

# Power To Serve

Pastor Ross S. Russell, Church on the Beach, 8-23-20

Text: Acts 19:1-7

## **What is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**

The baptism occurs when the Holy Spirit *comes upon* believers with power. The Holy Spirit is already at work *in* a person's life to convict them and draw them to Christ. This is when the Holy Spirit comes *upon* us to give us power for ministry. It is described in the New Testament "as the Spirit 'falling upon', 'coming upon', or being 'poured out upon' the yielded believer in a sudden and supernatural manner." (Foundations of Pentecostal Theology by Duffield and Cleave)

**This is an act of God separate from conversion.** The apostles were converted under the ministry of Jesus (Luke 10:20) and then baptized in the Spirit at least two years later (Acts 2:1-4). The Samaritans were saved under the ministry of Philip and then later baptized in the Holy Spirit under the ministry of John and Peter (Acts 8:14-17). Paul was converted on the road to Damascus and three days later baptized in the Spirit under the ministry of Ananias. When Paul asks *believers* if they received the Holy Spirit, you can clearly see that it is an event that happens *after* receiving Christ as your Savior. In fact, there are four events recorded in the Book of Acts showing the Baptism of the Holy Spirit *after* Pentecost (Acts 8:14-17, 9:17, 10:44-46, and 19:2-7).

**The Baptism of the Holy Spirit was not a one-time event.** Peter quotes Joel 2:29 in Acts 2:16-18, not to say the Spirit *has just finished pouring out*, but rather that it has *just begun pouring out* on believers. And there is more to come from that prophecy that hasn't happened yet (Joel 2:19-21).

## **Why do we need the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**

**1. Power for ministry.** *Luke 4:18, Acts 10:38*

Jesus was anointed by the Spirit for ministry. If Jesus needs the anointing of the Holy Spirit, we certainly do!

**2. Boldness.** Look at the transformation of the disciples before and after Pentecost.

**3. Power to speak the Word of God.** *Acts 4:27-31*

**4. Power to witness.** *Acts 1:8*

**5. Power to pray.** *1 Corinthians 14:14-15, 2 Corinthians 10:3-5, Jude 20*

We need to pray in the Spirit as well as the mind.

**6. Power to overflow with love, healing, and the fruits of the Spirit.**

*John 7:37-39, Ephesians 3:20, Matthew 10:1, Galatians 5:22-23*

Jesus said that "If any man thirst, let him come to Me and drink. He that believes in me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'" John 7:39 says, "But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified." God wants

to use us as vessels to flow with power to affect those around us with love, healing, words of encouragement, prophecy, wisdom, joy and so much more!

**7. Power to do what you couldn't do without God.** *2 Corinthians 12:9*

**The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is available to all who ask!** *Joel 2:29, Acts 2:38, Acts 5:32*

### **What are the conditions for receiving the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**

- 1. Repent from sin.** *Acts 2:37-38*
- 2. Put your faith in Jesus.** *Luke 11:13, Galatians 4:6*
- 3. Be baptized in water.** *Acts 2:37-38* (In some instances, people are baptized in the Spirit first and then get baptized in water. *Acts 9:18, 10:47-48*).
- 4. Thirst and hunger for God.** *Matthew 5:6, John 7:37-39, Psalm 42:1-2*
- 5. Surrender.** *Romans 12:1-2*

### **How do you receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**

- 1. By faith in the promise.** *Luke 11:11-13, Mark 11:24*
- 2. Through a persistent faith.** *Luke 11:5-10*
- 3. In praise and thanksgiving.**  
“Realizing the greatness of what God has promised and that which He is about to do should cause the heart to rejoice and overflow with thankfulness. Almost invariably, the Holy Spirit comes as one is praising the Lord.” (Foundations of Pentecostal Theology)

### **When does the Baptism of the Holy Spirit come?**

- 1. Suddenly, while sitting and expecting Him to come.** *Acts 2:1-4*
- 2. Instantly and unexpectedly while listening to a sermon.** *Acts 10:44-46*
- 3. Through prayer and the laying on of hands.** *Acts 8:14-17, 9:17, 19:6*
- 4. Through personal prayer and faith.** *Luke 1:9-13, John 7:37-39*