

#108 UNDERSTANDING BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Q: I love the Lord with all my heart, but I often feel powerless in my life and prayers, and find myself holding back when I try to tell my family or others about Jesus. I really want to, but the words don't come; it seems like something must be missing.

ACTS 1:8 "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto Me..."

Q: If I received the Holy Spirit when I received Jesus, then why don't I feel power? Is there another Holy Spirit? What does 'come upon you' mean?"

COLOSSIANS 2:13 "And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, hath he quickened together with him, having forgiven you all trespasses."

The Spirit of the Father conceived new life in you, like as the conception of an embryo when you believed on His name, giving you new life, and power to become His child.

JOHN 1:12-13 "But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: ¹³ which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."

Jesus gave you power to become His child by virtue of the Spirit of both Father and Son, who came to live in you. The baptism in the Holy Ghost is the promised gift of power to witness, BECAUSE you were born again of the water and of the Spirit:

JOHN 14:23 "Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him."

Like an Embryo is conceived in the womb by the seed of the father planted in the egg, giving the embryo power to be born as a child of the parent, the word of God (*the Spirit of Father and Son*) planted in your heart, conceived you as an embryo in the womb of the church, giving you power to obey the Gospel to be born again of water.

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."

<u>First Birth of Flesh</u>	<u>Second Birth of Spirit</u>
Conceived in Womb of Mother	Conceived in Womb of Church
Birth from Womb	Baptism in Water
Born of Water	Born Again of Water

JOHN 3:5 "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."

A: Being born again of Spirit means being quickened or conceived to life by the Living Word of God being planted in your heart; being born again of water is baptism in water. Both body and spirit must be born again, then God gives the gift of baptism in the Holy Spirit for power to witness.

ACTS 1:4 "And, 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."

The gift of the Spirit that causes all to drink into one Spirit is the promise of the Father. The apostles were already born again of the water and of the Spirit, having received Jesus Christ, and had been baptized in Jesus' name, when afterward, Jesus told them to wait for the promise of the Father, which is immersion in His Holy Spirit.

ACTS 1:5 "For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."

The gift of baptism in the Holy Spirit is not any one specific gift such as tongues, or teaching, but the gift is power from on high that gives us power to be witnesses, and with the baptism in the Holy Ghost after the new birth, each receives different kinds of gifts of the Spirit.

LUKE 24:48-49 "And ye are witnesses of these things. ⁴⁹ And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you; but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high."

All embryos conceived in the womb are not born of water. All who believe have been quickened to life in the womb of the church by the Spirit, but all who believe have not been born again of water like Jesus commanded us to be baptized (immersed) in water, and all have not waited for the promise of baptism in the Holy Spirit, that is for you, your children, and those afar off.

ACTS 2:38-39 "Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. ³⁹ For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call."

A: The promise of the Father for you and for those yet to be born, is to come immerse you in His Holy Spirit, giving you power to boldly proclaim the salvation of God in words that can be understood by others.

ACTS 2:7-8 "And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans? ⁸ And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?"

At Pentecost the Holy Spirit enabled them to speak languages they could not speak in their own ability, to boldly proclaim the gospel, in the language understood by those hearing.

1 CORINTHIANS 14:18-19 "I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all: Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.

A: Paul was empowered to minister both in his own language and in languages he could not speak in his own ability. The tongues Paul spoke were not random repetitious sounds, that Jesus told us not to pray repetitiously like the heathen do, but he spoke with words understood by visitors of other nations.

Matthew 6:7 "But when ye pray, use not vain repetitions, as the heathen do: for they think that they shall be heard for their much speaking."

We know that Paul did not turn this gift of the Spirit to speak in another language off and on, because he was thankful he received it more often than others. Paul also instructed us to pray in the Spirit, when the Holy Spirit prays through you in words you do not understand, and to also pray with your own understanding.

ROMANS 8:26-27 "Likewise, the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered."

The Holy Spirit of God helps us when we do not know how to pray, by praying through us with words we cannot make up on our own.

1 CORINTHIANS 14:14-15 "For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth but my understanding is unfruitful.¹⁵ What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also.....

A: Paul and Jude, spoke of this most intimate praying in the Holy Ghost when God's Spirit immerses your whole being with His presence, interceding from the depths of your heart, to the heart of the Father, with words that you do not understand, but words understood by God.

JUDE 20-21 "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life."

PSALM 42:7 "Deep calleth unto deep at the noise of thy waterspouts: all thy waves and thy billows are gone over me."

A: Jesus said that words like living water will flow up from out of your belly!

JOHN 7:38 "He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water."

A: Wait on the Lord in quiet prayer, until He comes to immerse you in His Holy Spirit with the promise of power from on high.

ACTS 4:29-31 "And now, Lord...grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, by stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus. And when they had prayed...they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness."

PRAYER: Dear Father, Thank you for saving me, and thank you that You live in me through Your Holy Spirit living in my heart. Jesus said to wait for the promise of power from on high. I yield all that I am to you, and wait for You to baptize me in your presence with power to proclaim your wonderful works, and power to pray in the Spirit through your Spirit in me, **in Jesus name, Amen.**"

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Bringing God's Word
For Life's Questions

This tract series has grown from a weekly Bible study targeting personal life issues faced by God's people through the pages of the Bible and in our lives today, while looking to the power of God's word, that comes alive through His indwelling Holy Spirit to bring truth, lasting change, and wholeness to our lives. I pray these tracts will help you to become more effective in your individual life and in opening doors to express and share your faith, that many will come to know our God of grace, mercy, love and redemption through your personal ministry to them.