

Ghost Hunters Pt. 2

Promise of the Father

This is what we've been waiting for!!

Ghost Hunters – In 11th Season

- The Atlantic Paranormal Society - (TAPS), investigate locations of interest by using various electronic equipment, which they believe is capable of detecting **paranormal** activity.
- The Skeptical Analysis of the Paranormal Society (SAPS) - "After watching episodes of *Ghost Hunters* and other similar programs, it quickly becomes clear to anyone with a background in science that the methods used are both illogical and unscientific"
 - "Anyone can be a ghost investigator, "failing to consider alternative explanations for anomalous ... phenomena", considering emotions and feelings as "evidence of ghostly encounters."

NEW WORD: **CRAY CRAY** – *really crazy*
Lyndsey Hobert might say

Most people who claim to have had a close encounter with a Ghost are usually a little CRAY CRAY.

Today I want to talk to you about a different kind of Ghost...The Holy Ghost!

1. Some Christians Never Talk about Holy Ghost and for some that is ALL they talk about!
 - a. If you tell someone you were filled with the Holy Spirit....“Charismatic.”
”Pentacostal” - Pentacostal is a Denomination but teaching about and being filled with the Holy Spirit is not Pentacostal Belief – It is a Christian Belief. **Labels to Dismiss**
 - i. Teach God’s desire to bless and prosper -Prosperity Preacher
 - ii. Faith – Word of Faith or Name It and Claim It
 - iii. Giving/Offering – Money Grubbing Television Evangelist
 - iv. Pray and Baptize in Jesus Name – Jesus Only Movement - Oneness

- v. Live a Holy Life – Holiness Movement
- vi. Pray in the Spirit - Charismatic
- vii. Laying on of Hands – Benny Hinn
- viii. Preach Love – Joel Osteen
- ix. Preach Grace – Hyper Grace
- x. Non-Denominational.....Non-Denominational

Christian on Christian Crimes

- Depending on what you believe other Christians use labels to completely dismiss the legitimacy of your beliefs, denomination and even salvation.
- In fact you can become enemy #1 because of your differences...many of which could be reconciled if everyone simply endeavored to keep the unity of the Spirit and the bond of peace. Chose to love each other above all else, extend grace of Christ to each other instead of backbiting and railing.
- The lion's share of hateful and vicious blogs and websites attacking prominent Christians and growing vibrant churches are authored by other Christians who claim to be defending the faith when in reality they are acting as enemy of the faith, of love and of

the church.

Now it's true that an area of difference and even contention within the church is in the area of **Holy Spirit.**

- Some Christians Never Talk About, Some All They Talk About!!
- 261 Times in NEW Testament
- The Holy Ghost is God – Third Person of Trinity. Unique in personality and function but every bit as much God as the Father and Son
- The Promise to Every Believer – Not only Early Church
- Holy Spirit - 261 passages which refer to the Holy Spirit in New Testament
 - 56 times in the Gospels
 - 57 times in Acts
 - 112 times in Paul's Epistles
 - 36 times in remaining books of New Testament

The Word – Final Authority

Your Grandfather or grandmother is not the leading authority in your life....the Word must be our final authority.

- You learned what?? What does God's Word say...where does it say that?
- Pray to Mary?
- I don't believe in Tithing
- Being filled with Holy Spirit was only for the early disciples?
- Praying in Tongues is not for today?
 - Not supposed to pray in tongues in church??
- I believe that if two people of the same sex love each other they can marry?
- Where does the Bible say that??
- Every person must choose at some point to submit to The Word of God as the final authority in their life.
 - It is the Word of God that will judge all men at the last day.
 - Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess the Word is Lord. Everyone will submit, but for many it will be too little too late.

Prayer – Word...teach us. Lead us into truth so that we can be rooted and grounded...unshakeable in faith!

Matt 3:3,11 – Baptize with water/Holy Spirit

³ This is he who was spoken of through the prophet Isaiah:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,
‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.’”

¹¹ “I baptize you with water for repentance. But after me comes one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

Function of Holy Spirit -

a. **John 16:12-15** – Teach what Jesus would say and teach.

12 “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. **13** But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come. **14** He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive

what he will make known to you. **15** All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.”

b. Fill Us with God’s Power, Love and Will

- Power, Love and a Sound Mind

Acts 19:1-7 – Have You Received

19 While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples **2** and asked them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

They answered, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.”

3 So Paul asked, “Then what baptism did you receive?”

“John’s baptism,” they replied.

4 Paul said, “John’s baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” **5** On

hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **6** When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. **7** There were about twelve men in all.

- Paul differentiates between the baptism of repentance and the baptism of the Holy Spirit . He clarified with them that they had been baptized into John’s baptism of repentance.
 - Prepare Ye The Way of the Lord!
 - Must First Repent to Receive Christ
- **“When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.”** (Verses 5-6) So they had repented through John’s baptism, they received water baptism a second time in Jesus’ name affirming them as his disciples and then they received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 18:24-28 – Apollos is taught the way of God more perfectly. Worth waiting for... (After

Acts 19...)

24 Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. **25** He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervor and taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John. **26** He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.

Difference between John's baptism of repentance by water into Christ's death and baptism of the Holy Spirit by fire into Christ's life!

Jesus never baptized (by water)

Jesus's Baptism was not with Water...in his death...but in the Holy Spirit...in Fire...because of his life!!

Promise of The Father

Luke 24:44-49 –

⁴⁴ He said to them, “This is what I told you while I was still with you: Everything must be

fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.”

⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. ⁴⁶ He told them, “This is what is written: The Messiah will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and repentance for the forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ I am going to send you what my **Father has promised**; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.”

Acts 1:3-9 –

³ After his suffering, he presented himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the kingdom of God. ⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but **wait for the gift my Father promised**, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with^l water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

⁶ Then they gathered around him and asked him, “Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷ He said to them: “It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

Power and Witness!!!

- Power
- Witness!! Evidence...Manifest with Proof.
 - Holy Spirit is our witness of Christ...(See Jn. 14) so then we can be Christ's Witness!

What are we waiting for??

Everything had been prepared, with Divine precision. The Lamb had been slain, the blood applied and Jesus is now seated at the right hand of the Majesty on High. And the disciples

are gathered together in one place waiting...just as the Master had commanded.

What are we waiting for??

120 waiting for the Promise of the Father -
Baptism of the Holy Spirit....

- Baptism of the Holy Spirit
- The Promise of the Father
 - Endued with Power of God
 - Divine Power
 - Ye Shall Receive Power

Acts 2:1-4 –

2 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

People heard the raucous...crazy noise and heard them speaking...each man heard them speaking in their own native language even

though they were from many different nations and languages.

- Some marveled, confused and in awe
- Still some just doubted and made fun and said these guys are all drunk on cheap wine!!

Peter...Boldly proclaimed!! We are not drunk as ye suppose... It's only 9am!!

Peter then broke it down for them...this is fulfillment of the prophecy of Joel!!

- In the last days I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh and your sons and daughters shall prophecy and your young men shall see visions and your old men shall dream dreams!!
- This Jesus...whom you killed 50 days ago on the cross...was and is the Messiah...the Savior of the world!
- God raised Him from the dead because death could not hold him!!
- Jesus now sits exalted on the right hand of God
- He was the first to receive the Promise of the Father...the Holy Spirit!!! And it has brought him back to life.

- Now he has poured this same spirit back into us who believe
- And now the same Spirit which raised Jesus from the dead has made us come alive with HIM!!

People were like....OMG!!! What shall we do???

³⁸ Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹ The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”

⁴⁰ With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.

This Promise is for YOU!!!!

Worth Waiting For!!

- Keonna – 5 Years??

Ephesians 4:4-6 –

One Faith, Lord, Baptism

Lie #1 – The Holy Spirit was a special promise only for the early church.

- This promise is for all even who are afar off

Lie #2 – Tongues Ceased

- That would mean that prophecy and knowledge have ceased too.
 - Tongues will cease when we no longer need to Holy Spirit to pray to the Father for us...when we are face to face with the Father.
 - So will knowledge and prophecy because we will be face to face with all truth and fulfillment
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