

# THE PURPOSE OF SPIRIT BAPTISM

## **Acts 1:4-8 (KJV)**

<sup>4</sup> And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me.

<sup>5</sup> For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

<sup>6</sup> When they therefore were come together, they asked of him, saying, Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?

<sup>7</sup> And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power.

<sup>8</sup> But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

I will take for a title today: THE PURPOSE OF SPIRIT BAPTISM.

This passage gives the purpose in a general overview and I will break them down for you even further in other areas of scripture.

**Spirit Baptism comes with ONE purpose but many different ways to fulfill that purpose or reveal that one is continuing in the experience or allowing the Spirit of God to flow through them.**

That purpose is seen in [Acts 1:8](#) as power will be given to be a witness to the world of who Christ is and what He has done for you.

**For all intents and purposes let's take the definition of "witness" and get an idea of what exactly that is to mean:**

- a person who sees something happen
- a person who makes a statement about what he or she knows or has seen
- a person who is present at an event and can say that it happened
- one who has personal knowledge of something
- something serving as evidence or proof

With all of these there is an intentional purpose in mind and that is for the recipient to show or prove something through this encounter and for one seeing the encounter it is prove something supernatural is taking place.

**So never forget this, with all the benefits and purposes that Spirit Baptism does have for the believer, the main goal above all others, is to give us the power we are absent of to lead others to Christ.**

So, if this is accomplished through power to be a witness, then scripturally, there will be four ways this is done:

- Power of Proclamation
- Power over Sin
- Power over Emotions
- Power to Perform good works

### **POWER OF PROCLAMATION**

This can be broken down into 3 groupings:

- Ability to publicly speak of Christ
- Boldness in speech
- Understanding of the Word of God

So these are all utilized to verbally be a witness to people, saved or sinner, about Jesus Christ and what He has done for you. Scripture backs all of this.

### **PUBLIC SPEAKING**

This is addressed by Jesus in [Luke 12](#):

#### **[Luke 12:11-12 \(KJV\)](#)**

<sup>11</sup> And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and *unto* magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say:

<sup>12</sup> For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

We are told here that there will be uncomfortable public encounters for following Christ and that the Holy Spirit will give you the words to say in those moments.

#### **[John 14:26 \(KJV\)](#)**

<sup>26</sup> But the Comforter, *which is* the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

Here Jesus says that you will be reminded by the Spirit of the things that you have learned of Him. This is a reality for someone that is saved, but when power is added to this already existent quality, you now have supernatural knowledge and words that are not your own.

### **BOLDNESS**

This is the power given to remove the fear or timidness of publicly being a witness. So Spirit Baptism removes the shame one has of Christ.

And this is important because Jesus said that if we are ashamed of Him in front of men, then He will be ashamed of us in front of His Father. The good news is that you don't have to try to be bold, the Spirit will give you the power to be bold. Listen in scripture:

#### **[Luke 22:33-34 \(KJV\)](#)**

<sup>33</sup> And he said unto him, Lord, I am ready to go with thee, both into prison, and to death.

<sup>34</sup> And he said, I tell thee, Peter, the cock shall not crow this day, before that thou shalt thrice deny that thou knowest me.

### **Luke 22:61-62 (KJV)**

<sup>61</sup> And the Lord turned, and looked upon Peter. And Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said unto him, Before the cock crow, thou shalt deny me thrice.

<sup>62</sup> And Peter went out, and wept bitterly.

Here Peter denies the Lord, even though he stated emphatically that he wouldn't do it. But then there is a sudden change in this man:

### **Acts 2:14 (KJV)**

<sup>14</sup> But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

The same cowardly man now is now full of courage. What happened? **Right above this in scripture, Peter received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit!**

Boldness comes through this powerful experience.

### **Acts 4:31 (KJV)**

<sup>31</sup> And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

You see, shame is removed when you are empowered by the Spirit.

**Could it be that by and large, the witness of Christ isn't what it should be in society because men aren't capable to do it and need power?**

### **UNDERSTANDING THE WORD**

It does no good to have knowledge but not be able to understand it or apply it.

Jesus tells us that the Holy Spirit would give that understanding and if so, then Spirit Baptism will bring greater revelation and insight to the things of God.

### **John 16:13-14 (KJV)**

<sup>13</sup> Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, *that* shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

<sup>14</sup> He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew *it* unto you.

**So Spirit Baptism not only gives you the words to say, but the boldness to speak them and the ability to understand them and explain them to others.**

### **POWER OVER SIN**

The idea here is that you and I don't have the power to stop the power of the sin nature in our lives. When one is born-again, the Spirit lives in them and immediately begins to stop the work

of the sin nature, but to continue walking in victory over sin and to break certain bondages in people's lives, power is needed. Listen:

#### **Isaiah 10:27 (KJV)**

<sup>27</sup> And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

We have here the promise of burden a bondage, or the reality of being held captive to something against your will, being taken away by the anointing of God. To anoint would be to submerge in something. That is the same concept of baptism and we understand that scripturally, the only source of anointing is from Christ through the Spirit. Here is how it happens.

#### **Matthew 3:11-12 (KJV)**

<sup>11</sup> 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:  
<sup>12</sup> Whose fan *is* in his hand, and he will thoroughly purge his floor, and gather his wheat into the garner; but he will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.

Here is the connection to Spirit Baptism and power over sin. He will purge us of all unneeded things. **This is where the fruit of the Spirit is inserted and begins to flourish in and through us.**

The Holy Spirit is connected to the identification of sin and the dealing with it in various locations in scripture:

#### **John 16:7-11 (KJV)**

<sup>7</sup> Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.  
<sup>8</sup> And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:  
<sup>9</sup> Of sin, because they believe not on me;  
<sup>10</sup> Of righteousness, because I go to my Father, and ye see me no more;  
<sup>11</sup> Of judgment, because the prince of this world is judged.

So again, if the Spirit is to be the chosen agent of removing sin and continually purging us as vessels, then Spirit Baptism adds an element of power that reveals to a world controlled by sin, that Christ can take away the power of sin in one's life.

**What a witness, when someone sees that you are not who you used to be!**

#### **POWER OVER EMOTIONS**

One of the most important things believers can do to be effective witnesses for Christ is face the same circumstances that others face but our emotions aren't allowed to control us. This comes by and through Spirit Baptism as well.

Consider that when man fell from the glory of God into sin, that everything fell with him. Therefore, man is not getting an accurate portrayal of emotion from a fallen body.

**This is why we get upset when we hit our thumb with a hammer, instead of feeling pain, we are lied to.**

**This is why we laugh at the expense of others.**

So how does this happen in our lives? Well again, this only comes by and through the allowance of the Holy Spirit to operate in every area of your life.

#### **Romans 14:17 (KJV)**

<sup>17</sup> For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Peace and joy are emotions and they come according to this, IN the Holy Ghost.

A little more study in scripture reveals that one of the ways this happens is through speaking in tongues:

#### **Isaiah 28:11-12 (KJV)**

<sup>11</sup> For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.

<sup>12</sup> To whom he said, This *is* the rest *wherewith* ye may cause the weary to rest; and this *is* the refreshing: yet they would not hear.

So speaking in tongues is what stammering lips is and rest and refreshing comes as a result of that, or can we say the calming of emotions.

There's more evidence of this:

#### **Romans 8:26 (KJV)**

<sup>26</sup> Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

This says that we don't know how to pray during affliction and difficulty so the Spirit does it for us in tongues and that only happens when one is Spirit Baptized.

**So power over emotions is a two-part work of Spirit Baptism:**

- To allow one to properly feel emotions the way God intended
- To feel the burden and emotions that God has towards lost humanity

#### **DO THE WORKS OF CHRIST**

The final purpose is an incredible thing that God does through man. If all that the Spirit does to get the attention of people that God is real, He uses simple men and women that are moved upon by the power of God and they do incredible works.

#### **John 14:12 (KJV)**

<sup>12</sup> Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

This is only possible through the power of the Holy Spirit.

This is done through the Gifts of the Spirit:

#### **1 Corinthians 12:8-10 (KJV)**

<sup>8</sup> For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

<sup>9</sup> To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

<sup>10</sup> To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another *divers* kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

**When a human being is moved upon by the power of God and miracles are seen as a result of that, people begin to see God.**

This is what Christ meant as He said "greater works". Listen at Mark's recording of the Great Commission:

#### **Mark 16:15-18 (KJV)**

<sup>15</sup> And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

<sup>16</sup> He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

<sup>17</sup> And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

<sup>18</sup> They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

These tasks are miraculous works that only God can do as His power operates through a person.

#### **MUSICIANS and ALTAR CALL**

But with all four of the purposes, God has one intention in mind: REACH THE LOST.

Where Spirit Baptism offers numerous personal benefits the focus must remain on seeking and saving that which was lost.