Fleshly Carnal Emotion or Righteous Knowledge?

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We need to understand there are two separate experiences with the Holy Spirit. The first is the salvation of your eternal Soul, and the second is for power to witness (minister). There is much confusion in the churches on this subject.

The First Experience; (Saved, Born Again, and in God's Kingdom)

Then the same day at evening, being the first day of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled for fear of the Jews, came Jesus and stood in the midst, and saith unto them, Peace be unto you. And when he had so said, he shewed unto them his hands and his side. Then were the disciples glad, when they saw the Lord. Then said Jesus to them again, Peace be unto you: as my Father hath sent me, even so send I you. And when he had said this, **he breathed on them**, and **saith unto them**, **Receive ye the Holy Ghost**: (John 20:19-22)

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now **if any man have not the Spirit of Christ**, **he is none of his**. (Rom. 8:9)

Notice the disciples were Born Again at this point. They were saved and going to Heaven. When you receive the Spirit you are Saved, Born Again, Justified, Sanctified, Regenerated, and a New Creation in Christ Jesus.

Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, <u>unless one is born again he</u> <u>cannot see the kingdom of God</u>." 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?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. <u>That which is born of the flesh is flesh</u>, and <u>that which is born of the Spirit is spirit</u>. (John 3:3-6) ESVS

What Exactly Is "BORN AGAIN"

Simply stated, Christ comes to live eternally within you through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit Baptizes you into Christ (Rom. 6:3-11). You no longer live for this sick world, you now live to please God in Christ. (Phil. 3:7-11; Gal. 2:20,21):

Being born again, <u>not of corruptible seed</u>, but of incorruptible, by the word of God, which liveth and abideth for ever. (1 Pet. 1:23) *Jesus Christ is the Word of God.* (John 1:1-14)

The Second Experience: (Experience the Power of God)

The Pentecostal Church has a secondary work of Grace from that same Holy Spirit. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues (Glossolalia). God's purpose in this is to empower the believer to witness Christ with power and authority. That said, I must explain this because unfortunately there are some fake Pentecostal Churches deceiving the people. Power to witness does not mean we scream more, or do an emotional bugalu behind the pulpit. It simply means we are backed by the Holy Spirit with tongues, signs, and wonders, exerting authority over evil spirits. I must also say, we must use the gift of discernment because the Devil has the power to perform fake miracles. But miracles from God are True and destroy the works of the Devil.

But <u>ye shall receive power</u>, <u>after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you</u>: and <u>ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem</u>, and <u>in all Judaea</u>, and <u>in Samaria</u>, and <u>unto the uttermost part of the earth</u>. (Acts 1:8)

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were <u>all with one accord</u> in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And <u>there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire</u>, and <u>it sat upon each of them</u>. And they were <u>all filled with the Holy Ghost</u>, and <u>began to speak with other tongues</u>, <u>as the Spirit gave them utterance</u>. (Acts 2:1-4)

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

The greatest strength of the Pentecostal Church is to bring in the end time harvest. This could not be done without the Power of the Holy Spirit. The Pentecostal Church around the World has been growing so fast that some historians refer to the 20th century as the Pentecostal Century.

The Spirit is backing them up with miracles and healing powers. Also giving them great boldness to proclaim the name of Jesus under very difficult circumstances. While Traditional Churches are in neutral or losing members, the people are flooding Pentecostal Churches. One reason is the people experience God personally, and the Moving of the Holy Spirit in a supernatural way. The people are finding out God is real and wants to fellowship with his people (Believers). Pentecost enables ordinary disciples to do extraordinary things for God. Pentecost power has been manifested throughout history following the apostolic era. Scholars believe this end time harvest (flow of the Spirit in the 20th Century) started in a Bible school in Topeka Kansas which blossomed in the Azusa Street revival (California), from there it sent the fire of the Spirit around the world. Although everyone should seek this second Grace in the Holy Spirit, it should be noted that tongues (Glossolalia) is not a sign of Christian maturity. Baptism in the Spirit and speaking in tongues are not a guarantee of a life dramatically marked by the fruit of the Spirit. The Church at Corinth was highly gifted with many gifts but were far from mature. Christian maturity and Holy Ghost power must go hand in hand! As I close, remember, speaking in tongues is not a sign of Christian maturity nor is a lack of tongues a sign of immaturity.

And I say unto you, <u>Ask</u>, <u>and it shall be given you</u>; <u>seek</u>, <u>and ye shall find</u>; <u>knock</u>, <u>and it shall be opened unto you</u>. For <u>every one that asketh receiveth</u>; and <u>he that seeketh findeth</u>; and <u>to him that knocketh it shall be opened</u>. 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? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? <u>If ye then</u>, <u>being evil</u>, <u>know how to give good gifts unto your children</u>: <u>how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him</u>? (Luke 11:9-13)

Rick Renner (His Study)

Jesus had to become a man just like us to defeat sin and give us the Power of God to overcome the world, the flesh, and the devil. Jesus was baptized in water (like us), and baptized with the Holy Spirit (like us). Remember in (John 20:19-22) the disciples received the Holy Spirit (Born Again). But many days later Jesus commanded them to wait in a certain place to receive the promise of the Father, the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

And, being assembled together with them, <u>commanded them that they should</u> <u>not depart from Jerusalem</u>, <u>but wait for the promise of the Father</u>, which, saith he, ye have heard of me. (Acts 1:4)

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit will give you the power to overcome evil. Immediately after Jesus received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, He went to the wilderness to be tempted and confront the devil. Jesus needed the power of the Holy Spirit to overcome this horrible temptation. Jesus was teaching us of the overcoming power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit in you is more powerful than all the powers of hell, even if you are in a weak physical state.

I indeed <u>baptize you in water unto repentance</u>: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: <u>he shall baptize you in the Holy Spirit and in fire</u>: whose fan is in his hand, and he will thoroughly cleanse his threshing-floor; and he will gather his wheat into the garner, but the chaff he will burn up with unquenchable fire. Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to the Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John would have hindered him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? But Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffereth him. And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway <u>from the water</u>: and lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and <u>he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove</u>, and <u>coming upon him</u>. (Matt. 3:11-16) ASV

Not only is Jesus your savior, but the Baptizer in the Holy Spirit. In this verse he introduces Jesus as the Baptizer and not the Savior. Jesus not only wants to save you, but give you the power to overcome the world, the flesh, and the devil. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit totally saturates you and transforms you into the image of Jesus Christ. Notice the Spirit <u>descended UPON HIM</u>. Not in Him. When the Spirit <u>came upon Him He received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit</u>.

Then Jesus <u>was led up by the Spirit</u> into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "<u>It is written</u>, "'<u>Man shall not live</u> <u>by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God</u>."

Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, "He will command his angels concerning you," and "On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone." Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test." Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written, "You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve."

Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

(Matt. 4:1-11) ESVS

Immediately Jesus was lead to the wilderness <u>by the Spirit</u> to be tempted and confronted by the devil. Even in His weakened state Jesus overcame everything the devil threw at Him through the power of the Holy Spirit. That cowardly devil will attack you when you are at your weakest point. But the Holy Spirit will always empower you to defeat the devil no matter what your condition is.

And he was preaching, saying, "After me One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to bend down and untie the straps of His sandals. "I baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." (Mark 1:7,8) NASB

To Baptize with the Holy Ghost and Fire means, to totally immerse you into the Holy Spirit and transform you from the inside out. It is likened to dipping a garment in a color dye for a long time so it soaks in all the color, and is permanently stained to another color. This causes the total appearance of the garment to change permanently. That's what Mark is trying to tell us; soaking up the Holy Spirit's power and putting on the fulness of Jesus.

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And immediately coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opening, and the Spirit, like a dove, **descending upon Him**. (Mark 1:9,10) NASB

Notice again, the Spirit came <u>to rest upon</u> Jesus, it was at this point He received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Matthew and Mark explain it the same way.

Finally, Power to do What?

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.

(Luke 4:18,19)