

## *Baptism: Water & Fire*

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### *Water Baptism*

**Psalm 32:2** “Oh how happy is the man whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered.”

- Baptism is a time to rejoice.

#### Three reasons to be baptized:

1. Obedience to Jesus.
2. Public profession of faith.
3. Identifying with Jesus in His death, burial, and resurrection.

#### Obedience to Jesus:

**1 Peter 3:21b** (describing baptism) “baptism, not the removal of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ.”

**Matthew 28:19** “Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,”

#### Public profession of faith:

**Matthew 10:32-33** “Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in Heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in Heaven.”

**Malachi 3:16** “Then those who feared the Lord spoke to one another, and the Lord listened and heard them; so a book of remembrance was written before Him for those who fear the Lord and meditate on His name.”

#### Identifying with Jesus in His death, burial, and resurrection. (Romans 6:3-11)

- Baptism was by immersion:

**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:”

**Acts 8:38-39** <sup>38</sup>And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. <sup>39</sup>And when they were come up out of the water,...

- Why immersion? Because it symbolized the believer’s identification with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection.

**Romans 6:4** “Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”

**Philippians 3:10-11** “That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death, if by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.”

- For many, baptism symbolizes a new beginning in Christ Jesus.

**1 Corinthians 5:17** “Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.”

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Phillip & eunuch:

**Acts 8:36-38** “Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him.”

**Acts 10:48** Peter – “he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord.”

Ananias exhorted newly converted Paul:

**Acts 22:16** “And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord.”

Peter to new converts:

**Acts 2:41-42** “Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.”

**Matthew 3:16-17** “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: and lo a voice from Heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

**Acts 1:5** “For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.”

**1 Corinthians 12:13** “For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

**Galatians 3:27** “For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

## *Baptismal Regeneration – refutation* (RCC, many Baptists, Church of Christ, others)

- Paul couldn't remember whom he'd baptized, but said that they were very few.

**1 Corinthians 1:17** “For Christ sent me not to baptize, but to preach the gospel: not with wisdom of words, lest the cross of Christ should be made of none effect.”

- Jesus didn't baptize anyone:

**John 4:2** “Though Jesus Himself baptized not, but His disciples.”

Jesus did say though:

**John 5:24** “Verily, verily, I say unto you, he that heareth My word, and believeth on Him that sent Me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.”

- What about **Mark 16:16**?

**Mark 16:16** “He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.”

- He that believes (1<sup>st</sup>) and is baptized shall be saved – because he believed.
- Notice the entire verse: “but he that believeth not shall be damned” – no mention of baptism, the key element to salvation is “believing”, not baptism.
- A great many verses declare, with no mention of baptism, that salvation comes by believing the gospel:

**1 Corinthians 1:21** “... it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe.”

**John 3:16, 18, 36 – John 5:24; Acts 10:43, 13:38-39, 16:31; Romans 1:16, 3:28, 4:24, 5:1; 1 Corinthians 15:1-4; Ephesians 2:8-9.**

Not one verse however says that baptism saves.

**Galatians 1:8** “But though we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed.”

- CC Susanville.com - Resources: Baptismal Regeneration.

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## *Baptism by Fire: The Baptism Of The Holy Spirit*

### *Exercising the Gifts of the Spirit*

#### **Scriptural term: mentioned in all four Gospels:**

**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.”

Mark 1:8 Luke 3:16

**John 1:32-33** <sup>32</sup>And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon Him. <sup>33</sup>And I knew Him not: but He that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.”

- All four Gospels speak of the Holy Spirit descending upon Jesus.
- Jesus did not begin His public ministry until after this had occurred.

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#### **The purpose of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is to empower the believer:**

1. To witness of Jesus.
2. To live the victorious Christian life.
3. To exercise the gifts of the Spirit.

**Acts 1:8** “But ye shall receive power, after the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

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#### **Manifestations or workings (dispensations) of the Holy Spirit:**

1. Para / along side, with us.
2. En / in the life of a believer.
3. Epi / upon or flowing from the life of a believer.

1. **Para:** the Holy Spirit is with us, along side us when we are convicted of our sin and made aware of our need for a Savior.

**John 14:16-17** <sup>16</sup>And I will pray the Father, and He shall give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you for ever; <sup>17</sup>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 16:8** “And when He (the Holy Spirit) is come, He will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:”

2. **En:** The Holy Spirit works within the life of a believer, indwelling the believer:

**John 14:17** “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 20:22** “And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and saith unto them, receive ye the Holy Ghost:”

**1 Corinthians 3:16** “Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you?”

**John 3:5-8** <sup>5</sup>Jesus answered, verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. <sup>6</sup>That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit. <sup>7</sup>Marvel not that I said unto thee, ye must be born again. <sup>8</sup>The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.”

**2 Corinthians 6:16** “And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.”

**Ephesians 1:13-14** Sealed, given in earnest, as a down payment, an assurance of things to come.

3. **EPI / upon** - The Holy Spirit pours out & flows from the life of a believer:

**Acts 1:8** “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witness unto Me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

**John 1:32** “And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon Him.”

**John 7:37-38** <sup>37</sup>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. <sup>38</sup>He that believeth on Me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.”

## The gifts of the Holy Spirit, different than the dispensations of the Spirit:

**Romans Ch. 12: 3-9**

**1 Corinthians Ch. 12: 1-11, 28-31**

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## How do we receive this baptism of the Spirit?

**Luke 11:10-13** <sup>10</sup>“For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. <sup>11</sup>If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? Or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? <sup>12</sup>Of if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? <sup>13</sup>If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy spirit to them that ask him?”

**John 7:37-38** <sup>37</sup>“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. <sup>38</sup>“He that believeth on Me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.”

- We see the effect of the Holy Spirit upon the lives of the Apostles, before and after their baptism in the Holy Spirit.
  - Just prior to Jesus’ resurrection: the disciples abandoned the Lord, they seemed in-effective.
  - After Jesus’ resurrection and the baptism in the Holy Spirit: Peter preaches boldly with great wisdom – 3,000 people get saved.
  - All the Apostles go on to live awesome Spirit filled lives, glorifying Jesus with their respective deaths.
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Being filled with the Spirit is a continual action.

**Ephesians 5:15-20**

**1 Corinthians 14:40** “Let all things be done decently and in order.”

Quenching the Spirit hinders: **1 Thessalonians 5:16-22** (disobeying / un confessed sin.)