

## Judges 3:9-31 - Thursday, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 2012

(9) When the children of Israel cried out to the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer for the children of Israel, who delivered them: Othniel the son of Kenaz, Caleb's younger brother.

- I suppose you could say that this is the first new beginning of sorts, in that they cry out for a deliverer, which begins with the first of thirteen.
- Actually, we're introduced to three of these judges, or deliverers, just in chapter three alone, making everything here-to-for an introduction.
- Incidentally, we'll see this same exact cycle a total of seven times here in the book of Judges as the Israelites continue repeating their folly.

- It's interesting to note that this Othniel would be the first Judge of Israel. This should not come as any surprise because we know who he is.
- He is the son-in-law of Caleb who won his daughter Achsah in marriage after attacking Kirjath Sepher and taking the land for the Israelites.
- It's no wonder that he will do what we see him doing next as he goes out to war against Mr. Double Wicked Man and prevails over him.

(10) The Spirit of the LORD came upon him, and he judged Israel. He went out to war, and the LORD delivered Cushan-Rishathaim king of Mesopotamia into his hand; and his hand prevailed over Cushan-Rishathaim.

- Notice how that we're told, "the Spirit of the LORD came upon Othniel." This is none other than the baptism of the Holy Spirit upon him.
- I would submit that the only way Othniel was able to prevail over this Cushan-Rishathaim, was that he was empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- This is probably as good of a time as any to do a brief teaching on what it means to be baptized with the Holy Spirit in the life of a believer.
- In order to do that, I'll need to use the "baptism," with the Spirit, "filled" with the Spirit, and receiving the "gift" of the Spirit" interchangeably.
- Also, I'll do this by asking five questions all of which deal with the most often asked questions concerning the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- However, first, I think it would be helpful to establish Who the Holy Spirit is, and to do that I'll quote my favorite Bible teacher Damian Kyle.

"The Holy Spirit is a person not a force. If I view the Holy Spirit as a force, I'll see it as how much of the Holy Spirit I have. If I view the Holy Spirit as a Person, I'll see it as how much of the Holy Spirit has me."

Pastor Damian Kyle – Calvary Chapel Modesto

### Question #1: What is the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

- It's when the Holy Spirit comes upon you and empowers you.

**Acts 1:8** But **you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you;** and you will be my witnesses in **Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."**

**POWER - dunamis** (doo'-nam-is); from NT:1410; force (literally or figuratively); specially, miraculous power (usually by implication, a miracle itself): (*Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary. Copyright (c) 1994, Biblesoft and International Bible Translators, Inc.*)

- **Jerusalem:** (the community) Kaneohe and the Windward side
- **Judea:** (the Island) Oahu, Jails, Detention Centers, Senior Care Homes, Schools, Etc.
- **Samaria:** (the islands)
- **Uttermost Parts of the Earth:** World missions.

### Question #2: Don't I receive the Holy Spirit when I receive Christ?

- Yes and no. It is possible for someone to be baptized with the Holy Spirit at their conversion however we find in the scriptures that there are three separate experiences.

**1 "Para" = Along side, as a helper. It's the word we use for Paramedic, Paralegal, or a Parachute.**

**John 14:16** And I will ask the Father, and **he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever-**

**COUNSELOR - parakletos** (par-ak'-lay-tos); an intercessor, consoler: KJV - advocate, comforter. (*Biblesoft's New Exhaustive Strong's Numbers and Concordance with Expanded Greek-Hebrew Dictionary. Copyright (c) 1994, Biblesoft and International Bible Translators, Inc.*)

**2 "En" = In or indwelling.**

**John 14:17** **the Spirit of truth.** The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, **for he lives with you and will be in you.**

**3 "Epi" = Upon or overflowing.**

**Acts 1:8** But you will receive power **when the Holy Spirit comes upon you;** and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

- The pitcher of water is alongside, **(para)** the glass.
- The pitcher of water is being poured in, **(en)** the glass.
- The pitcher of water is being poured upon, **(epi)** the glass to overflowing.

The Biblical examples of the Holy Spirit being poured out upon a believer subsequent to the Holy Spirit indwelling the believer at conversion are many, not the least of them which is found later in the book of Acts.

**Acts 8:12-17** 12 But **when they believed** Philip as he preached the good news of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, **they were baptized**, both men and women. 13 **Simon himself believed and was baptized**. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw. 14 When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria **had accepted the word of God**, they sent Peter and John to them. 15 When they arrived, **they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit**, 16 **because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus**. 17 Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

### Question #3: I thought there was only one baptism?

Actually, the Bible describes three baptisms:

1. Baptized into the body of Christ
2. Baptized with water
3. Baptized with the Holy Spirit

#### 1. The Body of Christ:

**1 Corinthians 12:13** For we were all **baptized by one Spirit into one body**-whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free-and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

#### 2. Water, 3 the Holy Spirit:

**Acts 1:5** For **John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.**"

**Matthew 3:11** **"I baptize you with water for repentance**. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.**"

**What about Ephesians 4:4-6?** This "one baptism" speaks of the "one baptism" into the body of Christ.

**Ephesians 4:4-6** 4 There is one body and one Spirit- just as you were called to one hope when you were called- 5 one Lord, one faith, **one baptism**; 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.

**Hebrews 6:1-3** 1 Therefore **let us leave the elementary teachings about Christ and go on to maturity**, not laying again the foundation of repentance from acts that lead to death, and of faith in God, 2 **instruction about baptisms**, the laying on of hands, the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

### Question #4: How do I get baptized in the Holy Spirit?

**Luke 11:9-13** 9 "So I say to you: **Ask** and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks receives; he who seeks finds; and to him who knocks, the door will be opened. 11 "Which of you fathers, if your son asks for a fish, will give him a snake instead? 12 Or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 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!"**

### Question #5: Is speaking in tongues the only evidence of being baptized in the Holy Spirit?

- No, it can be a sign, because it's one of the gifts however, gifts are received in an event, while fruits are grown in a process.

**Galatians 5:22-24** 22 But **the fruit of the Spirit is love**, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

**"The fruit of the Spirit is love. It will be that which is manifested when a person is baptized in the Holy Spirit."**

**Pastor Chuck Smith – Calvary Chapel Costa Mesa**

- Once I've been baptized with the Holy Spirit, I need to continually, daily, be filled with the Holy Spirit.

- We should perhaps ask, "are you baptized in the Holy Spirit?" instead of asking, "have you been baptized in the Holy Spirit?"

**John 7:37-39** 37 On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, **streams of living water will flow from within him.**" 39 **By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given**, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

(11) So the land had rest for forty years. Then Othniel the son of Kenaz died. (12) And the children of Israel again did evil in the sight of the LORD. So the LORD strengthened Eglon king of Moab against Israel, because they had done evil in the sight of the LORD. (13) Then he gathered to himself the people of Ammon and Amalek, went and defeated Israel, and took possession of the City of Palms. (14) So the children of Israel served Eglon king of Moab eighteen years.

- Whereas the last time it took them eight years to cry out to the Lord, here it takes them eighteen years to cry out unto the Lord. Why is this?

- I would suggest that not only is it a sign of un-brokenness and stubbornness, it's also a sign of their not learning the lesson of past mistakes.

- Furthermore, by way of perspective, it's important to know that the entirety of the book of Judges encompasses a span of time 325 years in total.

(15) But when the children of Israel cried out to the LORD, the LORD raised up a deliverer for them: Ehud the son of Gera, the Benjamite, a left-handed man. By him the children of Israel sent tribute to Eglon king of Moab.

- Here we have a most interesting detail that's recorded in the narrative, and it has to do with this next deliverer by the name of Ehud the Benjamite.

- The reason it's so interesting is because he's a left-handed man who happens to be from the tribe of Benjamin, which means son of my right hand.

- This begs the question of why it is that we would be told of something that would be deemed as an insignificant detail of his being left-handed.

(16) Now Ehud made himself a dagger (it was double-edged and a cubit in length) and fastened it under his clothes on his right thigh.  
- So that's why we're told about his being left handed. It's so that he can make it past the Department of Homeland Security with a large dagger.  
- The reason being is that they didn't have all the screening technology then, and only checked the left thigh especially for right-handed Benjamites.  
- This would be the only way he could sneak a double-edged sword into the presence of this Eglon who is the king of Moab, as we'll see next.

(17) So he brought the tribute to Eglon king of Moab. (Now Eglon *was* a very fat man.)  
- By now, I'm relatively certain we all realize this next detail is here for a reason as it relates to our being told how that Eglon was a very fat man.  
- Why do we need to know this? Because that double-edged sword of Ehud is about to plunge into the very fat flesh of this "Eglon," king of Moab.  
- You probably already know where I'm going with this, but this is type of the Word of God plunging into the flesh and in so doing killing the flesh.

Hebrews 4:12 NIV For the word of God is living and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.

(18) And when he had finished presenting the tribute, he sent away the people who had carried the tribute. (19) But he himself turned back from the stone images that *were* at Gilgal, and said, "I have a secret message for you, O king." He said, "Keep silence!" And all who attended him went out from him. (20) So Ehud came to him (now he was sitting upstairs in his cool private chamber). Then Ehud said, "I have a message from God for you." So he arose from *his* seat. (21) Then Ehud reached with his left hand, took the dagger from his right thigh, and thrust it into his belly. (22) Even the hilt went in after the blade, and the fat closed over the blade, for he did not draw the dagger out of his belly; and his entrails came out. (23) Then Ehud went out through the porch and shut the doors of the upper room behind him and locked them.  
- For lack of a better way of saying it, the translators sort of sanitized this probably with the hopes of sparing us from the gory details of all of this.  
- I'll let the text speak for itself however, I think its incumbent upon me to at least mention the typology that's woven into the fabric of this account.  
- By that I mean, the double-edged sword goes in, and as the KJV render's it, the dirt came out. So too is this true with the impurities in our lives.

Psalms 119:9-11 NKJV How can a young man cleanse his way? By taking heed according to Your word. (10) With my whole heart I have sought You; Oh, let me not wander from Your commandments! (11) Your word I have hidden in my heart, That I might not sin against You.

(24) When he had gone out, *Eglon's* servants came to look, and *to their* surprise, the doors of the upper room were locked. So they said, "He is probably attending to his needs in the cool chamber." (25) So they waited till they were embarrassed, and still he had not opened the doors of the upper room. Therefore they took the key and opened *them*. And there was their master, fallen dead on the floor. (26) But Ehud had escaped while they delayed, and passed beyond the stone images and escaped to Seirah. (27) And it happened, when he arrived, that he blew the trumpet in the mountains of Ephraim, and the children of Israel went down with him from the mountains; and he led them. (28) Then he said to them, "Follow *me*, for the LORD has delivered your enemies the Moabites into your hand." So they went down after him, seized the fords of the Jordan leading to Moab, and did not allow anyone to cross over. (29) And at that time they killed about ten thousand men of Moab, all stout men of valor; not a man escaped. (30) So Moab was subdued that day under the hand of Israel. And the land had rest for eighty years.  
- Notice how that we're told of Ehud that "he led them," here in verse twenty seven, then he says to them, "follow me," here in verse twenty-eight.  
- The reason that I point this out is because it pictures the man whom God will choose to use to lead people. It's the man who is a man of the Word.  
- Perhaps better said, people will follow the one who is a man of God, and the one who is the man of God is the one who loves the Word of God.

(31) After him was Shamgar the son of Anath, who killed six hundred men of the Philistines with an ox goad; and he also delivered Israel.  
- Apparently this third Judge gets mentioned in only one verse. Why? Perhaps it's because this is all we need to know about this particular Judge.  
- Once again, we have another nebulous detail, which at first glance seems to have no real meaning or application to our lives as believers.  
- Notice he kills six hundred men of the Philistines with just an ox goad which is all he had, but that's all God needed in order to give him victory.

Adam Clarke - "In the hands of a strong, skilful man, such an instrument must be more dangerous and more fatal than any sword."

Charles Spurgeon – "Rough as he was, Shamgar was honored of God, and his humble weapon is laid up among the most renowned treasures of the Lord's armory. God can use us for great purposes, and He will do so if we have real faith in him and full submission to His will.

- Here's the application to our lives. God uses an inadequate ox goad in our lives to give us the victory because that's how God only gets the glory.  
- In other words, God can take the inadequate in the natural, and make it adequate in the supernatural to accomplish our victory for only His glory.  
- I'll close with a recap of sorts by revisiting what these first three Judges teach us, as they rise from the pages of scripture and speak to our lives.

- Othniel speaks to us about the importance of the Holy Spirit giving us the power to overcome the double darkness of captivity that's in our lives.  
- Ehud speaks to us about the importance of the Word of God giving us the power to overcome the fattened flesh of carnality that's in our lives.  
- Shamgar speaks to us about the importance of the glory of God giving us the power to overcome with the ox goad inadequacy that's in our lives.