

Systematic Theology - Lesson 17

The Work of the Holy Spirit (Part 3)

I. Baptism in the Holy Spirit (Slides 6–28)

A. The Promise and the Four Views (Slides 7–10)

- John the Baptist promised that Jesus would baptize His people with the Holy Spirit (Luke 3:16).
- Acts 1:5 points to the fulfillment of that promise at **PENTECOST** (1).
- The phrase appears seven times in the New Testament and has been interpreted in four primary ways.
- The first three views describe a post-conversion experience, Spirit baptism at conversion, and a two-stage redemptive-historical event.
- The fourth view emphasizes a subsequent empowering for **MINISTRY** (2).

B. View 1: The Pentecostal Understanding (Slides 11–13)

- This view teaches that baptism in the Spirit ordinarily occurs **AFTER** (3) salvation.
- Speaking in tongues is treated as the expected outward evidence, based especially on Acts 2, 8, 10, and 19.
- Pentecost is a unique redemptive-historical event, not a personal event every Christian must repeat.
- First Corinthians 12:30 shows that tongues are a gift, not a universal sign of salvation or maturity.

C. View 2: Spirit Baptism at Conversion (Slides 14–17)

- First Corinthians 12:13 teaches that all believers are baptized by one Spirit into one body.
- At conversion, every believer receives the Spirit and is **UNITED** (4) to Christ's body.
- There are no second-class Christians who belong to Christ but lack His Spirit (Romans 8:9).
- The question from Acts is that the disciples were believers **BEFORE** (5) Pentecost.
- Acts 8 also records a delay before the Samaritans visibly received the Spirit through the apostles.

D. View 3: A Two-Stage Redemptive-Historical Event (Slides 18–21)

- This view distinguishes the apostles' regeneration from their later baptism and filling at Pentecost.
- Tongues accompanied the **SECOND** (6) stage in the apostles' experience.
- The pattern is not considered normative today; it marked the gospel's expansion from Jerusalem to Samaria, Caesarea, and Ephesus.
- Christians today receive the Spirit and the blessings of Pentecost together at conversion.

E. View 4: Empowerment for Ministry (Slides 22–26)

- This view describes Spirit baptism as a later work of grace for Christ-exalting ministry.

- The purpose is extraordinary spiritual **POWER (7)** for witness and service.
- The goal is **CHRIST'S (8)** glory—not personal display.
- Its strength lies in dependence on the Spirit; its question is whether Spirit baptism entails more than empowerment.

F. Our Southern Baptist Conclusion (Slides 27–28)

- The Holy Spirit is given to **EVERY (9)** true believer at conversion.
- Spirit baptism unites believers to Christ and His church; no second baptism or 'second blessing' is required.
- Pentecost and Acts 8, 10, and 19 are decisive events in the gospel's expansion.
- Tongues are a spiritual gift, not required evidence of salvation or maturity.

II. Being Filled with the Holy Spirit (Slides 29–41)

A. What Filling Means (Slides 30–33)

- Acts 4:31 describes believers who had already received the Spirit being filled again with the Spirit for bold witness.
- Being filled is repeatedly connected to **PRAYER (10)**, boldness, and witness.
- The Pentecostal view connects tongues with **TRUE (11)** conversion.
- Other views understand filling as empowerment for Christian life and ministry or as continuing Spirit baptism.

B. Ongoing Empowerment (Slides 34–35)

- Filling brings **ONGOING (12)** empowerment rather than a different Spirit or a higher class of Christianity.
- Its fruit includes increased sanctification, power for ministry, boldness, and deeper dependence on God.
- The result in Acts 4:31 was faithful, Christ-centered witness—not self-display.

C. The Means of Grace and Repeated Filling (Slides 36–40)

- God ordinarily strengthens His people through prayer, Scripture, preaching, fellowship, and obedient service.
- Fellowship with the **CHURCH (13)** is one of God's ordinary means of grace.
- Filling is not a **ONE-TIME (14)** event; believers need the Spirit's help repeatedly.
- Stephen was known as a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:5).
- Believers have the Spirit fully as a Person, yet need His increasing influence over every area of life.

D. Our Southern Baptist Conclusion (Slides 41)

- Every believer receives the Holy Spirit at **CONVERSION (15)**.
- Filling is the Spirit's ongoing work of strengthening believers for obedience, holiness, witness, and ministry.

Our need is not a second baptism, but daily submission to the Spirit through the Word, prayer, repentance, and obedience.

III. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit (Slides 42–66)

A. Gifts Belong to Christ's Unified Church (Slides 43–50)

- Spiritual gifts are given by God, distributed by the Spirit, and exercised in love.
- Their purpose is to **STRENGTHEN (16)** the church.
- The gospel raises the spiritually **DEAD (17)** and creates one new people in Christ.
- The church displays God's wisdom and maintains the unity of the Spirit (Ephesians 3:10; 4:3).

B. The Victorious Christ Gives Gifts (Slides 51–54)

- Ephesians 4 connects spiritual gifts to the ascended and victorious Christ.
- Every believer receives grace to **SERVE (18)**.
- Another believer's strengths are not competition; they are Christ's gifts to His church.

C. Gifted Leaders Equip the Saints (Slides 55–57)

- Christ gave apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, and teachers.
- Their purpose is to **EQUIP (19)** the saints for the work of ministry.
- Ministry belongs to the whole church, not only to pastors or visible leaders.

D. Gifts Are Diverse (Slides 58–59)

- No single all-inclusive **LIST (20)** of spiritual gifts appears in Scripture.
- Believers may serve in more than one way, and gifts often become clearer through faithful service.
- A claimed gift must never become an excuse to avoid ordinary Christian obedience.

E. The Spirit Gives as He Wills (Slides 60–62)

- The Spirit distributes gifts to each person as He wills (1 Corinthians 12:11).
- Spiritual gifts are **NOT (21)** earned or assigned through comparison.
- God's wise distribution of diverse gifts helps the body function well.

F. The Common Good and the Rule of Love (Slides 63–66)

- Every manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good (1 Corinthians 12:7).
- Every gift should build up the **BODY (22)** of Christ.
- Gifts are not for **SELF (23)**-promotion or proof of spiritual superiority.
- First Corinthians 13 stands between chapters 12 and 14 because love must govern every gift.

IV. Miraculous Gifts and Signs (Slides 67–76)

A. A Range of Views (Slides 67–68)

- Continuationists expect miraculous gifts to continue **NORMALLY (24)** in the church.
- Cessationists believe foundational sign gifts ceased with the apostolic foundation.
- A cautious position does not expect sign gifts as a matter of course but evaluates every claim against Scripture.
- Our commitments are biblical conviction, church unity, edification, and good order.

B. Miracles at Key Moments (Slides 69–74)

- Miracles cluster around the Exodus and the giving of the **LAW (25)**.
- They also accompany prophetic ministry, Jesus' earthly ministry, Pentecost, and apostolic confirmation of the gospel.
- The church is built on the once-for-all foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ as the cornerstone (Ephesians 2:20).

C. God Is Still Able (Slides 75–76)

- God can still work miracles, heal, and save sinners who seem beyond hope.
- God can answer **PRAYER (26)** in extraordinary ways.
- God always acts according to His wisdom, and His Word remains our final authority.

Pray boldly, submit humbly, and refuse to make experience the authority over Scripture.

V. Lesson Summary (Slides 7–76)

- Every true believer receives the Holy Spirit and is united to Christ at conversion.
- Believers need the Spirit's ongoing filling for holiness, obedience, witness, and ministry.
- The Spirit distributes gifts so the whole church serves, matures, and builds itself up in love.
- Miraculous claims must be tested by Scripture while believers continue to pray in faith.

Answer Key

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. PENTECOST (Slide 7) | 14. ONE-TIME (Slide 37) |
| 2. MINISTRY (Slide 10) | 15. CONVERSION (Slide 41) |
| 3. AFTER (Slide 11) | 16. STRENGTHEN (Slide 43) |
| 4. UNITED (Slide 16) | 17. DEAD (Slide 50) |
| 5. BEFORE (Slide 17) | 18. SERVE (Slide 54) |
| 6. SECOND (Slide 20) | 19. EQUIP (Slide 57) |
| 7. POWER (Slide 24) | 20. LIST (Slide 58) |
| 8. CHRIST'S (Slide 25) | 21. NOT (Slide 62) |
| 9. EVERY (Slide 27) | 22. BODY (Slide 65) |
| 10. PRAYER (Slide 31) | 23. SELF (Slide 66) |
| 11. TRUE (Slide 32) | 24. NORMALLY (Slide 67) |
| 12. ONGOING (Slide 34) | 25. LAW (Slide 74) |
| 13. CHURCH (Slide 36) | 26. PRAYER (Slide 75) |