

Greater Works Christian Church

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The Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Introduction: In our last study we found what it means to be “Baptized in the Holy Spirit.” From our initial study we will dig deeper into this subject in order to understand the fullness of this most beautiful gift of God. Much has been said of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Much of the teaching on this subject is good and beneficial, while some is actually destructive. It is my hope that we can, by the Spirit, make a separation between the good and bad, beneficial and destructive. When we understand the Baptism in the Holy Spirit we find that there is much more at our disposal than we may think.

The Initial Filling

Acts 2:1-8

1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.

3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

5 And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven.

6 And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language.

7 Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, "Look, are not all these who speak Galileans?"

8 And how *is it that* we hear, each in our own language in which we were born?

Note: Here is the first place that the Bible speaks of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. There were times when other people were filled with the Holy Spirit (John the Baptist), however this is the place that the Holy Spirit becomes accessible to all who believe. This is the place where the Holy Spirit is given to the church as a whole, not merely an individual.

Notice what happened here:

- There came a sound from heaven- a rushing mighty wind
- This sound from heaven filled the whole room
- There appeared to them divided tongues as of fire
- These tongues of fire sat upon each of them
- All the people in the room were filled with the Holy Spirit
- Everyone in the room began speaking in Tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance

- When this sound occurred, the multitude came together
- The multitudes were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language

All of this happened when the Holy Spirit showed up. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit brings power and change. When the Holy Spirit comes into a person's life things change.

Keep in Mind...

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.

Power! This is the reason the Holy Spirit comes upon us. When Holy Spirit comes, He brings Power so that we can be witnesses of Christ.

We see from Acts 2:1-8, Tongues is the first manifestation of power given to the believer. It was Tongues that brought about a Revival in Jerusalem. 3000 people were saved in that day because these believers spoke in Tongues.

Power through the Language of the Spirit

Various passages on Tongues (after being Filled with Holy Spirit)

Acts 10:46-47

46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered,
47 "Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we *have*?"

Acts 19:6

And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

1 Corinthians 12:28

And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues.

1 Corinthians 14:18

I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all;

1 Corinthians 14:22

Therefore tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophesying is not for unbelievers but for those who believe.

1 Corinthians 14:39

Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues.

These are just a few of the passages that speak about Tongues. From these verses we can get a glimpse of how important this Gift of the Spirit is. Tongues is the initial evidence of being Filled with the Holy Spirit (Baptism in the Holy Spirit). This Gift should never be taken for granted. Tongues is just as important than all the other gifts. In many ways Tongues is the most important gift, since it opens the door for all the other gifts to manifest and grow.

Conclusion: God has not left us powerless. Everything we do is to be with Spirit Power.

2 timothy 1:6-7

6 Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.

7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

When the Holy Spirit fills us, we will first Speak in Tongues. Tongues is a power to change things around us, but along with it, Holy spirit fills us with Love and gives us a Sound Mind. As we grow in the Spirit we are moved by our spirit as it is led by Holy Spirit. Our emotions will then be under control and no longer will they control us.