



The Holy Spirit

His Person and Work

The Holy Spirit

Salvation

Questions

- *What of miracles?*
- *What is the work of the Holy Spirit in regeneration?*
- *What is the work of the Holy Spirit in His baptism?*

Characteristics of Miracles

1. Miracles took place through agency (i.e. a miracle worker).
2. Miracles were acts “against” nature. They superseded natural law.
3. Miracles were instantaneous. They were complete in a limited timeframe.
4. Miracles solved the need completely. They did not need secondary development.
5. Miracles were public demonstrations. Onlookers were aware of the supernatural element.
6. Miracles had no limits. The sun would stop and the dead were raised.
7. Miracles confirmed the message of the miracle worker.

Revelation and Miracles

Scripture's presentation of the purpose of miracles indicates that they were given to confirm that the message was from God. In other words, miracles in the narrow sense are granted by the Lord to demonstrate that a messenger has been sent by Him with His Word. (John 6:26-29)

- Exodus 4:1-9 - Moses' message was confirmed by his ability to do miracles.
- Mark 16:20 - The Apostles' message was confirmed by their ability to do miracles.
- Acts 14:3 - Paul's message was confirmed by their ability to do miracles.
- Eph. 2:19-22 & Hebrews 2:1-4 - The foundational work of the apostles was confirmed by their ability to do miracles.

The Role of Miracles

B.B. Warfield, a great Presbyterian professor, writing in 1898, said, "Miracles do not appear on the pages vagrantly, here, there and elsewhere indifferently without a signable reason. They belong to revelation periods and appear only when God is speaking to His people through accredited messengers, declaring His gracious purpose."

God answers prayer.

1. God causes things to happen that would not happen if you did not pray (James 4:3; 5:16).
2. God's ultimate goal is the glorification of His Son. God has ordained that His Son would be glorified by His answering of our prayers.
3. In eternity past, God included our prayers into His Divine plan as a cause for His action so that His Son would be glorified.
4. Thus, God can and does insert Himself into the affairs of mankind through His gracious providence.

The Holy Spirit and Salvation

1. Conviction - The work of the Holy Spirit (John 16:8-11)
2. Calling - The work of the Father (John 6:44ff)
3. Regeneration - The work of the Father and the Holy Spirit
 - Father - Ephesians 2:5; James 1:17-18
 - Holy Spirit - John 3:3-8; Titus 3:5

The Word of God is the agency of conviction, calling, and regeneration (1 Peter 1:23-25; James 1:18).

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).

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.

Assembly of God Statement of Faith

Evidence of Spirit Baptism

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.

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