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We continue steadfastly in prayer, and in the
ministry of the word.

Acts 6: 4 ASV

Old men shall dream Dreams A Message for Adults

Week of Sunday 5 March, 2017 A.D.
(Anno Domini – In the year of our Lord)

Sunday 7 Adar, 5777

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Text: Acts 2: 17-18 ASV

¹⁷ And it shall be in the last days, saith God, I will pour forth of my Spirit upon 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 Yea and on my servants and on my handmaidens in those days Will I pour forth of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

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- The day of Pentecost was come, they were all together in one place. Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and spake, give ear unto my words. (Acts 2: 1 & 14 ASV) "Hearken to my words" is the KJV translation. The verb Luke chose is unusual, and is found here only in the New Testament. But it is used frequently in the LXX; Genesis 4: 22; Job 23: 18.
- It is but the third hour of the day. Were the

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disciples likely to be drunk at 9 a.m. on the morning of Pentecost, after a night spent in devotion and fasting? An appeal is made to the common standard of right feeling. Drunkenness belonged to the night; for they that sleep sleep in the night: and they that are drunken are drunken in the night. (I Thessalonians 5: 7)

- The prophecy of Joel took place when people were suffering from one of the locust plagues of the east and its consequent famine. Joel calls

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them to repentance, and promises the gift of the Spirit, as the great blessing of a far off future. He had been taught that no true knowledge of God comes but through that Spirit.

- Peter refers to the prophecy of Joel: ²⁸ And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: ²⁹ and also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my Spirit. Joel 2: 28-29 ASV

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- Elisha prayed for a double portion, of the Spirit which God had given to Elijah, might rest upon him. ¹⁷ Acknowledge the first-born, by giving him a double portion; the right of the first-born; Deuteronomy 21: 17 ASV the oldest son's inheritance.
⁹ And it came to pass, when they were gone over, that Elijah said unto Elisha, Ask what I shall do for thee, before I am taken from thee. And Elisha said, I pray thee, let a double portion of thy spirit be upon me. II Kings 2: 9 ASV

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¹⁰ And when they came to the hill, behold, a band of prophets met him; and the Spirit of God came mightily upon him, and he prophesied among them. I Samuel 10: 10 ASV

- In the Old Testament, can there be any doubt that a phenomena analogous to the gift of tongues filled Elisha when he prophesied among them ?
- In the New Testament, can there be any doubt

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your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, is the same phenomena analogous to the gift of tongues filling Elisha. The scripture implying that men and women had been filled with the Spirit, and had spoken in tongues.

- Young men shall see visions, implies the full activity of spiritual power, belongs to younger prophets as well as old men who shall dream dreams, refering to wisdom that comes to those

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of more advanced age, ¹⁵ in a dream, in a vision of the night, when deep sleep falleth upon men. In slumberings upon the bed; ¹⁶ Then he openeth the ears of men, And sealeth their instruction, ¹⁷ That he may withdraw man from his purpose, And hide pride from man; ¹⁸ He keepeth back his soul from the pit, And his life from perishing by the sword. Job 33: 15-18 ASV

- The culminating point, a joyous prediction,

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on my servants and on my handmaidens in those days Will I pour forth of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy. Not only priests or those trained in the schools of the prophets, but on slaves, male and female, should the gift be poured by Him who was no respecter of persons.

- Prophets were God's messengers, who did not so much *fore-tell* the future as *forth-tell* the will of God. Prophet translates *to bubble forth as a fountain*. Forth-telling the will of God, to some

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extent fore-told the future because it announced consequences which would follow if men disobeyed that will. Their message was not the result of thought and study, but direct result of the Holy Spirit. Prophets went from church to church proclaiming the will of God as God had told it to them.

- Amos of Tekoa, was a herdsman, and a dresser of sycomore-trees. ¹⁵ And Jehovah took me from following the flock, and said, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel. Amos 7: 14-15 ASV

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- Joses, who the apostles surnamed Barnabas, which translates *son of prophecy*, a Levite, of the country of Cyprus, having land, sold it, and brought the money, and laid it at the apostles' feet. (Acts 4: 36-37) When Saul was come to Jerusalem, he assayed to join himself to the disciples: but they were all afraid of him, and believed not that he was a disciple. But Barnabas took him and brought him to the apostles, and declared unto them how he had seen the Lord in the way, and that he had

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spoken to him, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. (Acts 9: 26-27)

Tidings came unto the church which was in Jerusalem: and they sent forth Barnabas, that he should go as far as Antioch. Who when he came, and had seen the grace of God, was glad, and exhorted them all, that with purpose of heart they would cleave unto the Lord. For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord. (Acts 11: 22-24) Then departed Barnabas to

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Tarsus, for to seek Saul: And when he had found him, he brought him unto Antioch. And it came to pass, that a whole year they assembled themselves with the church, and taught much people. And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch. (Acts 11: 25-26) Now there were in the church that was at Antioch certain prophets and teachers; as Barnabas, (Acts 13: 1) Barnabas took John Mark, his sister's son, with him to his native island of Cyprus. The scriptures are silent about Barnabas after that.

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- Peter of Galilee, a fisherman, and speaker at Pentecost, was forerunner of thousands in whom the teaching of the Spirit superseded training in schools.
- But we ¹² received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is from God; that we might know the things that were freely given to us of God. ¹³ Which things also we speak, not in words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Spirit teacheth; combining spiritual things with spiritual words. ¹⁴ Now the natural man

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receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him; and he cannot know them, because they are spiritually judged.
15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, and he himself is judged of no man. 16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he should instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

I Corinthians 2: 12-16 ASV

- I declare Adhonai prepared for you a ministry before you were born, receive it by faith.