

Prayer Study 34
THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 2

Tonight I want to show scripturally that the baptism in the Holy Spirit is a distinct experience from the new birth. I also want to share a number of scriptural terms describing this experience. These terms will help us understand why people respond to this experience in different ways and why there seems to be a difference in their emotional reactions when they receive this experience.

1. *This is a distinct experience from the new birth.*

a. Jesus came to His disciples in an upper room where they were hidden for fear of the Jews, breathed upon them and commanded (imperative-2nd aorist-*always* followed by immediate obedience) them to receive the Holy Ghost. Later after giving instructions that they were to go into all the world and preach He told them they were **not** to go until the Holy Ghost had come upon them or until they had been baptized in the Holy Spirit.

b. ACTS 8:4-17

c. ACTS 9:1-17

d. ACTS 10:23-48

e. ACTS 19:1-6

2. *There are different biblical titles of this same experience.*

a. BAPTIZE (Matt 3:11, Mark 1:8, Luke 3:16, Acts 1:5)

(In Hebrews 6:1, 2 we read the 6 principles of the doctrine of Christ which included the doctrine of baptisms-*plural!!*.

The Holy Spirit baptizes one into the Body of Christ-I Cor.

12:13. God's servants baptize believers in to water-Matt 28:

29. Jesus baptizes believers into the Holy Spirit as the verses above show.)

b. COMING UPON(Acts 1:8)

This is the same experience that Jesus experienced before He Entered into His ministry and the experience He commanded His disciples to have before they were to fulfill their ministries.

c. FILLED(Acts 2:4)

d. POURED OUT(Acts 2:17)

e. GIFT(Acts 2:38)

f. PROMISE(Acts 2:39, Luke 24:49)

g. ENDUED WITH POWER FROM ON HIGH(Luke 24:49)

HOW TO RECEIVE THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

I think we do wrong when we pressure people into this experience and that in doing so we can push people into a realm of irreality where they think they've had this experience and are yet disappointed because the results are not genuine. How could they be genuine when the experience itself was not real? Let us make known the availability of such an experience and that it is worthy of any cost to receive, and trust the Holy Spirit to apply the truth to their hearts.

TO RECEIVE:

1. Let us bow to the utter Lordship of Jesus and submit 100% our past, present, and future-spirit, soul and body to the Lord Jesus with no reservation of any kind.
2. Then let us receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit by faith and spiritually breathe in the very breath of God, His Spirit.
3. Let us begin then to magnify the Lord in praise.

Actually the praise is the outcome or the overflow of the experience. I have no doubt at all that the first 2 steps are all that's necessary and if 100% surrender and faith don't issue forth in the experience, it must be true that:

1. Our desire for the experience is not sufficient,
2. Our surrender is not total,

Or

3. There is doubt caused by ignorance, fear, or prejudice.

Remember, the baptism is not just a religious fad of the day. It is a necessary experience to enter into the spiritual realm where you can do battle against the very real Enemy that seeks to destroy the Church of the Living God. You'll never be a threat to Satan until you enter into this realm. And, when you enter this realm, you must go on into maturity to be an effective soldier in the army of the Lord. Satan will really make you his target. If you don't intend to go on to maturity, it would almost seem you would be better off not to receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Here is a suggested prayer to receive the fullness of the Holy Spirit in your life:

"Lord Jesus, I come to you to willingly give you my whole life and I ask not that you baptize me with the Holy Spirit. I receive Him by faith and thank you for sending Him to me. I praise you for filling me and now release my tongue to overflow with the Spirit of God in praise to you....."