

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (1of2)

This week the theology of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Next week the application of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

This week, “what is it?” next week, “how can we receive it?”

Luke 3:16¹⁶ 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.

John 1:33³³ ...He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’

Acts 1:4–5⁴ 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; ⁵for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

I. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS PART OF OUR RELATIONSHIP WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT: WITH, IN, & UPON (JOHN 16:7-8; JOHN 14:17; ACTS 1:8)

- 1. With – The Holy Spirit is with us even before we are saved. (John 16:7-8)**
- 2. In – The Holy Spirit comes inside of us when we believe. (John 14:17)**

- i. 1 Corinthians 12:13 (NLT)¹³ ... But we have all been baptized into one body by one Spirit, and we all share the same Spirit.
- ii. 1 Corinthians 3:16¹⁶ Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?
- iii. 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.

3. Upon – The Holy Spirit comes upon us. This is the baptism of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 1:8)

- i. John 7:37–38³⁷ On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.³⁸ He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.”
- ii. “The Holy Spirit is **with us** to make us saved, **in us** to make us sanctified, and **upon us** to make us supercharged.” Skip Heitzig

II. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS DIFFERENT THAN SALVATION (FIVE EXAMPLES)

1. The disciples/apostles before Pentecost were born again

- i. John 20:21–22²¹ So Jesus said to them again, “Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”²²

And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

- ii. *Acts 1:4–5⁴ 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.”*
- iii. *Acts 2:4⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*
- iv. *Acts 4:31³¹ And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.*
- v. “I think it would be a mistake to limit baptism in, by, or with the Holy Spirit to a single second event after conversion. Even though you might experience one, that doesn’t mean it’s the normative way that this baptism is to be understood. I think the kind of filling and empowering that we receive in such experiences are needed again and again and again in the Christian life. They’re not consistently the same in every season of the Christian life. It is right, I think, to ask for a fresh baptism. That’s the language of the Puritans. That’s the language of Martyn Lloyd-Jones.

That's my language again and again as I approach the pulpit and seek to preach. I say, "O God, I need a fresh baptism. I need a fresh anointing. I need a fresh filling. I need a fresh outpouring of the Holy Spirit." – John Piper

2. The Samaritans in acts 8 were saved but not empowered

- i. Acts 8:14–17¹⁴ Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them,¹⁵ who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.¹⁶ For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.¹⁷ Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

3. Saul/Paul the apostle was saved then later filled

- i. Acts 9:6⁶ So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?" Then the Lord said to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."
- ii. Acts 9:17¹⁷ And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

4. The believers in Ephesus were missing something then the Holy Spirit came upon them.

i. *Acts 19:2, 6* he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” *Acts 19:6* And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

5. The gentiles were filled and saved all at the same time.

i. *Acts 11:14–16*¹⁴ who will tell you words by which you and all your household will be saved.’¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning.¹⁶ Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, ‘John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’

ii. “God can do things as He wants to do them and we are wrong in trying to pattern our experience after somebody else. We are wrong to look for the same kind of an experience that someone else has had. And I think that there is a real danger of this in the church. God deals with us as individuals according to our own nature and according to our own temperaments. You cannot formulize God and say, “Well now, do this and lay your hand there, and

touch this spot. I mean, there is no formula. God is sovereign.” – Chuck Smith

III. THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IS FOR A SPECIFIC PURPOSE: TO ENCOURAGE BELIEVERS, TO EXALT GOD AND TO EVANGELIZE THE WORLD. (Romans 8:16; Acts 2:11; Acts 1:8)

1. To encourage believers

- i. Romans 8:16¹⁶ *The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God,*
- ii. “But the danger is to think of the baptism of the Holy Spirit only in terms of gifts rather than in terms of something much more important, which is... our spiritual experience. You cannot read the New Testament accounts of the people to whom the Spirit came, these people upon whom He fell, or who received as the Galatian Christians and all these others had done, without realizing that the result was that their whole spirit was kindled. The Lord Jesus Christ became real to them in a way that He had never been before . . . the result was a great love for Christ shed abroad in their hearts by the Holy Spirit. - MLJ

2. To exalt God

- i. Acts 2:11¹¹ *Cretans and Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.”*

3. To evangelize the world

- i. Acts 1:8⁸ *But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*
- ii. Acts 4:31³¹ *And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.*