

Acts 1:4-5 | "Baptism With the Holy Spirit"

I. BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT. (v. 4-5)

A. (v. 4)

1. **"And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem,..."**

a. "commanded" - Gr. "charged; instructed; ordered"

1) This is a military term.

a) Jesus is in charge and calls the shots!

2. **"...but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me."**

a. "wait" - Gr. "stay around; await"

1) You could say that the first word of the Great Commission is not "go," but "wait"!

2) Cf. [Luke 24:46-49](#)

a) We not only wait for direction from the Lord, but we wait for the power to fulfill what He directs us to do.

3) **KEY:** It is so important that we have the power of the Holy Spirit upon our lives before we endeavor to do any kind of work for God.

a) The Great Commission that we are commanded to fulfill is an impossible task, unless we are *endued with power from on high*.

i. The job we have to do is overwhelming, bringing kids out of this polluted culture to a vital commitment to Jesus Christ. In the natural, it is impossible, that is why we need the supernatural.

b) **Illust.** - When Zerubbabel began the project of rebuilding the temple it seemed like an impossible task. There was a mountain of rubble. It was then

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that the Lord spoke to him through the prophet Zechariah.

- i. Cf. **Zechariah 4:6-7** - *"Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts. Who art thou, O great mountain? before Zerubbabel thou shalt become a plain: and he shall bring forth the headstone thereof with shoutings, crying, Grace, grace unto it."*
- b. *"the promise of the Father"*
 - 1) The *Promise* was given through THE PROPHET JOEL.
 - a) Cf. **Acts 2:16-21** - On the Day of Pentecost, when Peter was explaining the phenomena of what happened, he quoted Joel's prophecy (**Joel 2:28-32**) as the fulfillment of the pouring out of the Holy Spirit.
 - b) During the Old Testament times, the Holy Spirit was not upon everyone, but only certain individuals.
 - i. Cf. **Numbers 11:16-17, 24-29** - *"And the LORD said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation, that they may stand there with thee. And I will come down and talk with thee there: and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone. ... And Moses went out, and told the people the words of the LORD, and gathered the seventy men of the elders of the people, and set them round about the tabernacle. And the LORD came down in a cloud, and spake unto him, and took of the spirit that was upon him, and*

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gave it unto the seventy elders: and it came to pass, that, when the spirit rested upon them, they prophesied, and did not cease. But there remained two of the men in the camp, the name of the one was Eldad, and the name of the other Medad: and the spirit rested upon them; and they were of them that were written, but went not out unto the tabernacle: and they prophesied in the camp. And there ran a young man, and told Moses, and said, Eldad and Medad do prophesy in the camp. And Joshua the son of Nun, the servant of Moses, one of his young men, answered and said, My lord Moses, forbid them. And Moses said unto him, Enviest thou for my sake? would God that all the LORD'S people were prophets, and that the LORD would put his spirit upon them!"

- a. Moses felt that his job would be much easier if all of the people were filled with the Spirit!
 - b. **NOTE:** The prophet Joel foresaw this happening in the Last Days as God would pour out His Spirit on *all flesh!*
- 2) The *Promise* was also given through JOHN THE BAPTIST.
- a) Cf. **Matthew 3:11** - "*I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:*"
 - c. "*which, saith He, ye have heard of Me*"
 - 1) Jesus had taught them about the coming of the Holy Spirit into the life of the believer.
 - a) Cf. **John 14:16-17, 26; 15:26; 16:7-14**

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B. (v. 5)

1. "For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."

- a. "baptized" - Gr. *baptizó* - "submerge; immerse; overwhelm; cover; overflow"
- b. **NOTE:** There are many Baptisms mentioned in the Bible, with 2 of them referred to here.
 - 1) The Baptism OF JOHN.
 - a) Baptizer = John
 - b) Element = Water
 - c) Issue = Repentance from sin
 - 2) The baptism **WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**.
 - a) Baptizer = Jesus
 - i. John the Baptist said, "He shall baptize you" ([Matt. 3:11](#)).
 - ii. We usually call it the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, but really it should be the Baptism of Jesus.
 - b) Element = Holy Spirit
 - c) Issue = Power to be a witness ([v. 8](#))
 - 3) The baptism **OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**. ([1 Cor. 12:3](#))
 - a) Baptizer = Holy Spirit
 - b) Element = Himself

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- c) Issue = Entrance into the Body of Christ
 - i. Cf. [Ephesians 4:3-6](#)
 - a. When Paul wrote to the church at Ephesus, in the context of these verses, he is talking about the Unity of the Body of Christ (v. 16), so the "one baptism" he is referring to is that "one baptism" into the Body of Christ.

4) The baptism OF DISCIPLES. ([Matt. 28:19-20](#))

- a) Baptizer = Disciples
- b) Element = Water
- c) Issue = Identification with Christ
 - i. Cf. [Romans 6:3-4](#)

c. "the Holy Spirit"

- 1) The Holy Spirit is the 3rd Person of the Trinity, God Himself, a Person with whom you can enjoy a personal relationship.

THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT	
Attributes	Scripture
God	Acts 5:3-4
Intelligence	1 Cor. 2:10-13
Will	1 Cor. 12:11; Acts 15:28; 16:7
Emotion	Eph. 4:30; Isaiah 63:10; Rom 15:30
Given Personal Pronouns	John 14:16-17, 26; 16:7-15

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THE PERSON OF THE HOLY SPIRIT	
Attributes	Scripture
Treated as a Person	Lied to - Acts 5:3-4 Resisted - Acts 7:51 Blasphemed - Mark 3:28
Acts as a Person	Speaks - Acts 13:2; 1 Tim 4:1; Rev 2:7 Intercedes - Rom 8:26; John 15:26 Teaches - John 14:26; Neh 9:20 Communes with us - 2 Cor 13:14 Strives with men - Gen 6:3 Works miracles - Rom 15:19 Guides us - Acts 16:6-7; John 16:13-14

d. "shall" — Future Tense

1) **NOTE:** Jesus put the baptism *with the Holy Spirit* in the future tense ("shall") and said it would happen "*not many days hence,*" thus the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is a distinct, separate event than the indwelling of the Spirit.

a) The disciples had already received the *indwelling* of the Holy Spirit.

i. Cf. **John 20:21-22** - "Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, **he breathed on them, and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:**"

a. **Q** = Do you think that they received the Holy Spirit?... Yes! Otherwise Jesus' words and action don't mean anything.

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- ii. Cf. [Ezekiel 36:26-27](#) - Part of the New Covenant is the INDWELLING of the Spirit in the life of the believer.
- b) The disciples also experienced a DISTINCT and SEPARATE work of the Holy Spirit.
 - i. Cf. [Acts 1:5, 8; 2:1-4; 8:14-17; 19:1-7](#)
- 2) **KEY: Jesus wants to baptize ("overflow; immerse") you with the Person of the Holy Spirit!**
 - a) Cf. [John 7:37-39](#) - *"In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)"*
 - i. **Illust.** - Glass of Water. Empty glass (prior to conversion); glass filled to the brim (salvation); pouring more water and the glass overflows (baptism with the Holy Spirit)
 - ii. **KEY:** The Baptism with the Holy Spirit is the *overflowing*.
 - a. It is one thing to fill a cup with water, and quite another to fill it till it overflows.
 - b. It is one thing to have the Holy Spirit flowing *into* my life, and quite another to have the Holy Spirit flowing *out* of my life.
 - c. This *overflowing* is what Jesus was talking about in John's Gospel.

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- b) I will not insist on the term *baptism*, if it bothers you.
 - i. Some do speak of the experience as the *filling* of the Spirit.
 - ii. Some refer to the experience as the gift of the Spirit.
 - iii. I don't care what you call it, that is not important. The real issue is do you have Him? Does the Spirit pour out of your life like a torrent of living water?

- 3) **Q** = What is the EVIDENCE of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit?...
 - a) Power to be a witness. (**Acts 1:8**)
 - b) Love. (**Gal. 5:22-23**)
 - c) Gifts. (**1 Cor. 12 & 14**)

- e. "not many days hence"
 - 1) This means it will happen TEN DAYS later.
 - a) The Holy Spirit will be poured out on "*the day of Pentecost*" (**Acts 2:1**), which was 50 days after the Feast of Firstfruits (**Lev. 23:15-16**), the day of the Resurrection.
 - b) Jesus ascended 40 days after the Resurrection (**v. 3**), thus there are 10 days left.