

## 1. Distinguishing between 'receiving' and 'being baptized with' the Holy Spirit.

- ✧ *'You must be born again'* – born 'from above' (John 3:7)
  - The 'life-giving' work of the Holy Spirit when we acknowledge Jesus as Savior.
  - *But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His. (Rom 8:9)*
  - *The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God. (Rom 8:16)*
- ✧ Jesus told His followers, "*Receive the Holy Spirit*" (John 20:22), but several weeks later He told them, "*you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.*" (Acts 1:5).
  - And they were on the day of Pentecost in the upper room (Acts 2:1-4).
  - From this we see that it is one thing to receive the Spirit in your life and another to be baptized in Him.
- ✧ Distinguishing
  - The presence of the Spirit gives you spiritual life; (Holy Spirit lives within).
  - The baptism with the Spirit gives you miraculous empowerment to share that life with others. This is why Jesus told His disciples to take the 'good news' to all the world, but only after they had waited in Jerusalem for the 'Promise of the Father' (Act 1:5,8).
  - God wants to both work 'in' you and 'thru' you.
  - Examples...

## 2. Biblical Examples

- ✧ The day of Pentecost as the 120 had gathered in the upper room near Jerusalem, (Acts 2:1-4).
- ✧ Peter and John went to Samaria to minister to those who believed and were baptized in response to Philip's ministry; they prayed for them and they received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:4-17).
- ✧ Ananias prayed for Saul (Paul) to receive his sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit (Act 9:17).
- ✧ The Holy Spirit fell upon those of Cornelius' house as Peter preached (Acts 10:44-48).
- ✧ Paul came to Ephesus (Acts 19:1-7) and prayed for believers there who hadn't yet received the Holy Spirit.

## 3. Don't be troubled by terminology (fluid language - terms change but not the meaning).

- ✧ There are various terms used in scripture for the same thing.
  - In this instance; 1) *you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:5); 2) ...when the Holy Spirit has come upon you (Acts 1:8); 3) *they were all filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4); 4) and they received the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:17); 5) the Holy Spirit fell upon all those... (Acts 10:44); 6) the Holy Spirit had been poured out on... (Acts 10:45).**

## 4. The Purpose and Necessity of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit

- ✧ Power for Service
  - *"But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8).*
  - *"Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. (John 14:12).*
- ✧ Power for Spiritual Warfare
  - The believer needs the fullness of the power of the Holy Spirit upon his life because of the very nature of the task committed to him. Our spiritual task requires spiritual ability.

- The primary arena of conflict for the believer is in the spiritual realm: *For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places. (Eph 6:12)*
- ✧ Power for “Overflow”
  - The Lord is looking for those He can fill with His presence and power that they will ‘overflow’ to others.
  - *“If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. (John 7:37-39)*
- ✧ Power for Ability
  - It is the God-given ability (*power from on high*) to accomplish God-given tasks.
  - It is the ability to. . .obey the Lord, exalt Jesus Christ, love as Jesus loved, exercise spiritual gifts for the building up of the body, suffer persecution, live holy above the ‘standards’ of the world, and serve God - to name a few.

