The Baptism in the Holy Spirit sermon for 7-10-16

When Jesus appeared to His disciples after His resurrection to teach them one more time before He ascended into heaven, He spoke some important things about His Holy Spirit.

**John 20:22**

**22**And when He had said this, He breathed on *them,* and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

When Jesus blew the Holy Spirit into the disciples, the disciples were born again in the Spirit. They got saved. They were new creatures on the inside. All their sins keeping them from intimacy with God were washed away.

However, Jesus did not only have salvation in mind for the disciples; there was more to experience than the joy of salvation—there was power.

Let’s look in Acts 1:4-8 about a recounting of the rest of Jesus’ talk with the disciples after they received the Holy Spirit and see what Jesus said was coming even after salvation. He said that God promised to send this power.

**Jesus Knew We needed Power and He Promised to Send It**

**Acts 1:4-8**

**4**And being assembled together with *them,* He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” *He said,* “you have heard from Me; **5**for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” **6**Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” **7**And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. **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 disciples knew that Jesus had come to restore the Kingdom of God in men.

That means Jesus came so that God and His principles would be able to reign in the hearts and lives of men instead of the pride, idolatry, and selfishness that currently rules the vast majority of the human race.

They asked Him when He was going to complete His work, and He answered by telling them that they were to take part in that monumental, long-term task.

Thank God **Jesus promised to give us power to complete the humanly impossible challenge of restoring the Kingdom of God in men’s hearts by witnessing to men about Jesus; this power is the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit’s baptism.**

**The Purpose of This Power**

**The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is available to give you power to witness.**

**Acts 1:8**

**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 Baptism of the Holy Spirit is available to give you supernatural boldness.**

**Acts 13:49-52 and 14:1-3**

**49**And the word of the Lord was being spread throughout all the region. **50**But the Jews stirred up the devout and prominent women and the chief men of the city, raised up persecution against Paul and Barnabas, and expelled them from their region. **51**But they shook off the dust from their feet against them, and came to Iconium.**52**And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.

**14**Now it happened in Iconium that they went together to the synagogue of the Jews, and so spoke that a great multitude both of the Jews and of the Greeks believed. **2**But the unbelieving Jews stirred up the Gentiles and poisoned their minds

against the brethren. **3**Therefore they stayed there a long time, speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

**The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is available to give you power to receive and utilize spiritual gifts on a more consistent basis.**

Right after the Day of Pentecost as described in Acts 2, we see the disciples using the gifts including a new one that they had never experienced—tongues.

**1 Corinthians 12:8-10**

**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.

**Things you should know about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit**

**The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is not necessary for salvation but you must be saved in order to be baptized in the Holy Spirit.**

**Romans 10:9**

**9**that if you confess with your mouth the Lord Jesus and believe in your heart that God has raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

**Acts 2:38**

**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.

**Everyone who is saved has the Holy Spirit residing in them; but not everyone who is saved has experienced the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.**

**1 Corinthians 3:16**

**16**Do you not know that you are the temple of God and *that* the Spirit of God dwells in you?

**Ephesians 4:4-6**

**4***There is* one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; **5**one Lord, one faith, one baptism; **6**one God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.

**Acts 19:1-7**

And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples **2**he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.”

**3**And he said to them, “Into what then were you baptized?”

So they said, “Into John’s baptism.”

**4**Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.”

**5**When they heard *this,* they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **6**And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied. **7**Now the men were about twelve in all.

**This power is for everyone.**

**Acts 2:16-17**

**16**But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

**17**

‘And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God,

That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh;

Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy,

Your young men shall see visions,

Your old men shall dream dreams.

**The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is an overwhelming God-experience that is meant to be a jump start to a life of consistent filling of the Holy Spirit.**

In this new covenant it is possible for men and women to walk through life full of the Holy Spirit and His power whereas in the Old Testament, this fullness and power was only temporary.

However, the majority of people who have experienced the Baptism of the Holy Spirit allow the experience to either fade into just a memory and don’t do anything extraordinary with it, or they spend their precious time searching for the next spiritual high.

**The event of the Baptism of the Holy spirit is often an awesome experience that comes with overwhelming feelings of joy and love, but the perpetual filling of the Spirit from there out is not about euphoric emotions; it’s about faithful maturity, service, worship, righteousness, and patience.**

**Ephesians 5:18-21**

**18**And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit, **19**speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord, **20**giving thanks always for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, **21**submitting to one another in the fear of God.

**The Relationship of Tongues and the Baptism**

Many Pentecostals say that the first and only acceptable proof that someone has been baptized in the Holy Spirit. Is this true? Does everyone who has been baptized in the Holy Spirit speak in tongues?

Let’s look at Scripture…

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Pentecost | Post-healing Prayer Meeting | Samaritan Believers | Cornelius’ House | 12 Men in Ephesus |
| Acts 2:1-6 | Acts 4:31 | Acts 8:14-19 | Acts 10:43-48 | Acts 19:6 |
| Tongues of fire | Place was shaken | Simon the Socerer wanted the ability to give people the gift of the Holy Spirit | Spoke in Tongues | Spoke in tongues |
| Rushing Wind | Spoke Word of God with boldness |  | Praised God | Prophesied |
| Spoke in tongues |  |  |  |  |
| Interpretation |  |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |

**Acts 2:1-6**

When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord[a] 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.

**Acts 4:31**

**31**And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

**Acts 8:14-19**

**14**Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, **15**who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. **16**For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **17**Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

**18**And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles’ hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, **19**saying, “Give me this power also, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit.”

**Acts 10:44-46**

**44**While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. **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.

From what I see of the experience of the apostles and believers, **it seems that it is possible for the Spirit to fall on someone without the evidence of speaking in tongues right away; however, it also seems that we should expect it to happen the majority of the time.**

If a person that claims to be baptized in the Holy Spirit tells me that they do not want to speak in tongues or that they believe that they will never speak in tongues, I doubt they have been baptized in the Holy Spirit at all. Receiving the Holy Spirit requires complete submission to all that the Spirit has for us.

If you receive the Baptism but not your prayer language, seek it in your prayers until you do!

Speaking in Tongues daily is necessary for a full and victorious Christian life.

We will be exploring tongues in detail next week and you will see in the Bible why I say this.

**It is imperative to note in Acts that no matter if tongues was present or not when someone is baptized in the Holy spirit, there was always utterance and noise full of praise and prophecy coming from the mouth of the believer who has been baptized.**

**The baptism produces noise! It produces boldness.**

**How Do We Receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit?**

**It takes a sincere desire deep in the heart to receive and abandon oneself to everything that the Holy Spirit would want.**

* Ask yourself if you really want to witness, be bold, and use the spiritual gifts available to you.

**Then pray asking Jesus to baptize you in the Holy Spirit.**

* Many times, this prayer time takes its time. Be patient.

**Most of the time it comes as a result of a Spirit-filled believer laying hands on a praying believer asking for the Baptism and praying for Jesus to baptize the person in the Holy Spirit.**

**The one asking for the Baptism must receive it by faith surrendering their whole self to whatever the Holy Spirit wants.**