

Authority!

"And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He [Jesus Christ] who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead. To Him all the prophets witness that, through His Name, whoever believes into Him will receive forgiveness of sins. While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word." Acts 10:42-44

Every time the name of Jesus is lifted up and people begin to believe that He is all that He said He is, every time, the Holy Spirit will fall. Peter was not expecting such an outpouring; He thought that they must follow a certain procedure. But the Holy Spirit interrupted him! Why? Because he had done all that was necessary for God to reap a harvest. He had preached and lifted up the Name of Jesus. Remember Jesus' words to Peter before the cross...

"Whatever kind of demand you put upon my Name, my Father will do it. You haven't asked anything yet. Use my Name the way I intended you to use it!"

This may be a paraphrase of Jesus' words in the Book of John but this is what He was conveying to His disciples. And now, in a new encounter for Peter, the Name of Jesus was put on display. As soon as Cornelius and those present heard the words of Jesus Christ, faith began rising in their hearts. Before Peter could finish his message, the purpose for the message was accomplished! All those present received the faith of Jesus Christ, forgiveness of sins was accomplished and the door was open automatically for the gift of the Holy Spirit to be poured out! Let's allow God to interrupt our agendas wherever we may go as we share the good news of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit's interruption of Peter's message was right on time. They were ready! Our words and ministry are there to prepare people to meet their Savior! When they are ready, our job is done and the Holy Spirit will want to take over. Let's let Him have His way. Our Lord has another Big Day planned for you and me, a day for His glory to be poured out once again. Are you ready?

- Randy Bach
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