. This is why I interchange sin and rebellion for sin is saying to God – ‘no I want to do think i I I etc – no I will not give up that guilt – I will carry it myself – all are rebellion.

Chpt 20:19-23 Jesus’ followers were gathered together for fear of the people – the people who killed Jesus – locked doors – fearful and then Jesus greeting – “peace be with you.” This time our Lord says “receive the Holy Spirit”. Yet there was no change in then – they had ? sort of legally rec,eived but not moved in and occupied – like a house that you have finalized payment and contracts on and the house is yours but waiting – as Jesus said – wait in Jerusalem until the promise…… comes upon you.

7. Acts 2. Now what could be more definit, more undeniable than the sound of a great roaring wind and fire alighting on their heads, could we personally forget the time when we felt the Spirits Presence in a clear special way – I remember some 30 years ago; an intimate experience of the Spirit as a solid core off peace through the centre of my chest and stomach – I can still feel the memory of the time.

The change in these followers was undeniable – joy, boldness, feedom of speech, no longer afraid but pouring out rivers of life to the crowd. The promise the blessing the gift was made manifest.

And still is today – in different personalized ways.

8. today the Holy Spirit hovers over our lives and comes into us as our guide, comforter, memory, boldness. The Spirit knows the person that God created us to be, God selected our DNA, God knew which two people would bring the exact DNA to create the person that he intended us to be. There are no accidents with God. The Spirit brings the love and joy and peace and patience of God to us individually and these take hold in us and become the seed and the fertilizer to grow these in us. We might have chosen different parents but God knew and even if they messed themselves up and this effected us – God knows who we are in our birth in Him. Fruit of the Spirit in us. – do not stifle or corrupt these.

9.No way our life is meant to be in emptiness – God has a place for us in His family – there are different roles in each family of house – cooking, cleaning, repairs, earning an income etc and in God family the Spirit gives abilities to each of us as he chooses, as he sees are necessary for the strength and stability of the dwelling place - ……………………….

So some do not use their gifts, they hide or avoide or whatever and the family suffers lose and suffers for it. Abilities are there to be fulfilled. The gifts of the Spirit-individually special to each of us.

When the Lord calls us, He knows us, the Spirit prays for us with such intensity through the love of God because the Spirit knows the mind and heart of God -knows what God intentions for us individually are.

Herein is peace and joy and the PRESENCE OF GOD.