

"Satan has opposed the doctrine of the Spirit-filled life about as bitterly as any doctrine there is. He has confused it, opposed it, and surrounded it with false notions and fears. He has blocked every effort of the Church of Christ to receive from the Father divine and blood bought [inheritance of the Father]. The Church has tragically neglected this great liberating truth that there is now, for the child of God, a full and wonderful and completely satisfying anointing with the Holy Spirit. The Spirit-filled life is not a special deluxe edition of Christianity. It is part and parcel of the total plan of God for His people." -A.W. Tozer

What is in our control: what we do (our posture)

What is out of our control: what God does

Some Important Starting Points

1. The Spirit filled life is to be the normal Christian life (Ephesians 5:18)
2. There are "ditches" on both sides of the road that we want to avoid
 1. "Two classes of Christianity" (could lead to superiority/inferiority)
 2. "I got everything at conversion" or "I've been prayed for already" (could lead to passivity and disobedience)
3. What is always at stake when we study this and walk it out is the character and work of God
4. The Holy Spirit's work is multi-faceted. Therefore, we must have a "both/and" instead of an "either/or" mentality.

"The work of the Holy Spirit is to manifest the active presence of God in the world, and especially in the church."

The Holy Spirit:

- Empowers
 - Purifies
 - Reveals
 - Unifies
- Systematic Theology - by Wayne Grudem

John 14-18

"Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. 13 Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. 14 If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

15 "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. 16 And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17 even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, for he dwells with you and will be in you.

18 "I will not leave you as orphans; I will come to you.

Point #1: When we are baptized in the Holy Spirit, something happens to us

Acts 2 - The Holy Spirit comes as promised by Jesus and the prophet Joel

When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. 3 And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

*37 Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" 38 And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will **receive the gift of the Holy Spirit**. 39 For the **promise** is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself." 40 And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, "Save yourselves from this crooked generation." 41 So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.*

Acts 4 - Spirit-Filled Believers pray for boldness and are filled again

31 *And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.*

Order

Previously Saved + baptized + filled with the Holy Spirit

Pray for boldness

Filled with the Holy Spirit

Elements:

Room is shaken

Acts 8 - Samaritan Believers receive the Holy Spirit

12 *But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. 13 Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed.*

14 *Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. 18 Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, 19 saying, "Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."*

Order:

Saved

Hands laid on them

Receive the Holy Spirit

*something happened that Simon recognized as powerful

Elements:

Hands laid on

*something happened

Acts 9 - Saul's conversion (Apostle Paul)

17 *So Ananias departed and entered the house. And laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus who appeared to you on the road by which you came has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he rose and was baptized; 19 and taking food, he was strengthened.*

Order:

Responds to voice of Jesus

Ananias lays hands on him to receive Holy Spirit

Scales fall from his eyes

Baptized in Water

Elements:

Hands laid on

Physical healing

Acts 10 - Gentile Believers at Cornelius' house

44 While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. **45** And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. **46** For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, **47** "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" **48** And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days.

Order:

Salvation + Filled with the Holy Spirit + Tongues
Baptized in Water

Elements:

Tongues

Acts 19 - Ephesus

And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. **2** And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." **3** And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." **4** And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." **5** On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **6** And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying.

Order:

Disciples of John believe in Jesus
Baptized in water in the name of Jesus
Hands laid on
Holy Spirit comes on them

Elements:

Hands laid on
Tongues
Prophecy

Point #2: The lack of a systematic pattern presented in the book of Acts points us to the Lordship of Christ

John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
(Luke 3:16, also: Matthew 3:11, Mark 1:8)

The point I am establishing, then, is that these very variations in the way in which this happens all point to the same fact, that the given element is the important one. You cannot stereotype or systematize this, or say, "Very well then, this is what you have to do." No, it is always this given element, the pouring out, the falling upon, the being filled. In other words, all these variations establish the lordship of our Lord Jesus Christ in this entire matter. It is he who is the giver, it is he who is the baptizer. He does so in his own way and in his own time, and we must never lose sight of this all important principle.

Perhaps it will help us to grasp this if we put it like this. The same thing is true, of course, of all the great revivals in the history of the church. They are most important in this matter. The difference between the baptism of the Holy Spirit and a revival is simply one of the number of people affected. I would define a revival as a large number, a group of people, being baptized by the Holy Spirit at the same time; or the Holy Spirit falling upon, coming upon a number of people assembled together.

- Martyn Lloyd Jones, "Joy Unspeakable"

ITS

HOLY SPIRIT TEACHINGS

Acts 2 - The Holy Spirit comes as promised by Jesus and the prophet Joel

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Scales fall from his eyes
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 Hands laid on
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Holy Spirit comes on them

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