The Promise of the Spirit

Joel 2:28-32; Isaiah 30:18-23; Ezekiel 36:22-27

Father, You have always guided and provided for Your people by giving them Your Spirit.

In the Old Testament, You loaned Him

to specific people

for specific times

for specific tasks.

Through Your almighty, all-wise Spirit, You gave individuals

special abilities to do

Your special work.

Through Your Spirit,

some of Your people dreamed dreams of the future.

Some built the tabernacle,

the physical expression of Your transcendent presence among us,

a shadow of the tabernacle in heaven itself.

Some led Your people,

defended Your people,

delivered Your people,

taught Your people, and

prophesied to Your people.

What a wonderful Gift He was!

But those special times were just

a small taste,

a down-payment

on a day when He would be poured out

forever

on all Your people,

young and old,

male and female,

rich and poor.

Within each person and

among all Your people

He would be

Your wisdom,

Your holiness.

Your strength,

Your undying life.

Your beautiful, loving will would no longer be

an unattainable ideal but a living reality within us and among us.

O Father, what a magnificent promise! What a magnificent Gift!

Hymn: **Ezekiel's Vision**

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