

Main Point: Is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit for me, and how do I receive it?

Main Text: Acts

Introduction: Today we are in part 5 of our sermon series on the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Five Part Series REVIEW

Week 1: Introduction to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Week 2: What actually happened on the Day of Pentecost?

Week 3: Why did it happen in that particular way? Why tongues and languages?

Week 4: Connecting the Old Testament with the Outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

TODAY: Is the gift of tongues for us today? If so, is it for me and how can I receive?

The Goal:

- I want to answer a few important questions regarding the Baptism of the Spirit that no doubt many of you are asking?
- I want to clearly identify what the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is and is not.
- I want to show you how to relax and receive.

Baptism in the Holy Spirit: What it's NOT

1) Baptism in the Holy Spirit is NOT a requirement for salvation. (See John 3:16 and Ephesians 1:13-14). **(Salvation=You getting him, Baptism=Him getting you)**

IT IS A BENEFIT AND A DEPOSIT FOR THIS LIFE. (tongues will cease when Jesus returns)

2) The minute we say “yes” to Jesus, the Holy Spirit enters our lives and we have a ‘conversion’ experience. (1 Corinthians 6:19; 1 Corinthians 3:16; 2 Corinthians 1:21)

3) Baptism in the Holy Spirit is NOT a sign that you are more special or more holy than the Christian standing next to you. It is not God’s special blessing or affirmation of you. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is given to you for your empowerment, because you need him to be holy...not because you are “super-worthy”. (Romans 3:10-12; ACTS 1:8)

4) Do I have to speak in tongues? No! You don’t have to... YOU GET TO! Over the last many weeks we have shown from Scripture that this gift has many benefits!

Benefit #1: Speaking in Tongues builds me up in my faith! (Jude 1:20)

Benefit #2: Speaking in Tongues helps me pray when I don’t know what to pray!

(Romans 8:26-27; 1 Cor. 14:14)

Benefit #3: Speaking in Tongues sanctifies the most unruly member of my person! (James 3:8)

Benefit #4: Speaking in Tongues paves the way to worship and prophesy!

(“filled with the Spirit and...”)

Benefit #5: Speaking in Tongues is a sign for the unbeliever! (1 Cor. 14:22)

Benefit #6: Speaking in Tongues connects me straight to God in prayer! (1 Cor. 14:2)

Benefit #7: Speaking in Tongues equips me to battle in the Spirit. (Eph. 6:18).

How do I receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

1. **Confess your sin and Profess your faith in Christ:** The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is subsequent to Salvation...Notice all of these examples in Scripture. It happened only to those who were believers.
 - Acts 2:4 (The Jerusalem Outpouring)
 - Acts 8:4-25 (The Samaritan Outpouring)
 - Acts 9:1-19 (Paul's conversion)
 - Acts 10:44-46; 11:15-18 (Cornelius' household)
 - Acts 19:1-7 (The Ephesian Outpouring)

2. **Ask:** (Luke 11:9-13)

Luke 11:9-13

“And so I tell you, keep on asking, and you will receive what you ask for. Keep on seeking, and you will find. Keep on knocking, and the door will be opened to you. For everyone who asks, receives. Everyone who seeks, finds. And to everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. “You fathers—if your children ask for a fish, do you give them a snake instead? Or if they ask for an egg, do you give them a scorpion? Of course not! So if you sinful people 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.”

3. **Participate:** (Acts 2:4)

And everyone present was filled with the Holy Spirit and began speaking in other languages, as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability.

1 Cor. 10: 14-17 shows us that our salvation and our faith in Christ is a participation. We are participating with Christ in this walk with God.

Phil. 2:12 *continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling,*

In the same way that we participate in our walk with Christ, receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is less about “getting it” or receiving something and more about participating with someONE. We will be baptized in the Holy Spirit as we participate with the Holy Spirit BY FAITH!

4. **Walk by faith:** (2 Cor. 5:7)

For we live by believing and not by seeing.

Conclusion: I want to conclude with a few ways that you can respond to today's message.

- 1) **Come back tonight at 6pm** if you would like to pray and receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- 2) **Pray at home alone if you can't make it back tonight.**
 - A) Get alone: **Mt. 6:6**
 - B) Turn off your phone: **Psalm 119:15** (fix my eyes on God)
 - C) Build your faith by reading Scriptures that show you about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. **Ps. 1:2; Joshua 1:8**
 - D) Repent, Pray, Ask, Receive through Participation (reception through participation),
Live by faith!

I believe this gift is for all of us. (God is no respecter of persons)

I believe this gift can benefit all of us.

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor; no good thing does he withhold from those whose walk is blameless.-Ps. 84:11

I believe everyone of us can receive this prayer language.