

dialects (vss. 6, 8-11). Notice also that Peter (vss. 16-21) says that this outpouring is a fulfillment of what the prophet Joel says will be characteristic of the entire period of the "last days", which begins at this outpouring and continues until Christ returns. Notice also the non-technical nature of the terms used to describe this great event: "baptism" (Matthew 3:11); "filling" (Acts 2:4); "pouring out" or "pouring forth" (Joel 2:28-29, Acts 2:17-18, Acts 2:33).

Acts 4:29-31 -- "Now, Lord, consider their threats and enable your servants to speak your word with great boldness. Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus. After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken., And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit (ἐπλήσθησαν ἅπαντες τοῦ ἁγίου πνεύματος) and spoke the word of God boldly."

Notice: the people who were filled in Acts 2 were filled again here in Acts 4, together with a number of others.

Acts 8:14-17 -- "When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit (ὅπως λάβωσιν πνεῦμα ἅγιον), because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them (οὐδέπω γὰρ ἦν ἐπ' οὐδενὶ αὐτῶν ἐπιτεπτωκός); they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit (ἐλάβανον πνεῦμα ἅγιον)."

Note that in verse 12 these people had made a credible profession and been baptized with water in the name of Jesus Christ. Those whose profession was genuine (apparently Simon the Magician's was not) were joined to Christ by the Spirit, regenerated by the Spirit, and joined to the Body of Christ by the Spirit. Subsequently the Spirit came on them and they received Him. Of course, these represent a new class of individuals, since they were Samaritans, not proper Jews.

Acts 9:17-20 -- "Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, 'Brother Saul, the Lord -- Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here -- has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit (καὶ πλησθῆς πνεύματος ἁγίου).' Immediately, something like scales fell from Saul's eyes, and he could see again. He got up and was baptized, and after taking some food, he regained his strength. Saul spent several days with the disciples in Damascus. At once he began to preach in the synagogues that Jesus is the Son of God."

If Saul was converted on the Damascus road, then at this time in Damascus he was already regenerated and indwelt by the Spirit. Notice that, having been equipped by the filling of the Spirit, he began immediately to preach Jesus.

Acts 10:44-47 -- "While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on (ἐπέπεσε) all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were, astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out (ἐκκέχυται) even on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God. Then Peter said, 'Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with