

**The Work of the Holy Spirit in the Conception,
Baptism and Temptation of Christ:
Implications for the Pentecostal Christian
Part I**

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Introduction

I am grateful to be an heir of the Pentecostal movement. We Pentecostals believe that the purpose of being baptized by the Holy Spirit is to enable us to participate in God's mission. The Statement of Fundamental Truths by the General Council of the Assemblies of God says: "All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ . . . with it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry."¹

God has called every Christian to proclaim the good news to the world. Only by the power of the Holy Spirit can we to move forward as missionaries, pastors, and church leaders. This is the center of the Pentecostal teachings. However, according to my observations via various conferences, preaching and teachings, sometimes Pentecostals center on "the power" too much.

In talking about "mission" and "Holy Spirit," many of us focus on the Book of Acts. Through this book, we can see how the promised Holy Spirit was poured out unto Jesus' disciples and the apostles to be witnesses of him. I believe that it is important for Pentecostals to learn the Book of Acts; for without it, Pentecostal theology could not have been established. But often, many of us do not really pay attention to the giver of the Holy Spirit—Jesus Christ. Not only was Jesus the giver, he had his own uniqueness as the Son of God.

¹The General Council of the Assemblies of God, USA Statement of Fundamental Truths. http://agchurches.org/Sitefiles/Default/RSS/AG.org%20TOP/Beliefs/SFT_2011.pdf (accessed February 11, 2015),