October 30, 2022 **“Ministry By The Holy Spirits Presence and Power”** Billy Burchfield

**Mark 1:15**, "The***time is fulfilled****, and the kingdom of God is at hand.* ***Repent, and***

***believe*** *in the gospe*l".

**Mark 1 10-11**, *And immediately, coming up from the water, He saw the heavens parting and* ***the Spirit descending upon Him*** *like a dove. 11****Then*** *a voice came from heaven, “You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased".*

Jesus’ ***ministry*** did not begin until ***He received His*** “*anointing*” as Messiah**;** the ***empowering*** that came through the descent of the Holy Spirit upon Him (Mark 1:10).

Though conceived and born ***by the Spirit’s power*** (Luke 1:35) and sinless His whole lifetime (John 8:46), ***He did not attempt ministry without the Spirit’s power***. He insisted John baptize Him, not for repentance, but because ***He knew the Holy Spirit would come upon Him at that time*** (Matt. 3:13–17) *Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. 14And John tried to prevent Him, saying, “I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?” 15But Jesus answered and said to him, “Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all \*righteousness.” Then he allowed Him.*

From that time, He is led of the Spirit (v. 12) and moves into ministry; ***declaring the presence of God’s kingdom*** and manifesting ***its*** (kingdom) miracles, signs, and wonders (Luke 4:14, 15; **Matt. 4:23–25**).

***This way*** points each believer to the need for power, if kingdom ministry is to be advanced through us; ***His church***. Like Him, we, too, are “*born of the Spirit*” (John 3:5, 6). Though obviously, our spiritual birth is not as His biological virgin birth, the point remains.

***Spiritual rebirth*** ***saves***, but ***spiritual enduement is needed for ministering in kingdom power***. Our ***justification*** in Christ; being declared sinless (2 Cor. 5:21) does not qualify for kingdom power in ministry.

In His incarnation Jesus’ Person and perfection exceeded ours in every way, yet Jesus still acknowledged the need for His own receiving of the power of the Holy Spirit to pursue His ministry. Let each of us personally hear His command: “***Receive the Holy Spirit!***” (John 20:22) *So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.” 22 And when He had said this, He* ***breathed*** *on them, and said to them, “****Receive*** *the \*Holy Spirit*".

Jesus’ words “*Receive the Holy Spirit*” set in context two different works of the Holy Spirit in a believer’s life.

**First**, here on Easter night, the disciples do, in fact, “**receive the Holy Spirit**” as “***the Spirit of life***” (Rom. 8:2). Jesus’ word is direct and unequivocal: “**Receive**”; and in doing so, the disciples are “**born again**” (John 3:3) by the ***Holy Spirit’s regenerating work*** in them (Rom. 8:11–17). This passage parallels the breath of the Father on Adam in the first creation, as Jesus breathes on them and the “***new creation***” is begun (2 Cor. 5:17).

**Second**, on ***Pentecost*** the work of God’s Spirit as ***the Spirit of power*** (Is. 11:2, “might”) is to **enable** Jesus’ ***disciples*** **for ministry** (witness and service) to fulfill their mission to the world.