



Power From on High

Series: Power From On High.

Title: Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Lesson: 51

Text: Acts 8:14-17

Date: August 20, 2023

Acts 8:12 But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike.

14 Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.

Why did the Jerusalem church send Peter and John?

Two views on the baptism of the Holy Spirit:

1. _____ view

The Holy Spirit is given completely and equally to every believer at the moment of salvation.

2. _____ view

The Holy Spirit is only given to some believers separate from and distinct from salvation.

By obedience (legalism) one can achieve “entire sanctification”, a state of perfect holiness and sinless perfection while on earth.

1 John 1:8 If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us.

Is salvation a one time event or is it a two stage process?

The correct answer:

The baptism of the Spirit occurs at the moment of _____.

A definition

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a work whereby the Spirit of God places the believer into union with Christ and into union with other believers at the moment of salvation.

John the Baptist introduced it.

Mark 1:8 "I baptized you with water; but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

Jesus predicted it.

Acts 1:5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

The promise was partially fulfilled at Pentecost.

Acts 2:1–4 When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

Peter promised it.

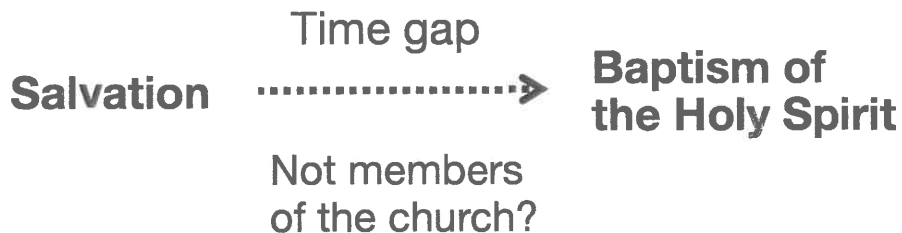
Acts 2:38 Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; **AND you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.** 39 “For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our **God will call to Himself.**”

Paul identified it with believers.

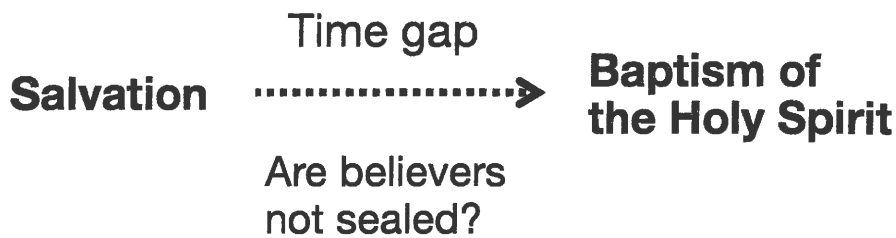
Romans 8:9 However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.



1 Corinthians 12:12–13 For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. 13 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 1:13–14 In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation—having also **BELIEVED**, you were **SEALED** in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God’s own possession, to the praise of His glory.



14 Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.

Two important truths to understand.

1. Acts is a transitional book.

2. The Jews were extremely bigoted.

How did God convince all believers to accept one another?

He used an unusual and obvious

_____ **of the Holy Spirit**

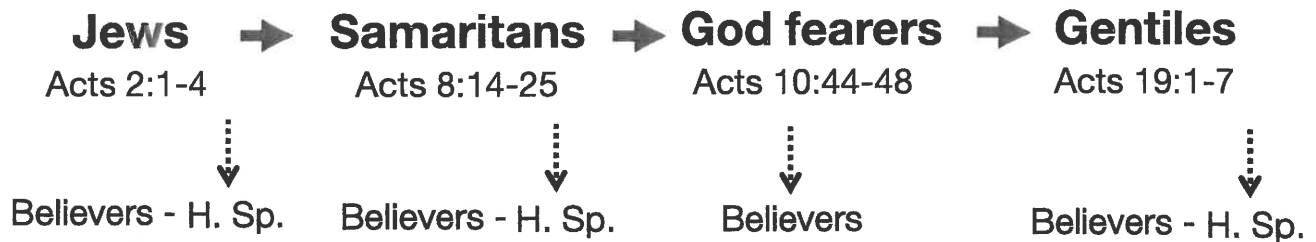
when the gospel advanced to each

_____.

This accomplished two objectives:

1. It showed the Jews they are not superior to others.
2. It was to break down cultural barriers so each group would accept the others as spiritual equals brought into the same fellowship with Christ.

Pentecost



The progression:

Acts 2:12 And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, **“What does this mean?”**

Acts 2:17 ‘And it shall be in the last days,’ God says, ‘That I will pour forth of My Spirit on **ALL** mankind;

The gospel went to the Jews.

21 ‘And it shall be that **EVERYONE** who **CALLS** on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

The gospel advanced to Samaria.

Acts 8:16–17 For He had not yet fallen upon **ANY** of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were **RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

Acts 10:44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon **ALL** those who were listening to the message. 45 All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were **AMAZED**, because the gift of **the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles ALSO**. 46 For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God.

This scene reveals three important truths

1. It invalidates the two-stage view as normative.
2. The receiving of the Spirit required nothing other than faith
3. The receiving the Spirit did not come by means of water baptism because they had not been baptized.

“amazed” -

“Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles ALSO”

47“Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit **JUST AS WE DID**, can he?”

Peter's report to the Jerusalem church.

Acts 11:13–18 “And he reported to us how he had seen the angel standing in his house, and saying, ‘Send to Joppa and have Simon, who is also called Peter, brought here; 14 and he will speak words to you by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ 15 “And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them **JUST AS HE DID UPON US AT THE BEGINNING.** 16 “And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ 17 “Therefore if God gave to them the same gift as He gave to us **ALSO** after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?” 18 When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, “Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles **ALSO** the repentance that leads to life.”

The gospel advanced to the Ephesian Gentiles.

Acts 19:1–7 It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples. 2 He said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” And they said to him, “No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” 3 And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” And they said, “Into John’s baptism.” 4 Paul said, “John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus.” 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.

Implications

1. Today, a separation of salvation and the baptism of the Holy Spirit is _____ and _____.

2. The irregular baptism of the Holy Spirit was not given to show how NT believers receive the Spirit, it was given to show obvious and undeniable proof that the gospel is not only for the Jews, but for the _____ world.

These passages are not prescriptive, they are descriptive.

Discussion Guide

1. What are the two views of the baptism of the Holy Spirit and how do they differ?
2. We know there are no contradictions in the Bible, so what did we learn today about interpreting verses that seem to contradict one another?
3. Why is our topic today so important for living out our faith?
4. What were the unique elements and circumstances of each scene where the gospel went to each new people group? Why can't those not be repeated today?
5. Describe the difference between prescriptive and descriptives passages and why is the difference important?

ANSWERS: One-stage, Two-stage, salvation, outpouring, people group, heretical, deceptive, entire

