

Baptism with the Holy Spirit - Who, what, why, when & how (3)

The Holy Spirit wants to make more of Jesus real to me & Jesus makes the Father real

John 16:13 (Jesus, who is the Word of God, is speaking) **However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth;**... (Father...Your word is truth – John 17:17) – guide you into the Word

14 **He** (the Holy Spirit) **will glorify Me** (the word), **for He will take of what is Mine** (the word) **and declare** (reveal, make known & interpret) **it to you.**

Prov 1:23 **...Surely I will pour out my Spirit on you; I will make my words known to you.**

Jesus is the Word of God; only the Holy Spirit can give me spiritual understanding of the word of God and so make real to me and impart to me more of Jesus Christ.

Matt 11:27 (Jesus, who is the word of God, is speaking) **...No one knows the Son except the Father . Nor does anyone know the Father except the Son , and he to whomsoever the Son will reveal Him.**

I can only know the Father as the Son, the word of God, reveals Him to me. And I can only know the Son, the Word of God, as the Holy Spirit reveals Him to me. Take away the teaching concerning a Christians need to receive the Holy Spirit and now it will be impossible for that Christian to receive any further revelation of either Jesus or the Father. Who do you suppose, therefore, would be most desirous that the foundational New Testament doctrine of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit be excluded from evangelical Church teaching?

This explains why there has been so much confusion within the body of Christ on the subject of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. In some Christian circles where this doctrine of the Holy Spirit is embraced there has been an over emphasis on certain gifts of the Spirit and then tolerance of fleshly imitations of those gifts. This has been at the expense of teaching on the principal ministries of the Holy Spirit which are; to reveal more of Christ, to empower and anoint for service and to provide victory over sin through sanctification. Sadly our spiritual enemy has used this over emphasis on and faking of gifts to cause many to reject the doctrine of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit.

In other even larger Christian circles this essential Bible teaching on receiving the Holy Spirit has been set aside because of the assumption, a false assumption, that a Christian receives or is baptized with the Holy Spirit when they are born again. As a result, a deeper revelation of Jesus Christ, and a real knowledge of the Heavenly Father, His ways and His will, which depend on the Holy Spirit, have been forfeited, because of an assumption. Let's examine for a moment what the Bible actually says about what takes place when a person is born again and becomes a Christian:

What happens when we are born again- do we receive the Spirit or receive the Word?

1 Peter 1:23 **Being born again, ...by the word of God,...**

James 1:18 **And it was of His own free will that He gave us birth as sons by His Word of Truth,...** AMP

Eph 1:13 **In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation;...**

Here are three references to being born again and none of them refer to receiving the Holy Spirit, instead all three refer to receiving (by hearing with the heart) the word of God and Jesus is the word of God. This is why in the book of Acts just about every reference to unbelievers being converted to Christ or saved, uses the expression "they received the word of God" and is silent on receiving the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:41 (Peter preaching the word of God) **Then those who gladly received his word were baptized; and that day about three thousand souls were added to them** (the Church). See also Acts 8:14, & 11:1

Lets now consider numerous examples in scripture of people receiving and being Baptized with the Holy Spirit and in each case let's honestly ask the question, and let God's word answer, were these people already saved or not? Were they born again, of the Holy Spirit, and then later Baptized with the Holy Spirit?

Please ask and let God's word answer—did they receive the Spirit after being saved?

Jesus Christ Luke 1:31-35 **And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bring forth a Son, and shall call His name JESUS....."The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you;...**
Born of the Spirit

Baptized with the Holy spirit Luke 3:22 **And the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him,...** (the beginning of Jesus' public ministry)

The Disciples John 6:69 **Also we (disciples) have come to believe and know that You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."**

Born Again (1 John 5:1 **Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God,..)**

Baptized with the Holy Spirit Acts 2:4 **And they (the disciples) were all filled with the Holy Spirit...**

First Deacons Acts 6:3 **Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit...**

The requirement was for brothers in Christ that were full of the Holy Spirit, clearly implying that there were other Christians who were not full of the Holy Spirit.

The Samaritans Acts 8:14-15 **Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, (Jesus Christ) they sent Peter and John to them, who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.**
Born Again
Rec'd. the Spirit

Apostle Paul Acts 9:17 **And Ananias ...said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."**

Saul (Paul) was already a brother in Christ before receiving the Holy Spirit.

The Ephesians Acts 19:2 **And he (Paul) asked them, Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed on Jesus as the Christ? And they said, No, ... AMP**
Born again

Baptized with the holy spirit Acts 19:6 **And as Paul laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them;... AMP**

Old Israel The account of Israel's exodus (salvation) from Egypt into the wilderness and later its entry into the promised land is intended by God to be an example on the natural plane of the Christian's salvation from the kingdom of darkness and eventual entry into the land of God's rest, on the spiritual plane. You will note that Israel's journey involved passing through two bodies of water, the red sea and the Jordan, representing two baptisms. Correspondingly the Christians journey is intended to include two baptisms, a baptism of the Spirit into the body of Christ (equating to the red sea) and a baptism with the Holy Spirit into a life in the Spirit (equating to the river Jordan).

You and I We have believed the word of God that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of the living God, who died for our sins and rose again from the dead – we have been born again, of the Spirit and by the word and have been baptized into the body of Christ. But, through a full surrender of our lives and will to God, a ceasing from our own works, have we received the Holy Spirit, have we entered God's spiritual land of rest?

Hebrews 4:1 **Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His (God's) rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it.**

Heb 4:10 **For he who has entered His (God's) rest has himself also ceased from his (own) works...**

To be filled with Holy Spirit means to be ruled by the Holy Spirit