

— OUTLINE —

- I. If you believe the Word of God, you cannot dispute the existence of a baptism in the Holy Spirit.
 - A. Speaking of Jesus, John the Baptist said, **“I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire”** (Matt. 3:11).
 - B. Christ was baptized in the Holy Spirit (Matt. 3:16, Mark 1:10, and Luke 3:22).
 - C. The early apostles, including Paul, were baptized in the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:1-4 and 9:17-18).
 - D. Whenever people were born again in the book of Acts, they also received the baptism in the Holy Spirit soon thereafter.
 - E. Many Christians claim that the baptism in the Holy Spirit comes automatically at salvation—**“No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day”** (John 6:44).
 - F. They recognize the Spirit’s work in drawing people to God and assume that they get all of the Holy Spirit they can the moment they’re born again.
 - G. Although it’s true that they have the Holy Spirit once they’re saved, that doesn’t mean they’ve been baptized in Him!
- II. ***It’s one thing to have the Holy Spirit and quite another for the Holy Spirit to have you!***
 - A. There are major differences between having the Holy Spirit present in your life and having the Holy Spirit in control of your life.
 - B. Jesus told His disciples,

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

JOHN 14:16-17
 - C. Prior to Jesus’ resurrection, the Holy Spirit couldn’t be received the way I’m discussing with you.
 - D. He was present **with** the disciples and worked through them (as evidenced by the miracles they did), but He wasn’t **in** them.
 - E. When the Holy Spirit is in you, rivers of life flow out from your innermost being.

Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

JOHN 7:37-39

- F. Jesus promised His disciples that the Holy Spirit who had been with them would one day be in them—that day arrived shortly after His ascension.

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

ACTS 2:1-4

- III. Those who don't believe that the baptism in the Holy Spirit is a second, separate experience from salvation, erroneously teach that God's miraculous power ceased with the passing of the first apostles.

- A. They don't believe in the gifts of the Spirit, speaking in tongues, or casting out demons—nor living in victory over sickness, disease, and poverty.
- B. They believe that if you see any of these miracles occurring today that God Himself did in the Bible, it's the work of the devil.
- C. Something's wrong with this theology!
- D. The Holy Spirit is the power Source!
- E. Reject Him and you won't see miracles, healings, demons cast out, or speaking in tongues.
- F. Accept Him by receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit, and you open yourself to God's supernatural power working in all these wonderful ways—but you must receive the Source in order to have His power.

- IV. The Bible makes it clear that the baptism in the Holy Spirit is a separate experience from salvation.

- A. The only way you can miss this is if you have some kind of religious prejudice against it.
- B. Some people assume, "You aren't really saved until you're baptized in the Holy Spirit!"
- C. Acts 8 soundly refutes this.
- D. Salvation saves and the baptism in the Holy Spirit empowers!
- E. Certain disciples at Ephesus also demonstrate this truth.

And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

ACTS 19:1-2

- F. Apollos had been zealously preaching Jesus wherever he went (Acts 18:24-25); however, he had left the company of the disciples before Christ resurrected, so they didn't know about the baptism in the Holy Spirit either.
- G. Before this, Apollos had already made some converts in Ephesus, whom Paul found some time later.
- H. Paul picked up where Apollos left off and shared with these Ephesian believers how they could receive God's power into their lives—**“And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied”** (Acts 19:6).
- V. Millions of people alive today can attest to this separate, distinct work of the Holy Spirit in their lives after salvation.
 - A. Although many born-again Christians in Western countries deny this experience, the majority of believers in the rest of the world have welcomed the baptism in the Holy Spirit!
 - B. Across the body of Christ worldwide, the parts that are experiencing the most growth are those who believe in the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
 - C. Most traditional, denominational churches that fight against this gift have either stagnated or are suffering serious decline.
 - D. Spirit-baptized believers are progressing in the Christian life, doing most of the effective evangelism and making the biggest impact for the advancing kingdom of God.
 - i. Do you want to be where God's power is moving?
 - ii. Are you hungry to experience excitement and life?
 - iii. Do you long to join the winning side?
 - E. You'll find all this and more among believers who have been baptized in the Holy Spirit!

DISCIPLESHIP — QUESTIONS —

1. True or false: If you believe the Word of God, you cannot dispute the existence of a baptism in the Holy Spirit.

2. Speaking of Jesus, John the Baptist said, **“I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the _____, and with fire”** (Matt. 3:11).

3. What do many Christians claim regarding the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

4. Although it’s true they have the Holy Spirit once they’re saved, does that mean they’ve been baptized in Him?

5. There are major differences between having the Holy Spirit present in your life and what?

6. Prior to Jesus’ resurrection, what couldn’t happen?
 - A. The Holy Spirit couldn’t work at all
 - B. You couldn’t speak in other languages
 - C. The Holy Spirit couldn’t be received the way I’m discussing with you
 - D. All of the above
 - E. None of the above

7. John 7:37-39 says, **“Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow _____ . (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)”**

8. True or false: Those who don't believe that the baptism in the Holy Spirit is a second, separate experience from salvation, correctly teach that God's miraculous power ceased with the passing of the first apostles.

9. What happens when you accept the Holy Spirit by receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

10. What must you do in order to have His power?

11. The Bible makes it clear that the baptism in the Holy Spirit is what?

- A. A separate experience from salvation
- B. Absolutely necessary for salvation
- C. Not for us today
- D. All of the above
- E. None of the above

12. What chapter of the Bible soundly refutes the idea that you aren't really saved until you're baptized in the Holy Spirit?

13. Salvation _____ and the baptism in the Holy Spirit _____!

14. What did Paul do for the Ephesian believers in Acts 19?

15. Across the body of Christ worldwide, what is happening to the parts that believe in the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

16. What has happened to the churches that fight this gift?

17. True or false: Spirit-baptized believers are progressing in the Christian life, doing most of the effective evangelism and making the biggest impact for the advancing kingdom of God.

— SCRIPTURES —

MATTHEW 3:11

I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire.

MATTHEW 3:16

And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him.

MARK 1:10

And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon him.

LUKE 3:22

And the Holy Ghost descended in a bodily shape like a dove upon him, and a voice came from heaven, which said, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased.

ACTS 2:1-4

And when the day of Pentecost was 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 all the house where they were sitting. [3] And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. [4] And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

ACTS 9:17-18

And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. [18] And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized.

JOHN 6:44

No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him: and I will raise him up at the last day.

JOHN 14:16-17

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; [17] Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.

JOHN 7:37-39

In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. [38] He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. [39] (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

ACTS 8:5-12

Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. [6] And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. [7] For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed. [8] And there was great joy in that city. [9] But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one: [10] To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God. [11] And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries. [12] But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

ACTS 8:14-17

Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: [15] Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: [16] (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) [17] Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

ACTS 19:1-2

And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, [2] He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

ACTS 18:24-26

And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus. [25] This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John. [26] And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.

ACTS 19:6

And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.