

The Azusa Street Papers Overview – Holy Ghost and Fire - Uncovered
Message 22, August 21, 2022

In the Azusa Street Papers, I came across a very informative teaching entitled; ‘The Baptism with The Holy Spirit’, by William J. Seymore, that clearly lays out the Bible scripture truth on this supernatural work of the Holy Spirit which is available to all Christians today as it was powerfully demonstrated in the Book of Acts. You’re probably saying to yourself, ‘well you’ve talked about this before.’ Yes, and I’m going to talk about it again, and again and again. How can you exhaust talking about the baptism in the Holy Spirit, how can you ever exhaust it?

I believe that the continuous teaching on the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire, will be like a battering ram that will break open the nominal, religious barred gates, that have kept out the Holy Ghost and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues from Christians who have every right to receive it just like the early church received. I believe those barred gates of religion will be broken down and swing wide open and the teaching of the baptism of the Holy Spirit is going to enter the nominal churches again.

From the time of Pentecost until now, there are historic records of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues to have taken place in many churches and denominations, which today, no longer allow it to be taught about or to operate. At one point they had religious leaders that taught on the baptism in the Holy Spirit, speaking in tongues and the gifts of the Spirit were in operation.

A good example of this can be found in the Mennonite Church where history says the following about Menno Simons, the Anabaptist leader of the Mennonite Church.

*“A prominent Anabaptist leader named **Menno Simons**, whose followers became known as **Mennonites**, wrote about **speaking in tongues as if it were expected evidence of receiving the Holy Ghost**. Many early Anabaptists worshiped quite demonstratively; in the words of a secular history text some participated in **"very excited, 'enthusiastic,' evangelical practices... what Americans know as 'holy rolling'...** The congregation sometimes shouted and danced, and always sang hymns with great fervor.” In view of their doctrine and worship, it is not at all surprising that **speaking in tongues occurred among early Anabaptists.**”*

You can read about this and more [in this link](#), The Witness in Church History: Tongues.

AZUSA PAPERS says;

*“Dear one in Christ who are seeking the baptism with the Holy Ghost; do not seek for tongues but for the promise of the Father, and pray for the baptism with the Holy Ghost, and God will throw in the tongues according to Acts 2: 4. This is **Acts 2:4**; “4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”*

We read in **Acts 1:4,5**, "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. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence."

We can see clearly in Acts 1:4-5, that Jesus commanded and gave instructions for them to obey, which they did, and as a result, were baptised in the Holy Spirit and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues according to what we just read in Acts 2:4.

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Prior to all of this taking place, John the Baptist prophesied about what took place in Acts 2:4, in **Matthew 3:11**, where he says; *“11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit [a] and fire.”*

AZUSA PAPERS says;

“John, after warning the Jews and Pharisees against sin and hypocrisy, preached the doctrine of the baptism with the Holy Ghost. He said first, “Bring forth therefore, fruits meet for repentance.” God is sending out His precious ministers to preach repentance to the people and turn them from their sins and cause them to make restitution according to their ability, and to have faith in the Lord Jesus Christ and be saved. Glory to God!”

Jesus, while praying, says in **John 17:15-19** the following; *“15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify[a] them by Your truth. Your word is truth. 18 As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. 19 And for their sakes I sanctify Myself, that they also may be sanctified by the truth.”*

Sanctification is key to receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and it will require a time of waiting on the Lord, repenting of sin and being sanctified by the truth, that truth being the very person of Jesus, who is the way, the truth and the life. The disciples of Christ needed to be sanctified by Jesus while waiting on His promise in the upper room in Jerusalem, who afterwards were then baptised in the Holy Spirit and Fire.

Acts 2:1-4 says; *“2 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all [a]with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them [b]divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”*

AZUSA PAPERS says;

“And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire.” Beloved, when we receive the baptism with the Holy Ghost and fire, we surely will speak in tongues as the Spirit gives utterance. We are not seeking for tongues, but we are seeking the baptism with the Holy Ghost and fire. And when we receive it, we shall be so filled with the Holy Ghost, that He Himself will speak in the power of the Spirit. “And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.” Now, beloved, do not be too concerned about your speaking in tongues, but let the Holy Ghost give you utterance, and it will come just as freely as the air we breathe. It is nothing worked up, but it comes from the heart. “With the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth, confession is made unto salvation.” So when the Holy Ghost life comes in, the mouth opens, through the power of the Spirit in the heart. Glory to God!”

All of the disciples heard coming out of their own mouths, foreign languages that they never learned, but those who were gathered in Jerusalem for the celebration of Pentecost, heard the disciples of Christ speaking in their own languages about the wonderful works of God. The disciples did not know what they were saying but those listening, understood clearly as it was their own tongues and languages.

In **Acts 2:5-13**, we read about the crowd’s response; *“5 And there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men, from every nation under heaven. 6 And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were confused, because everyone heard them speak in his own language. 7 Then they were all amazed and marveled, saying to one another, “Look, are not all these who speak Galileans? 8 And how is it that we hear, each in our own [a]language in which we were born? 9 Parthians and Medes and Elamites, those dwelling in Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, 10 Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of*

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Libya adjoining Cyrene, visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, 11 Cretans and [b]Arabs—we hear them speaking in our own tongues the wonderful works of God.” 12 So they were all amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, “Whatever could this mean?” 13 Others mocking said, “They are full of new wine.”

In the middle of this supernatural baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues that declared the wonderful works of God to numerous foreigners in their own languages the wonderful works of God, there were those who mocked what was taking place and said that they were drunk. Let’s look at what Peter’s response is to those who mocked this supernatural occurrence.

Acts 2:14-21; *“14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, raised his voice and said to them, “Men of Judea and all who dwell in Jerusalem, let this be known to you, and heed my words. 15 For these are not drunk, as you suppose, since it is only [a]the third hour of the day. 16 But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 ‘And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. 18 And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy. 19 I will show wonders in heaven above And signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke. 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the Lord. 21 And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the Lord Shall be saved.’”*

What Joel prophesied about is what not only took place then in Acts 2:1-4, but also what has taken place from then until today and will continue on tomorrow and the following days. The prophecy is still alive and in operation today. So there is not only Bible teaching on the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues, but there is also history that is full of testimonies of Christians who received the same thing that the early disciples experienced in the upper room on the day of Pentecost. So if this is all true, then why do pastors that reside over denominations whose founders were baptized in the Holy Spirit and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues, not teach what they taught regarding it? This is a very valid question that needs to be asked and answered. But, even more valid, is to ask why are they not obeying the last command that Jesus gave to His disciples found in Acts 1:4-5? Could it be that they have become like the religious leaders who stoned and killed Stephen after what he says them in **Acts 7:51-53**? *“51 You stiff-necked[a] and uncircumcised in heart and ears! You always resist the Holy Spirit; as your fathers did, so do you. 52 Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who foretold the coming of the Just One, of whom you now have become the betrayers and murderers, 53 who have received the law by the direction of angels and have not kept it.”*

This was after he had given a long history lesson to them that revealed how backslidden they were having rejected Jesus as their Messiah, nailing Him to a cross, discrediting His resurrection, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues with signs and wonders following that prove He is alive. As we’ve read in the article above, The Witness in Church History: Tongues, it is quite a history lesson that reveals the truth that has been covered up in many denominations.

There seems to be a lot of hostility from nominal Christians, just like the Jews were to Stephen, towards Christians that are Baptised in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, to the point of accrediting speaking in tongues and the gifts of the Holy Spirit to be that of the devil. In case you didn’t know, this is what is deemed to be blasphemy against the Holy Spirit and is unforgivable.

Jesus says this in **Matthew 12:31-32**; *“31 “Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. 32 Anyone who speaks a word against the*

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Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.”

If you're accrediting the baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues to be that of the devil, it's over for you, there is no forgiveness now or for eternity. It's blasphemy against the Holy Spirit. You may say that it sounds too extreme and where is the forgiveness of Christ? Well, I didn't write it, Jesus said this. He said, you can say whatever you want about Him, or you can add about His disciples or His mother or His brothers, but if you accredit the works of the Holy Spirit to being that of the devil, it's blasphemy. It won't be forgiven, ever.

It's a pretty sobering scripture right from the mouth of Jesus, who prior to saying this is accused of healing a deaf and mute man using the powers of Beelzebub, the ruler of demons. **Matthew 12: 22-32**; “²² Then one was brought to Him who was demon-possessed, blind and mute; and He healed him, so that the ^[d]blind and mute man both spoke and saw. ²³ And all the multitudes were amazed and said, “Could this be the Son of David?” ²⁴ Now when the Pharisees heard it they said, “This fellow does not cast out demons except by ^[e]Beelzebub, the ruler of the demons.” ²⁵ But Jesus knew their thoughts, and said to them: “Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation, and every city or house divided against itself will not stand. ²⁶ If Satan casts out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then will his kingdom stand? ²⁷ And if I cast out demons by Beelzebub, by whom do your sons cast them out? Therefore they shall be your judges. ²⁸ But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you. ²⁹ Or how can one enter a strong man's house and plunder his goods, unless he first binds the strong man? And then he will plunder his house. ³⁰ He who is not with Me is against Me, and he who does not gather with Me scatters abroad.

The Unpardonable Sin

³¹ “Therefore I say to you, every sin and blasphemy will be forgiven men, but the blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven men. ³² Anyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man, it will be forgiven him; but whoever speaks against the Holy Spirit, it will not be forgiven him, either in this age or in the age to come.”

Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit to do these works. Peter testifies to this when he's preaching to Cornelius at his home. It says in **Acts 10:38**; “how **God** anointed **Jesus** of Nazareth with the **Holy Spirit** and with **power**, who went about **doing good** and **healing all who were oppressed by the devil**, for God was with **Him**.”

A word of caution, be careful how you talk about the Holy Spirit! Holy Spirit has been made too relevant and real as we read about Him in the Bible, and then for a Christian to accredit Holy Spirit's work to be that of the devil, it's over for them, there is no opportunity for repentance. You can't blaspheme the Holy Spirit and get away with it. You may have not said anything vocally, but even if you're contemplating it in your heart, repent today. These are eternal actions; they count for eternity.

Please click on this [link to read the prophecies](#) that came forth at the church service.