

Basic Christianity

The Holy Spirit

Basic Christianity: The Holy Spirit

- The promise
- Three manifestations
- Role in Christian's life

The Promise

*Acts 2:38-39 Peter replied, “Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. **And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.** The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call.”*

The Promise

How important to us?

- Named right alongside forgiveness
- Promised to every Christian
- Power to live the Christian life

Three Manifestations

Three different scenarios in scripture

- Baptism of the Holy Spirit
- Gift through laying on apostles' hands
- Indwelling given at baptism

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Mar 1:8 I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Act 1:4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.

*Act 1:5 For John baptized with water, but **in a few days** you will be **baptized with the Holy Spirit.**"*

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Act 2:1-4 *When the day of Pentecost came, **they were all together** in one place.*

*Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be **tongues of fire** that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were **filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to **speak in other tongues** as the Spirit enabled them.*

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Who received that gift?

- “***they*** were all together in one place...”
- Possibly just the twelve apostles
 - Acts 1:26
- Possibly the 120
 - Acts 1:15

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Notice these characteristics

- Came “out of the blue”
- Directly from heaven
 - No human intervention
- Preceded water baptism
- Resulted in speaking in tongues
 - Foreign languages understood by native speakers

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

*Act 10:44-47 While Peter was still speaking these words, **the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message.** The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. For they heard them **speaking in tongues** and praising God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone keep these people from being baptized with water? They have received the Holy Spirit just as we have."*

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Note these characteristics

- Came “out of the blue”
- Directly from heaven
 - No human intervention
- Preceded water baptism
- Resulted in speaking in tongues
- Peter called it “baptism with the Holy Spirit”

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

*Act 11:15 "As I began to speak, **the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning.** Then I remembered what the Lord had said: "John baptized with water, but you will be **baptized with the Holy Spirit.**" So if God gave them the same gift as he gave us, who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could oppose God?"*

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Compare Acts 10-11 to Acts 2

- About ten years after Pentecost
 - Famine in Acts 11:28 during reign of Claudius
 - Claudius became emperor in AD 41.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

- Peter called it “baptism with the Holy Spirit”
- Like what had happened “at the beginning”
 - Not like what had been happening routinely during the 8-10 years since Pentecost

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Baptism with the Holy Spirit occurs only twice in scripture

- Acts 2 – the gospel first introduced to Jews
- Acts 10 – the gospel first introduced to Gentiles

Both cases

- God demonstrating that it was His will
- Confirming a new teaching

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

Philip in Samaria (Act 8:12-19)

- Philip performed great miracles
- Baptized many

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

Philip in Samaria

- *Act 8:15-16* When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus.

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

Baptized, but did not receive Holy Spirit?

- Acts 2 promises it!
- Must be talking about something else
 - No visible sign: speaking in tongues
 - Had not “come upon them”

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

Apostles came from Jerusalem

- Philip could not pass along visible gifts of the Holy Spirit
 - Even though he himself performed great miracles
- Sent apostles to lay hands on them
 - Then they received miraculous gifts
 - Simon saw that they received gifts
 - Visible manifestation of the Holy Spirit

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

How was this manifestation passed along?

- Laying on of apostles' hands

Who could do this?

- Twelve men in the first century
 - Later, added Paul
- Witnesses of the resurrection
 - None exist today

This manifestation no longer occurs!

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

Disciples in Ephesus (Acts 19:1-7)

- Did not “receive the Holy Spirit” through believing

Paul identified the problem

- Had not been baptized in the name of Jesus
- John the Baptist's baptism was not sufficient

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

What we learn from disciples in Ephesus

- Baptism in the name of Jesus was required

Note difference from Acts 2, Acts 10

- Two accounts where Holy Spirit preceded baptism
- Different manifestation!

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

Different gifts to different Christians

- 1 Cor 12:4-11
- Given for the common good

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

Tongues and prophecies would pass away

- 1 Cor 13:8-13
- 1Co 13:9-10 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when **perfection** comes, the imperfect disappears.

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

Tongues and prophecies would pass away

- When perfection comes
- What does it mean???

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

Perfection: Gk τελειον (teleion)

- Thayer Definition:
- 1) brought to its end, finished
- 2) wanting nothing necessary to completeness
- 3) perfect

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

What else does the NT call “teleion”?

- “Mature” Christians (1 Cor 2:6, Eph 4:13, Phil 3:15)
- “Adult” thinking (1 Cor 14:20)
- God's word (James 1:25)

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

*1Co 13:8-10 Love never fails. But where there are **prophecies**, they will cease; where there are **tongues**, they will be stilled; where there is **knowledge**, it will pass away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when perfection comes, the imperfect disappears.*

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

What was not complete?

- Prophecies, tongues, knowledge
- Bits and pieces of God's Word
- As they came to the prophet

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

What was not complete?

- Prophecies, tongues, knowledge
- Bits and pieces of God's Word
- As they came to the prophet

What was complete that would replace these

- NT scriptures!

Laying on of Apostle's Hands

1Co 13:9-10 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, but when [the complete message] comes, the [partial message] disappears.

- We have the NT
- No need for new revelations.

Indewlling of the Holy Spirit

*Rom 8:9 You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if **the Spirit of God lives in you.** And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.*

Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

*Rom 8:10-11 But if Christ is in you, your body is dead because of sin, yet your spirit is alive because of righteousness. And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is **living in you**, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.*

Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

Indwelling of Holy Spirit

- Gift promised in Acts 2:38-39
- Every Christian has it (Rom 8:9)

Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

What does the Holy Spirit do in us?

- Gives us control of our minds (Rom 8:6)
- Gives us life (Rom 8:10-11)
- Enables us to put sin to death (Rom 8:13)
- Leads us (Rom 8:14)
- Testifies that we are God's children
(Rom 8:15-16)
- Helps us pray (Rom 8:26-27)

Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

1Co 6:19 Do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?

*Eph 4:30-31 And **do not grieve the Holy Spirit** of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.*

Conclusion

We have the indwelling of the Holy Spirit

- A gift we received at baptism
- Not tongues, prophecy, miraculous knowledge
- Spiritual strength to live the Christian life