

THE HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM

1. What is baptism?
 - a. (Gk) *Bapto* - to dip, to immerse, Lk. 16:24; Jn. 13:26; Rev. 19:13
 - b. (Gk) *Baptizo* - to cause to be dipped or immersed in a fluid, etc. until fully covered: immersion, submersion and emergence
2. Who is the Holy Spirit?
 - a. He is a spirit so He has no flesh and blood, Lk. 24:39
 - b. He is a divine personality. The Holy Spirit is a person, not a force or thing
 - i. He hears and speaks, Jn. 16:13; Rev. 2:7; Acts 10:19,20; Matt. 10:20
 - ii. He leads and gives commands, Matt. 4:1; Rom. 8:14; Acts 8:29
 - iii. He guides and comforts us - Jn. 16:12,13; Acts 9:31
 - iv. He appoints people for God's work, Acts 13:2,4; 20:28
 - v. He testifies of Jesus, Jn. 15:26; Acts 5:32; Heb. 2:4; 10:15; Rom. 8:16; Rom. 9:1; 1 Jn. 5:6-8
 - vi. He teaches believers and reveals things to them, Jn. 14:26; Lk. 12:12; 1 Cor. 1:10
 - vii. He has emotions, He can be grieved and vexed, or pleased, Is. 63:10; Eph. 4:30; Acts 15:28
 - viii. He helps us, intercedes for us and has a mind and a will, Rom. 8:26,27
 - ix. He can be insulted or blasphemed, Matt. 12:31,32; Heb. 10:29
 - x. He can be lied to, tempted and resisted, Acts 5:3,4,9; 7:51
 - xi. He gives power, Acts 1:8; 10:38; Lk. 4:14; Matt. 12:28
 - c. His DIVINITY - The Holy Spirit is God; co-equal to God the Father and the Son.
 - i. He is spoken of as God, Acts 5:3,4; 1 Cor. 3:16, 19
 - ii. He is coupled in equality with the Names of God and Christ, Matt. 28:19,20; 2 Cor. 13:14; 1 Cor. 12:4-6
 - iii. He is eternal - always existing, Heb. 9:14
 - iv. He is omnipotent - having all power, Lk. 1:35
 - v. He is omniscient - knowing all things, 1 Cor. 2:10,11
 - vi. He is omnipresent - present everywhere at the same time, Ps. 139:7-10
 - vii. He has a part in Creation(Gen. 1:2; Job 33:4); Regeneration(Jn. 3:5-8) and Resurrection (Rom.8:11)

3. What do we mean by *Baptism in the Holy Spirit*?

The term is used seven times in the Bible:

1. By John the Baptist - Matt. 3:11; Mk.1:8; Lk. 3:16; Jn. 1:33
2. By the Lord Jesus Christ - Acts 1:5
3. By Peter the Apostle - Acts 11:15
4. By Paul the Apostle - 1 Cor. 12:13

It is the initial infilling to overflowing of the power and presence of the Holy Spirit when he comes to dwell personally and permanently in the believer in Jesus Christ. This is the same experience as the 'outpouring of the Holy Spirit', 'the Holy Spirit fell on them', 'the gift of the Holy Spirit', etc.

1. The Holy Spirit baptism is the special promise of the Father to us (believers), Lk. 24:49; Acts 1:4; 2:33,38,39; Gal. 3:14(of Acts 1:16-18)
2. The Holy Spirit baptism is a separate and different experience from water baptism or even conversion/new birth
 - Acts 2:1-4: Apostles were born and baptised in water but it was on Pentecost day that they were baptised in the Spirit
 - Acts 8:14-17: Believers in Samaria were born again and baptized in water but it was only after Peter and John came and prayed for them that they were baptised in the Spirit.
 - Acts 10:44-48: Cornelius and his household were born again and baptised in the Spirit but Peter commanded them to be baptized in water
 - Acts 9:17,18 - Paul (Saul was born again and Spirit baptized before he was baptized in water.)

- Acts 19:1-7: These Ephesian believers were born again, baptised in water, before Holy Spirit baptism.

All are important valid Christian experiences. None excludes the other.

4. What is the purpose of the Holy Spirit baptism? For the individual Christian:

- a. Supernatural power to witness, Acts 1:8; Lk.4:14; Matt. 12:28; Lk. 24:48; Rom. 15:13,19(of Jn. 1:12)
- b. Supernatural ability to pray, Rom. 8:26,27; 1 Cor. 14:14,15; Eph. 6:18; Jude 20
- c. Supernatural love, Rom. 5:5; 15:30
- d. Supernatural anointing, Lk.4:18; 1 Jn. 2:20,27; Acts 10:38; 2 Cor. 1:21
- e. Supernatural sealing, Eph. 1:13; 2 Cor. 1:22; Eph. 4:30
- f. Supernatural endurance in trial and persecution, Matt. 10:20; Jn. 16:12,13. Ability to cope with life, Acts 4:8,31; 7:55-60
- g. Gateway to the supernatural (Charismatic gifts, 1 Cor. 12:7-11; Heb. 6:4; and Revelations, 1 Cor. 2:10,11)
- h. Supernatural Teacher and “Remembrancer” of all things, Lk. 12:12; Jn. 14:26; 1 Cor. 2:13
- i. The Supernatural Comforter (Gk. *Parakletos* - helper, intercessor, stand-by advocate, counsellor, instructor, patron, Jn. 14:16,17; Acts 9:31)
- j. God’s supernatural pledge, Earnest, 2 Cor. 1:22; 5:5; Eph. 1:13,14 (Guarantee)
- k. Supernatural leadership, supernatural guidance, Lk. 4:1; Rom. 8:14,16; 9:1; Acts 16:6-10
- l. Supernatural (Physical) health, Rom. 8:11
- m. Supernatural sanctification, Rom. 15:16; 1 Cor. 6:11,19; 3:16; 2 Cor. 3:18; 1 Pet. 1:2; 2 Thess. 2:13; 1 Thess. 3:16
- n. Supernatural boldness to glorify and exalt Jesus, Jn. 16:14; 7:39; 15:26; Acts 2:32-35
- o. The supernatural constant abiding presence and power of God, Jn.14:16,17; 1 Jn.2:27; Lk. 12:12
For Preachers - 1 Pet. 1:12
Demonstration of the Holy Spirit and power - 1 Cor. 2:1-5; 1 Thess. 1:5
Interpretation of scripture - 2 Pet. 1:20,21
Spirit of Prophecy - Rev. 19:10
Conviction of sin - Jn. 16:7-10
Righteousness, Judgement

5. How do I receive the Holy Spirit baptism?

a. 7 Steps to Receiving the Holy Spirit Baptism

- i. Repent, Acts 2:38
- ii. Water baptism, Acts 2:38
- iii. Thirst, Jn. 7:37
- iv. Ask in faith, Lk. 11:13; Jas. 1:6-8
- v. Yield yourself and members to obedience, Acts 5:32; Rom. 6:13; Rom. 12:1
- vi. Drink, Jn. 7:37
- vii. Co-operate with the Holy Spirit and receive, Jn. 7:39

b. 7 Hindrances to Receiving the Holy Spirit Baptism

The reason why most born again Christians fail to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit is their inability to believe that:-

- i. He is a gift - Acts 2:38; 8:20; 10:45; 11:17. He must be received. You cannot merit him (of Rom.11:6)
- ii. He is for all flesh - Acts 2:16-18; 2:38,39
- iii. God will not give them an evil spirit when they ask him for the Holy Spirit, Lk. 11:11-13
- iv. The Holy Spirit is for even sinners and those who think themselves most unworthy (Jn. 1:29,33). He comes to make sinners holy.
- v. There is no need to wait for the Holy Spirit. If you are ready now, He is ready always. The Apostles waited till the day of Pentecost because Jesus was not yet glorified (Jn. 37-39; Acts 2:32,36). From that time, no believer needs to wait again (Acts 9:17,18; 10:44; 19:1-7; 8:14-17, etc.)
- vi. Most believers are sceptical about the manifestations which accompany the baptism of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 12@:7; Acts 2:13). There is no accepted manifestation. God is sovereign. Speaking

with other tongues and prophecy may accompany it. The presence of the Holy Spirit may be accompanied by shaking, trembling, falling over, drunken staggering, perspiration, deeper breathing, laughing or sobbing, etc. which are scriptural reactions to the powerful presence of God (Dan. 8:17; 10:8-11; Rev. 1:17; Acts 9:4; Jer. 23:9, etc. Sounds may be heard, tongues of fire may be seen (Acts 2:1-4). The place may be shaken. Your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19). See Acts 4:31; Acts 2:3,4; 10:44,45; 19:6

- vii. Some Christians also resist the Holy Spirit (Acts 7:51). It is the devil who should be resisted (Jas. 4:7). We ought to yield and submit to God and His spirit. Co-operate with Him and allow him to move in you. Be sensitive to His presence (Acts 5:32).