

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (2of2)

This week is the application of last week's teaching about the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Review:

- WITH, IN, UPON
- SUBSEQUENT TO SALVATION (The disciples [2], The Samaritans [8], Saul [9], Ephesians [19], Gentiles [11])
- THREE-FOLD PURPOSE (Encourage the believers, exalt God, evangelise the lost)

Is the baptism of the Holy Spirit for me? Let's find out!

I. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS AVAILABLE TO ALL WHO BELIEVE IN JESUS (ACTS 2:38)

1. The importance of first belonging to Jesus. You must have the Holy Spirit IN you to experience the Spirit coming UPON you.

i. Romans 8:9 (ESV) — 9 You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.

2. Not limited to the most Godly or super spiritual. We all have this privilege by grace through faith.

i. Ephesians 1:3 (NKJV) — 3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us

with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places in Christ,

- ii. *Galatians 3:2, 5 (NKJV)* — *2 This only I want to learn from you: Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?... 5 Therefore He who supplies the Spirit to you and works miracles among you, does He do it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?*

II. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS FOR THOSE WHO NEED ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE (ROMANS 5:5)

- i. *2 Corinthians 1:22 (NKJV)* ²² *who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.*
- ii. *Romans 8:16 (NKJV)* ¹⁶ *The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,*

III. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS FOR THOSE WHO ARE SPIRITUALLY DRY (JOHN 7:38-39)

1. **We need living water**

- i. “Putting aside all of the debate over terminology, I really do not care what you call it. Call it the baptism of the Holy Spirit, the gift of the Holy Spirit, the filling of the Holy Spirit-it really does not matter what terminology you might give to the experience. But this experience that Jesus is talking about, where the Spirit will be flowing, gushing forth out of your life is like a torrent of living water. My question to you is:

Does this describe what is going on in your life? Does this describe your relationship with the Holy Spirit? Can you say, "Yes! Praise God! There is flowing forth from my life a torrent of dynamic love, and power, as a result of the Spirit overflowing my life." – Chuck Smith

2. We need holy fire

- i. Matthew 24:12 (NLT)¹² *Sin will be rampant everywhere, and the love of many will grow cold.*
- ii. Luke 3:16 (NKJV)¹⁶ *John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*
- iii. Acts 2:3–4 (NKJV)³ *Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.* ⁴ *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*
- iv. Hebrews 12:29 (NKJV)²⁹ *For our God is a consuming fire.*
- v. 1 Thessalonians 5:19 (NIV)¹⁹ *Do not put out the Spirit's fire;*

IV. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS FOR THOSE WHO ARE WEAK AND AFRAID (ACTS 4:31)

1. Power to live for Christ

- i. *Ephesians 5:18 (NKJV)*¹⁸ *And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit*

2. Power to speak for Christ

- i. *2 Corinthians 5:20 (NKJV)*²⁰ *Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.*

V. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS GIVEN TO THOSE WHO ASK AND ACCORDING TO GOD'S TIMING. (LUKE 11:13)

1. Simply ask

- i. *James 4:3 (NKJV)*³ *You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.*

2. Wait on God's timing

- i. *Acts 1:4–5 (NKJV)*⁴ *And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; ⁵ for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."*

Growth Group Discussion Questions:

- What do you think is the greatest evidence of being baptized with the Spirit? In other words, how do you know you have been filled with the Spirit?
- The Holy Spirit gives us assurance of God's love (see: Romans 5:5) How important do you think it is to experientially know God's love for you? What difference does it make?
- God is called a "consuming fire" (Heb. 12:29) What are some of the ways you have felt God's fire in your life?
- Peter spoke with boldness when he was filled with the Spirit. He was deathly afraid of a servant girl and denied Christ before that. Have you ever had an experience where God gave you boldness or just the right words to say? Share with group.
- We are commanded to "be filled with the Spirit" (Eph. 5:18). What do you think are some things that we do that may quench or delay the filling of the Spirit in our lives?