

BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

*“I will pray unto the Father, and he will give you another Holy Spirit,
that he may abide with you for ever – the Ruach, Spirit of Truth,
which the world is not able to receive because it does not see him and does not know him.
But you do know him, because he is in you now, and he will be in you.”*
John 14:15-17

Relationship with the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit seems to be the least understood and least appreciated of the Holy Trinity. Yet it is very popular to seek the gifts of the Holy Spirit — sharing words of wisdom, teaching, faith, healing, working miracles, speaking God’s word, discerning between the Holy Spirit and false (demon) spirits, speaking in tongues, interpreting tongues.

Seeking gifts of the Holy Spirit without genuinely seeking to know and have a relationship with the Holy Spirit is opportunistic. It is akin to seeking to know someone just because you want a ride in their nice car, or because you want special favors from them — to use their beach house or borrow money. I believe this is why there are not more Believers truly baptized in the Holy Spirit. There is an insensitivity, a lack of true respect and comprehension for the Holy Spirit as his own person. Clearly Jesus says:

*“But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away;
for if I do not go away, the Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor,
Counselor, Strengthenener, Standby) will not come to you;
but if I go, I will send Him (the Holy Spirit) to you
[to be in close fellowship with you].”*
John 16:7

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So 50 days after Jesus' resurrection, 10 days after His ascension into Heaven, the disciples gathered together and prayed in the Upper Room, and received the promised baptism by fire, the Holy Spirit.

Like a Strong Wind: External to Internal

The Holy Spirit is experienced as an external presence that then becomes internalized.

“When the Feast of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

Without warning there was a sound like a strong wind, gale force

— no one could tell where it came from.

It filled the whole building.

Then, like a wildfire, the Holy Spirit spread through their ranks,

and they started speaking in a number of different languages

as the Spirit prompted them.”

Acts 2:1-4

3 S's Circumstances for Holy Spirit's Coming

1. Solidarity - In Community, Union, Agreement

- ◆ *“They agreed they were in this for good, completely together in prayer, the women included. Also Jesus' mother, Mary, and his brothers.” Acts 1:14*
- ◆ Note that it was not just the 11 apostles, but the women, Jesus' mother Mary and his brothers were also present for the Pentecost gift of the Holy Spirit. All 120 of them were present and therefore received this gift of the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ *“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.” Acts 2:1*

2. Suddenly

- ◆ Whilst there is often an anticipation of receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit, there is an element of 'suddenly' to it.
- ◆ *“And suddenly a sound came from heaven like a rushing violent wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.” Acts 2:2*

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3. Sanctification

- ◆ In some ways, set apart and having set aside things of this world that would stand in the way of a true and pure relationship with the Holy Spirit.

3 Signs of the Holy Spirit Baptism:

The Beginning of a Transformational Experience

1. New Way

- ◆ “A sense of awe was felt by everyone, and many wonders and signs (attesting miracles) were taking place through the apostles.” Acts 2:43
- ◆ With the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, come new abilities, beyond the natural or old ways.

2. New Heart

3. New Life

“One Lord, one faith, one baptism.”
Ephesians 4:5

Throne of Grace for Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

This is a protocol going before God’s Throne of Grace to request and prepare to receive baptism in the Holy Spirit. ***This is truly a gift and most Believers never actually enter into this deeper baptism.*** They do not seek it or they they do not desire it or they mistake activation with demon spirits as baptism in the Holy Spirit. Most choose to stay on spiritual milk their whole life, missing out on this amazing gift of the New Covenant. While this is offered and made available to all through the New Covenant, there is a circumcision of mind and heart, a purification and sanctification, that accompany a true baptism in the Holy Spirit.

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1. Going Before God's Throne of Grace

Dear Heavenly Father, I put on the robe of Yeshua's righteousness according to Isaiah 61 and I loose the Blood of Jesus Yeshua over myself to enter into Your Court of Grace sanctified, in praise and thanksgiving, in love and gratitude.

I come before Your Throne of Grace to ask for baptism in the Holy Spirit, and to ask for Your help to prepare me to receive this precious gift. Surely the cornerstone of my request comes from Your own Word, Luke 11:13, which says: *"If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?"*

Well Lord God my Father, I am asking! I am asking You to help me know and be one with the Holy Spirit, to walk in unity with Him in service to You. I asking You to purify and sanctify me to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. I understand that this is a precious gift and commit to not taking it for granted, but rather, cherishing it as a part of my own flesh and soul.

2. Petitions to Receive Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Dear Heavenly Father, I ask for Your grace and Your help to prepare me to receive baptism in the Holy Spirit. I understand that while this is offered and made available to all through the New Covenant, there is a circumcision of mind and heart, a purification and sanctification, that must accompany a true baptism in the Holy Spirit. I submit myself to You for this preparation now, and petition You for my baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Dissolution of Divisiveness, Union in the Spirit

◆ Dear Heavenly Father, I understand by 1 Corinthians 12:13 that true baptism in the Holy Spirit dissolves divisiveness, because divisiveness lives and thrives in the ego mind. The Holy Spirit is an extension of Your own heart and brings union in Your love. I pray to receive this union in Your Spirit, that I may perfect love.

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- ◆ 1 Corinthians 12:13 says: *“For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.”*
- ◆ Ephesians 2:13-16 proclaims: *“But now [at this very moment] in Christ Jesus you who once were far away [from God] have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For He Himself is our peace and our bond of unity. He who made both groups—[Jews and Gentiles]—into one body and broke down the barrier, the dividing wall [of spiritual antagonism between us], by abolishing in His [own crucified] flesh the hostility caused by the Law with its commandments contained in ordinances [which He satisfied]; so that in Himself He might make the two into one new man, thereby establishing peace. And might reconcile them both [Jew and Gentile, united] in one body to God through the cross, thereby putting to death the hostility.”*
- ◆ 1 John 4:12-13 says: *“But if we love one another [with unselfish concern], God abides in us, and His love is completed and perfected **in** us. By this we know [with confident assurance] that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given to us His [Holy] Spirit.”* Verse 18 continues: *“Perfect (complete, full-grown) love drives out fear, because fear involves [the expectation of divine] punishment, so the one who is afraid [of God’s judgment] is not perfected in love [has not grown into a sufficient understanding of God’s love].”*

Remove that which Dissipates

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Your Word in Ephesians 5:18 says: *“And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.”*
- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, I lay at Your feet and at the feet of our Lord Jesus Christ, all that would dissipate or block my being filled with Your Holy Spirit; be they excesses that I indulge in, addictions, attachments, bad habits (mental, emotional or physical habits). [Name them specifically.]

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Repentance Precedes Baptism

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, I recognize and respect that repentance is an important part of preparation to be truly baptized in the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ In Acts 2:38, Apostle Peter said to them, *“Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*
- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, I commit to daily self-examination to clean my heart white as snow, to be a worthy and noble dwelling place for Your Holy Spirit.

Baptism is Necessary to Enter the Kingdom of God

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, in John 3:5, *“Jesus answered, “Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”*
- ◆ Dear Lord God, Jesus clearly teaches that religion alone cannot satisfy the requirements for entering into Your Kingdom. There must be a cleansing of the heart and the inner life. I commit to this cleansing as part of my daily spiritual hygiene, and also in recognition of the holiness and precious gift that is entry into Your Kingdom of Heaven.

Power of the Holy Spirit Brings Boldness

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Acts 1:8 declares: *“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”*
- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, help me to be worthy to be clothed with power from on high, according to Luke 24:49: *“And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high.”*
- ◆ Mark 16:17 says: *“These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues.”* Thank you God, for putting in me new boldness and fearlessness to share Your Living Word.

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- ◆ Surely Lord God, anyone who is truly baptized in Your Holy Spirit WILL be emboldened to cast out demons; and by this, we will discern if others are truly in Your spirit or operating in demonic spirits.

We Shall Share the Wealth

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Matthew 28:19 directs us: *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.”* Just as the disciples became Apostles with the Pentecost baptism in the Holy Spirit, I accept new life purpose in Christ Jesus.
- ◆ Dear Lord God, it is evident from the Book of Acts that once the disciples received baptism in the Holy Spirit, they had a new boldness, a new courage, a new life. I understand also that receiving this precious gift brings a responsibility to share the Good News and make disciples of all the nations and I commit to evangelizing as Your Holy Spirit moves through me to do so.

Clothed With Christ

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Galatians 3:27 describes a profound gift that comes with baptism in the Holy Spirit: *“For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.”*
- ◆ Dear Abba, I commit to remembering that I am always representing Christ Jesus, that I am His ambassador, and I ask that Your Holy Spirit take up habitation in my thoughts and words, that they always worthily represent and express You in the world.

Baptism Inspires Exaltation of Our Lord

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, we learn in Acts 10:44-46 that true baptism in the Holy Spirit naturally brings forth worship and glorifying of You, pouring forth out of our love for You. Demons will not exalt the Lord God Most High! They will not worship Lord Jesus Christ Yeshua.
- ◆ *“While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. All the circumcised believers*

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who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God.”

Pray in the Spirit

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, Ephesians 6:18-20 encourages us to pray IN the Spirit, not with the mind, will or emotions: *“With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, stay alert with all perseverance and petition [interceding in prayer] for all God’s people.”*
- ◆ Romans 8:26 assures me that Your Spirit will help me, so I don’t have to always have things figured out: *“In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.”* Holy Spirit, intercede for me!

Baptism Brings Death of the Old Self & Resurrection in Christ Jesus

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, I now understand that true baptism in the Holy Spirit is a death to the old self, the flesh mind, ego and ways. It is a death to be reborn in Christ Jesus, to bring a newness to life, a new operating system that is IN the Holy Spirit, ONE with the Holy Spirit.
- ◆ For Romans 6:3-7 tells us: *“Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life. For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, knowing this, that our old self was crucified with Him, in order that our body of sin might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin; for he who has died is freed from sin.”* Thank you Abba Father, for my re-birth in Christ Jesus Yeshua!
- ◆ Colossians 2:11-13 declares: *“In Him I am also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ; having been buried with Him in*

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baptism, in which I am also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. When I was dead in my transgressions and the uncircumcision of my flesh, He made me alive together with Him, having forgiven me all of my transgressions.” Oh dear Abba Father, what a profound gift! Thank you!

Make Me Pure Like Stephen

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, make me pure and holy like Stephen. He was so filled with the Holy Spirit, so living in Your peace, Your shalom, that was his reality in the midst of tribulations. Acts 7:55-56 & 59 say: *“But he, being full of the Holy Spirit and led by Him, gazed into heaven and saw the glory [the great splendor and majesty] of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God; and he said, ‘Look! I see the heavens opened up [in welcome] and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God! Lord Jesus, receive and accept and welcome my spirit!’”*

The Doorway to Unity in the Faith

- ◆ Dear Heavenly Father, I now comprehend how true baptism in the Holy Spirit can lead us into unity in the Faith, one flock, one Shepherd, our Lord Jesus Christ Yeshua, according to John 10:16, as Your heart and Your love are poured into me through Your Holy Spirit.
- ◆ For Ephesians 4:4-6 says: *“There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.”* Make me an Apostle of Your Living Word, Lord God!
- ◆ John 14:17 professes: *“That is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.”* Thank you Abba Father, for giving me the gift of Your Holy Spirit abiding within me. I promise to cherish Your Spirit as the living expression of Your love in and through me, out into the world, as testimony of our one Shepherd, Jesus Christ Yeshua, perfect love incarnate.

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3. Thanks and Gratitude.

- ◆ Thank you Abba Father for receiving me before Your Throne of Grace and receiving my petitions for true baptism in the Holy Spirit!
- ◆ To You alone be all the glory in Heaven and Earth forever and ever! Amen!

*The Spirit Himself testifies and confirms together with
our spirit [assuring us] that we are children of God.*

Romans 8:16