

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 50

The Giver of Spiritual Gifts...the Holy Spirit
The Baptism of God the Holy Spirit

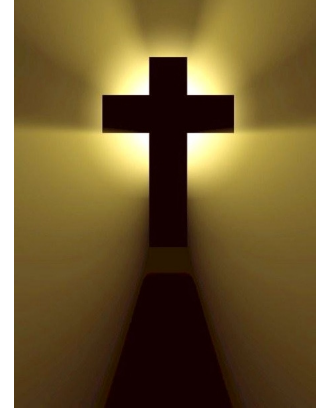


Sunday, June 5, 2011

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

If YOU have never believed in the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior, you have the opportunity to do so right NOW. Simply tell God the Father that you believe in His Son, Jesus Christ, who loved us so much that He came down from heaven and became a man to take our place and pay for the penalty for all the sin of all mankind. Jesus, the Savior died on the Cross for your sins and the sins of the whole world. Then Jesus was buried but He rose again and He is alive today seated at the right hand of the Father in heaven. When you make the decision to believe in Jesus in simple faith based on His work on the Cross, you are now a believer and will always be a child of God. When you die, you will spend eternity with Him in Heaven.

(Acts 16:31) "Believe in the Lord Jesus Christ and you will be saved."
(John 3:16) "God loved the world so much that He gave us One and only Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life."



Lesson

We've been studying the Person and work of God the Holy Spirit in our series on spiritual gifts. We just finished the doctrine of Spiritual Adoption and now we're going to go into the next ministry of God the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation, which is the Doctrine of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The baptism by the Spirit is the ministry of God the Holy Spirit in taking every new believer and entering or placing him into a permanent essential union with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ. The entire Body the Church is in Christ in the Church Age. **1 Cor 12:13 "For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body...Jews or Greeks (Gentiles), slaves or free...and all were made to drink of one Spirit."** The Baptism of the Holy Spirit, which places every believer in permanent union with the Lord Jesus Christ, is the ONLY baptism that matters in the Church Age.



Let's look at the definition and description of the Baptism of the Spirit, okay? Simply, the baptism of the Spirit refers to God the Holy Spirit placing the new believer in union with Christ.

Here are some very important points on the Baptism of the Holy Spirit:

1. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a real baptism, an actual identification, in which God the Holy Spirit, at the moment we believe in Christ, places or enters the new believer in union with Christ. We therefore are identified with Christ forever.
2. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is the means of forming the royal family of God during the Church Age. We are his family and the closest to Him besides God the Father and God the Holy Spirit!!!
3. The result of the baptism of the Spirit, union with Christ, is also called "positional truth" or "positional sanctification". I know you have heard these phrases before and they will become more familiar to you as we go along learning this subject. The New Testament refers to positional truth in many places with the expression "**in Christ**" or "en Christoo" in the Greek.



The word "sanctification" means to be set apart to God for a special purpose. Well I know you know what that is, right? It's your spiritual gift or service to Jesus while on earth. This means to belong to God in a VERY special way. And that special purpose can only be known to you when you have a lots and lots of Bible doctrine in your soul.

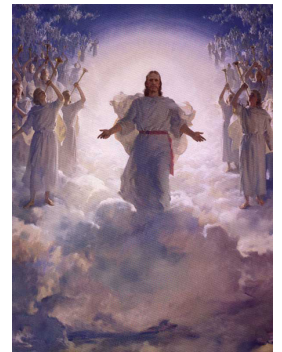
Sanctification says that you are in a plan (from God) and you are royalty (Jesus' brothers and sisters) and it gives you, the believer, the right to reach the absolute best for you in this life on earth. In other words, you'll be the happiest you can be here in Christ. The phrase "**in Christ**" that is found all through the New Testament Epistles is a technical term for the Church-age believer's wonderful and fantastic union with Christ! And "**in Christ**" each Church-age believer is positionally superior to all angels, including Satan as well as all the elect and fallen angels!!!! WOW!!! Can you imagine that? We learn

this in the Bible in these passages: Heb 1:3-6. "And to which of the angels has he ever said, 'Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet?' He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and He upholds the universe by the word of His power. After making purification for sins, He sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, (4) having become as much superior to angels as the name He has inherited is more excellent than theirs. (5) For to which of the angels did God ever say, 'You are my Son, today I have begotten you'? Or again, 'I will be to Him a Father, and He shall be to me a Son?' (6) And again, when He brings the firstborn into the world, He says, 'Let all God's angels worship Him.'" Heb 1:13-14 "And to which of the angels has He ever said, 'Sit at my right hand until I make your enemies a footstool for your feet?' (14) Are they not all ministering spirits sent out to serve for the sake of those who are to inherit salvation?" Heb 2:9-11 "But we see Him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of (spiritual) death, so that by the grace of God He might taste death for everyone. (10) For it was fitting that He, for whom and by whom all things exist, in bringing many sons to glory (believers), should make the founder of their salvation perfect through suffering. (11) For Him who sanctifies and those who are sanctified all have one source. That is why He is not ashamed to call them brothers (12) saying, 'I will tell of your name to my brothers; in the midst of the congregation I will sing your praise.'" This is all a part of the privileges of positional sanctification...your position in Christ as He is seated at the right hand of the Father. So, positional sanctification occurs at salvation through faith in Christ.



Positional sanctification guarantees that the believer will live with God forever. There are several reasons for this. Let's look carefully at them all:

1. The believer possesses the righteousness of God the Father (+R); and we share the perfect righteousness of Christ (+R) through our positional sanctification. If we are going to live with God forever, we have to be as good as He is...perfect and we are with the imputation or crediting of (+R) to us...perfect righteousness. 1 John 3:9 "No one who is born of God sins, because His seed lives in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." This means that once we are born again we have received a nature that cannot sin...the new nature or spiritual species! Therefore, when we do sin we agree with the apostle Paul in Rom 7:17. "So now, no longer am I the one doing it (the sinning), but sin (nature) that indwells me."
2. The second reason that we are qualified to live with God is that the believer possesses eternal life. 1 John 5:11-12 "And the testimony is this that God has given us eternal life, and this life is in His Son. (12) He who has the Son has the (eternal) life; he who does not have the Son of God does not have the (eternal) life." If we are going to live with God forever, we must also have His life, eternal life. We do and it comes from the Father through imputation or crediting us and from the son through positional sanctification...we are seated in Christ (Baptism of the Holy Spirit) at the right hand of the Father. This is the double portion principle. We are in union with the "firstborn" Son of God. As Church Age believers in union with the "first born" Son of God, we receive a double portion of righteousness and eternal life...one from Jesus and one from our Father. Rom 8:29-30 "For those whom He foreknew, He also predestined (God has a plan for your life on earth) to become like the image of His Son, so that He would be the firstborn among many brethren (Church Age); (30) and these whom He predestined, He also called (election); and these whom He called, He also justified (+R); and these whom He justified (+R), He also glorified." Col 1:18 "He is also head of the body, the church; and He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that He Himself will come to have first place in everything."



This Greek word, *prototokos* means "firstborn" and begins our privileged position, the superiority of the One who bears this name or title. The word literally means someone who existed before all others in rank in any area of anything!!! So you see, kids, Christ is First in everything. We are in union with the "firstborn" Son of God. As Church Age believers in union with the "first born" Son of God, we receive a double portion of righteousness (+R) and eternal life from Jesus AND God the

Father. It comes from the Father through imputation or crediting us and from the Son through positional sanctification...we are seated **in Christ** at the Father's right hand...Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Positional sanctification belongs to all categories of believers, whether they are winners or losers in this life. **1 Cor 1:2** says that even the worst of believers (those in the Corinthian church who did everything wrong possible) are sanctified in Christ Jesus. **"To the church of God that is in Corinth, to those sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints together with all those who in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, both their Lord and ours..."** **1 Cor 1:30** says **"And because of Him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God (Bible doctrine...the Word of God), righteousness (+R) and sanctification and redemption..."**



3. And at the same time as entering us into union with Christ, a new spiritual species is created through the baptism of the Spirit. We are a new spiritual species. Now we see a lot more about this subject of the new spiritual species later on in this doctrine of the baptism of the Spirit. For now let's look at the verses for the fact that we are created a new spiritual species at the moment of salvation by two ministries of the Holy Spirit: Regeneration (born again in Christ) and the Baptism of the Spirit...especially the Baptism. This is because of **2 Cor 5:17** says that we are a new creature as a result of being **"in Christ"**. And being **"in Christ"** happens through the Baptism by the Holy Spirit. Got it? I hope so!!!! **"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old (slavery to our sin nature) has passed away; behold, the new has come."** **Gal 6:14-15** **"But may it never be that I would boast, except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, through which the world has been crucified to me, and I to the world. (15) For neither is circumcision anything (being Jewish), nor uncircumcision, but a new creation. Eph 2:10** **"For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them."** Notice that here in **Eph 2:10** this new spiritual species is created **IN CHRIST JESUS** and therefore by the baptism of the Spirit. **Eph 4:22-24** **"...that, in reference to your former manner of life, you lay aside the old self, which is being corrupted in accordance with the lusts of deceit, (23) and that you be renewed in the spirit of your mind, (24) and put on the new self, which in the likeness of God has been created in righteousness and holiness of the truth (the Word of God)."** This is more than a new lifestyle or even application of doctrine. This is a new nature that has been created at the moment of salvation in the likeness of God emphasizing His righteousness and Truth. **Col 3:9-10** **"Do not lie to one another, since you laid aside the old self (slavery to the old sin nature) with its evil practices, (10) and have put on the new self who is being renewed to a true knowledge (the Word of God) according to the image of the One who created him."** The baptism of the Spirit is the ministry of God the Holy Spirit in taking every new believer and entering him into permanent essential union with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ.



4. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is not an experience! **YOU DO NOT FEEL IT!!!!** Do you understand that, kids? **1 Cor 12:13**. **"For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks (Gentiles), whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit."** The baptism of the Holy Spirit is an act of the omnipotence of the Holy Spirit...His **POWER!!!** Any time that God uses His divine power, it stops entry of any work of man, or any form of experience by which we add anything to the work. That is what grace means. God does everything for us. We can do **NOTHING** for Him.
5. There is only one baptism that brings the royal family of God together! That is the Baptism by God the Holy Spirit. **Eph 4:5** **"...one Lord, one faith, one baptism..."** **Gal 3:26** **"For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. (27) For all of you who were baptized into Christ (baptized into Christ by means of the Holy Spirit) have clothed yourselves with Christ. (28) There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."** **1 Cor 12:13** **"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."**
6. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is for the Church Age only. There is no reference to it in the Old Testament about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. The only future references to it are in the gospel of

John and the book of Acts, both pointing forward to the Church Age only. Let's look at it in Acts 1:5. "...for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

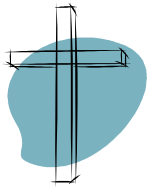
7. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is performed across the world to each and every believer during the Church Age. Rom 6:3 "Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death?" 1 Cor 12:13 "For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks (Gentiles), whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit." Gal 3:26 "For you are all children of God through faith in Christ Jesus. (27) For all of you who were baptized into Christ [baptized into Christ by means of the Holy Spirit] have clothed yourselves with Christ. (28) There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus." Eph 4:5 "...one Lord, one faith, one baptism..." All for one and one for all.



8. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is not related with the function of any particular spiritual gift (such as tongues). This comes from the fact that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is all inclusive or in other words complete in every believer. Every believer in Christ is baptized into Christ. Each believer receives a spiritual gift at salvation, but we DO NOT all receive the same gift. Any one spiritual gift like pastor/teacher is not all inclusive in every believer. Some receive it and others do not!! Like water baptism, the temporary spiritual gift of tongues became a source of argument and division instead of unity and team work in the church at Corinth. This division was totally against what the Baptism of the Spirit is all about, namely unity and team work in one body with Christ as the Head. 1 Cor 1:13-14 "Has Christ been divided? Paul was not crucified for you, was he? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? (14) I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius. 1 Cor 14:19 "...however, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue."



9. The baptism of the Spirit could not occur until there was the planned victory of Jesus Christ on the Cross in the angelic conflict. We call it a strategic victory. Now there was the need for a all-inclusive priesthood for every believer, since every believer was now a target of Satan. 1 Pet 3:21 "Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves (delivers) you, not as a removal of dirt from the body (water baptism) but as an appeal to God for a good conscience (we are relaxed not matter what because we are secure in Christ), through the resurrection of Jesus Christ..." Peter deals with exactly this issue in his first letter. He identifies the church age believer as a priest. Then later on in the letter he points to the baptism of the Spirit as the thing that protects our conscience against the attacks from the kingdom of darkness in the form of persecution and accusations. 1 Peter 2:4-5 "And coming to Him as to a living stone which has been rejected by men, but is choice and precious in the sight of God, (5) you also, as living stones, are being built up as a spiritual house for a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ." Please note first of all that our priesthood is comes completely from our union with the great High Priest our Lord Jesus Christ. Our priesthood operates through Jesus Christ. It is a benefit and a result of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.



1 Peter 2:19 "For this finds favor, if for the sake of conscience toward God a person bears up under sorrows when suffering unjustly." Notice the conscience is in view, and the issue is handling unjust treatment and suffering. Please be clear about the fact that Peter is not dealing with salvation in the sense of our grace by faith salvation, justification, or eternal life. The conscience here relates to the soul condition of the believer after salvation when going through unjust treatment. It refers to getting us through our trials and tests. 1 Peter 3:14-15 "But even if you should suffer for the sake of righteousness, you are blessed. AND DO NOT FEAR THEIR INTIMIDATION, AND DO NOT BE TROUBLED, (15) but sanctify Christ (set Him apart) as Lord in your hearts, always being ready to make a defense to everyone who asks you to give an account for the hope (confidence) that is in you, yet with gentleness and reverence..." Here we have sanctification used in the sense of setting apart Christ as Lord in your heart. This is your everyday living experiential in nature, and it is also bringing out the partnership you share with Jesus. When it comes to experiential sanctification (everyday life), there are these shared activities going on



between us and the Lord. He calls us (to His highest and best) and we call on Him. He sets us apart (for a special purpose and destiny) and we set Him apart (as first in our list of priorities).

1 Pet 3:16 "...and keep a good conscience so that in the thing in which you are slandered, those who hate your good behavior in Christ will be put to shame." Hey did you notice the reference here to being in Christ and how your position is supposed to lead to changes in your behavior? 1 Pet 3:17 "For it is better, if God should will it so, that you suffer for doing what is right rather than for doing what is wrong." Also notice that the subject is believers suffering for the cause of Christ and how to



handle that. Again notice that Peter refers to the conscience and this has to do with the soul condition of the believer after salvation when undergoing unjust treatment. This letter is not dealing with our salvation in the sense of being saved from the Lake of Fire and being justified. It means deliverance through undeserved suffering in life. And believe as we have discussed before, we WILL suffer in life but God brings us through it and will allow us to handle it in His GRACE. This part of the letter is dealing with salvation in the everyday living sense of

being delivered in the midst of temptations, attacks and persecutions. So hang in there if you are experiencing this. 1 Pet 3:18-22 "For Christ also died for sins once for all, the just for the unjust, so that He might bring us to God, having been put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit; (19) in which also He went and made proclamation to the demons now in prison (in Hades), (20) who once were disobedient, when the patience of God kept waiting in the days of Noah, during the construction of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through the water. (21) Corresponding to that, baptism now delivers you...not the removal of dirt from the flesh (water baptism), but an appeal to God for a good conscience...through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, (22) who is at the right hand of God, having gone into heaven, after angels and authorities and powers had been subjected to Him.

You look to the Word of God in your soul...the Mind of Christ...to deliver a good conscience in the middle of suffering and attacks. The baptism of the Spirit gives us the pledge of a good conscience toward God. Our soul is saved, but our old sin nature is still active! The possession of an old sin nature makes the pledge or vow to God of a good conscience toward God impossible, until we understand that the baptism of the Spirit produces, under retroactive and positional truth, the answer...YOU ARE IN UNION WITH CHRIST! Christ is eternal life and you share His life. Christ is perfect righteousness and you share His righteousness (+R). So good conscience does not depend upon whether you sin or you do not sin after salvation. A good conscience depends on your RELATIONSHIP WITH CHRIST...you are in union with Christ! Through resurrection Christ made it possible for us to be in union with Him and be delivered from all trials, persecutions and attacks. He is seated at the right hand of the Father; He is acceptable! AND SO ARE YOU!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Close in prayer

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on January 13, 2011
Lighthouse Bible Church

