

THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Numbers 6:24-26 "The Lord bless you and keep you! May the LORD make his face shine upon you, and be gracious to you! May the Lord turn his face upon you and give you peace!"

The salvation that is taught by many preachers today is an illusion if you do not receive the Holy Spirit.

Almost all preachers teach that the Holy Spirit is received automatically when one believes in Jesus, either with or without water baptism, and without any sign that proves that he has received it; Many believers do not even know if they have received it, but they believe it by faith or because they have been told, but it is not so.

We can see an example in the Scriptures that it is not enough to believe by faith in the sacrifice of Christ and to be baptized in water by immersion in the name of Jesus to be saved or born again, if one has not truly repented in the heart and if one does not receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit as in the case of the disciple Simon.

Acts 8:12-23 "But when they believed Philip, who brought them the glad tidings of the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, men and women. Simon believed too; and, after he was baptized, he was always with Philip; and he was amazed, seeing the miracles and powerful works that were done. Then the apostles, who were in Jerusalem, heard that Samaria had received the Word of God, and sent Peter and John to them. They went and prayed for them to receive the Holy Ghost; for he had not yet descended upon any of them, but had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. When Simon saw that the Holy Ghost was being given by the laying on of the hands of the apostles, he

offered them money, saying, "Give me this power also, that he on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." But Peter said to him, "Let your money go with you to perdition, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money. You have no part in this, nor lot, because your heart is not upright before God. Repent therefore of this wickedness of yours; and pray to the Lord that, if possible, he will forgive you the thought of your heart. For I see that you are full of bitterness and a prisoner of iniquity."

The Holy Spirit promised for conversion to Christ

Gal 3:13-14 Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, having become a curse for us (for it is written, "Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree"), so that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the strangers in Christ Jesus, and that we might receive the promised Spirit through faith.

What is the purpose of the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

Many preachers today teach falsely either because they have learned that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is only for witnessing with power, but that is the effect of the work of the Holy Spirit, or we can say the consequence, it gives us courage as it was for the apostles to witness with power, but if it were only for this, why then did the apostle Peter ask for the filling? If you already have the power what is the use of the filling? (Acts 4:29-31)

The true purpose of the baptism of the Holy Spirit is: To complete the process of conversion (salvation, new birth) and become part of the body of Christ, the church of Jesus Christ

Eph 1:22-23 "He has put all things under his feet, and (Jesus) has given him as supreme head to the church, which is his body." (Jesus Christ)

Cl 1:18 "He (Jesus Christ) is the head of the body, that is, of the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in all things he may

have the preeminence."

As with the individual body of Jesus, God formed the body of Christ, that is, the Church, united in spirit, soul and body to him as if he were one man.

Body: 1 Corinthians 12:13,27-28 For we were all baptized into one Spirit, Jews and Greeks, slaves and freemen, and we were all watered with one Spirit. Now you are the body of Christ and members of it, each one in his own way. And God has placed in the church ...

Eph 4:4 "There is one body and one Spirit

Soul: Ac 4:32 And the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul.

Spirit: 1 Corinthians 6:17 ... he who unites himself to the Lord is one spirit with him.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a gift promised by God, which is received by all those who have repented, have been baptized in water by obedience and by faith have believed in Jesus Christ, although there may be some cases in which one receives the baptism of the Holy Spirit before baptism in water. Jesus received him during water baptism, the apostles at Pentecost, others received him through prayer and the laying on of hands, others before water baptism. The baptism of the Holy Spirit (if it does not occur before) must be given immediately after the baptism in water through the laying on of hands and prayer, obviously after the believer has expressly made a request to God in prayer to receive it in faith.

Some preachers teach that the apostles received the Holy Spirit when Jesus breathed on them, but this is not the case, because that was a prophetic act in view of the Father's promise that Jesus himself had announced. If this were true, Jesus would have breathed when the apostles were all present and not on the day the apostle Thomas was absent; this would have been discrimination against Thomas.

Jn 20:22-24 When he had said this, (Jesus) **breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit. Whoever you forgive sins, they will be forgiven; to whom you deem them, they will be retained."** Now **Thomas, called Didymus, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came.**

But we see through the Scriptures that that was not the time they received the Holy Spirit, in reference to the words spoken by Jesus Himself in the following verses:

Jn 7:37-39 On the last day, the most solemn day of the feast, **Jesus stood and exclaimed, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from his bosom."** **He said this of the Spirit, which those who believed in him were to receive; for the Spirit had not yet been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.**

Jesus prayed to the Father

Jn 17:4-5 "I have glorified you on earth, having done the work that you have given me to do. Now, **O Father, glorify me with you of the glory I had with you before the world existed.**

The glorification of Jesus took place in three specific phases:

- 1 - At his death (**John 12:23-24**)
- 2 - At his resurrection (**John 20:17**)
- 3 - To his ascension to the Father (**Acts 1:9-11**)

So as long as Jesus was alive no one could receive the Holy Spirit, but as promised by the Father and confirmed by Jesus, after his (glorification) death, resurrection and ascension to the Father, the Holy Spirit is given to all who believe in Jesus and receive it through the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:4-5 "When he was with them (the risen Jesus), he commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the fulfillment of the

Father's promise, "which," he said, "you have heard from me. For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit in a few days.

Jn 14:16-17 And I will pray the Father, and he will give you another comforter, to be with you forever, the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because he does not see him and does not know him. You know him, for he dwells with you, and he will be in you.

Lk 11:13 "If you, then, who are wicked, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who give it to Him ask!

Mt 3:11 "I (John the Baptist) baptize you with water for repentance; but he (Jesus Christ) who comes after me is stronger than I, and I am not worthy to wear him shoes; he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

Acts 5:32 "We are witnesses of these things; and also the Holy Spirit, who God has given to those who obey him. (i.e., those who have asked for it and receive it by faith after repentance, faith in the sacrifice of Christ, and water baptism by immersion in the name of Jesus Christ)

We can understand that disciples of Jesus Christ are identified in this conversion process:

(Word of God, repentance, water baptism by immersion)

He identifies us with the nature of the Son of Man

(Word of God, faith in Jesus Christ, baptism of the Holy Spirit)

He identifies us in the nature of the Son of God

Baptism of the Holy Spirit to the First Converts

Acts 8:14-17 "Then the apostles who were in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, and sent Peter and John to them. They went and prayed for them to receive the Holy Spirit; for it had not

yet descended upon any of them, but had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. (water baptism by immersion) Then they laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

Acts 10:44-48 "While Peter was thus speaking, the Holy Spirit came upon all who heard the Word. And all the circumcised believers who had come with Peter were amazed that the gift of the Holy Ghost was given even to foreigners, because they heard them speak in tongues and glorify God. Then Peter said, "Is there anyone who can deny water and prevent those who have received the Holy Ghost as we are from being baptized?" And he commanded that they be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ, amen. (water baptism by immersion)

What is the sign that shows that we have received the Holy Ghost?

The sign of belonging to Christ with the baptism of the Holy Spirit must be demonstrable to non-believers in order to make them understand that we have become children of God.

Rom 8:16 "The Spirit himself testifies together with our spirit that we are children of God."

How does the Holy Spirit testify that we are children of God? By these signs: speaking in tongues and prophesying, and secondly casting out demons and healing the sick in Jesus' name, Mr 16:16-18)

1 Corinthians 14:22 "Therefore tongues serve as signs , not for believers, but for those who do not believe."

First sign - Speaking in new tongues, prophesying and glorifying God

Mr 16:16-18 (the risen Jesus said to his disciples) Whoever believes and is baptized (here the reference is the baptism of the Holy Spirit because in the following verses it indicates what will be the sign that the Holy Spirit has been received, that is, speaking in new tongues) will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. These are the signs that will

accompany those who have believed: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; they will take snakes in their hands; even if they drink some poison, they will have no harm from it; they will lay hands on the sick and they will be healed.

Acts 2:1 When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in the same place. Suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing wind blowing, and filled the whole house where they were sitting. Tongues appeared to them as if of fire that were divided, and one rested on each of them. All were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, (known human ones) as the Spirit gave them to express themselves.

1 Corinthians 13:1 If I spoke with the tongues of men and of angels...

1 Cor 14:2 "For he who speaks in another tongue does not speak to men, but to God; for no one understands him, but in spirit he says mysterious things.

Acts 19:1-7 "While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the upper regions of the land and came to Ephesus, and there he found some disciples (believers), to whom he said, 'Did you receive the Holy Ghost when you believed? They answered Him, "We have not even heard that the Holy Ghost is there." He said to them, "By what baptism were you baptized?" They answered, "By the baptism of John." (they had repented of their sins) Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in him who came after him, that is, in Jesus." When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus; (baptism in water by immersion, to receive the forgiveness of their sins through the blood of Jesus which He Himself as High Priest applies in a spiritual way) and, when Paul laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit descended upon them and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. (baptism of the Holy Spirit, with the sign of speaking in tongues and prophecy) There were about twelve men in all.

Second sign - the seal of the children of God

2 Corinthians 1:21-22 God ... he has also marked us with his own seal and has put the deposit of the Spirit in our hearts.

Eph 1:13 In him also ye also, after having heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and having believed in him, you have received the seal of the Holy Ghost which was promised.

Eph 4:30 "Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption."

1 Corinthians 3:16 "Do you not know that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?"

1 Corinthians 12:3 "Therefore I let you know that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, 'Jesus is accursed!' and no one can say, 'Jesus is Lord!' except by the Holy Spirit.

Rom 8:9 But you are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if the Spirit of God It truly dwells in you. If anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to him.

The baptism of the Holy Ghost will enable us to:

- 1 - Identifying ourselves with the Son of God
- 2 - To be part of the body of Christ, His church, the assembly of the firstborn
- 3 - Speaking in new tongues, prophesying and glorifying God
- 4 - Receiving and exercising spiritual gifts
- 5 - To be effective witnesses of Christ
- 6 - Casting out demons
- 7 - To perform healings and miracles of all kinds

- 8 - Fight victoriously against the satanic powers
- 9 - Living a holy life
- 10 - To love and serve God, brotherhood and neighbor
- 11 - Knowing God in depth
- 12 - Maintain the unity of the body of Christ.

The filling of the Holy Spirit is given to us to be effective witnesses of Christ by the bestowal of the spiritual gifts that we ask for in prayer

1 Corinthians 14:1 "You yearn for love, but do not neglect to seek spiritual gifts.

Acts 4:29-31 ... grant that your servants may preach your Word in all boldness, stretching out your hand to heal, that signs and wonders may be done through the name of your holy servant Jesus. After they had prayed, the place where they were gathered trembled, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and preached the Word of God with boldness.

Lk 10:19-20 "Behold, I have given you power to walk on serpents and scorpions, and on all the power of the enemy; nothing can harm you. However, do not rejoice because spirits are subject to you, but rejoice because your names are written in heaven.

2 Corinthians 13:13 "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all." Amen.