



How to be
Baptized
with the
Holy Spirit
by Jimmy Swaggart

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CHAPTER ONE

THE LAST WORD GIVEN BY CHRIST

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CHAPTER ONE

THE LAST WORD GIVEN BY CHRIST

“AND, BEING ASSEMBLED TOGETHER WITH THEM (speaks of the time He ascended back to the Father; this was probably the time of the “*above five hundred*” [I Cor. 15:6]), ***COMMANDED THEM*** (not a suggestion) ***THAT THEY SHOULD NOT DEPART FROM JERUSALEM*** (the site of the Temple, where the Holy Spirit would descend), ***BUT WAIT FOR THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER*** (spoke of the Holy Spirit, which had been promised by the Father [Lk. 24:49; Joel, Chpt. 2]), ***WHICH, SAID HE, YOU HAVE HEARD OF ME*** (you have also heard Me say these things [Jn. 7:37-39; 14:12-17, 26; 15:26; 16:7-15]).

“FOR JOHN TRULY BAPTIZED WITH WATER (merely symbolized the very best Baptism [Baptism of Repentance] Believers could receive before the Day of Pentecost); ***BUT YOU SHALL***

BE BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT NOT MANY DAYS HENCE” (spoke of the coming Day of Pentecost, although Jesus did not use that term at that time) (Acts 1:4-5).

The last words spoken by anyone are very important. To be sure, the last words spoken by Christ are of the utmost significance.

The account given in the First Chapter of Acts constitutes the last Message that Christ will deliver before His Ascension. Consequently, that which He says, as stated, is of supreme significance.

He could have spoken of coming world events according to Bible Prophecy. In fact, He could have said anything. His last Message, however, to His Disciples and all His followers was that they be Baptized with the Holy Spirit, which would take place in a few days. He did not suggest this; He “*commanded them*” (Acts 1:4). In essence, He was saying, “*Don’t go testify about Me, don’t go preach about My Resurrection, don’t go and say anything about Me or about the Work of God until you are first Baptized with the Holy Spirit.*”

The Second Chapter of Acts portrays this momentous occasion when the Holy Spirit came in

a new dimension, when all the Disciples and scores of others were Baptized with the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking with other tongues.

POWER

Jesus had told them in His last Message in Acts 1:8, ***“BUT YOU SHALL RECEIVE POWER*** (miracle-working power), ***AFTER THAT THE HOLY SPIRIT IS COME UPON YOU*** (specifically states that this “Power” is inherent in the Holy Spirit, and solely in His domain): ***AND YOU SHALL BE WITNESSES*** (doesn’t mean witnessing to souls, but rather to one giving one’s all in every capacity for Christ, even to the laying down of one’s life, if necessary) ***UNTO ME*** (without the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, one cannot really know Jesus as one should) ***BOTH IN JERUSALEM, AND IN ALL JUDAEA, AND IN SAMARIA, AND UNTO THE UTTERMOST PART OF THE EARTH”*** (proclaims the Work of God as being worldwide).

So, we learn from this that it is absolutely necessary for the person, after he has come to Christ,

which means after he has been Born-Again, to be Baptized with the Holy Spirit. Jesus said so! Jesus says, in effect, that we are not going to do very much for Him unless we are Baptized with the Holy Spirit.

CHAPTER TWO

THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT IS AN EXPERIENCE SEPARATE AND APART FROM SALVATION

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CHAPTER TWO

THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT IS AN EXPERIENCE SEPARATE AND APART FROM SALVATION

It certainly is true that every person who gives his heart to Christ most definitely receives the Holy Spirit at the moment he is saved; however, there is a vast difference between being “*born of the Spirit*” and being “*Baptized with the Spirit.*” These are altogether two different things.

The Word of God, which alone must be our criteria, plainly tells us that the mighty Baptism with the Holy Spirit, which is available to every single Believer, is received after conversion. In fact, one cannot be Baptized with the Holy Spirit until one first has been saved.

Jesus said:

“AND I WILL PRAY THE FATHER, AND HE SHALL GIVE YOU ANOTHER COMFORTER (“*Parakletos,*” which means “*One*

called to the side of another to help”), **THAT HE MAY ABIDE WITH YOU FOREVER** (before the Cross, the Holy Spirit could only help a few individuals, and then only for a period of time; since the Cross, He lives in the hearts and lives of all Believers, and does so forever);

“**EVEN THE SPIRIT OF TRUTH** (the Greek says, “*The Spirit of The Truth*,” which refers to the Word of God; actually, He does far more than merely superintend the attribute of Truth, as Christ “*is Truth*” [I Jn. 5:6]); **WHOM THE WORLD CANNOT RECEIVE** (the Holy Spirit cannot come into the heart of the unbeliever until that person makes Christ his or her Saviour; then He comes in), **BECAUSE IT SEES HIM NOT, NEITHER KNOWS HIM**” (refers to the fact that only Born-Again Believers can understand the Holy Spirit and know Him) (Jn. 14:16-17).

When the believing sinner comes to Christ, he should then ask the Lord to Baptize him with the Holy Spirit. It can happen instantly, even moments after he is saved, or anytime thereafter.

Let’s see what the Bible says.

ACTS, CHAPTER 2

The account in the Second Chapter of Acts of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, which took place on the Day of Pentecost, surely must be understood as the Holy Spirit being poured out on individuals who already had been saved. Every one of these one hundred and twenty, or however many there were, which included Jesus' chosen Disciples, had all given their hearts to Christ. Jesus had, in fact, told them earlier: ***“NOTWITHSTANDING IN THIS REJOICE NOT, THAT THE SPIRITS ARE SUBJECT UNTO YOU; BUT RATHER REJOICE, BECAUSE YOUR NAMES ARE WRITTEN IN HEAVEN”*** (Lk. 10:20).

ACTS, CHAPTER 8

The Eighth Chapter of Acts gives us the account of Philip preaching a revival in a city of Samaria, with many people being saved; however, at this time, there was no one Baptized with the Holy Spirit. But, according to the Scripture, Acts 8:14-16,

“NOW WHEN THE APOSTLES WHICH WERE AT JERUSALEM HEARD THAT SAMARIA HAD RECEIVED THE WORD OF GOD (many had been saved), THEY SENT UNTO THEM PETER AND JOHN (for a reason which we will see): WHO, WHEN THEY WERE COME DOWN, PRAYED FOR THEM, THAT THEY MIGHT RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT (this was their purpose for coming, and this is how important it is for Believers to be Baptized with the Spirit): FOR AS YET HE (the Holy Spirit) WAS FALLEN UPON NONE OF THEM” (evidently Philip had strongly preached Salvation, but had not preached the Baptism with the Holy Spirit).

So, if all converts are Baptized with the Holy Spirit at conversion, as many teach, what were Peter and John doing praying for these Samaritans to be Baptized with the Holy Spirit? But the truth is, as stated, one is not Baptized with the Holy Spirit simultaneously with conversion. The Baptism with the Holy Spirit is an experience separate and apart from Salvation.

ACTS, CHAPTER 9

The Ninth Chapter of Acts gives us the account of Paul (then called “*Saul*”) being converted and then being Baptized with the Holy Spirit. Paul was saved on the road to Damascus, when the Lord appeared to him (Acts 9:1-7). However, he was not Baptized with the Holy Spirit at that time. This took place three days later (Acts 9:9) when Ananias was sent by the Lord to pray for Paul that he “***MIGHT RECEIVE HIS SIGHT AND BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT***” (Acts 9:17).

ACTS, CHAPTER 10

The Tenth Chapter of Acts gives us the account of the conversion of Cornelius and his household, and also the account of them being Baptized with the Holy Spirit. As Peter preached to these Gentiles, the Scripture says, “***THE HOLY SPIRIT FELL ON ALL THEM THAT HEARD THE WORD***” (Acts 10:44). The account given here portrays the fact that Cornelius and all the other

Gentiles gathered there that day were saved as they believed, and then, moments later, Baptized with the Holy Spirit.

ACTS, CHAPTER 19

This account concerns the Ephesian Disciples being Baptized with the Holy Spirit. They were followers of Christ, meaning they had accepted Christ as their Saviour, but had not yet been Baptized with the Holy Spirit. (Any time the word “*Disciple*” is used in the Book of Acts, it always, and without exception, refers to one being a follower of Christ and, thereby, Born-Again.)

In speaking with these men, Paul determined that they had not been Baptized with the Holy Spirit. So, Paul asks them the question, “**HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT SINCE YOU BELIEVED?**” (In the Greek, this is literally, “*Having believed, did you receive?*”) (Acts 19:2).

The Disciples responded, “**WE HAVE NOT SO MUCH AS HEARD WHETHER THERE BE ANY HOLY SPIRIT**” (doesn’t mean that they didn’t know of the existence of the Holy Spirit, but

they were not aware that the age of the Spirit had come, and that Believers could literally be Baptized with Him; at Salvation, the Holy Spirit Baptizes believing sinners into Christ; at the Spirit Baptism, Jesus Baptizes Believers into the Holy Spirit [Mat. 3:11].)

Paul prayed for these Disciples, actually laying hands on them, and the Bible tells us that they were then Baptized with the Holy Spirit (Acts 19:6).

The five accounts given concerning Believers being Baptized with the Holy Spirit proclaim the fact that the Baptism with the Spirit is an experience subsequent to Salvation. In other words, it is to be received after one has been saved; in fact, it can only be received after one has been saved.

Once again, allow us to state:

When a person is saved, he is “*born of the Spirit.*” That, however, is not the same as being “*Baptized with the Spirit*”; the latter always follows Salvation, as proven, as we have outlined above, by Scripture.

CHAPTER THREE

SPEAKING WITH OTHER TONGUES IS THE INITIAL, PHYSICAL EVIDENCE THAT ONE HAS BEEN BAPTIZED WITH THE SPIRIT

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CHAPTER THREE

SPEAKING WITH OTHER TONGUES IS THE INITIAL, PHYSICAL EVIDENCE THAT ONE HAS BEEN BAPTIZED WITH THE SPIRIT

There are five accounts given in the Book of Acts of people being Baptized with the Holy Spirit. Let's look at those accounts.

THE DAY OF PENTECOST

The Scripture clearly says, ***“AND THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT*** (all were filled, not just the Apostles; due to the Cross, the Holy Spirit could now come into the hearts and lives of all Believers to abide permanently [Jn. 14:16]), ***AND BEGAN TO SPEAK WITH OTHER TONGUES*** (the initial, physical evidence that one has been Baptized with the Spirit, as was predicted by the Prophet Isaiah [Isa. 28:9-12], and by Christ [Mk. 16:17; Jn. 15:26; 16:13]), ***AS THE SPIRIT GAVE THEM UTTERANCE”***

(meaning they did not initiate this themselves, but it was initiated by the Spirit; as is obvious in the following Verses, these were languages known somewhere in the world, but not by the speaker) (Acts 2:4).

So, the Scripture plainly says here that when these, on the Day of Pentecost, were Baptized with the Holy Spirit, they *“spoke with other tongues.”*

THE SAMARITAN EXPERIENCE

The account given of the Samaritans who were Baptized with the Holy Spirit is very sparse. It doesn't say outright that they spoke with tongues, but it also doesn't say they didn't. And yet, there is evidence they did.

Let's look at what the Scripture has to say.

When Peter and John prayed for these people to be Baptized with the Spirit, they were filled, and then Simon the Sorcerer offered Peter and John money that he might have this power to lay hands on people for them to be filled with the Spirit.

Peter said unto Simon, ***“YOUR MONEY PERISH WITH YOU, BECAUSE YOU HAVE***

THOUGHT THAT THE GIFT OF GOD MAY BE PURCHASED WITH MONEY. YOU HAVE NEITHER PART NOR LOT IN THIS MATTER.” (The word “*matter*” in the Greek, as it is used here, is “*logos*,” which means “*a word or speech*”; Peter is referring to these Believers speaking with other tongues) (Acts 8:20-21).

So this Verse (Acts 8:21) could be translated, ***“YOU HAVE NEITHER PART NOR LOT IN THIS UTTERANCE,”*** which is what it actually means.

THE EXPERIENCE OF PAUL

The Ninth Chapter of Acts records this experience, telling how Paul was saved, healed, and Baptized with the Holy Spirit (Acts 9:10-18).

As with the Samaritans, the information given concerning Paul being Baptized with the Holy Spirit is very slim. It just says, in the words of Ananias, ***“THAT YOU MIGHT RECEIVE YOUR SIGHT, AND BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT”*** (Acts 9:17). It doesn't here say what happened; however, Paul himself said, concerning

speaking with tongues, ***“I THANK MY GOD, I SPEAK WITH TONGUES MORE THAN YOU ALL”*** (I Cor. 14:18).

THE EXPERIENCE OF CORNELIUS AND HIS HOUSEHOLD

This is recorded in the Tenth Chapter of Acts.

The account tells how Peter preached to Cornelius and those with him (incidentally, all were Gentiles), and how they accepted Christ. Immediately after they accepted Christ, they were Baptized with the Holy Spirit, and the Scripture then says”

“AND THEY OF THE CIRCUMCISION (Jews) WHICH BELIEVED (believed in Christ) WERE ASTONISHED (at what they saw the Lord doing, which could not be denied), AS MANY AS CAME WITH PETER, BECAUSE THAT ON THE GENTILES ALSO WAS Poured OUT THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT (Cornelius and his household were saved, and then, moments later, Baptized with the Holy Spirit!).

“FOR THEY HEARD THEM SPEAK WITH TONGUES (this is the initial, physical

evidence that one has been Baptized with the Holy Spirit; it always, and without exception, accompanies the Spirit Baptism), **AND MAGNIFY GOD** (means that some of them would stop speaking in tongues momentarily, and then begin to praise God in their natural language, magnifying His Name). **THEN ANSWERED PETER** (presents the Apostle about to take another step),

“CAN ANY MAN FORBID WATER, THAT THESE SHOULD NOT BE BAPTIZED (they had accepted Christ and had been Baptized with the Spirit, so now they should be Baptized in Water, which they were), **WHICH HAVE RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT AS WELL AS WE?”** (Multiple millions of Gentiles since that day have been Baptized with the Holy Spirit. All, without exception, also spoke with tongues when they were filled) (Acts 10:45-47).

THE EPHESIAN DISCIPLES

This account is fully presented in the Nineteenth Chapter of Acts.

When the Apostle Paul came into contact with

about twelve men, he ascertained that they were saved, meaning that they had accepted Christ, but then he asked them, ***“HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT SINCE YOU BELIEVED?”*** (Acts 19:2).

They had not, so the Apostle laid his hands on them, praying for them. The Scripture then says, ***“THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME ON THEM; AND THEY SPOKE WITH TONGUES, AND PROPHESED”*** (Acts 19:6).

We have, therefore, five occasions in the Book of Acts with Believers being Baptized with the Holy Spirit. Three of those times, the Scripture specifically states that the Believers spoke with other tongues. The other two times it is heavily implied that they did.

From the Scriptures, we must affirm that the initial, physical evidence that one has been Baptized with the Holy Spirit is *“speaking with other tongues.”* If one hasn’t spoken with other tongues, then the evidence is that they have not yet been Baptized with the Holy Spirit. According to the Scriptures, there is no such thing as one being Baptized with the Holy Spirit without tongues.

CHAPTER FOUR

**HOW DOES SPEAKING
WITH OTHER TONGUES
HELP ANYONE?**

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HOW DOES SPEAKING WITH OTHER TONGUES HELP ANYONE?

Once again, let's go to the Scriptures. This will tell us the value of speaking with other tongues.

1. It is the Lord Who said that speaking with tongues would be a part of the Believer's experience. He said it, in fact, nearly 800 years before the fact. Through the Prophet Isaiah, He said, "***FOR WITH STAMMERING LIPS AND ANOTHER TONGUE WILL HE SPEAK TO THIS PEOPLE***" (Isa. 28:11).

Paul quoted this Scripture when he said, "***IN THE LAW IT IS WRITTEN, WITH MEN OF OTHER TONGUES AND OTHER LIPS WILL I SPEAK UNTO THIS PEOPLE; AND YET FOR ALL THAT WILL THEY NOT HEAR ME, SAITH THE LORD***" (I Cor. 14:21). We had best understand that whatever the Lord gives is of supreme importance. So when people ask, respecting speaking with other tongues, "*What good is it?*", they are, in effect, saying that the Lord doesn't

know what He is doing!

2. Paul also said, “**WHEREFORE TONGUES ARE FOR A SIGN, NOT TO THEM WHO BELIEVE, BUT TO THEM WHO BELIEVE NOT**” (I Cor. 14:22).

What did he mean by that?

He meant that speaking with other tongues, especially in this Latter Rain Outpouring, is a sign to the entire world (unbelievers) that we are coming down to the end. Jesus is about ready to come.

3. When one speaks in tongues, one is speaking unto God. Paul said, “**FOR HE WHO SPEAKS IN AN UNKNOWN TONGUE SPEAKS NOT UNTO MEN, BUT UNTO GOD**” (I Cor. 14:2). To be sure, anything that one speaks to God, especially when controlled by the Holy Spirit, cannot be anything but beneficial.

4. Paul also said, “**HOWBEIT IN THE SPIRIT HE SPEAKS MYSTERIES**” (I Cor. 14:2). The word “*mysteries*” actually means that the person speaks “*secrets*” unto God.

5. Luke wrote, “**WE DO HEAR THEM SPEAK IN OUR TONGUES THE WONDERFUL WORKS OF GOD**” (Acts 2:11). So, when

a person speaks in tongues, he is not only declaring secrets to the Lord, but also **“THE WONDERFUL WORKS OF GOD”** (Acts 2:1-13).

6. Paul said, **“HE WHO SPEAKS IN AN UNKNOWN TONGUE EDIFIES HIMSELF”** (I Cor. 14:4). It should go without saying that every Believer needs edification. We need encouragement, comfort, and strength; all of this can come through the Believer worshipping in tongues.

7. Tongues and Interpretation are used to give Messages from the Lord to the people. Anything from the Lord is of great blessing (I Cor. 14:13). This is so important, in fact, that the Holy Spirit implored those to whom He had given the **“GIFT OF TONGUES,”** and we speak of one of the nine Gifts of the Spirit, to pray that they also may be given the Gift of Interpretation.

While all things from the Lord can be described as **“GIFTS,”** still, the nine Gifts of the Spirit are set aside as special (I Cor. 12:4-11).

8. Jude said, **“BUT YOU, BELOVED, BUILDING UP YOURSELVES ON YOUR MOST HOLY FAITH, PRAYING IN THE HOLY SPIRIT”** (Jude 20). This speaks of praying

in tongues, and plainly tells us that when such is done, it builds up the Believer, as it regards **“FAITH.”** This means that the Faith that one has is enlarged to its utmost capacity, which every Believer needs.

9. Isaiah, in predicting the coming time when Believers would be Baptized with the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking with other tongues (Isa. 28:11), also stated, **“THIS IS THE REST WHEREWITH YOU MAY CAUSE THE WEARY TO REST”** (Isa. 28:12). Understanding this, one might say that speaking with other tongues is God’s way of replenishing the Believer’s strength. And, to be sure, as one goes through this vale of life, weariness, at times, sets in, requiring rest. Speaking with other tongues will provide that **“REST.”**

10. In the same Verse, Isaiah also said, **“AND THIS IS THE REFRESHING.”** So, not only is **“REST”** provided, but speaking with other tongues rejuvenates the Believer. It is sad that the modern Church has, by and large, opted for humanistic psychology, which holds no answers whatsoever, when the Lord has plainly given us His solution for the wear and tear of life’s journey (Isa. 28:11-12).

11. Concerning the episode involving Simon

Peter and Cornelius, Luke wrote, **“FOR THEY HEARD THEM SPEAK WITH TONGUES, AND MAGNIFY GOD”** (Acts 10:46). We are plainly told here that speaking with other tongues magnifies God. Anything that magnifies God is beneficial, as should be readily understood.

12. Concerning the Day of Pentecost, Luke also wrote, **“AND THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND BEGAN TO SPEAK WITH OTHER TONGUES, AS THE SPIRIT GAVE THEM UTTERANCE”** (Acts 2:4). Anything which the Holy Spirit originates, as He does with **“SPEAKING WITH OTHER TONGUES,”** is beneficial — and in more ways than we will ever know.

13. Speaking with other tongues is the fulfillment of Bible Prophecy. Peter, quoting the Prophet Joel, said, **“AND IT SHALL COME TO PASS IN THE LAST DAYS, SAITH GOD, I WILL POUR OUT OF MY SPIRIT UPON ALL FLESH: AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS:**

“AND ON MY SERVANTS AND ON MY HANDMAIDENS I WILL POUR OUT IN THOSE DAYS OF MY SPIRIT; AND THEY SHALL PROPHECY” (Acts 2:17-18).

So, every time a Believer speaks with other tongues, it is a fulfillment of Bible Prophecy. Anyone who is privileged to participate in such a Move of God is privileged indeed!

14. Concerning praying in tongues, Paul said, **“FOR IF I PRAY IN AN UNKNOWN TONGUE, MY SPIRIT PRAYS”** (I Cor. 14:14). One’s spirit praying is the highest form of prayer and of worship, and that which every Believer ought to desire.

I think we have proven from the Scriptures the tremendous value of speaking with other tongues.

CHAPTER FIVE

HOW TO BE BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

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The following lists seven steps which may possibly help the Believer to be Baptized with the Holy Spirit. Those seven steps are:

1. YOU MUST BE BORN-AGAIN:

The only (I said, “*the only*”) requirement for one to be Baptized with the Holy Spirit is to first be “*born again*” (Jn. 3:3, 16).

Regrettably, many people ignorantly try to add requirements and qualifications which are not given in the Word of God. Those manufactured qualifications pertain to about anything that one could think; however, there is only one, as stated, that is, to be “*born again.*”

Actually, even after people come to Christ, at times there still are problems in their lives which hinder their progress with the Lord. To be frank, that is one of the reasons they need the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. But to tell these people they’ve got to get rid of all these problems before

they receive the Holy Spirit, whatever those problems may be, is putting the cart before the horse.

For example, my Grandmother was one of the Godliest women I have ever known. But yet, after she came to Christ, she had a real problem giving up cigarettes. In fact, she smoked cigarettes right up to the time the Lord Baptized her with the Spirit. After that, she never touched another cigarette, and the reason is obvious. She now had the power that she previously did not have to help her do the things she could not do before being filled (Acts 1:8; Rom., Chpt. 8).

This Power is registered in the Holy Spirit, and comes to us by the means of the Cross. In other words, what Jesus did at the Cross makes it possible for the Holy Spirit to come into our hearts and lives and to abide permanently (Jn. 14:16-17). The only thing that is really required of the Believer is that he ever make the Cross of Christ the Object of his Faith (Rom. 6:1-14). Once this is done, the Holy Spirit will then work mightily within our lives, giving us victory over all works of the flesh (Rom. 8:1-2, 11).

So, irrespective of whatever problems the Believer may have, other than unbelief, those things will

not stop one from being Baptized with the Holy Spirit. The only requirement, as stated, is to be “*born again.*”

2. SCRIPTURAL:

The one who is asking for the Holy Spirit must settle it in his spirit once and for all that this great Gift is for all Believers, and it is for all Believers at this particular time. He must get all doubt, and every question which casts aspersions on the Word of God, out of his heart. As someone has well said, “*Salvation is the greatest Gift that God has for the unredeemed, and the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is the greatest Gift that God has for the Believer.*”

Jesus called the Holy Spirit the “**PROMISE OF THE FATHER**” (Acts 1:4), and He said, “**BUT YOU SHALL BE BAPTIZED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT . . .**” (Acts 1:5).

Satan will do everything within his power to bring doubt to the Believer, telling him this experience passed away with the Apostles, or that it was only for the Early Church, or that one gets everything when one is saved, etc. The list is endless, especially when one makes up their own doctrine and does not follow the Bible.

To be sure, when one is saved, one is just as saved as one ever will be. In other words, one is not “*more saved*” after one is Baptized with the Spirit. That is not the idea. Regarding the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, the idea is that the Believer now has “*Power*” and “*Relationship with Christ,*” which are otherwise impossible.

For the Believer to receive, the Believer must understand that the Baptism with the Holy Spirit is Scriptural, and that it is for all Believers (which means every single, solitary Believer). Doubt has kept more from receiving than anything else. It is for you, and you must not allow Satan, or any of Satan’s tools (unbelieving Preachers, etc.), to talk you out of that which God has promised to you.

3. HAVE FAITH:

Everything that anyone receives from the Lord is always by Faith. In other words, we are to believe what He has promised in His Word, and He has promised the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:4).

As I mentioned, if one is in a state of unbelief concerning the Baptism with the Holy Spirit, the Lord will not fill that person. The Scripture says, “***BUT WITHOUT FAITH IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO***

PLEASE HIM: FOR HE WHO COMES TO GOD MUST BELIEVE THAT HE IS, AND THAT HE IS A REWARDER OF THEM WHO DILIGENTLY SEEK HIM” (Heb. 11:6).

So, one must believe!

4. DO NOT FEAR:

Some people have been erroneously taught that if they ask the Lord for the Holy Spirit, then they are opening themselves up to the spirit world and can receive demon spirits, etc. That is patently untrue!

The Scripture plainly tells us, ***“IF A SON SHALL ASK BREAD OF ANY OF YOU WHO IS A FATHER, WILL HE GIVE HIM A STONE? OR IF HE ASK A FISH, WILL HE FOR A FISH GIVE HIM A SERPENT?***

“OR IF HE SHALL ASK AN EGG, WILL HE OFFER HIM AN EGG CONTAINING A SCORPION?

“IF YOU THEN, BEING EVIL, KNOW HOW TO GIVE GOOD GIFTS UNTO YOUR CHILDREN: HOW MUCH MORE SHALL YOUR HEAVENLY FATHER GIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT TO THEM WHO ASK HIM?”

(Lk. 11:11-13).

In other words, the Lord is telling us that if we ask for the Holy Spirit, He will not allow us to receive anything else except that for which we ask. The Lord actually places a shield around those who ask for the Holy Spirit, which Satan is not allowed to enter.

Once again, we are speaking of those who are “*born again*,” and not the unsaved, asking for the Holy Spirit. To be frank, if those who are unsaved would ask for such, it is actually possible for them to receive that which is not of the Lord. It is an entirely different thing when an unsaved person asks for such. But if a person is a Child of God, he is not going to receive an evil spirit.

5. WHAT TO EXPECT:

Most Believers don’t know what to expect relative to asking the Lord to Baptize them with the Holy Spirit; consequently, they should be told what to expect. If we don’t tell them what to expect, they will not know what is going on when the Spirit moves on them.

The person is to expect the Holy Spirit to put supernatural words (tongues) into their spirit, and then to move upon their vocal organs, etc.

Many Believers have the idea that the Lord will make them, or force them, to speak in tongues, which He will not do! He will give the utterance, but that's all that He will do. It is left to the Believer to speak out the words given to him by the Spirit within his heart.

To be frank, the Holy Spirit will not take you over and make you do anything. He will move upon the person, but they have to work in cooperation with Him. It is the Believer who speaks with other tongues, not the Holy Spirit. Nowhere in the Bible do we find that the Holy Spirit Himself speaks in tongues. Every Scriptural reference tells us that it is people who do the speaking.

The Scripture says,

“THEY (the people) BEGAN TO SPEAK WITH OTHER TONGUES, AS THE SPIRIT GAVE THEM UTTERANCE” (Acts 2:4).

“FOR THEY HEARD THEM SPEAK WITH TONGUES, AND MAGNIFY GOD” (Acts 10:46).

“AND WHEN PAUL HAD LAID HIS HANDS UPON THEM, THE HOLY SPIRIT CAME ON THEM; AND THEY SPOKE

WITH TONGUES, AND PROPHESED”
(Acts 19:6).

Notice in the Scriptures we have given, and many more we could give, it is always the individual who speaks in tongues, while the Holy Spirit is the One Who gives the utterance. So, the Believer is to speak out the words that he hears down in his spirit, which are not English, or any language he already knows. The words he speaks are those given by the Holy Spirit, but that is all the Spirit will do. It's up to the individual to go ahead and speak out what the Spirit is giving. If the Believer doesn't do it, he cannot be filled.

Of course, this does not mean that one is to make up unintelligible words, etc. That is not the idea at all! However, whenever the person comes to receive the Holy Spirit, if he is sincere, and if he yields before the Lord, the Holy Spirit will then begin to give the utterance, which will be obvious in the person's heart.

Upon being filled, a person may speak in tongues for quite a length of time, or he may speak only a few words.

6. YIELD:

When the individual comes to be filled with the Spirit (and one can be filled anywhere), they should be told to yield to the Spirit, which is absolutely necessary. By yielding, I mean that in their heart (not aloud), they should say, “*Lord, I am asking you to fill me with the Holy Spirit, and I now receive.*”

I encourage people not to pray aloud, actually not even to themselves, when they come to receive the Holy Spirit, other than what I have just said. The reason is that they cannot speak two languages at one time. If they are speaking English (or another language that they’ve learned somewhere), they can only speak that and nothing else. As stated, the Lord will not break in upon them and force them to speak in tongues.

So, the person should open his (her) mouth, breathe in as deeply as possible, and, in their heart, tell the Lord that they receive. Then the person will begin to sense the words given him by the Holy Spirit, which will not be a language that he knows. He is to then speak those words, and continue to do so. That is what I mean by “*yielding.*”

The Scripture says, “**UNTO ME MEN GIVE**

EAR, AND WAITED, AND KEPT SILENCE AT MY COUNSEL. AFTER MY WORDS THEY SPOKE NOT AGAIN; AND MY SPEECH DROPPED UPON THEM.

As is obvious, the Scripture says they did not say anything, but kept silence. Then the Lord said, ***“MY SPEECH DROPPED UPON THEM.”***

The Scripture also says, ***“AND THEY WAITED FOR ME AS FOR THE RAIN; AND THEY OPENED THEIR MOUTH WIDE AS FOR THE LATTER RAIN”*** (Job 29:21-23).

The Latter Rain, as every Bible student knows, is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:23; Acts 2:16-18).

7. RECEIVE:

The candidate has to understand that God has already given the Spirit, and that it is up to that person now to receive the Gift. It is a ***“GIFT”***; consequently, the only thing one can do respecting a gift is to receive it.

In Peter’s sermon on the Day of Pentecost, he said, ***“AND YOU SHALL RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT”*** (Acts 2:38).

So, the Believer does not come before the Lord

to tarry, at least as it regards receiving the Holy Spirit. “*Tarrying*” (and I speak of “*tarrying before the Lord*”) is wonderful and something that one should do every day of one’s life, but we are not told in Scripture to do that respecting the receiving of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit.

Many confuse the Scripture in Luke where Jesus said, “**AND, BEHOLD, I SEND THE PROMISE OF MY FATHER UPON YOU: BUT TARRY YE IN THE CITY OF JERUSALEM, UNTIL YOU BE ENDUED WITH POWER FROM ON HIGH**” (Lk. 24:49). It is true that Jesus told His followers to “*tarry,*” but it was only because the Holy Spirit had not yet come. On the Day of Pentecost, He came. Consequently, every other time that one reads in the Book of Acts about people receiving the Holy Spirit, there was no tarrying involved. They received immediately.

The Holy Spirit has already come, as should be overly obvious, so there is no more need to wait, or tarry, to receive Him. To do so would constitute “*works,*” which would nullify the “**GIFT**” aspect of the Holy Spirit. So, even though tarrying before the Lord is very good, it is good only for other

particular type of things, not to be Baptized with the Holy Spirit.

So, the Believer must say, “*I am going to receive this Gift of God,*” which is all the Lord expects one to do, other than having faith and believing, etc. It is yours, promised by the Lord (Acts 1:4-5).

“AND THEY WERE ALL FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT, AND BEGAN TO SPEAK WITH OTHER TONGUES, AS THE SPIRIT GAVE THEM UTTERANCE” (Acts 2:4).