

Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Text: Joel 2:28-32 And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: 29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit. 30 And I will show wonders in the heavens and in the earth, blood, and fire, and pillars of smoke. 31 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. 32 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered: for in mount Zion and in Jerusalem shall be deliverance, as the LORD hath said, and in the remnant whom the LORD shall call.

Acts 2:14-21 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: 15 For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. 16 But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; 17 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: 18 And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: 19 And I will show wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapour of smoke: 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before that great and notable day of the Lord come: 21 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.

**This is the 6th Sermon on the Fundamental Truths— TONIGHT – Baptism in the Holy Spirit:
Previous non-negotiable tenets of faith sermons were:**

- .01 *The Bible is the Word of God - inspired by God, without error, & reliable/trustworthy for our faith.*
- .02 *There is Only One God as revealed in Scripture as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*
- .03 *The Deity of the Lord Jesus Christ*
- .04 & .05 *The Fall and Salvation of Man*
- .06 *The Ordinances of the Church*

NEXT SERMONS: ⁽¹⁾ Sanctification; ⁽²⁾ Mission of the Church/Church Ministries; ⁽³⁾ Divine Healing; ⁽⁴⁾ Blessed Hope; ⁽⁵⁾ The Millennial Reign of Christ; ⁽⁶⁾ Final Judgement; ⁽⁷⁾ The New Heaven and the New Earth

Introduction: *In this sermon, I do not want to explore the powerful effect of the Holy Spirit in the LIFE OF THE BELIEVER, or, the “GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT” or, even, the “GIFT OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES” (which has its own solid foundation in various places in scripture, including I Corinthians chapter 14). I wish to lay the scriptural foundation of the NON- NEGOTIABLE TENET OF FAITH which states, “The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is subsequent to the experience of the new birth”!*

The Assembly of God’s STATEMENTS ON FUNDAMENTAL TRUTHS concerning “The Baptism in the Holy Spirit”: *All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ. This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian church. With it comes the enduement of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4,8; 1 Corinthians 12:1-31). **This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth** (Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46; 11:14-16; 15:7-9). With the baptism in the Holy Spirit come such experiences as an overflowing fullness of the Spirit (John 7:37-39; Acts 4:8), a deepened reverence for God (Acts 2:43; Hebrews 12:28), an intensified consecration to God and dedication to His work (Acts 2:42), and a more active love for Christ, for His Word, and for the lost (Mark 16:20).*

I. One of the STRONGEST ARGUMENTS of the HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM SUBSEQUENT to SALVATION are the MILLIONS of CHRISTIANS who have EXPERIENCED it for THEMSELVES! The Pentecostal Belief in the BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT SUBSEQUENT to the NEW BIRTH has created the most successful movement in the history of the church.

Please note the following data:

- ❖ Pentecost is the fastest growing religious movement in the world – many scholars claim that Pentecostal Christianity is the fastest growing movement in the history of religion (Wikipedia - Pentecostal)
- ❖ 35,000 people become Pentecostal everyday (Pulitzer Center)
- ❖ more than 10 million Pentecostal members in the USA (www.britannica.com/topic)
- ❖ over 644 million people worldwide belong to Pentecostal and Charismatic churches (Wikipedia - Pentecostal)
- ❖ Pentecostals make up more than 8% of the world's total population (www.pewresearchcenter.org > Christian Movements and Denominations)
- ❖ Pentecostals Worldwide is predicted to rise to 1 billion by 2050 (www.afr.com>north-america)

David Wilkerson on the Holy Spirit Baptism: *“From the beginning of Christianity, then, this baptism of the Holy Ghost has had a special significance because it marks the difference between the mission of a mere man, no matter how bold and effective, and the mission of Christ: Jesus would baptize His followers with the Holy Ghost...”*

*“Some of you have been saved for a number of years, some perhaps a year, and some just months or a few weeks. Being saved from sin is wonderful! Old things fade away – and all things become new, I am so glad you’re saved! But to be a good soldier in the service of our Lord Jesus Christ, it’s not enough just to be saved. There is much more for you! You need to be baptized with the Holy Ghost! I believe we are saved through the power and ministry of the Holy Ghost. **But Scripture tells us that in addition to this, there is also a baptizing, an infilling, a possessing that the Holy Ghost does in us!** Some say, “The Spirit came down at Pentecost. We don’t need to pray for Him to fall on us now.” But throughout the Book of Acts, after Pentecost, the Holy Ghost was still falling on believers! You must know He is still baptizing, still falling upon believers... Every hour of every day, multitudes worldwide are being baptized with the Holy Ghost! They have read of this promise in the Bible or have heard it preached. So they cried out claiming the promise, and they have been baptized!” (ref.: <https://bethelcornerstone.org/david-wilkerson-and-the-baptism-in-the-holy-spirit/>)*

II. The Arrival of the Holy Spirit was a Fulfillment of Scripture:

(1). Jesus Fulfilled Numerous Scripture - including Isaiah 61 - written between 538-520 B.C. - fulfilled – 29 A.D. – between 550-570 years after it was written:

Luke 4:16-21 And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, To preach the acceptable year of the Lord. And he closed the book, and he gave it again to the minister, and sat down. And the eyes of all them that were in the synagogue were fastened on him. And he began to say unto them, **This day is this scripture fulfilled in your ears.**

Isaiah 61:1-3 (note: time won’t allow me to read this scripture, but, please, feel free to confirm this truth by a personal reading of it in your own private time).

(2). The Arrival of the Holy Spirit fulfilled scripture too (READ OUR TEXT) – Joel 2 – written between 835-800 B.C. – fulfilled – around 33 A.D. – between 835-870 years after it was written

ALSO, JESUS FORETOLD OF THE ARRIVAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT:

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; 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.*

Acts 1:4-5 And, (JESUS) being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

III. The Arrival of the Holy Spirit was an Actual Event -- a Spectacular Event!

- witnessed and confirmed by Born Again Believers in the Upper Room!
- witnessed and confirmed by unbelievers in the STREETS of JERUSALEM!
- confirmed by GOD with SIGNS and WONDERS done through the APOSTLES!
- confirmed by a GREAT REVIVAL afterwards and the GREAT HARVEST OF SOULS!

Acts 2:41-43 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 stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.

IV. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is SUBSEQUENTIAL to the EXPERIENCE of the NEW BIRTH

1. Holy Spirit Baptism was subsequential to the New Birth of Christians in the UPPER ROOM: **Acts 2**

2. Holy Spirit Baptism was subsequential to John the Baptist's birth (in his mother's womb): **Luke 1:41-4**

3. Holy Spirit Baptism was subsequential for the Believers in the Prayer Meeting in Jerusalem:

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

4. Holy Spirit Baptism was subsequential to the New Birth in Cornelius' household:

Acts 11:15-17 (Apostle Peter) And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning. Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost. Forasmuch then as God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ; what was I, that I could withstand God?

5. Holy Spirit Baptism was subsequential to the New Birth in the Revival in Samaria:

Acts 8:12,14-16 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. Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

6. Holy Spirit Baptism was subsequential to the New Birth in Ephesus:

Acts 19:2-7 He (Apostle Paul) 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. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied. And all the men were about twelve.

NOTE: HOW MUCH MORE SCRIPTURAL EVIDENCE DO YOU NEED TO BE CONVINCED THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM IS SUBSEQUENTIAL TO SALVATION?

V. SCRIPTURE DOES NOT TEACH that the HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM or the GIFTS of the SPIRIT STOPPED at the DEATH of the LAST APOSTLE. Many denominational scholars misquote scripture to justify their denominational doctrine. *Most denominational scholars use I Corinthians 13 as a "go-to" scripture to support their denominational doctrine. Let's examine it to see why we believe this scripture is taken out of context to teach that the Holy Spirit no longer works today as in the 1st church:*

I Corinthians 13:8-12 Charity never faileth: but whether there be prophecies, they shall fail; whether there be tongues, they shall cease; whether there be knowledge, it shall vanish away. For we know in part, and

we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.

(1). I Corinthians 13 is a chapter about the Superiority and Longevity of Charity (or Love). It does not teach that the Holy Spirit has altered his means of working within the church!

(2). Love will never fail – but prophecies will fail, tongues will cease, and knowledge will vanish away – LOVE WILL REMAIN BUT WHEN WILL THE OTHER 3 GIFTS STOP? IT ISN'T STATED! HOW DARE MAN TO IMPUT THEIR OWN OPINION and DECLARE THAT GOD HAS STOPPED WORKING IN THESE OTHER GIFTS WHEN THE BIBLE DOES NOT STATE SUCH A FACT!

(3). Many denominational scholars state that “we now have the completed Bible today and we no longer need TONGUES or PROPHECY”. – DON'T WE STILL NEED KNOWLEDGE? WHY STOP TWO TEMPORARY GIFTS and LEAVE only ONE (KNOWLEDGE)?

(4). There isn't a CHAPTER or VERSE IN THE Bible that teaches, “WHAT GOD GAVE to the 1st Church was ONLY for them, and never intended for other generations of Christians as WELL!

(5). The ISSUE of the COMPLETION of the BIBLE is NOT MENTIONED and is not a THEME of the CHAPTER at ALL!

(6). Even though we NOW have the COMPLETE BIBLE don't we still:

- know in part, and prophesy in part?
- work toward Christian maturity and a Christ-like nature – still speak as a child, understand as a child, and think as a child? WE HAVEN'T REACHED TOTAL PERFECTION YET!
- now see through a glass, darkly? WE HAVEN'T BE GIVEN TOTAL CLARITY of SIGHT?
- now know in part; WE HAVEN'T REACHED COMPLETE KNOWLEDGE YET!

Isn't this section of scripture talking of our PERFECTION in HEAVEN? ... but then shall I know even as also I am known!

**Closing: The Holy Spirit's Span of Time working to complete ACTS & JOEL'S PROPHECY:
THE SEASON OF THE SPIRIT – The Day of Pentecost unto the End of the Prophecy:**

Joel 2:31-32 The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and the terrible day of the LORD come. And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the LORD shall be delivered:

The sun will be black as sackcloth of hair: - sackcloth is a coarsely woven fabric, usually made of goat's hair similar in texture to BURLAP

Revelation 6:12-17 And I beheld when he had opened the sixth seal, and, lo, there was a great earthquake; and the sun became black as sackcloth of hair, and the moon became as blood; And the stars of heaven fell unto the earth, even as a fig tree casteth her untimely figs, when she is shaken of a mighty wind. And the heaven departed as a scroll when it is rolled together; and every mountain and island were moved out of their places. And the kings of the earth, and the great men, and the rich men, and the chief captains, and the mighty men, and every bondman, and every free man, hid themselves in the dens and in the rocks of the mountains; And said to the mountains and rocks, Fall on us, and hide us from the face of him that sitteth on the throne, and from the wrath of the Lamb: For the great day of his wrath is come; and who shall be able to stand?

***THE SEASON OF THE SPIRIT – from PENTECOST until the DAY of the 6th SEAL of REVELATION!
The DAY of the WRATH OF THE LAMB...“ for the great day of his wrath is come”.***