

The Fire Still Falls
Dr. John Carmichael

[Act 2:1-4 NASB95] 1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

- This is not just another November message. I believe it's a turning point.
- We are still transitioning from Evangel North Church to North Church. That does not mean leaving our heritage but continuing it with renewed fire. The name may change, but the flame must not go out.
- In Acts 2, the early believers were waiting, between promise and fulfillment, much like we are. They didn't start their mission until the fire fell. And the same Spirit who empowered the early church still empowers the church today.

When we want the fire to fall, what does that look like?

Here are four aspects of where the fire falls.

I. The Fire Falls Where There Is Unity

- a. [Act 2:1 NASB95] 1 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.
- b. [Act 1:14 NASB95] 14 These all with one mind were continually devoting themselves to prayer, along with [the] women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.
 - i. The Greek phrase "homothumadon" (ὁμοθυμαδόν) means "with one accord," or "of one passion."
- c. Before the Spirit fell, the people aligned their hearts. Unity prepared the atmosphere for the outpouring.
- d. [Psa 133:1-2 NASB95] 1 A Song of Ascents, of David. Behold, how good and how pleasant it is For brothers to dwell together in unity! 2 It is like the precious oil upon the head, Coming down upon the beard, [Even] Aaron's beard, Coming down upon the edge of his robes.
- e. [2Ch 5:13-14 NASB95] 13 in unison when the trumpeters and the singers were to make themselves heard with one voice to praise and to glorify the LORD, and when they lifted up their voice accompanied by trumpets and cymbals and instruments of music, and when they praised the LORD [saying,] "[He] indeed is good for His lovingkindness is everlasting," then the house, the house of the LORD, was filled with a cloud, 14 so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the house of God.
- f. As we continue to move into this new identity as North Church, unity is not optional; it's essential. The Spirit won't fall on divided hearts. We are one body, one mission, one Spirit.
- g. Forgive quickly. Speak life over the transition. Pray for one another's success. When we get in one accord, the heavens open over us.

II. The Fire Falls Where There Is Hunger

- a. [Act 2:2 NASB95] 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

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- b. The word “suddenly” (ἄφνω) indicates something unexpected yet divinely appointed. The Spirit fell on those who were waiting and longing. They didn’t demand the timing; they prepared the space.
- c. [Mat 5:6 NASB95] 6 "Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.
- d. You can’t schedule revival, but you can prepare for it.
- e. Let November be a month of spiritual hunger. Before we enter a new year and a new name, we say: “Come, Holy Spirit!”
- f. Pray until you sense His presence. Worship past your feelings. Open your heart for fresh baptism. The Spirit always fills the hungry.

III. The Fire Falls Where There Is Surrender

- a. [Act 2:3-4 NASB95] 3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.
- b. The tongues of fire didn’t consume them; they commissioned them. Fire in Scripture represents God’s purifying and empowering presence. The Holy Spirit doesn’t fall on the proud, but on the yielded.
- c. If we want the fire, we must place ourselves on the altar.
- d. [Rom 12:1 NASB95] 1 Therefore I urge you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God, [which is] your spiritual service of worship.
- e. Surrender control of our plans, preferences, and comfort.
- f. Let go of fear about the transition. Trust that God is positioning us for greater influence in the region. When we surrender fully, the Holy Spirit empowers completely.

IV. The Fire Falls to Send Us Out

- a. [Act 1:8 NASB95] 8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."
- b. The infilling wasn’t for personal experience alone, it was for mission. Pentecostal fire propels the church into outreach and miracles.
- c. This is not just a name change; it’s a commissioning moment.
- d. [Mar 16:20 NASB95] 20 And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.] [[And they promptly reported all these instructions to Peter and his companions. And after that, Jesus Himself sent out through them from east to west the sacred and imperishable proclamation of eternal salvation.]]
- e. We are being launched into Clarksville and beyond as a Spirit-empowered, soul-winning, praying, giving church.
- f. The same Spirit that filled the Upper Room is calling North Church to carry fire into homes, workplaces, and the streets.

- **The same fire that fell in the Upper Room still falls on unified, hungry, surrendered hearts today; empowering North Church to move forward in purpose and power.**
- **The fire didn’t fall once and fade. It keeps falling on hungry hearts.**
- **It fell in Jerusalem. It fell in Azusa Street. It fell in Evangel North Church. And now it will fall on North Church.**
- **We’re not just rebranding; we’re reviving.**

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- **We're saying: "Lord, let the fire that birthed the early church burn in us again!"**

Altar: