

The Light - Junior Series
Lesson 52

The Giver of Spiritual Gifts...the Holy Spirit
The Baptism of God the Holy Spirit
Part 3
What is Water Baptism Then?

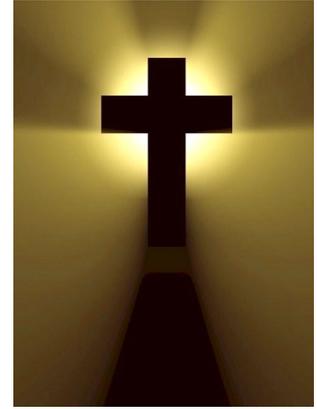


July, 2011

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

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



The baptism by the Spirit is the ministry (work) of God the Holy Spirit in taking every new believer and entering him into permanent vital or very important union with the Person of the Lord Jesus Christ. We are in union with Christ forever, kids. You have to learn this and NEVER forget it. As you remember the result of the Baptism by the Spirit, union with Christ, is also called "positional truth". The New Testament refers to positional truth in many places with the expression "in Christ." So again when you see the phrase "in Christ" while reading in your New Testament, it means the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, positional sanctification, and positional truth (retroactive and current). How's that for a one sentence review of what we have been studying?

Also at the same time the Holy Spirit enters us into union with Christ at the moment we believe in Jesus as our Savior, He also creates a new spiritual species in each new believer. ***2 Cor 5:17 "Therefore if anyone is in Christ, (he is) a new creature; the old things passed away (slavery to the old sin nature); behold, new things have come."*** Therefore, race, culture, and whether you are male or female (gender) are no longer an issue. ***Gal 3:26-28 "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 (Gentile), there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male nor female; for you are all ONE IN CHRIST JESUS."*** God is NOT prejudiced AT ALL!

All of this adds up to equal privilege and equal opportunity to complete or fulfill the plan of God for the church. And as a result of being in union with Christ, we share what Christ has. Kids, this is amazing!!! This is TREASURE!!! By the operation of the Holy Spirit, the believer is vitally joined to the Lord, and so has become a partaker or partner with Christ, also having His life, qualities, privileges and blessings. Doesn't this just thrill you? It should. However, this doesn't mean that all believers take advantage of this treasure. Some NEVER enter the plan of God for their lives and so lose out on reward and blessings that glorify Jesus in time and in eternity.



This baptism by the Holy Spirit is for the Church Age believer ONLY. Remember it is not found in the Old Testament, and there are no eschatological (GIANT WORD FOR FUTURE HAPPENINGS) references to it beyond our Church Age dispensation.



The Baptism by the Holy Spirit is the means of forming the Royal Family of God during the Church Age and is the reason for believers having equal privilege and opportunity among the Royal Family of God especially as a team in the local church or assembly. Remember we are elected to this privilege of having God's highest and best in this life on earth. It is the reason for unity in the Royal Family, the Body of Christ...we are a team...played out in the local assembly...Lighthouse Bible Church for us, kids. And it is accomplished by the omnipotence (POWER) of the Holy Spirit.

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If you remember, by being entered into union with Christ, we are also adopted (Roman style) as royal family of God. We had a long study on our adoption as God's sons and daughters. You know what a privilege this is in your life!! God hand picked you to do a job for Him on earth after you believed...that is your spiritual gift.

And we are also a new spiritual species in God's family. This new nature of ours cannot sin! Let your new nature shine! Your new nature mimics Jesus' nature while on earth. Always walk by means of the Spirit in your new nature.

Again this union with Christ is called "positional sanctification." This is a very, very important subject to master and to make your own. It is a real truth that gets attacked constantly by the kingdom of darkness. That's because the believer who understands his position in Christ is going to have victory over the enemies of Christ because HE KNOWS NOTHING can stop that victory except the believer by going negative to God's plan for his life. We're not going to do that though, are we, kids?

You MUST understand who you have been made to be in Christ. Then when you do, you will understand the grace God pours on you and the great things that God has made available to you in Christ so you can be like Him. Here are things you must know:

1. That you can get the things that Christ is and has from the Word of God and grace.
2. That you receive a huge amount of grace blessings that are yours in Christ.
3. That you are a member of the body of Christ, His bride, His family.

When you learn and know these things about your Baptism into union with Christ by the Holy Spirit, then you are well on your way to becoming that witness who glorifies the Lord Jesus Christ on earth in the Angelic Conflict. You have to know what you have in order to work with what you have and to show the world what Christ is like, right?



SATAN

While there is a lot of confusion about every one of the ministries (works or jobs) of God the Holy Spirit, no other part of His work has been more misrepresented and misunderstood than the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Satan has influenced so many religious people with the wrong meaning of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit it isn't funny! It's really sick. It is also a HUGE sign of the end times!!! This confusion is a result of arrogance and ignorance of the Word of God, which is also a sign of the end times. And the failure here is a failure to carefully understand all of the Scriptures that speak about the subject. Look at what the Bible says about it:

2Ti 3:1-5 "But understand this that in the last days there will come times of difficulty. (2) For people will be lovers of self, lovers of money, proud, arrogant, abusive, disobedient to their parents, ungrateful, unholy, (3) heartless, greedy, slanderous, without self-control, vicious, not loving good, (4) two-faced, reckless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, (5) having the appearance of godliness (spiritual life), but denying its power (from the Holy Spirit). Avoid such people.

2Ti 3:12-17 "Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life (spiritual life...the filling of the Holy Spirit) in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, (13) while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived. (14) But as for you (Timothy and all believers), continue in what you have learned (from the Word of God) and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it (the HOLY SPIRIT) (15) and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you WISE for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. (16) All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for accusation, for correction, and for training in righteousness, (17) that the man of God may be mature, equipped (ready to go) for every good work (divine god)."

The fact is that the word "baptize" has been a source of more religious arguing and prejudice than perhaps any other in the New Testament. Wait a minute...I think "tongues" is right up there with it!!! People actually fight about the proper way to perform the ritual of water baptism. Some say you must go completely into the water and some say you only need to be sprinkled by the water!!!! They even fight and argue about when the ritual should be done...infants can, infants cannot, adults only, and so forth!

And now here's the BIG LIE that Satan started among the religious people...they want to make water baptism a requirement to be saved!!!! NO WAY!!!! Salvation is faith alone in Christ alone, right? YES!



Then there are the Pentecostal types who want to make the baptism of the Holy Spirit a second blessing, which they call an experience that occurs after they are saved. They'll say things like, "Do you have the Spirit?" This means, "Do you guys speak in tongues and have wild out of control emotional experiences in your church services to make them really entertaining and emotional so that they are jumping all around and clapping and really out of control!!!"

And the Bible in the original language turns out to be really helpful in clearing up all this confusion. Are you surprised? I don't think so. Because you know that our Bible is the TRUTH and nothing but the TRUTH, don't you? It is Jesus' mind and Jesus NEVER lies or confuses us.

Let's look at the definition of Baptism or baptize, okay? Baptism means to be identified with someone or something. There are 2 types of baptisms: ritual and real. Also remember the Bible says we are baptized BY the Holy Spirit not WITH the Holy Spirit. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a REAL baptism.

Let me start by making sure there is no confusion about water baptism. Water baptism was a teaching tool during the ministry (work) of John the Baptist and the period of time between the Old and New Testaments. This was recorded for us by the Holy Spirit in the book of Acts. It was mostly a sign to the Jews, letting them know that the Messiah has come as promised in the flesh. It spoke of the Person and Work of their Messiah, the Lord Jesus Christ. This ritual of water baptism has ABSOLUTELY NO SPECIAL MEANING to Church Age believers. IT IS NOT necessary for salvation. WATER baptism is **NOT** the means by which you are entered as a member of the Church...the body of Christ. Water baptism has one purpose and one purpose only...to tell the world that you are a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ.

It is our subject, the Baptism by the Holy Spirit that enters us in union with Christ and makes us members of His family and a member of the Church of Christ. This ministry of God the Holy Spirit occurs at the moment of our salvation...when we believe in Jesus as our Savior. This ministry places the believer in PERMANENT union with the Lord Jesus Christ FOREVER! Again this Baptism by the Spirit is the ONLY baptism that makes a believer a member of the Body of Christ, and therefore a member of the Church. The Baptism by the Holy Spirit, placing the believer in permanent union with the Lord Jesus Christ, is the ONLY baptism that matters in the Church Age.

Close in prayer

Prepared from Pastor John Farley's lesson on February 10, 2011
Lighthouse Bible Church

