

“Baptized with the Holy Spirit”

Acts 2:1-4

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1. All believers are baptized by Jesus with the Holy Spirit.

a. The promise of Spirit baptism

i. *John the Baptist promised his disciples*

1. "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 with fire. Matt 3:11 (ESV)

ii. *Jesus promised His disciples*

1. And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me;⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." Acts 1:4-5 (ESV)

b. We are baptized by Jesus

- i. ³³ I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'³⁴ And I have seen and have borne witness that this is the Son of God." John 1:33-34 (ESV)
- ii. "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 with fire. Matt 3:11 (ESV)
- iii. ⁷ And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie.⁸ I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit." Mark 1:7-8 (ESV)
- iv. ¹⁶ John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. Luke 3:16 (ESV)
- v. ³² This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses.³³ Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing. Acts 2:32-33 (ESV)

c. Believers are baptized with the Holy Spirit.

- i. ⁵ for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." Acts 1:5 (ESV)
- ii. *Believers are not baptized with fire.*
 1. Luke used fire as a metaphor to describe the phenomenon that took place on the day of Pentecost.
 - a. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting.³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. Acts 2:2-3 (ESV)

2. John the Baptist used the word fire to refer to the judgment of Christ
 - a. ⁷ But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸ Bear fruit in keeping with repentance. ⁹ And do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father,' for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. ¹⁰ Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. Matt 3:7-10 (ESV)
 - b. ¹² 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." Matt 3:12 (ESV)
 - c. I: Plug- Since it has more than one meaning, its meaning in any given sentence can only be determined by its context.
 - d. ¹¹ "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 with fire. Matt 3:11 (ESV)

2. We are joined with the body of Christ through baptism with the Holy Spirit.

- a. Being baptized with the Spirit brings us into the body of Christ.
 - i. For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body— Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. 1 Cor 12:13 (ESV)
- b. Being baptized with the Spirit brings us into one body.
 - i. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all. Eph 4:4-6 (ESV)
 - ii. ¹⁵ As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, '**John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.**' ¹⁷ If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" ¹⁸ When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life." Acts 11:15-18 (ESV)
 - iii. ²³ Now before faith came, we were held captive under the law, imprisoned until the coming faith would be revealed. ²⁴ So then, the law was our guardian until Christ came, in order that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵ But now that faith has come, we are no longer under a guardian, ²⁶ for in Christ Jesus you are all sons of God, through faith. ²⁷ For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. ²⁸ There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female, for you are all *one* in Christ Jesus. Gal 3:23-28 (ESV)

- iv. *While there are many gifts, there is only one body.*
 - 1. Diversity does not equal division. There are not two classes of Christians.
 - 2. ¹⁷ "But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him." 1 Cor 6:17 (ESV)
- c. All believers have been baptized with the Holy Spirit.
 - i. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? 1 Cor 6:19 (ESV)
 - ii. ⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. Romans 8:9 (ESV)
- d. Believers cannot lose the Holy Spirit.
 - i. *Paul's statement that the believer's body is a temple of the Holy Spirit was directed toward Christians who were engaged in sexual immorality, including but not limited to the use of prostitutes.*
 - 1. The body is not meant for sexual immorality, but for the Lord, and the Lord for the body. ¹⁴ And God raised the Lord and will also raise us up by his power. ¹⁵ Do you not know that your bodies are members of Christ? Shall I then take the members of Christ and make them members of a prostitute? Never! ¹⁶ Or do you not know that he who is joined to a prostitute becomes one body with her? For, as it is written, "The two will become one flesh." ¹⁷ But he who is joined to the Lord becomes one spirit with him. ¹⁸ Flee from sexual immorality. Every other sin a person commits is outside the body, but the sexually immoral person sins against his own body. ¹⁹ Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? 1 Cor 6:13-19 (ESV)
 - ii. *Paul did not tell the Corinthians not to sin in order to get back the Holy Spirit, he told them not to sin because they had the Holy Spirit.*

3. We are baptized with the Holy Spirit at the point of salvation.

- a. We become part of the body of Christ through baptism at the point of salvation.
 - i. ¹³ For in one Spirit we were all baptized into one body— Jews or Greeks, slaves or free—and all were made to drink of one Spirit. 1 Cor 12:13 (ESV)
 - ii. If then we become part of the body through Spirit baptism, then anyone who has not been baptized with the Spirit is not part of the body. And if you are not part of the body of Christ you are lost.
- b. You can not receive Jesus without receiving the Holy Spirit.
 - i. ⁹ You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. Romans 8:9 (ESV)
 - 1. The Spirit of Christ and the Spirit of God are one and the same.
 - a. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit Eph 4:4 (ESV)

- ii. (Describing the Gentiles) Then Peter declared, ⁴⁷ "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" Acts 10:46-47 (ESV)
 - 1. Clearly Peter equated the reception of the Holy Spirit with salvation.
- iii. ¹⁵ As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, '**John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.**' ¹⁷ If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" ¹⁸ When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life." Acts 11:15-18 (ESV)
- c. There is no second baptism.
 - i. ⁴ There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call— ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, Eph 4:4-5 (ESV)
 - ii. *The Bible never commands us to be baptized with the Holy Spirit, but to be filled with the Holy Spirit.*
 - 1. Spirit Baptism is when the Spirit comes and indwells our body. The filling of the Spirit is when we submit to the influence of the Holy Spirit.
 - a. ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, Eph 5:18 (ESV)
 - 2. John MacArthur said that he had read 10 different authors who wrote about how to be baptized with the Holy Spirit. Among the 10 authors, not one agreed about what to do. You know why? Because they had no scripture to guide them.—How many verses in the Bible directs us how to be saved? Countless.
- d. We receive all of the Holy Spirit at Salvation.
 - i. ³⁷ On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "**If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink.** ³⁸ **Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'** " ³⁹ Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. John 7:37-39 (ESV)
 - 1. Jesus' invitation to come is an invitation to salvation which results in rivers of flowing water, not a trickle.
 - ii. ³⁴ For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure. John 3:34 (ESV)
 - iii. Transition: Many people will argue: but what about the believers in Acts who received the Spirit after they were saved.

e. Spirit Baptism occurred subsequent to salvation in the early church because of the unique time in history of establishing for the very first time the early church.

i. *Acts 2:1-4: The Coming of the Spirit at Pentecost*

1. ¹ When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit Acts 2:1-4 (ESV)
2. ³⁷ On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. ³⁸ Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.' " ³⁹ Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified. John 7:37-39 (ESV)
3. The believers at Pentecost were baptized with the Spirit after their salvation, because the Spirit was coming at a distinct time in history, specifically, after the ascension and glorification of Jesus.

ii. *Acts 8:14-17: The giving of the Spirit to the Samaritans*

1. ¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, ¹⁵ who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, ¹⁶ for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. Acts 8:14-17 (ESV)
2. Just as it was necessary for the Spirit to come at Pentecost in a way that everyone could see and hear and thus believe, so the Spirit had to come to the Samaritans in a way that the Jews could believe.
3. It was also necessary for the Samaritans to recognize the authority of the apostles.

iii. *Acts 10:44-48: The Giving of the Spirit to the Gentiles*

1. ⁴⁴ While Peter was still saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell on all who heard the word. ⁴⁵ And the believers from among the circumcised who had come with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out even on the Gentiles. ⁴⁶ For they were hearing them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter declared, ⁴⁷ "Can anyone withhold water for baptizing these people, who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" ⁴⁸ And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to remain for some days. Acts 10:44-48 (ESV)
2. Peter was rebuked by the Jewish believers for associating with the Gentiles, until they heard that Peter saw the Holy Spirit given to them.
3. Acts 10 & 11 are designed to demonstrate that the Gospel is for the Gentiles as well as the Jews

iv. *Acts 19:1-7: The giving of the Spirit to the disciples at Ephesus.*

1. ¹ And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. ² And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³ And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." ⁴ And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." ⁵ On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying. ⁷ There were about twelve men in all. Acts 19:1-7 (ESV)
2. The disciples in Ephesus were disciples of John the Baptist, not of Jesus. When Paul told them about Jesus, they were saved and received the Holy Spirit at the same time.

v. *The Pattern of the giving of the Spirit follows Jesus' promise in Acts 1:8. The Spirit came to the Jews in Jerusalem (Acts 2:1-4); to the Samaritans in Samaria (Acts 8:14-17); and finally to the Gentiles in the ends of the earth (Acts 10:44-48).*