ORIGINS Pt 2 "The Power to Do What?"

THE WORLD IN WHICH WE ENTER

- 1. Those who benefit from Rome.
- 2. Those who suffer from Rome.

THE WAY OF THE WORLD

Empire: the systems where power is currency to govern.

We live under the curse of the empire and part of that curse is that our hope is in the empire.

Genesis 11:1-7 NIV

Now the whole world had one language and a common speech. 2 As people moved eastward, they found a plain in Shinar and settled there. 3 They said to each other, "Come, let's make bricks and bake them thoroughly." They used brick instead of stone, and tar for mortar. 4 Then they said, "Come, let us build ourselves a city, with a tower that reaches to the heavens, so that we may make a name for ourselves; otherwise we will be scattered over the face of the whole earth."

5 But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. 6 The Lord said, "If as one people speaking the same language they have begun to do this, then nothing they plan to do will be impossible for them. 7 Come, let us go down and confuse their language so they will not understand each other."

WHAT'S UP WITH OUR WORDS

Language is first expressive. Communication is second.

THE WORK OF THE SPIRIT

God's Spirit is the breath of this eternal kind of life.

Acts 2:1-12 NIV

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

5 Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. 6 When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. 7 Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? 9 Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!"

Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

Acts 1:8 NIV

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

BEAR WITNESS

- Our lives and our lives together become an expression that we live in this overlapping space.
- We are the place where God's space and Human space intersect the way God has intended.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

It means that it is possible for us to be bound together into something wholly new.

"They will not be turned out to the world as representatives of empires but those who will announce a revolution., the revolution of the intimate, God calling to the world." Dr. Willie James Jennings

• How does your life bear on the world around you?

• Can you reimagine how God's Spirit and a New Unity might shape your answer?

