

The Gift of the Holy Spirit

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The Problem and Confusion Between the Churches

The traditional church believes in a single experience with the Holy Spirit (born again). While the Pentecost church believes in two separate experiences with the Holy Spirit. Receive the Spirit (John 20:22) - Traditional church; and be filled by the same Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues (Acts 2: 1-18) Pentecostal church: The traditional Church says that this experience is no longer valid and it was an only one time event. But the scriptures and personal experience totally contradict it. Where does it tell us (in the scriptures) that this event stopped? And what of the millions of experiences that people have had and are having now?

Jesus Appears to the Disciples for the First Time

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)

In this Encounter with Christ they Received the Holy Spirit and were Born Again

Many Days After this Event; He Ordered them: Do not leave Jerusalem, but Wait for the Promise of the Father

To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God: 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**.

(Acts 1:3-5)

On the day of Pentecost all the believers were meeting together in one place. Suddenly, there was a sound from heaven like the roaring of a mighty windstorm, and it filled the house where they were sitting. Then, what looked like flames or tongues of fire appeared and settled on each of them. And **everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.** (Acts 2:1-4)

Part of the Confusion is this;

There are Three Essential New Testament Baptisms

The English word "**baptism**" comes from the Greek word "**baptizo**," which is translated to dip, plunge, immerse, submerge, bury or overwhelm. Example - (Matthew 3:11) TEV

I baptize you with water (*water baptism*) to show that you have repented, but the one who will come after me will **baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire** (*baptism with the Holy Spirit*). He is much greater than I am; and I am not good enough even to carry his sandals. (Matt. 3:11)

Let's Take a Closer Look at the Three Baptisms

1). - The Holy Spirit Baptizes us into Jesus (Salvation through the Cross)

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**. (1 Cor. 12:13)

For as many of you as have been **baptized into Christ** have **put on Christ**. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are **all one in Christ Jesus**. And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs **according to the promise**. (Gal. 3:27-29)

Know ye not, that so many of us as were **baptized into Jesus Christ** were **baptized into his death**? Therefore **we are buried with him by baptism into death**: that **like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father**, even so **we also should walk in newness of life**. For if we **have been planted together in the likeness of his death**, **we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection**: (Rom. 6:3-5)

Whom also ye are **circumcised** with the **circumcision made without hands**, in putting off the body of the sins of the flesh by the **circumcision of Christ**: **Buried with him in baptism**, wherein also **ye are risen with him through the faith** of the operation of God, who hath raised him from the dead. And you, being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh, **hath he quickened together with him**, having **forgiven you all trespasses**; **Blotting out** the handwriting of ordinances that was against us, which was contrary to us, and took it out of the way, **nailing it to his cross**: (Col. 2:11-14)

2. Water Baptism (human administrators) *Not the Holy Spirit*

The baptism mentioned in Matt. 28:19 had human administrators. Christ commissioned the apostles to go and make disciples, baptizing them in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Inasmuch as an apostle could not baptize “in the Spirit” (only Christ could do that - Matt. 3:11), one is forced to conclude that the baptism of (Matt. 28:19) is water baptism, not Spirit baptism.

3. Jesus Baptizes us in / with the Holy Spirit (power to witness)

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere - in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” (Acts 1:8) NLT

John answered them all, “I baptize you with water, but one more powerful than I am is coming - I am not worthy to untie the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. (Luke 3:16) NET

I didn't know he was the one, but when God sent me to baptize with water, he told me, ‘The one on whom you see the Spirit descend and rest is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit.’ I saw this happen to Jesus, so I testify that he is the Chosen One of God.” (John 1:33,34) NLT

Samaria Believes, but has not been Baptized in the SPIRIT

Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God (they believed), 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.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. (Acts 8:14-17)

Did You Receive the Holy Spirit when You Believed?

Why would the great Apostle Paul ask such a question?

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul went through the inland regions and came to Ephesus. He found some disciples (Believers) there and said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” They replied, “No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” So Paul said, “Into what then were you baptized?” “Into John’s baptism,” they replied. Paul said, “John baptized with a baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus.”

When they heard this, **they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus** (*Water Baptized*), and **when Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them** (*Baptized in/with the Holy Spirit*), **and they began to speak in tongues and to prophesy**. Now there were about twelve men in all.

(Acts 19:1-7) NET

Main Point; How do we Receive the Holy Spirit?

Paul said; "WE PREACH CHRIST CRUCIFIED!" (1 Cor. 1:23)

*Our Victory against the world, the flesh, and the devil is Only found in the Holy Spirit. And remember, the Holy Spirit can only work through the CROSS of Jesus Christ. The Holy Spirit works entirely within the Parameters of the CROSS of Jesus Christ. He (the Holy Spirit) **Will Not Work Outside of those Parameters**. It is the **Cross that Gives the Holy Spirit the Legal Right to Work on our Behalf**. Many are seeking the Help of the Holy Spirit in certain situations but are not receiving it, because they do not understand the Cross properly. **Only the Cross** will move God the Father to give us the Victory “nothing else! The Gifts do not give Victory, Eternal life, Obedience, etc..., they can **only edify the Church**.*

For the **preaching of the cross** is to them **that perish foolishness**; but unto **us which are saved it is the power of God**. (1 Cor. 1:18)

Just think how much **worse the punishment will be** for **those who have trampled on the Son of God**, and **have treated the blood of the covenant, which made us holy**, as if it were **common and unholy**, and have **insulted and disdained the Holy Spirit** who brings **God’s mercy to us**. (Heb. 10:29)

Take Note;

*The term Pentecost comes from the Greek Πεντηκοστή (Pentēkostē) which means "**Fifty**". It refers to the festival celebrated on the fiftieth day after Easter, also known as the "Feast of Weeks" and the "**Feast of 50 days**" in the rabbinical tradition. And **40 days after Jesus rose from the dead (10 days after he ascended into heaven)**, that promise was fulfilled when Peter and the early Church were in Jerusalem for Pentecost:*