

ILLUSTRATED MESSAGE SERIES BY PASTOR RICHARD BASED ON  
THE AZUSA STREET PAPERS

**The Azusa Street Papers Overview – Justified, Sanctified, and Baptised with the Holy Ghost and Fire!**  
**Message 19, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022**

These words, justified, sanctified and baptised with the Holy Ghost and fire are what every born again Christian needs to experience. The question is, have you received it all? You can't be baptized with the Holy Spirit if you haven't been justified or sanctified. It might be part of the reason why many Christians are not baptized with the Holy Spirit because they haven't followed the right course or protocol, obeying the commandment of Jesus and what He laid out as far as a provision, a teaching and instruction to follow.

As we studied last week about what is required to be raptured by the Lord, it would be good to look at what each of these three requirements are and how to acquire all three that qualifies you to be raptured and not left behind to face the tribulation period. No one wants to face the tribulation, unless they have a martyr complex or think it's a heroic thing to do to allow your head to be decapitated. That doesn't 'float my boat', I'd rather be sitting at the marriage supper of the Lamb having obeyed Jesus.

So what exactly makes you justified before the Lord, is that you have become born again by repenting of your sins and asking Jesus to come into your body and become Lord of your life. Yes, I said to come into your body. You have to ask Jesus to come into your body and His Spirit comes into you making you His temple. That is what makes you born again. It's not going to church that makes you born again, it's you inviting the Holy Spirit to come into your church, your temple, your body which becomes the temple of the Holy Spirit. We're not neglecting the local church but God does not dwell in temples made by man any more, He comes to dwell inside men, women and children. That's why He'd like to get a lot of you out of the way so He can come and dwell in you. There has to be a death to self so that Jesus can come live inside of you, there is no other way to be born again.

ASUZA PAPERS says;

*"RECEIVE YE THE HOLY GHOST." 1.—The first step in seeking the baptism with the Holy Ghost, is to have a clear knowledge of the new birth in our souls, which is the first work of grace and brings everlasting life to our souls. "Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God." Every one of us that repents of our sins and turns to the Lord Jesus with faith in Him, receives forgiveness of sins. Justification and regeneration are simultaneous. The pardoned sinner becomes a child of God in justification."*

Jesus says in **John 3:1-5**; "3 There was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. 2 This man came to Jesus by night and said to Him, "Rabbi, we know that You are a teacher come from God; for no one can do these signs that You do unless God is with him." 3 Jesus answered and said to him, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born [a]gain, he cannot see the kingdom of God." 4 Nicodemus said to Him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" 5 Jesus answered, "Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God."

What Jesus is saying is that you have to be born into this world by the water of your mother's womb, and you have to be born again spiritually by believing in Jesus and receiving His Spirit into your body that then becomes the temple of the Holy Spirit. Believing isn't enough though to be born again, you have to receive Jesus into your heart by the Holy Spirit who will then make you a new creation.

In **John 3:16-18**, Jesus speaks this of Himself; "16 For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. 17 For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved. 18 "He who

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*believes in Him is not condemned; but he who does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only begotten Son of God.”*

It's pretty clear that a person has to be born again to enter the kingdom of heaven, so let's look at the justification that takes place in a newborn Christian by faith, which qualifies them to inherit eternal life.

**Titus 3:4-7** says; *“4 But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”*

**Romans 3:24-26** says; *“24 being justified [a]freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, 25 whom God set forth as a [b]propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, 26 to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”*

We can conclude that a Christian is not justified by works of the law, and also, we can see in the following scripture that what determines our being truly born again, is that we obey His commandments.

**1 John 5:1-5** says; *“5 Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves Him who begot also loves him who is begotten of Him. 2 By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and keep His commandments. 3 For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments. And His commandments are not burdensome. 4 For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world—[a]our faith. 5 Who is he who overcomes the world, but he who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?”*

There are people who say that they truly believe in Jesus and if left behind after the rapture, would not have a problem with letting their head roll as a martyr, rather than take the mark of the beast. I believe a lot of that is just talk, because if they are not willing give their lives up now when the grass is green, it will be difficult to do so when it is dry during the tribulation. I don't doubt that they truly believe, but it's obvious that they are not willing to make Jesus Lord of their lives now, and become born-again and justified by faith in His salvation plan for their lives. Believing is one thing, but being born-again and justified before God by faith is another, and simply believing without having been born again will not give you the justification that is needed to enter the kingdom of heaven. If simply believing in Jesus grants you salvation, then the fallen angels and Satan himself would qualify to enter heaven, because they believe in Jesus and but their knees are knocking with dreaded fear of His judgement to come on them.

**James 2:18-20** says; *“18 But someone will say, “You have faith, and I have works.” Show me your faith without [a]your works, and I will show you my faith by [b]my works. 19 You believe that there is one God. You do well. Even the demons believe—and tremble! 20 But do you want to know, O foolish man, that faith without works is [c]dead?”*

This is what separates those that are truly born again and those that simply believe in Jesus, and it is displayed in their willingness to repent and obey Jesus' commandments. You hear this frequently from sinners, they'll be cursing, speaking profanity etc., and yet they say, 'we believe', but just believing doesn't get you into heaven. Justification is an act of grace, that qualifies you to enter heaven, but it cannot be obtained unless you are born again of His Spirit. What gains you entrance into heaven is obedience to what Jesus said to do.

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The next step that should follow being born again and justified, is the sanctification of one's self unto God by obeying His commandments and repenting of sin when tempted. When a Christian is living a sanctified life, they are set apart unto God by their acts of obedience to His Lordship in their lives and works out their salvation with fear and trembling. They're the one's who have their lamps trimmed and burning with their vessels full of the oil of the Holy Spirit.

As we said in the last message, you can be born again but not baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues and make it to heaven if you die, but it's not God's best for your life. You can even be living a fully sanctified life yet reject the teaching on the baptism in the Holy Spirit believing that you are baptized in the Holy Spirit because of living a sanctified life and think that you don't need to speak in tongues. Imagine that! You can get to that point in life where you reject the last command of Christ.

**Philippians 2:12-16** says; *"12 Therefore, my beloved, as you have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; 13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. 14 Do all things without [a]complaining and disputing,[b] 15 that you may become blameless and [c]harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast the word of life, so that I may rejoice in the day of Christ that I have not run in vain or labored in vain."*

The Apostle Paul says to Timothy in **2 Timothy 2:19-21**; *"19 Nevertheless the solid foundation of God stands, having this seal: "The Lord knows those who are His," and, "Let everyone who names the name of [a]Christ depart from iniquity." 20 But in a great house there are not only vessels of gold and silver, but also of wood and clay, some for honor and some for dishonor. 21 Therefore if anyone cleanses himself from the latter, he will be a vessel for honor, [b]sanctified and useful for the Master, prepared for every good work."*

Even after being baptized in the Holy Spirit, a Christian must continually sanctify themselves to see the gifts of the Holy Spirit in operation in their lives. We're not talking about being 'sanctimonious', but about obeying Jesus' commandments. Your obedience will see you baptized in the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues, it's your obedience that will keep you from the tribulation, it's your obedience that will grant you entrance to the marriage supper of the Lamb via the rapture. Throughout the whole Bible, Old and New Testament, God requires obedience to all His commands.

**1 Thessalonians 5:23** says; *"23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify[a] you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."*

Prior to the early disciples receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit, they were born again by His Spirit when Jesus appeared unto them after He rose from the dead. He appeared in many ways, walking through walls and doors, or appearing and disappearing. The whole resurrection was supernatural. Why do we find it hard to believe that he could appear and disappear or eat food? Those disciples who Jesus met on the road to Emmaus didn't recognize Him until He broke bread with them.

We read how Jesus commissioned His Apostles in **John 20:19-23**; *"19 Then, the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were [a]assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace be with you." 20 When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. 23 If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.""*

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There was an impartation of authority that was given to the disciples that was far beyond what they had had. This is not to be confused with the baptism of the Holy Spirit which they were to receive later, but this is where they were born again of His Spirit. Up until this point, the Apostles were not born again but had experienced the supernatural demonstrations of signs and wonders and miracles that they did by praying in the name of Jesus, but after Jesus commissioned them and breathed on them, they were born again of His Spirit. It seems like Jesus is the only one performing signs, wonders and miracles for a period of 40 days, where appeared unto His disciples and taught them many things and performed many miracles that were never documented.

**Luke 9: 49-50** says; *“49 Now John answered and said, “Master, we saw someone casting out demons in Your name, and we forbade him because he does not follow with us.” 50 But Jesus said to him, “Do not forbid him, for he who is not against [h]us is on [i]our side.”*

This shows how many disciples of Jesus were using His name to do the miraculous, more than the 12 apostles. But Jesus knew, and that’s why He commanded them to wait to receive even more power that would not just be with them, but in them by receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Jesus says in **John 20:30-31**; *“30 And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; 31 but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.”*

**Acts 1:1-3** says; *“The former account I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, 2 until the day in which [a]He was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen, 3 to whom He also presented Himself alive after His suffering by many [b]infallible proofs, being seen by them during forty days and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God.”*

It could seem like these forty days that Jesus was weaning His disciples off of Himself yet preparing them for something greater, which was the baptism in the Holy Spirit which He promised them they would receive from the Father.

Jesus not only knew that His disciples needed forty days of witnessing His supernatural demonstrations and teachings pertaining to the Kingdom of God, but also knew that after He would ascend to Heaven, they would need to wait and sanctify themselves in Jerusalem for ten days until they would receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire that He promised them in **Acts 1:4-8**. *“4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” 6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be [c]witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”*

It was in the upper room that a 10-day period of sanctification took place, where the disciples obeyed Jesus and waited for the promise of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 1:12-14** says; *“12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey. 13 And when they had entered, they went up into the upper room where they were staying: Peter, James, John, and Andrew; Philip and Thomas; Bartholomew and Matthew; James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot; and Judas the son of James. 14 These all continued with one [a]accord in prayer [b]and supplication, with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with His brothers.”*

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ASUZA PAPERS says;

*“The next step for us is to have a clear knowledge, by the Holy Spirit, of the second work of grace wrought in our hearts by the power of the Blood and the Holy Ghost. Heb. 10:14,15, “For by one offering, He hath perfected forever them that are sanctified, whereof the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us.” The Scripture also teaches (Heb. 2:11), “For both He that sanctified and they who are sanctified are all of one; for which cause He is not ashamed to call them brethren.” So we have Christ crowned and enthroned in our hearts, the tree of life. We have the brooks and streams of salvation flowing in our souls, but praise God, we can have the rivers. For the Lord Jesus says, “He that believeth on me, as the Scripture hath said, out of his innermost being shall flow rivers of living water. This spake He of the Spirit, for the Holy Ghost was not yet given.” But, praise our God, He is now given and being poured out upon all flesh. All races, nations, and tongues are receiving the baptism with the Holy Ghost and fire, according to the prophecy of Joel.”*

Sanctification puts you in a closer position with Jesus, because in that position or process, Jesus is not ashamed to call you brother. You’re walking upright and living wholly sanctified unto Him. I don’t think a formula can be put on it as to when you receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit, but there is a process of a holy life that Jesus is looking for and needing before that supernatural impartation takes place.

If when the disciples received the Holy Spirit in John 20:19-23 was enough for them, Jesus would have not left them with another command before He ascended to heaven in Acts 1:4-8, for them to wait in Jerusalem until they were baptised with the Holy Spirit and fire. Apparently believing in Jesus and being born again and justified was not enough to fulfill the calls on their lives to be His disciples, and if so, why are so many Christians today exempt from obeying Jesus’ last command?

I can see that many people who visit our website would say, ‘when is he going to stop talking about the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We’ve heard that so much, can we move on to something else please? When is he going to stop speaking in tongues? Can we move on please?’ In saying that, they’re actually saying, ‘can we move backwards please? Can we go back please, we don’t want to go forward with you in this teaching.’ That kind of thinking is going to have you miss the rapture to face horrific tribulation, that kind of thinking will give you entrance into the kingdom of heaven if you die, but you’re going to be standing before Jesus pretty empty handed because you disobeyed His last command.

ASUZA PAPERS says;

*“Many precious souls believe today that in sanctification they have it all, that they have already the baptism with the Holy Ghost or enduement of power; but in that day, they will find they are mistaken. They say, Away with this third work. What is the difference, dear ones, if it takes 300 works? We want to be ready to meet the bridegroom.”*

The third work of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire has been thought to be found to have occurred upon sanctification, but this could not be farther from the truth. That teaching has rejected the last words that Christ gave His Church to obey.

ASUZA PAPERS says;

*“3.—When we have a clear knowledge of justification and sanctification, through the precious Blood of Jesus Christ in our hearts, then we can be a recipient of the baptism with the Holy Ghost. Many people today are sanctified, cleansed from all sin, and perfectly consecrated to God, but they have never obeyed the Lord according to Acts 1:4, 5, 8 and Luke 24:39, for their real personal Pentecost, the enduement of power for service and work and for sealing unto the day of redemption.”*

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**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.*”

ASUZAPAPERS says;

*“The baptism with the Holy Ghost is a free gift without repentance, upon the sanctified, cleansed vessel. II Cor.1:21-22, “Now He which establisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God, who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.” Praise our God for the sealing of the Holy Spirit unto the day of redemption.”*

If the rapture can occur at any time, I don’t think it’s worth taking the risk of being left behind for having not obeyed Jesus’ last command to His disciples to be baptised in the Holy Spirit and fire. I’d rather be dining with Jesus for seven years at the marriage supper of the Lamb than go thru the tribulation period and have to give up my life as a martyr to make it into heaven by the skin of my teeth. It’s better to obey him now than later, the rewards are greater.

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