BAPTISM A New Life

Peter replied, "All of you must turn away from your sins and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then your sins will be forgiven. You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." **ACTS 2:38**

For Study Purposes



Your school ID tells people what school you attend. In the same way, baptism is a way of telling people that you believe in Jesus. It's like wearing an ID that says, "I'm a Christian," to tell everyone that you've decided to follow Christ.

When the crowd asked Peter what they should do after all that he said to them, he gave them three answers: turn away from sin, be baptized, and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. In this chapter, we will talk about two kinds of baptism: water baptism and the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

WATER BAPTISM

Baptism doesn't save us from sin, and we do not do it to go to heaven. Water baptism is something we do in faith and obedience after hearing about Jesus and believing in Him.

The Bible uses some examples to help us understand water baptism. One of these is the idea of a burial and resurrection. The Apostle Paul says that baptism is like a burial. In order to be buried, a person must first die. Before we get baptized, we must first die to sin, by turning away from it. After we are buried in baptism, then we are raised to live a new life.

Water baptism shows that we die to our old sinful life, and we live a new life following Christ. In the same way that a dead person cannot respond to smells or tastes, our life that is dead to sin should no longer respond to it. Sin no longer has control over us.

Romans 6:1-4

¹What should we say then? Should we keep on sinning so that God's grace can increase? ²Not at all! As far as sin is concerned, we are dead. So how can we keep on sinning? ³All of us were baptized into Christ Jesus. Don't you know that we were baptized into his death? ⁴By being baptized, we were buried with Christ into his death. Christ has been raised from the dead by the Father's glory. And like Christ we also can live a new life.

Remember

Water baptism reminds us that, in Christ, we are dead to sin and alive in Him.

Now, let's talk about another kind of baptism.

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BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT



John 14:16,17 (ESV)

¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, 17even the Spirit of truth...

Mobile phones today can do a lot of things. But even if they are really amazing, without power, they remain dead. They need a source of power. In the same way, God has given us a source of power: the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is not some spooky, weird ghost or "force" that does not really care about us. The Holy Spirit is God Himself. He is God with us. Before Jesus went back to heaven, He promised His followers that they would not be alone, but that God Himself would be with them.

When we put our faith in Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit already made His home in us. He lives in us. However, God wants to really fill and submerge us with His presence and power. This is what it means to be baptized in the Holy Spirit.



In the Bible, the Holy Spirit is also called our Advocate, Helper, and Counselor.

We receive many good things because the Holy Spirit lives in us. One of the most important things He gives is His power. Why is it important?

THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES US POWER TO LIVE A HOLY LIFE

To live a holy life means that we obey God and live according to His will. On our own, we will never be able to live a holy life. Whether we are aware that we are doing something bad or not, we still end up hurting God.

The Holy Spirit changes us from the inside and gives us the power to live differently. We will not be perfect, but our hearts will choose to make God happy. Following Jesus is impossible on our own, but with the Holy Spirit giving us a new life, we can live a life that honors God.

John 6:63

"The Holy Spirit gives life. The body means nothing at all. The words I have spoken to you are full of the Spirit. They give life."

John 14:26

"But the Father will send the Friend in my name to help you. The Friend is the Holy Spirit. He will teach you all things. He will remind you of everything I have said to you."

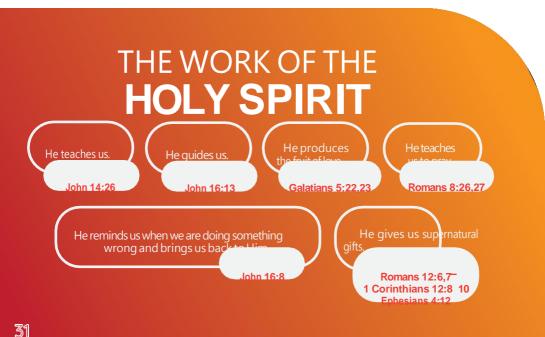
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THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES US THE POWER TO TELL OTHERS ABOUT JESUS

Jesus doesn't want us to just know Him. He wants us to tell others about Him. The Holy Spirit gives us the power to speak confidently to others about what God has done in our lives. He enables us not only to share what we've experienced but also to help us live in a way that matches what we say.

Acts 1:8

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you. Then you will tell people about me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria. And you will even tell other people about me from one end of the earth to the other."



HOW TO BE BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT



Remember

To be baptized in the Holy Spirit, all we have to do is ask—and we must ask in faith.

Luke 11:13

"Even though you are evil, you know how to give good gifts to your children. How much more will your Father who is in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!"

Many disciples in the New Testament were baptized in the Holy Spirit by asking in faith and as others laid hands on them.

Acts 8:17

Then Peter and John placed their hands on them. And they received the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit gives us the power to live a holy life and be witnesses for Jesus.

PERSONAL APPLICATION

Have you been baptized in water since you repented? Would you like to get water baptized?

Have you been baptized in the Holy Spirit? Would you like to have someone pray with you to be baptized in the Holy Spirit?

How can you start telling others about what Jesus has done in your life?

For Study Purposes

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