

# The Baptism in the Holy Spirit



→ The mission of the Holy Spirit on earth parallels His role in the Trinity.

→ He is the bond of love between the Father and the Son

→ He unites the two divine Personalities into One complete Person

→ He is the bond of love between us and God

→ He fills and transforms believers as He unites them to God

→ The Spirit's work in us is two-fold:

**SANCTIFYING and EMPOWERING**

→ Sanctifying believers by freeing us from sin and transforming our natures

→ Empowering believers by anointing us with His unique gifts

→ Sanctification changes our hearts

→ Empowering us changes our lives

→ The challenge: balance between the two

# 1. Receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

[a] What is it? Luke 11:13

*If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!*

→ It is not like the infilling which occurs at salvation; it is something to be *asked for*

→ It is a transfer of the anointing of Christ to believers (see Acts 1:8)

## [b] The Day of Pentecost, Acts 1:12—14; 2:1—4

- “Fire” and “wind” are important to notice
- They represented the presence of God
  - Fire and wind always represent God's presence in the OT (at creation, in the Temple)
- At Pentecost, they also represented the glory of God; God's people were “set on fire” with His glory
- The power to bear witness stems from PASSION inside the believer released by the Spirit for God's glory

- “Fire” symbolizes cleansing for service and an encounter with the living Christ
- An encounter with the Holy Spirit occurs only in an atmosphere of sincere prayer
- Note what Jesus promised those who waited for the coming of Holy Spirit:

*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. (Acts 1:8)*

- He did NOT mention speaking in tongues
- Seeking for more of the Holy Spirit does NOT involve seeking to speak in tongues of any kind
- It is seeking for a deeper immersion into the life of the Spirit
- It is to seek after a “fire in your belly,” for a sincere passion for Christ and service for Him

### [c] The Samaritan Pentecost, Acts 8:14—17

- Some important theology is found here:

→ The Samaritan disciples had received the Word and been saved but nothing else—

*When [Peter and John] arrived, they prayed for the new believers there that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come on any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. (vs. 15, 16)*

→ Notice tongues is not mentioned in the text

*Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. (vs 17)*

→ Prayer formed the atmosphere in which they received the Holy Spirit

→ What the Samaritans needed was a further release of the Holy Spirit (passion), anointing them to proclaim the Gospel in Samaria

## 2. Evidences of Spirit Baptism

[a] Tongues and other signs, Acts 2:4; 10:44—46; 19:6, 7

→ Nowhere does Scripture teach that “speaking in tongues” is an evidence that one is baptized in the Holy Spirit

→ Luke writes about “signs,” and “tongues” is just one among many

→ “Sign” = points to a greater reality

→ Acts 19:6 indicates that the believers “spoke in tongues AND prophesied.”

## [b] Signs and fruit, Galatians 5:22—25

→ Paul and Luke are talking about two DIFFERENT things

*[T]he fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.*

→ Spiritual fruit comes from a *renewed character*; it is the Fruit of THE SPIRIT (it is His fruit we bear, not ours)

→ Luke = Baptism

→ passion to spread the Good News

→ power to live your passion

→ Paul = Fruit

→ Showing the virtues of Christ in your life

→ It is our reaction to the presence of the Holy Spirit inside working us

→ Two different aspects of the work of the Holy Spirit for two different purposes

### 3. Living a Spirit-Filled Life

[a] A “charismatic community” that bears witness, Acts 4:31—35; 9:31

- Your faith is NOT supposed to be “private matter”
- Living a true life of faith is a “communal experience” ie. The Body of Christ is not optional
- The Spirit gives believers a PASSION for others, not for themselves
- This PASSION is worked out among the community of believers for the sake of the world

→ The Holy Spirit empowers believers so that they might empower others, adding new members to the community

[b] A community energized with Resurrection Power, Ephesians 5:15—21

→ The Spirit-filled life comes from the SAME power that raised Christ from the dead

→ That's an amazing resource to help YOU live right and work for the Kingdom of Heaven

*Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit...  
(Eph. 5:18)*

- Not really a verse about teetotalism
- A warning against being intoxicated with worldly things; they numb you to spiritual things
- Don't get drunk on the things of this life, rather pursue the life of the Spirit