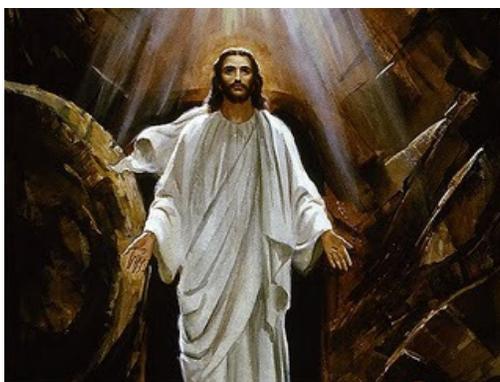
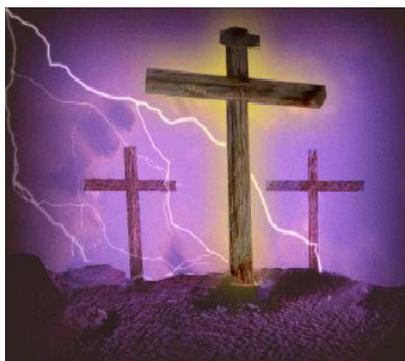


The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 56

The Giver of Spiritual Gifts...the Holy Spirit
The Baptism of God the Holy Spirit
Part 7

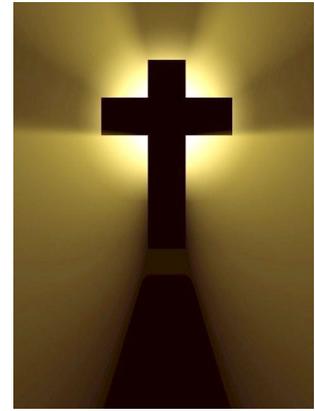
More on Retroactive and Current Positional Truth



October, 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 already learned a lot about *Retroactive Positional Truth* and *Current Positional Truth*, the two stages or parts of the *Baptism of the Spirit*. Now we are going to learn even more about it in this Bible lesson.

In review: *Retroactive Positional Truth* means identification with Christ in His death and burial and *Current Positional Truth* means identification with Christ in His Resurrection, Ascension and Session. The Bible verses for these two truths are found in [Rom 6:1-12](#), [Col 3:1-4](#), and [Eph 2:1-10](#). Open your Bibles and let's take a really good look at these verses.

Now let's look at our detailed definition of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit again. The Baptism of the Spirit: at the moment of salvation, the omnipotence or power of God the Holy Spirit places the Church Age believer into an eternal very important or vital union with Christ, identifying the believer positionally with Christ in His death, burial (Retroactive Positional Truth), resurrection, ascension and session (Current Positional Truth). This results in making the believer a permanent member of the Body of Christ...the Royal Family of God, a new spiritual species, and eternally secure.

Let's read the following verses about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit together:

Mark 16:16 "Whoever believes and is baptized (by the Holy Spirit) will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned."

John 7:37-39 "On the last and greatest day of the Feast, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, 'If anyone is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. (38) Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.' (39) By this He meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified (in Heaven)."

John 14:20 "On that day you will realize that I am in my Father, and you are in me, and I am in you."

Acts 1:5 "For John baptized with water, but in a few days (Pentecost) you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

Acts 2:1-4 "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. (2) Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. (3) They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. (4) All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues (languages) as the Spirit enabled them.

Rom 6:3-5 "Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death (retroactive positional truth)? (4) We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new (eternal) life (current positional truth). (5) If we have been united with Him like this in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection."



1 Cor 12:13 "For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body...whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free and we were all given the one Spirit to drink."

Gal 3:26-28 "You are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus, (27) for all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ (put on the new creature or nature). (28) There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one (the same) in Christ Jesus."

Col 2:11-13 "In Him you were also circumcised, in the putting off of the sinful nature, not with a circumcision done by the hands of men but with the circumcision done by Christ, (12) having been buried with Him in baptism (retroactive positional truth) and raised with Him (current positional truth) through your faith in the power of God, who raised Him from the dead. (13) When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your sinful nature, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins..."

1 Pet 3:21 "...and this water symbolizes baptism that now saves you also...not the removal of dirt from the body (not through water baptism) but the pledge of a good conscience toward God (Baptism of the Holy Spirit). It saves you by the resurrection of Jesus Christ..."

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit refers to the act of God the Holy Spirit placing the new believer in a permanent vital and very important union with Christ. We are identified with Christ forever!!! The Bible really explains it very well by showing us that we are identified with Christ in His death, burial, resurrection, ascension and session. We are now going to zero in on this and see that there are two stages to this identification with Christ.

In other words, positional truth exists in two categories: one is called *Retroactive Positional Truth*. The other is called *Current Positional Truth*.

Retroactive positional truth means to be identified with Christ in His death and burial. We were in Christ in His spiritual and physical death on the cross and we were buried with Him in His tomb. This position (retroactive positional truth) releases the believer from sin and evil as well as from the power of the old sin nature because the believer is crucified and buried with Christ. Rom 6:3-7 "Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? (4) Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life (in the new nature under the filling of the Spirit). (5) For if we have become united with Him in the likeness of His death, certainly we shall also be in the likeness of His resurrection, (6) knowing this, that our old self (old sin nature) was crucified with Him (Jesus on the cross), in order that our body of sin (old sin nature) might be done away with, so that we would no longer be slaves to sin..."



Current positional truth is identification with Christ as He is seated at the right hand of God the Father in His resurrection, ascension, and session. Not only is the believer identified with Christ in death and burial (retroactive positional truth), but also in resurrection, ascension, and session (current positional truth) as God replaces the old position (retroactive) with the new position (current). Eph 2:4-8 "But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, (5) even when we were (spiritually) dead in our sins, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), (6) and raised us up with Him, and seated us with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, (7) so that in the ages to come He might show the surpassing riches of His grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus."

Let's start where it makes the most sense to start, at the first stage of our Baptism of the Holy Spirit...*Retroactive Positional Truth*. Rom 6:3-5 "Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death (retroactive positional truth)? (4) We were therefore buried with Him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life (current positional truth). (5)

If we have been united with Him like this in His death, we will certainly also be united with Him in His resurrection. (6) For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin (7) because anyone who has died has been freed from sin. (8) Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him."

Col 2:12 "...having been buried with Him in baptism (retroactive positional truth) and raised with Him (current positional truth) through your faith in the power of God, who raised Him from the dead."

Col 3:3 "For you died (in Christ), and your life is now hidden (sealed for eternity) with Christ in God."

The believer is identified with Christ in His death on the cross and with His burial. So union with Christ is retroactive to the cross. It goes all the way back to the cross. *Retroactive positional truth* is identification with Christ in His spiritual death on the cross, His physical death on the cross, and His burial, through the Baptism of the Spirit. Now you see that identification with Christ in His death includes both His spiritual death and His physical death.



The spiritual death of Christ on the cross is related to God the Father as Supreme Court Judge who imputed or credited all mankind's personal sins to Christ who took our place. He didn't hold us accountable for our personal sins. We were condemned by Adam's sin. He kept our sins aside until the cross. Then He placed our personal sins on Christ for payment. This is the reason and foundation for our salvation. This is Jesus' effective substitutionary atonement for us. In other words, Jesus took our place on the cross and paid the penalty...the price...for all our sins, which were imputed or credited to Him instead of to us. By being identified with Christ on the cross, we have positionally (in Christ) rejected all that sinful man (in Adam) is capable of producing in human history. However, you must never forget that your sin nature is still active and you will continue to sin in this life. But again, God in His goodness gave us a grace provision for

our sinning and that is the first problem solving device...rebound or confession. You must still confess your sins everyday to continue to be in fellowship with Him and to have the guidance of the God the Holy Spirit who battles the sin nature for you.

Through *retroactive positional truth*, the ruler-ship of Satan and the ruler-ship of our old sin natures over us are broken positionally forever. This is excellent news for all believers, kids. *Retroactive positional truth* together with *current positional truth* is the reason for getting rid of slavery to the old sin nature. At the same time, the Baptism of the Holy Spirit (the method that gave us *retroactive and current positional truth*) makes it possible for the sovereignty (ruler-ship) of the Lord in the life of every believer.

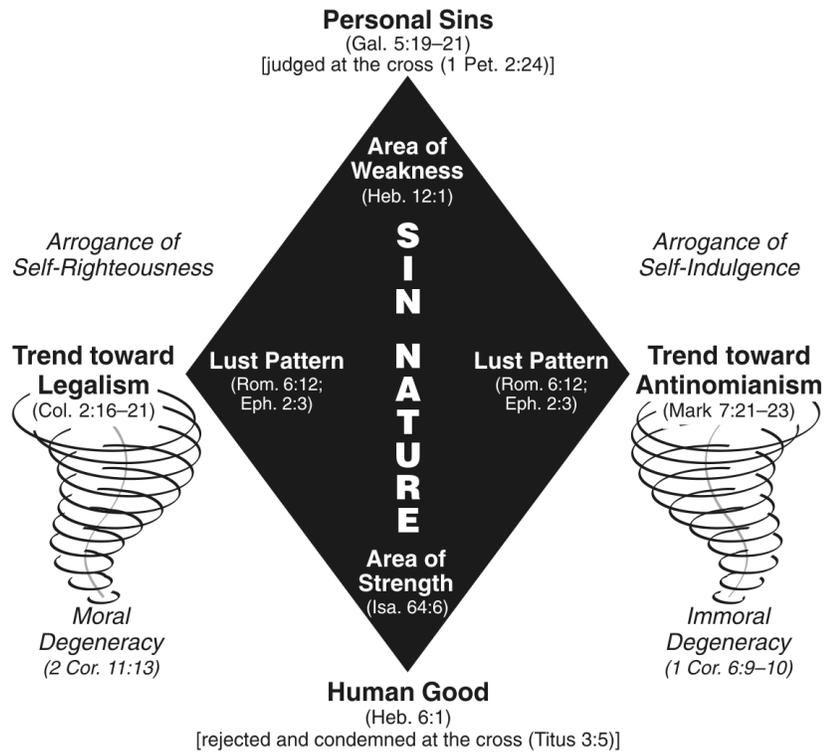
The believer is now positionally dead to his old sin nature and its production. [Rom 6:3-4 \(see above\)](#). The production of the old sin nature includes sin, good and evil (see the sin nature diagram on the next page).

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the reason for victory in the Christian way of life...the plan God has for you personally. When you understand and apply this doctrine, it results in you, the believer, producing divine good for Christ rather than producing human good from your sin nature.

You must obey Jesus and enter His plan for your life, which is studying the Word daily in the filling of the Holy Spirit and applying it. If you fail to do that and fail to apply what you know the Baptism of the Holy Spirit does for you, carnality results and carnality is mass production from the old nature, which means you do not confess your sins. Such production is totally rejected in the plan of God.

Look at this diagram of the sin nature. It gives you a picture of what your sin nature is capable of everyday in your life. Be thankful the Holy Spirit is in you fighting this powerful nature, which is inside all believers.

CHARACTERISTICS OF THE SIN NATURE



R. B. Thieme, Jr., Bible Ministries
5139 West Alabama, Houston, Texas 77056

1b

©1997 by R. B. Thieme, Jr.
All rights reserved

See the area of weakness, which produces our personal sins against God. This is the reason Christ died spiritually for us on the cross. He took all our sins in His body and paid the penalty for them for us!!! Gal 5:19-21 "The acts of the sinful nature are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; (20) idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions (21) and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit (reward in) the kingdom of God." 1 Pet 2:24 "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, so that we might die to sins and live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed."

To be continued.....

Close in prayer

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on March 30, 2011
Lighthouse Bible Church

