

Introduction

- What does it mean to be baptized in the Holy Spirit?
- Does this baptism take place at conversion or after?
- What does this have to do with water baptism?
- Does speaking in tongues always come after Spirit baptism?

Main Passages

- Jesus promises to bring a baptism of the Holy Spirit and fire (Luke 3:16).
- This baptism is distinct from John's.
- This baptism comes at Pentecost (Acts 2).
- In Acts, it is often accompanied by speaking in tongues (Acts 10:44-48, 19:6).
- The Spirit is coming from the laying on of hands, leading to such great miracles that Simon wants to buy its power (Acts 8:17).
- Some who are believers have not yet received it.
- We also have to contend with regular passages on baptism.
- Ephesians 4:5, "one Lord, one faith, one baptism."

Spirit Baptism as 2nd Experience

- The general charismatic position is that being baptized in the Holy Spirit is a second experience after regeneration that is accompanied by speaking in tongues.
- Each instance of baptism in the Holy Spirit in Acts leads to speaking in tongues.
- In Acts, this often comes after being baptized by water and receiving the gospel.
- They believe not everyone receives this blessing, but anyone can through faith.
- The presence of miracles after baptism is almost exclusively from Gentiles.
- This miracle is to prove to the Jews that the Gentiles have received the same spirit.
- Speaking in tongues does not mean they have received the gift, i.e. Saul's prophecy.

Spirit Baptism as Conversion

- This view sees baptism in the Holy Spirit as taking place at conversion/regeneration.
- This is universal for every single believer.
- Conversion in Acts does not follow any universal pattern.
- Charismatics make the Samaritans the pattern (conversion, water baptism, then spirit baptism).
- Evangelicals want to make Cornelius the pattern (hearing the gospel, receiving spirit, then water baptism).
- There is only one baptism.

Water Baptism

- The Scriptures, outside of Acts, do not distinguish between water or spirit baptism.
- Conversion, regeneration, and being baptized in the Holy Spirit and in water are largely seen as one linked event.
- Baptism is an initiation rite that marks an individual as a member of the church and the people of God.
- This is why 1 Peter 3:21 can say "baptism now saves you."

Full of the Holy Spirit

- There is a Biblical difference between being in the Spirit and being filled with the Spirit.
- Sometimes the Charismatic view can blur this distinction.
- Being full of the Spirit is an experience that comes after conversion.
- This is an experience that can be repeated and should be sought after.
- Some are filled for special tasks or the purpose of preaching.
- It is a special experience we can cultivate (Eph 5:19-21), but not by a formula.

Conclusion

- To be baptized in the Holy Spirit is to be baptized into Christ, adopted by God, born again, and empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- We can understand why some would read the Bible and see this as normative.
- We should seek to be filled with the Spirit.