

The Holy Spirit

His Person and Work

The Holy Spirit

Charismatics

Why is this important?

“Pentecostalism is the fastest growing and most vital Christian movement on the globe today.”

Harvey Cox, Harvard University

In 1995 the aggregate number of Charismatics/Pentecostals in the world numbered 463,000,000 second only to the Roman Catholic Church.

Vinson Synan

Does the biblical gift of tongues exist today?

1. If it does, it must fit the pattern of the book of Acts.
2. If it does, it must adhere to the rules of 1 Corinthians.
3. If it does, it must be of like kind to the NT, namely speaking in a known foreign language.
4. If it does, one must overcome the biblical evidence that apostolic gifts ceased with the death of the apostles, the completion of the Bible, and the maturation of the church.
5. If it does, then one must explain the need for additional Divine revelation in light of the inspiration and sufficiency of Scripture.

Questions

- *Are all charismatics the same?*
- *Is the gospel at stake for charismatics?*
- *What do I do if my friend speaks in tongues?*
- *What is Holy Spirit Baptism?*

Brief History of the Movements

1. Theological Roots in Revivalism/Wesleyanism of 1800's
2. Pentecostalism: Early 1900's with Charles Parham, William Seymour and the Azusa Street Revivals
3. Charismatic Movement: In 1960's sections of major denominations embraced charismatic worship, gifts, and renewal (Episcopal 1960, Catholic 1967, Lutheran 1962, Evangelical 1965 - Calvary Chapel, Reformed 1970 - Sovereign Grace).
4. Third Wave: The TW started 1980's. It focused on signs, wonders, and power evangelism (Vineyard churches).

Brief History of the Movements

5. Prosperity Theology/Word of Faith: Started in post-WW2 American, but became entrenched in the 1980's via televangelism (Roberts, Copeland, Hinn, Osteen, Dollar).

Five Errors of the Prosperity Gospel:

1. The Abrahamic covenant is a means to material entitlement.
2. Jesus's atonement extends to the "sin" of material poverty.
3. Christians give in order to gain material compensation from God.
4. Faith is a self-generated spiritual force that leads to prosperity.
5. Prayer is a tool to force God to grant prosperity.

Is the Gospel at Stake?

THE SALVATION OF MAN

Man's only hope of redemption is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ the Son of God. Salvation is received through repentance toward God and faith toward the Lord Jesus Christ. By the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, being justified by grace through faith, man becomes an heir of God, according to the hope of eternal life.

Assembly of God Statement of Faith

Is the Gospel at Stake?

1. The position statements of Pentecostal and Charismatic churches preserve the gospel.
2. The passion of Third Wave Charismatics is to proclaim the gospel.
3. The practice of some prosperity preachers is to obscure the gospel.
4. The practice of other prosperity preachers is to avoid the gospel.

What should I do if a friend speaks in tongues?

1. Do not fear to converse about it.
2. Do not accuse them inaccurately.
3. Do not affirm them biblically.
4. Do not argue with their experience.
5. Do not allow them to press you.
6. Do trust the Word of God.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Baptism of the Spirit: All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes the enduement of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry. This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth. With the baptism in the Holy Spirit come such experiences as: an overflowing fullness of the Spirit, a deepened reverence for God, an intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work, and a more active love for Christ, for His Word and for the lost.

The Initial Physical Evidence Of The Baptism In The Holy Spirit: The baptism of believers in the Holy Spirit is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance. The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues, but is different in purpose and use.

Assembly of God Statement of Faith

Biblical Spirit Baptism

1. Predicted by John: Matthew 3:11
2. Anticipated by the Disciples: Acts 1:5
3. Noted as “the beginning” of the new era: Acts 11:15-16
4. Concurrent with salvation and placement into the Body of Christ: 1 Cor 12:13; (Ephesians 4:5; Romans 6:3)

