



HOW TO BE BAPTISED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

To receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit we need to stand in faith on the promise of Jesus to Baptise us with the Spirit. We can do this on our own or with another Christian. There is a clear directive in Scripture that in many occasions the Holy Spirit came on a person by the laying on of hands and the prayer of faith. Whatever way you choose to respond to this promise there is a need to hold onto the promise and believe you have received it even if there is no immediate affect at the time of asking. Here are some simple ideas that can help us prepare ourselves spiritually to receive from God.

1) **Repentance** - start by confessing to God anything that you know where you have done wrong and offended Him or other people. Say sorry and ask for forgiveness in the blood of Jesus.

2) **Acknowledge Jesus to be Lord** of your life and commit yourself to live and serve under His direction.

3) **Invite the Holy Spirit to come and Baptise you** in the name of Jesus; as Jesus has promised. Ask that He might empower you and change you as He sees fit. Ask for a release of His gifts in your life to enable you to be a real witness to Jesus.

4) **Ask all of these things in the name of Jesus!!**

Now go forth into your day believing in the promise that Jesus has Baptised you with His Spirit and expectant of what the Spirit will do in your life!! Remember as with every promise of God it is not about how you feel at the time - but believing and claiming by faith what God has already agreed to give you!!

Daily Readings on Spirit-Filled living

Monday:- John 3 v 1 - 8, Romans 8 v 1 - 17

Tuesday:- 1 Corinthians 12

Wednesday:- John 16 v 5 - 15

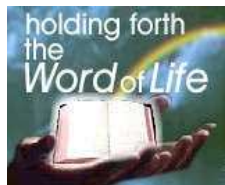
Thursday:- Acts 2 v 1 - 4, Acts 4 v 23 - 31, Acts 6 v 1 - 31

Friday:- Galatians Ch 5 v 16 - 26

Saturday:- 1 Corinthians 2 v 6 - 16

Sunday:- 1 John 4 v 1 - 16

Real faith, in real promises, results in real blessing for those who believe!



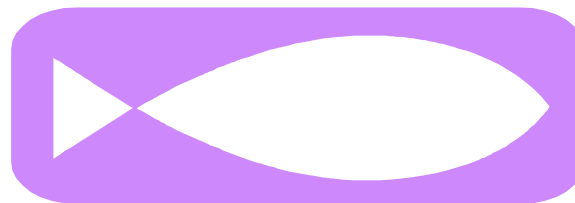
For many Christians today when they look at their lives and look at the promises of God to empower them and change them, what is seen is that there is often a difference between the two experiences.

Yet clearly contained within the Word of God is a doctrine and promise of empowerment that comes from Jesus himself.

This promise of empowerment is for every Christian and when released enables God's people to live lives that not only transform God's church for the better but also releases real power and effectiveness in our ability to witness to Jesus.

It is a promise from Jesus himself; it is a work of empowerment from the Holy Spirit and it is for all of God's people.

The important question is:- "what is this empowerment?" and "how are we going to respond to it?"



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THE PRINCIPLES



OF

BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

"I baptise you with water for repentance. But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.

(Matthew 3 v 11)

For many generations now the traditional church has had a real struggle to understand and experience the work of the Holy Spirit to any degree of power. Christians in many churches are willing to admit that they never really see the Lord do a miracle or see the church grow to any real degree. For many churches, their

experience is that, they sing about the Holy Spirit, read about the Spirit, but do not experience the presence of the Spirit to any meaningful degree. Up and down this country there are sincere, faithful Christian saints, who lack power to change, power to grow and power to witness to Jesus!!

The ministry of Jesus was a promised Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

A central part of the ministry of Jesus was not only to open up the

Way for us to be saved, forgiven and bought into a living relationship with the Father, BUT also it was to establish in all of our lives a Baptism. This work of Jesus, for it is called a baptism from Jesus, is called baptism in the Holy Spirit. To understand how this fits into the work of Jesus into our lives we need to understand

that *being Born Again and being Baptised in the Holy Spirit can be separate experiences in a believer's life.* These two experiences are both a work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, but they are two separate works of the Holy Spirit. Scripture declares that when we repent of our sins and accept Jesus as our personal Lord and Saviour, we have eternal life. (Look up Romans 10 v 9 - 13, John 3 v 16 - 18, John 5 v 24, Mark 1 v 15) One thing is clear in all of these verses is that by faith in Jesus we are saved. Alongside of these we have (Read) [John 3 v 1-5](#) which declares to us that unless a person is Born Again they cannot enter the

"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. For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit."

(Acts Ch. 1 v 4 - 5)



Kingdom of Heaven. What is being said here therefore is **that personal repentance and faith in Jesus - results in a person being Born Again!!** And crossing over from death to life - sinner to saint - enemy of God - to a child of God. Being Born Again establishes your identity as a child of God and your eternal salvation of everlasting life in heaven. This does not however mean that you have been Baptised in the Holy Spirit as Jesus promised you. It does not mean that you have received power from on high to be witnesses of Jesus to the ends of the earth.

Testimony of those who are Born Again but not Baptised in the Holy Spirit in Scripture!

In Acts chapter 2 v 1 - 4 we see how the disciples of Jesus who had put their full trust and hope in Jesus, waited and received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost. Jesus says to his disciples (Acts 1 v 5) that what is about to happen to them is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and this experience will equip them to be his witnesses. What is seen here is that the disciples who had spent three years with Jesus, who had eaten with him, learnt from him, experienced his death and resurrection, were witnesses of his ascension into heaven. These people were in every sense saved, yet had not received what Jesus and promised them. Alongside of this

we see how in Acts Ch.8 v 12 - 18 how Philip went throughout Samaria preaching the good news and through his witness people were saved / Born Again and received water baptism in the name of Jesus. We read how Peter and John came to them, these new converts, perceived that they had not received the Holy Spirit and so laid hands on them with the effect that they were Baptised in the Spirit and spoke in tongues. Philip would not have baptised these men and women - unless their conversion was genuine and yet at

the point of being Born Again they had not received the Baptism in the Spirit. Clearly in a number of occasions within the experience of the church there was people who were saved and Born Again who needed to have hands laid on them and to be prayed for to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit that Jesus promised He would give.

Where the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is not taught it is not often experienced.

There is clear evidence in the Scripture that where the Baptism of

of the Holy Spirit was not preached it was not experienced. (Read Acts 19 v 1 - 7) For many traditional denominations the Baptism of the Holy Spirit has not been taught or expected. There has been a real resistance to this lost truth of Scripture particularly as the re-surfacing of this truth came back into the church through the revival in 1904 that established the Pentecostal movement. Rather than accepting the simple truth of a lost part of the Gospel, (Even though it was there for all to read and see) the traditional church reacted in pride and rejected the teaching, seeing it as a challenge to the salvation of the members within its care. This is because of a real confusion over the processes of the Holy Spirit within a person's life. **Being Born Again is a core doctrine of Salvation, where as Being Baptised in the Holy Spirit is a core doctrine of empowerment.** This empowerment is given to us to enable real change / transformation to take place and to empower our witness to Jesus into a lost world. Without the experience of the Baptism of the Spirit, Christians are left without power to change, to grow, to witness and to live. It is true that in many cases being Born Again and Baptised in the Spirit occur at the same time at conversion. However in many occasions today it does not, because it is neither taught or expected. This baptism is not something to be feared - but accepted and experienced for it is a Baptism that comes into our lives as a work and promise from Jesus himself!!

Important

As God's people it is important that we build our Christian lives on the foundation stones of truth that are given to us by God's inspired Word. We must not be frightened or dismissive of what God promises us as good gifts that he wants to give to his people. Even if for many years we have not experienced this promise of God, what is declared to us is that it is never too late to receive from God what he has promised. If we ask the Lord in line with his word and promises, then he will give us that which we need in our lives to be fruitful and effective for him. As the word of God says:- Matthew 7 v 11 " If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, How much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts, to those who ask him!"

P.T.O