

Greater Works Christian Church

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The Baptism with the Holy Spirit

Recap:

Baptize= (Strong's, 907) **baptizo**- To fully overwhelm (i.e. to make fully wet). To submerge.

Baptism= (Strong's, 908) **baptisma**- Immersion, submersion.

The word "Baptize (Baptism)" means to be fully immersed. This is a clear indication of what the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is. It is a full immersion into Holy Spirit. This is not a mere touch of the Holy Spirit, nor is it a mere anointing (smearing) of the Holy Spirit, it is a full immersion into God Himself.

In water Baptism we are submerged under water. This of course is the image of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, but this image cannot bring about the fullness of the truth of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit.

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit is:

- Receiving the Holy Spirit
- Being filled with the Holy Spirit
- The Holy Spirit falling on us
- The Holy Spirit coming upon us

As we can see from these various passages, the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is much more than "getting wet" with the Spirit. This Baptism affects every aspect of the person. The Holy Spirit comes upon, enters in and fills the believer to overflowing. This is more than a mere immersion, but a total infusion with the Holy Spirit.

Question: Baptize= Total Immersion- why is this important when discussing the Baptism in the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is Gift from the Father

Luke 11:11-13

¹¹ If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish?

¹² Or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?

¹³ If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"

As this above passage indicates, God will give His Holy Spirit upon asking. The Holy Spirit is literally God Himself. It is Himself that He wants to share with people. In Baptizing people in the Holy Spirit, He is literally Baptizing them into Himself. This is why God is willing to give the Holy Spirit to those who ask.

Acts 2:38-39

³⁸ Then Peter said to them, “Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

³⁹ For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

Acts 10:45-46

⁴⁵ And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.

⁴⁶ For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.

As we can plainly see in these texts, Holy Spirit is a Gift. It is amazing that God Himself comes to us as a gift. This is a promise that Peter says: “is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call (Acts 2:39).” As long as God is calling people to Himself (salvation), the Holy Spirit is available to those who are saved. After salvation all we need to do is ask the Father for His Holy Spirit.

Question: Why is it difficult for some people to understand Holy Spirit is God and Holy Spirit is a gift to the believer?

The Holy Spirit comes with Gifts - *The Gift becomes the Gift Giver*

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

⁴ There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

⁵ There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord.

⁶ And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all.

⁷ But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:

⁸ for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit,

⁹ to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit,

¹⁰ to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

¹¹ But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

Upon receiving the Holy Spirit (in Baptism) the Holy Spirit empowers us. This empowering comes in the form of, “Gifts of the Spirit.”

Question: Why is it important to understand the Gifts of the Holy Spirit? Are these gifts available to the believer before being Baptized in Holy Spirit? If yes, please explain why. If no, please explain why.

Remember:

Acts 1:8

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

The Holy Spirit always comes with power- ALWAYS! This power is manifested in various ways (gifts), but we must remember Holy Spirit always comes in power.

The Holy Spirit Glorifies Christ

John 16:12-15

¹² “I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.

¹³ However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

¹⁴ He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

¹⁵ All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you.

The power of the Holy Spirit, as expressed in the Gifts of the Spirit, is always to edify the body of Christ, and to “Glorify” Christ. These are the things that we can count on when the Holy Spirit is present. He will move in such a way that those who comprise the body of Christ will be built up, and the Name of Jesus will be lifted and glorified. This is what the Holy Spirit is given to do. The Gift brings gifts, and those gifts change lives and exalt Jesus.

Question: There are many that claim to be saved and filled with Holy Spirit, but don’t live in a manner that Glorifies Christ. What are the attributes and actions of a Spirit Filled Believer that brings glory to Christ? After reading the words of Jesus in this passage, is it possible to be Filled with Holy Spirit and not Glorify Christ? Why or why not?

Conclusion: Everyone who is saved is qualified to receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Luke 11:13). When the Holy Spirit comes upon a believer, that one receives power from God. This power will always transform lives- not only the ones that have been Baptized in the Holy Spirit, but also everyone that person touches (ministers to). The Holy Spirit is of God, so He is of love, and continues to give gifts to build up others and to glorify Jesus.

Hebrews 2:3-4

³ how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him,

⁴ God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will

Question: Signs and Wonders, Miracles and Gifts of the Spirit. How has God used you in these areas?

i.e. prayed for the sick and the sick get healed. Pray for a miracle and a miracle takes place.

Do you want God to use you in this manner (healing, miracles, sign and wonders)? If so, have the Power Group Leader pray for you.