

Sealed & Sanctified!

Ephesians 1:3-14 Acts 2:1-41

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Pentecost Sunday is the day that we remember when the Risen and Ascended Lord Jesus sends the Holy Spirit to His Church. In a dramatic display of power, the Gospel is preached and 3000 people come to faith! Ever since then, the Holy Spirit is at work through the Gospel to create faith and bring people into the Holy Christian Church. In fact the Holy Spirit has worked with the gospel in your life to create faith and bring you into the Holy Christian Church.

*No one can say Jesus is Lord,
except by the Holy Spirit!*

The Holy Spirit can work so powerfully because He is the 3rd Person of the Holy Trinity. In other words, *the Holy Spirit is God*. The Bible gives the Holy Spirit **divine names**, **divine works and attributes**, and **divine glory and honor**. **The Holy Spirit is the Third Person of the Holy Trinity!** In the mystery of the Holy Trinity, the Holy Spirit is equal to the Father and the Son, but yet, there remains only One God.

The Holy Spirit is worshipped and glorified in the same way we worship and glorify the Father and the Son. The Holy Spirit is almighty, majestic, eternal, uncreated, and incomprehensible just like the Father and just like the Son. All these things tells us that *the Holy Spirit is God!* The Holy Spirit works powerfully through the Gospel Good News about Jesus's death and resurrection!

One of those ways that the Holy Spirit works is that He “seals” you. Here is an example of how the Bible talks about it:

When you believed, you were marked in Him with a **seal**, the promised **HOLY SPIRIT**, Who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession—to the praise of His glory. Ephesians 1:13-14

A “**seal**” is a sign of ownership in the Bible. It means that you belong to God and His Holy Church; it promises God's presence and power at work in your life. The “**seal**” protects you from Satan and his wicked demons; it delivers you from final judgment and eternal destruction.

The Holy Spirit at work within you is an **internal witness** to yourself that you are **in Christ**; that you have faith, and that you belong to God! That “**seal**” of the Holy Spirit gives you assurance that you belong to the Father and trust in the Son!

The “seal” -- the presence and work of the Holy Spirit -- confirms you that you have faith, and that you have been redeemed from your sins!

The Holy Spirit is also at work to **sanctify** you. *Sanctification is a biblical word that means “to make you holy”.* It has the idea that you have been “*set apart*” for a special purpose. God the Holy Spirit “*sets you apart*” from the sinful world, and teaches you how to live in the Kingdom of God.

It is the Holy Spirit that sets you apart to be a biblically literate and definitely sound disciple who hungers and thirsts for God's holy word. It is the Holy Spirit, given to you in holy baptism, that gives you the understanding of Holy Communion and the desire to receive it frequently often.

it is the Holy Spirit, who has sealed you and set you apart , that makes you compassionate for your neighbors eternal Salvation an earthly welfare .

it is the Holy Spirit at work within you to live a holy life, to speaking truthful words, and to think godly thoughts.

One of the things that this means is that the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Holy Trinity, works in you *personally and individually* through the Word of God. You have been set apart this is personal: you do not belong to the sinful world any longer; you belong to God and you now live in His Kingdom! The Holy Spirit works in you *personally and individually* to sanctify you, to set you apart for special purpose!

One part of your Sanctification is that the Holy Spirit *lives and dwells within you*. The Holy Spirit is so much a part of you **that the Bible calls your body a “temple” of the Holy Spirit.**

Do you not know that **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit**, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body. 1 Cor 6:19-20

What a fantastic thought! **Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit!**
A “Temple” is a place where God lives and dwells. God the Holy Spirit *lives and dwells in you!* Through faith in Christ, the Holy Spirit is given to you and lives within you! You have been Sanctified: *set apart, and God lives in you!*

Your Entire Life Is Now Holy.

The things you do and the things you say are holy. What you do with your body is important. **Your whole life is now lived out in the presence of God Who lives within you!**

- † That influences what you do with your body; and how you treat it;
- † It impacts how you speak and what you say
- † It effects all your interactions and relationships with other people
- † It directs how you live your life and the things that you do

Your Entire Life Is Now Holy.

The Lord has saved us and called us to a **holy life**—not because of anything we have done but because of his own purpose and grace. 2 Timothy 1:9

Be sure to personalize that verse: *The Lord has saved you and called you to a holy life—not because of anything you have done but because of His own purpose and grace.*

Today we celebrate Pentecost Sunday, and we recognize and thank the Holy Spirit for His mighty work in our lives!

- ⇒ He has given you faith in the Lord Jesus Christ!
- ⇒ He has called you to a Holy life!
- ⇒ You are sealed by the Spirit and assured of your salvation!
- ⇒ You are sanctified as the Holy Spirit sets you apart for holy living!
- ⇒ And the Holy Spirit, the Third person of the Holy Trinity, lives in you and is at work through you!

The Lord has saved you and called you to a holy life—not because of anything you have done but because of His own purpose and grace.

Amen!

Holy Spirit, Lord and Giver of Life, we thank you that you sanctify us through Your Holy Word. Empower us to glorify our Father in Heaven, and obey our Lord Jesus Christ. Help us to know and understand that our bodies are Your Temple, and to live our lives accordingly. Give us the realization that *our entire lives are holy!* In Jesus Name, Amen!

Ephesians 1:3-14

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, 4 even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love 5 he predestined us for adoption as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, 6 to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. 7 In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, 8 which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight 9 making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ 10 as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. 11 In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, 12 so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. 13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, 14 who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Acts 2:1-41

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. 5 Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. 6 And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. 7 And they were amazed and astonished, saying, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language? 9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, 11 both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabians—we hear them telling in our own tongues the mighty works of God." 12 And all were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" 13 But others mocking said, "They are filled with new wine." 14 But Peter, standing with the eleven, lifted up his voice and addressed them: "Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and give ear to my words. 15 For these people are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only the third hour of the day. 16 But this is what was uttered through the prophet Joel: 17 "'And in the last days it shall be, God declares, that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh, and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams; 18 even on my male servants and female servants in those days I will pour out my Spirit, and they shall prophesy. 19 And I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke; 20 the sun shall be turned to darkness and the moon to blood, before the day of the Lord comes, the great and magnificent day. 21 And it shall come to pass that everyone who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.'" 22 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know— 23 this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. 24 God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. 25 For David says concerning him, "'I saw the Lord always before me, for he is at my right hand that I may not be shaken; 26 therefore my heart was glad, and my tongue rejoiced; my flesh also will dwell in hope. 27 For you will not abandon my soul to Hades, or let your Holy One see corruption. 28 You have made known to me the paths of life; you will make me full of gladness with your presence.'" 29 "Brothers, I may say to you with confidence about the patriarch David that he both died and was buried, and his tomb is with us to this day. 30 Being therefore a prophet, and knowing that God had sworn with an oath to him that he would set one of his descendants on his throne, 31 he foresaw and spoke about the resurrection of the Christ, that he was not abandoned to Hades, nor did his flesh see corruption. 32 This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. 33 Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. 34 For David did not ascend into the heavens, but he himself says, "'The Lord said to my Lord, Sit at my right hand, 35 until I make your enemies your footstool.'" 36 Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." 37 Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" 38 And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." 40 And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." 41 So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

