

Acts 10:44

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

Analysis

The Spirit's falling during Peter's sermon (before baptism or apostolic laying-on of hands) demonstrates God's sovereign freedom in giving His Spirit. This 'Gentile Pentecost' validated Cornelius' household as full participants in salvation without Jewish rituals first. The interruption of Peter's preaching shows divine initiative superseding human plans.

Historical Context

This pivotal event (AD 40-41) broke down the Jewish-Gentile barrier, proving salvation by grace through faith alone. The Spirit's visible manifestation convinced Jewish believers (Acts 10:45) that God accepted Gentiles directly, preparing the church for worldwide mission.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Genesis 1:1 — Creation of heavens and earth

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Study Questions

1. What does the Spirit's falling on Gentiles before baptism teach about salvation's basis?
2. How should this passage shape our understanding of who belongs in God's kingdom?

Interlinear Text

Ἐτι λαλοῦντος τοῦ Πέτρου τὰ ὁρήματα ταῦτα

yet spake G3588 While Peter G3588 words these
G2089 G2980 G4074 G4487 G5023

ἐπέπεσεν τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον ἐπὶ πάντας τοὺς

fell G3588 Ghost G3588 the Holy on all G3588
G1968 G4151 G40 G1909 G3956

ἀκούοντας τὸν λόγον

them which heard G3588 the word G3056
G191 G3056

Additional Cross-References

Acts 11:15 (Holy): And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.

Acts 19:6 (Holy): And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

Acts 15:8 (Holy): And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us;