Our Study Outline – Where are we?

- The Godhead
- Relationships

(omitted) The Conspicuousness of the Holy Spirit in the Scriptures

- The Holy Spirit and the First Century Church
  - What Jesus said about the Holy Spirit
  - What did the Holy Spirit do?
  - The Holy Spirit and Conversions

Our Study Outline

- Miraculous Abilities
  - The gift of the Holy Spirit, the Holy Spirit's gifts, and spiritual gifts

- Paul's Discussion of the Holy Spirit
  - Romans 8, 12
  - 1 Corinthians 2, 12, 13, 14
  - Galatians 3-6

- Pentecostalism: Its Roots and Beliefs

- The Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

- The Holy Spirit and the 21st Century Church
What we’ve learned so far:

- It is difficult for humans to focus on spiritual things. Our distraction with the physical has long been a barrier to our understanding of spiritual matters.
- The Holy Spirit is an active member of the Godhead.
- The Godhead operates flawlessly within a perfect relationship.
- The Holy Spirit is integrally involved in “beginnings”.
- The Holy Spirit provides the action that is required for initiating (and continuing) the will of the Father.

What we’ve learned so far:

- The Holy Spirit is a new concept for the Jews.
- Although the Greek word for Spirit (pneuma) is neuter (i.e., neither masculine nor feminine), the Holy Spirit is always presented in Scripture in the masculine sense.

What we’ve learned so far:

- Jesus said:
  - The Holy Spirit was upon Him (anointed); prophesied by Isaiah.
  - Peter stated to Cornelius, “… how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth…” - Acts 10:38
  - Entrance into the kingdom of heaven is through the Spirit.
  - God is Spirit; proper worship of God must be done in spirit.
  - The heavenly Father will give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him.
  - The Holy Spirit would testify of Him.
  - The Holy Spirit would tell the apostles what to say.
  - Baptism with the Holy Spirit was coming.
  - Equating the Holy Spirit’s actions with evil is an unpardonable sin.
What we’ve learned so far:

- **The baptism of the Holy Spirit has 2 implications:**
  - John the Baptist indicated that his entire audience (including Pharisees) would be baptized with the Holy Spirit and fire. (Non-miraculous; indicates hearing the gospel/teaching of Jesus)
    - “I indeed baptized you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.” – Matthew 3:11
  - Jesus indicated to the apostles that they would be baptized with the Holy Spirit just before He ascended into heaven. (Miraculous ability to speak in tongues)
    - “… for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” – Acts 1:5

- **The visibility of the Holy Spirit in the conversions of those on Pentecost, the Samarians, and Cornelius is to show that salvation (eternal life) is for everyone.**
- **The baptism of the Holy Spirit in the miraculous sense did NOT make anyone a Christian.**
- **The baptism of the Holy Spirit in the miraculous sense was limited.**
- **No one today is baptized with the miraculous measure of the Holy Spirit.**
- **The Holy Spirit used speech/words to accomplish His work. Every conversion account demonstrates that the gospel was spoken/preached/taught.**

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The Gift of the Holy Spirit
The expression "gift of the Holy Spirit" is seen in 2 places in Acts (2.38 and 10.45).

There appears to be a distinct difference in what this "gift" actually is in these passages. Let's examine them to see what we can learn.

Acts 2.38-39

"Then Peter said to them 'Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.'"

We can't just jump in and begin at this verse (it occurs at the very end of Peter's Pentecost sermon). We need the entire context. We need to examine Peter's entire sermon.

Peter's Pentecost Sermon - Acts 2.14-36: Key Points

- Joel prophesied of what was happening that day.
- God would "pour out" His Spirit on all flesh.
- Sons, daughters, old men, young men, servants would prophesy.
- Signs on the earth and wonders in heaven would be seen.
- Jesus was attested to the Jews by miracles, signs, and wonders.
- The Jews had crucified Jesus. God raised Him. David prophesied of this very thing - the resurrection of Christ.

Peter’s Pentecost Sermon – Acts 2:14-36: Key Points

- Jesus was exalted (elevated) by the right hand (power) of God.
- Jesus received the promise of the Spirit from the Father.
- David was not raised from the dead.
- Jesus poured out what they were seeing and hearing.
- God made Jesus both Lord and Christ.

Let’s look closely at Acts 2:32-33:

“This Jesus God has raised up, of which we are all witnesses. Therefore, being exalted by the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.”

Notice these statements Peter made about Jesus:

- He was raised up.
- He was exalted (elevated) by the right hand (power) of God.
- He received the promise of the Holy Spirit from the Father.
- He poured out what the Pentecost audience was seeing and hearing.

What is the promise of the Holy Spirit?

- Acts 2:39 seems to imply that it is the same as the gift of the Holy Spirit and that it is given to everyone who repents and is baptized.
- If the promise of the Holy Spirit and the gift of the Holy Spirit are the same, what exactly is it?
- Why did Jesus receive this promise?

Let’s make a comparison:

Acts 2:32-33

This Jesus God has raised up of which we are witnesses. Therefore being exalted by the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.”

Ephesians 2:4-9

“But God, who is rich in mercy because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), and raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus, that in the ages to come He might show the exceeding riches of His kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast.”

John 6:63

“It is the Spirit who gives life; …”

1 Peter 3:18

“For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit.”

Revelation 1:18

“I am He who lives, and was dead, and behold I am alive forevermore…”
The Gift of the Holy Spirit – Acts 2.38

Let’s make a comparison:

Acts 2.32-33

“...Jesus, whom God has raised up of which we are witnesses. Therefore being exalted by the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear.”

Rom 5.21

“For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.”

1 John 2.25

“And this is the promise that he has promised us – eternal life.”

19

The Gift of the Holy Spirit – Acts 2.38

It is the Holy Spirit that gives life. Jesus was raised from death never to die again (Romans 6.9). He received eternal life; He received the promise of the Spirit.

Peter equates the gift of the Holy Spirit to the promise of the Holy Spirit. The promise of the Holy Spirit that Jesus received is the same promise that Peter said was in effect for the audience on Pentecost, “and to their children, and to all who are afar off (see Eph 2.13, 17), as many as the Lord our God will call.”

20

The Gift of the Holy Spirit – Acts 2.38

Thus, the gift of the Holy Spirit is eternal life. The full realization of eternal life is not yet, but Christians are given the Spirit as a seal, as a guarantee, as a down-payment on God’s promise of eternal life. In this view, the Holy Spirit is a stamp or mark.

Ephesians 1.13-14: “...you were sealed (Greek - sphragizo: to stamp for security or preservation) with the Holy Spirit of promise, which is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession.” See also 2 Cor 1.22. Believers are protected and assured of the inheritance. See Romans 8.38-39. This same idea is seen in Revelation 7 where the 144,000 are sealed for protection from the destruction of the four winds.
The Gift of the Holy Spirit – Acts 2.38

There is no miraculous ability for believers that accompanies the gift of the Holy Spirit as shown in Acts 2.38.

God will do for believers just as He did for Jesus through the Holy Spirit. Jesus was the first to receive the promise of eternal life. 1 Corinthians 15.20 – “But now Christ is risen from the dead, and has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.”

The gift of the Holy Spirit is the Holy Spirit; the source of eternal life. John 5.24 – “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life.”

The Gift of the Holy Spirit – Acts 10.45

Acts 10.44-45

“While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon those who heard the word. And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.”

It is clear that the expression “gift of the Holy Spirit” in this passage is a direct reference to the speaking in tongues with which Cornelius and his family spoke.
The Gift of the Holy Spirit

So, what can we conclude?
The "gift of the Holy Spirit" in Acts 2:38 was intended for all who repent and are baptized. It is equated with the promise of the Holy Spirit, which is the guarantee of our inheritance of eternal life. This gift bestows no miraculous abilities on believers.
The "gift of the Holy Spirit" in Acts 10:45 was a miraculous manifestation of the Spirit enabling the Gentiles to speak in tongues. It is clear that the disciples in Jerusalem glorified God because Gentiles were seen to receive the seal of the Holy Spirit, thus guaranteeing them eternal life. (Note that the Jerusalem Jews praise God for the Gentiles' access to eternal life, not that they spoke in tongues.)

It's OK for the "gift of the Holy Spirit" to refer to two different measures. This should cause us no consternation and we should not try to force them to mean the same thing. It is clearly apparent that one is miraculous and one is not.

[Note: we see similar dual presentations in Scripture for: "baptism of the Holy Spirit," "laying on of hands," and "breaking bread." Always be aware of the context.]

Both instances present the Holy Spirit as a gift, but in different measures.

The miraculous manifestation of the Holy Spirit was limited to those living in the first century.
The non-miraculous manifestation is not limited. This measure of the "gift of the Holy Spirit" is imparted to every believer just as God promised.

In summary, we can picture 2 sides to the non-miraculous "gift of the Holy Spirit" coin:
1. The Holy Spirit is God's seal or mark on believers.
2. The Holy Spirit is the guarantee of eternal life, as well as the source of eternal life, for believers.
There is a difference between the gift of the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit's gifts.

- The gift of the Holy Spirit is the Holy Spirit.
- The Holy Spirit's gifts are the various miraculous abilities given to 1st century Christians.

There is also a difference between the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the Holy Spirit's gifts.

- The baptism of the Holy Spirit gave the apostles the ability to speak in tongues (Acts 2.4), perform miracles (Acts 3.6) and to convey that power to others (Acts 8.17).
- The Holy Spirit's gifts are the various miraculous abilities given to 1st century Christians.

What are the Holy Spirit's gifts?

“There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.” 1 Cor 12.4

“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another word of knowledge through the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the same Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. “ - 1 Cor 12.7-10
Notice this...

"And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues." – 1 Cor 12:28

Notice this...

"But to each one of us grace was given according to the measure of Christ's gift... And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers, for the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ, till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to the measure of the stature of Christ." – Ephesians 4:7-13

31

And this...

"Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us, let us use them: if prophecy, let us prophesy in proportion to our faith; or ministry, let us use it in our ministering; he who teaches, in teaching; he who exhorts, in exhortation; he who gives, with liberality; he who leads, with diligence; he who shows mercy, with cheerfulness." – Romans 12:6-8

So, we need to look at the word "gift."

32

Multiple Greek words are translated to the English word "gift."

Romans 5:15-17 – "But the free gift (charisma) is not like the offense. For if by the one man's offense may die, much more the grace of God and the gift (dorea) by the grace of the one Man, Jesus Christ, abounded to many. And the gift (dorema) is not like that which came through the one who sinned. For the judgment which came from one offense resulted in condemnation, but the free gift (charisma) which came from many offenses resulted in justification. For if by the one man's offense death reigned through the one, much more those who receive abundance of grace and of the gift (dorea) of righteousness will one reign in life through the One, Jesus Christ."

33
The Holy Spirit's Gifts (Spiritual Gifts)

*Force* - a present
  - a gift offered as an expression of honor; Matt 2.11 (magi at the birth of Jesus)
  - a sacrifice or other gift offered to God; Matt 5.23 (a gift brought to the altar); Matt 6.4, et al
  - money cast into the treasury for the purposes of the temple and for the support of the poor; Luke 21.1

*Force* - a gift; a gratuity; something given freely
  - John 4.10 (Jesus and the woman at the well); Acts 2.38; Acts 8.20; Acts 10.45; Acts 11.17; Romans 5:15; Romans 6:17; 2 Cor 9:15; Ephesians 3:7; Ephesians 4:7; Hebrews 6:4

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The Holy Spirit's Gifts (Spiritual Gifts)

*Charisma* - a gift of divine grace; a spiritual endowment
  - Romans 1:11; Romans 5:15-16; Romans 6:23; Romans 11:29; Romans 12.6-1 Cor 1:7; 1 Cor 7:7; 1 Cor 12:4, 9, 20, 30, and 31; 2 Cor 1:11; 1 Tim 4:14; 2 Tim 1:6; 1 Peter 4:10 – with the exception of 1 Peter 4:10, this term is used only by Paul.

According to Thayer, *charisma* means:
"the extraordinary powers, distinguishing certain Christians, and enabling them to serve the church of Christ, the reception of which is due to the power of divine grace operating in their souls by the Holy Spirit."

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The Holy Spirit's Gifts (Spiritual Gifts)

*Dorema* - a bestowment; something granted or allowed; this term has a connotation of formality
  - Mark 15.45 (Pilate granted the body of Jesus to Joseph of Arimathea); 2 Peter 1:3,4; Romans 5:16

*Dosis* - a giving; by implication, a gift
  - James 1:17 ("every good gift (dosis) and every perfect gift (dorea) is from above...")

*Dome* - a gift; by implication, connected with a benefactor
  - Matt 7:11 (father giving necessities to his children); Luke 11.13; Ephesians 4:8; Philippians 4:17
Spiritual Gifts

1 Cor 12.7-10
gifts of the Holy Spirit (charisma)

Knowledge
Faith
Healing
Miracles
Prophecy
Discerning of spirits
Tongues
Interpretation of tongues

Romans 12.6-8
gifts of God (charisma)

Prophecy
Ministry
Teaching
Exhortation
Giving
Showing mercy

Eph 4.7-12
gifts of Christ (dorea, doma)

Apostles
Prophets
Evangelists
Pastors
Teachers

1 Cor 12.28
Appointed by God

Apostles
Prophets
Miracles
Gifts of healing
Helps
Administration
Tongues

(Note: 1 Cor 12.31 implies that these gifts are "charismatic")

The Holy Spirit's Gifts (Spiritual Gifts)

What's their purpose?

Equip the church for the work of ministry (Ephesians 4)

Edify the church (Ephesians 4)
  - till all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God
  - to become perfect (i.e., complete, mature) (to the measure of the stature of Christ)
  - See 1 Corinthians 13.8-13.

Establish (strengthen) the church (Romans 1)

Summary

Spiritual gifts come from all members of the Godhead

Their purpose: To equip, edify, and establish the church

All of the gifts listed appear to have been given in a miraculous measure in the 1st century; they are no longer in force in that miraculous measure today. This is because those upon whom the baptism of the Holy Spirit came have died and those to whom the abilities were given could not pass them on to others.
The Holy Spirit's Gifts (Spiritual Gifts)

Summary

Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Apostles (given abilities and could pass them on)

1st Century Christians whom apostles laid hands on (given abilities but could not pass them on)

Spiritual Gifts - Summary

Many of the things we see as spiritual gifts in the passages considered in this study are seen today but not in a "miraculous sense."

Today, Christians obtain faith, knowledge, wisdom, etc., through interaction with Scripture (i.e., reading it or hearing it spoken to us), not through direct intervention of the Holy Spirit as those in the 1st century experienced. (Note: 1 Cor 13:8 tells us that prophecies, tongues, and knowledge would cease. We’ll study this in more detail a little later.)

IT'S IMPORTANT TO READ AND MEDITATE ON THE TEACHING FOUND IN YOUR BIBLE!