



GOOD NEWS

for the unsaved
WORLD!

(#124)
The baptism of the Holy Spirit:
For all who follow Jesus.

1

The Coming of the Spirit.

JUST AS GOD SAID IT WOULD HAPPEN.

OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY: God told the people that he was going to bring a new covenant – one that would change the people's hearts and minds. This would be accomplished by an outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

I will **pour** my **Spirit** on your offspring and my blessing on your descendants.
Isaiah 44:3b (GW)

I will **pour** out my **Spirit** upon all people.
Joel 2:28b (NLT)

LAST MINUTE PREPARATION: When the time came for it to happen, God sent John the Baptizer to prepare the people and to point to Jesus, who would accomplish it.

FULFILLMENT: When it did happen, the apostles could point back to the various Old Testament prophets (and to John), who had already told the people what to expect.

2

JOHN INTRODUCED JESUS, THE ONE WHO WOULD GIVE THE SPIRIT.


He told the people that Jesus would baptize with the Holy Spirit – contrasting his water baptism with Jesus' Spirit baptism.

- Anyone who rejected Jesus (the source of the Spirit baptism) would at the same time be rejecting the Spirit.

"I have **baptized** you with **water**, but he will **baptize** you with the **Holy Spirit**."
Mark 1:8 (GW)

LOOK TO JESUS FOR THE SPIRIT BAPTISM!

"I **baptize** you with **water** for 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**. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."
Matthew 3:11–12 (ESV); see also Luke 3:16–17.



Baptism of FIRE?

3

Baptism of FIRE?

Some people connect this to the "tongues of fire" that appeared on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:3). But the immediate context would suggest that it has to do with judgment against those who refuse to repent. (When harvesting grain, a "winnowing fork" is used to separate the grain from the chaff.)

⇒ The **WHEAT** (= the repentant)

"He will **baptize** you with the **Holy Spirit**... His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and gather his wheat into the barn, ..."
Matthew 3:11b, 12a (ESV); also in Luke 3:16–17.

⇒ The **CHAFF** (= the unrepentant)

"He will **baptize** you with ... **fire**.
... the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."
Matthew 3:11b, 12b (ESV); also in Luke 3:16–17.

4

How did John know it was Jesus?

God told John how to recognize the one who would do this.

Then John gave this testimony: "I saw the **Spirit** come down from heaven as a dove and remain on him. And I myself did not know him, but the one who sent me to **baptize** with **water** told me, 'The man on whom you see the **Spirit** come down and remain is the one who will **baptize** with the **Holy Spirit**.' I have seen and I testify that this is God's Chosen One."
John 1:32–34 (NIV)

- Here is a description of the actual event:

As soon as Jesus was **baptized**, he went up out of the **water**. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the **Spirit of God** descending like a dove and alighting on him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, whom I love; with him I am well pleased."
Matthew 3:16–17 (NIV)

5

JESUS TOLD HIS FOLLOWERS ABOUT THE COMING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Jesus would send the Spirit after he had left.

- The Spirit would come after Jesus left.

Unless I go away, the **Advocate** [= the Holy Spirit] will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.
John 16:7b (NIV)

- Specifically, the Spirit would be given after Jesus had been glorified. (This would occur when he ascended to heaven.)

Those who believed in Jesus were going to receive the **Spirit**, for the **Spirit** had not yet been given because Jesus had not yet been glorified.
John 7:39 (CSB)

6

He told them various things about the Spirit.

- From the Father, through Jesus; for teaching them the truth.

However, **the helper, the Holy Spirit**, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything. He will remind you of everything that I have ever told you. The **helper** whom I will send to you from the Father will come. This **helper, the Spirit of Truth** who comes from the Father, will declare the truth about me.

John 14:26; 15:26 (GW)

[There are also other reasons for his coming, such as empowering and encouraging; but none of them contradict the Spirit's focus on truth.]

- When the Spirit did come (as promised), the apostles acknowledged his source.

Therefore, since ... [Jesus] has received from the Father the **promised Holy Spirit**, he has **poured out** what you both see and hear.

Acts 2:33 (CSB)

7

Some final instructions, when it was almost time. And then...

- They were told to wait at Jerusalem until the Spirit came.

"I'm sending you what my Father **promised**. Wait here in the city until you receive power from heaven."

Luke 24:49 (GW)

"Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for **the gift** my Father **promised**, which you have heard me speak about. For John **baptized** with **water**, but in a few days you will be **baptized** with the **Holy Spirit**."

Acts 1:4-5 (NIV)

- He told them that it would result in power to testify about Jesus. [Testifying = part of the Spirit's **truth** focus.]

"But you will receive power when the **Holy Spirit** has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Acts 1:8 (ESV)

HERE HE COMES!

8

YES! ✨ **The Holy Spirit has arrived!** ✨

Ten days after Jesus ascended to heaven, on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came.

- ⇒ Just as promised by Jesus.
- ⇒ Just as promised by John.
- ⇒ Just as promised by the prophets.

JUST AS PROMISED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT!

The **apostles** recognized that this "baptism" of the Spirit involved the "pouring" of the Spirit, as described by the prophets.

Rather, this is what the prophet Joel spoke about:

'In the last days, God says, I will **pour** my **Spirit** on everyone.'

Acts 2:16-17a (GW)

"POUR" vs. "BAPTIZE"

9

Regardless of which word we use, the Spirit did what he promised!

In the **Old Testament**: The word "baptize" (which means "immerse") does not exist. In the **New Testament**: The words "baptize" and "pour" are used interchangeably.

- EXAMPLE – Two passages about the same one event.

... the gift of the **Holy Spirit** had been **poured** on [them].

Acts 10:45b (GW)

This was in fulfillment of what Jesus had said...

'... you will be **baptized** by the **Holy Spirit**.'

Acts 11:15-16 (GW)

- Other words can also be used. EXAMPLE: "drinking" the Spirit.

By one **Spirit** we were all **baptized** into one body. Whether we are Jewish or Greek, slave or free, God gave all of us one **Spirit** to **drink**.

1 Corinthians 12:13 (GW)

10

The result of the Holy Spirit's coming:

The Holy Spirit changed people!!

- ⇒ Hearts and minds were changed.
- ⇒ People repented and trusted God; and at some point, they were water-baptized.
- ⇒ People openly confessed that Jesus is Lord (master).

✨ **The promises of the New Covenant were being fulfilled!!** ✨

The **Holy Spirit** also testifies to us about this. ...

"This is **the covenant** I will make with them after that time, says the Lord.

I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds."

Hebrews 10:15a, 16 (NIV)

11

WHEN SPIRIT BAPTISM OCCURS, CHANGES OCCUR IN THE PERSON'S LIFE!

God's love will be present in them:

... God's love has been **poured** into our hearts by the **Holy Spirit**, who has been given to us.

Romans 5:5b (GW)

The "fruit" of the Spirit's presence will be evident in their lives:

But the fruit of the **Spirit** is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.

Galatians 5:22-23a (NET)

✨ **All this is in fulfillment of God's New Covenant promise to change the hearts and minds of his people!** ✨

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THIS "BAPTISM (OR POURING) OF THE SPIRIT" IS FOR ALL WHO FOLLOW JESUS.

- It's for ALL who are part of the New Covenant.

Whether we describe it as "baptism," "pouring," or even "drinking the Spirit."

By one **Spirit** we were all **baptized** into one body. Whether we are Jewish or Greek, slave or free, God gave all of us one **Spirit** to **drink**.

1 Corinthians 12:13 (GW)

✧ Since the Jewish nation rejected the Covenant, God made it available to all – even non-Jews. ✧

- People who confess Jesus as Lord (= their master) do so because the Spirit is in them.

... no one can say, "Jesus is Lord," except by the **Holy Spirit**.

1 Corinthians 12:3b (NIV)

MORE →

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THE ONE REQUIREMENT: IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE SPIRIT, WE MUST ACCEPT THE GOOD NEWS (AND LIVE BY IT).

- The promise of the Holy Spirit is for all who are willing to turn to Jesus!
- This is how we must respond:

Peter replied, "Repent and be **baptized**, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the **Holy Spirit**. For the promise is for you and for your children, and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

Acts 2:38-39 (CSB)

Not everyone in a church-building has the Holy Spirit in them. Church-going fakes are not part of this covenant, even though their bodies may be present in a building, along with others who are saved.

14

The Good News and the Holy Spirit are inseparably linked.

- The Spirit empowers people to proclaim the Good News.

And now this **Good News** has been announced to you by those who preached in the power of the **Holy Spirit** sent from heaven.

1 Peter 1:12b (NLT)

- The Spirit empowers people to accept the Good News.

... the **Good News** we brought came to you not only with words but also with power, with the **Holy Spirit**, and with complete certainty.

1 Thessalonians 1:5b (GW)

- Receiving the Spirit is the end result of accepting the Good News.

And you also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the **gospel** of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised **Holy Spirit**, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.

Ephesians 1:13-14 (NIV)

15

GOD PROMISED THE HOLY SPIRIT → FOR US!

The same Holy Spirit that was promised in the Old Testament...
⇒ His outpouring is available for us!

- This is the reason we can be saved!

[God] saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the **Holy Spirit**, whom he **poured** out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, ...

Titus 3:5b-6 (NIV)

- This is the reason our future inheritance is guaranteed!

[We] were sealed with the promised **Holy Spirit**, who is the guarantee of our [future] inheritance ...

Ephesians 1:13b-14a (ESV)

16

The same Spirit that was promised to the apostles...

⇒ He is for all who follow Jesus!

(Not just a select few.)

- It's the promised Spirit that Jesus said would empower the apostles. (And God kept his promise.)

"I'm sending you what my Father promised. Wait here in the city until you receive power from heaven."

Luke 24:49 (GW)

... the promised **Holy Spirit**, he has **poured** out what you both see and hear.

Acts 2:33b (CSB)

- It's the promised Spirit that we receive when we trust God!

... so that we might receive the promised **Spirit** through faith.

Galatians 3:14b (ESV)

17

THE PROMISE CAN BE OURS FOR FREE! (IT'S GIVEN, NOT EARNED.)

The Spirit is given; it comes, and we receive the gift.

... the **Holy Spirit** came ...
Acts 11:15 (GW)

"... the **Holy Spirit**, whom God has given to those who obey him."

Acts 5:32b (GW)

... the gift of the **Holy Spirit** ...
Acts 10:45b(GW)

... they received the **Holy Spirit**.

Acts 8:17b (CSB)

⇒ Even when it's associated with something we do.
(Such as, repentance and water baptism.)

Peter replied, "Repent and be **baptized**, each of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the **Holy Spirit**."

Acts 2:38 (CSB)

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Today, we must conclude:

THIS BAPTISM/POURING OF THE SPIRIT IS FOR ALL WHO FOLLOW JESUS.

This is the Spirit that:

... *the Old Testament prophets* said would be poured out on God's people!

... *the New Testament* says would baptize (or be poured out on) God's people!

This is the Spirit that:

... *empowers* God's people to have the New Covenant changes!

... is *inseparably linked* to the Good News – from start to finish!

ALL WHO ARE SAVED HAVE BEEN BAPTIZED BY THE SPIRIT!

This is the promised Spirit that God gives to all who are willing to follow Jesus!

19

OUR MISSION for this week:

When people decide to follow Jesus, he baptizes them with the Holy Spirit...

THEREFORE: Make sure you understand what happens when a person is baptized with the Holy Spirit – things pertaining to the New Covenant.

- ✓ If those things are not in your life, review the requirements for salvation - repentance, trust, etc. Do them, and trust God to take care of the rest.
- ✓ If they are in your life, praise God, and pursue them even more. (An ongoing willingness to do this is evidence of salvation – 2 Peter 1:3-11.)

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Other issues to be considered (later):

1. What about the miraculous signs that sometimes occurred when the Spirit came?

Normally, miraculous signs do not occur when the Spirit enters people's lives. (The "miracle" is the changes that occur in their lives.)

However, in three instances, miraculous signs did occur. These were for a specific purpose – which we will look at next time.

2. What about being "filled with the Spirit"? Is that different?

Some passages seem to suggest that. But is there always a distinction between the two concepts?

3. What is the relationship between our water baptism and our Spirit baptism?

{ Is there a relationship? }

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Credits

SCRIPTURE

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