

## THE INITIAL EVIDENCE

There are five specific accounts of people receiving the Baptism with the Holy Spirit in the “Acts of the Apostles”. Take time to be familiar with each.

1. **The Day of Pentecost**, *Acts 2:1-4; Acts 1:5,8*. Write out *Acts 2:4* \_\_\_\_\_
2. **The Samaritan Believers**, *Acts 8:5-20*. Most commentators agree that it must have been speaking in tongues that impressed Simon.
3. **The Apostle Paul**, *Acts 9:17-19*. Paul was baptised with the Holy Spirit three days after his conversion. We know from his testimony, *1 Corinthians 14:18*, that he spoke in tongues.
4. **The Gentiles** in the house of Cornelius, *Acts 10:44-48; Acts 11:15-17*. How did Peter know that the Gentiles had received this Baptism, *Acts 10:46* \_\_\_\_\_
5. **The Ephesians**, *Acts 19:1-7; Ephesians 1:13*.  
“They spoke with tongues and prophesied.”

Therefore, in 4 out of 5 accounts, speaking tongues is seen to be the initial evidence of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit.

## A CONTINUING EXPERIENCE

The early church saw the Baptism with the Holy Spirit as an experience to be received near the beginning of a person’s Christian life. It was in no sense a mark of maturity in itself but simply the gateway into a life of effective service and witness to Jesus Christ. *Ephesians 5:18* says, literally, “be continuously filled with the Holy Spirit”. Pray in tongues in your worship and praise to Jesus. *1 Corinthians 14:4*, says that this is a way to edify yourself in the Lord.

No 06

## CHRISTIAN LIFE BIBLE COURSE

### Study Six: Baptism with the Holy Spirit

When we read the record of the early Church, (in the *Acts*), we discern a dimension of power and divine enabling in the lives of Christians that is not always characteristic of Christians today. In this study we are going to consider the “Baptism with the Holy Spirit” – the encounter with Jesus that equips Christians with the power of God necessary to serve Him.

### WHAT IS THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit is the experience when the Lord Jesus Christ comes and pours out the Holy Spirit on a believer. In *Luke 24:49*, Jesus said, “Behold I send the promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.” This is repeated in other words in *Acts 1:5*. Jesus said, “But you shall be baptised with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” This occurred on the Day of Pentecost and is recorded in *Acts 2:1-4*.

What are the significant issues recorded in these verses? \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the Person who baptises believers with the Holy Spirit?  
*John 1:29-34* \_\_\_\_\_

### TERMINOLOGY USED TO DESCRIBE THIS EXPERIENCE

The following terms are all used in the New Testament to describe the Baptism with the Holy Spirit:

Baptised with the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_  
 Filled with the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_  
 Receive the gift of the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Holy Spirit fell on them \_\_\_\_\_  
 Poured out the gift of the Holy Spirit \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Holy Spirit came on them \_\_\_\_\_  
 The Promise of My Father \_\_\_\_\_  
 Endued with power from on high \_\_\_\_\_  
 Pour out My Spirit \_\_\_\_\_

Read the following verses and write each one against the appropriate term above: *Acts 10:45; Acts 1:5; Acts 2:4; Acts 2:38; Acts 2:17; Acts 19:6; Acts 10:44; Luke 24:49.* (One of these verses includes **TWO** of the above terms.)

### FORETOLD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit was only given to a select few such as Prophets, Priests, Kings, Judges etc. *See Judges 6:34; Judges 11:29; Judges 14:5,6.* But the Old Testament foretold the time when the Holy Spirit would be poured out on any of God's people who desired such an outpouring. Read *Ezekiel 11:19,20; Ezekiel 37:14; Isaiah 32:15; Isaiah 44:3; Joel 2:28,29.*

This outpouring of the Holy Spirit began to be fulfilled on the Day of Pentecost, (*Acts 2*), and is being poured out today all over the world prior to Jesus' return.

### THE PURPOSE OF THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Each of us is conscious of our inadequacy to do that which God requires of us. In our own strength we will always fail. What are the key words in *John 15:5*. \_\_\_\_\_

Jesus told His disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit whom He would send to empower them for service. It was this power that changed the disciples from unstable, powerless followers of Christ, to consistent,

fearless witnesses for Him. We too, need this power. Write out the first part of *Acts 1:8*. \_\_\_\_\_

Your conversion was the work of the Holy Spirit imparting new life to you. This further experience is a coming upon you of the Holy Spirit that enables you to effectively communicate your new life to others in a supernatural way.

Read *Acts 8:12-17* and answer these questions:

1. Were these Samaritans born again believers? *v12* \_\_\_\_\_
2. Had the Holy Spirit fallen on them yet? *v16* \_\_\_\_\_
3. How did Peter and John pray for them to receive the Holy Spirit? *v17* \_\_\_\_\_

### FOR WHOM IS THIS BAPTISM

Complete this verse, *Acts 2:39* – “For the Promise (of the Father) is unto \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_, and to \_\_\_\_\_, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.”

Write out Paul's command to all Christians in *Ephesians 5:18*:  
 \_\_\_\_\_

### HOW TO RECEIVE THE BAPTISM

**The Baptism with the Holy Spirit is a gift that you receive from Jesus in exactly the same way that you received Salvation. What are some of the steps to take in order to receive this gift?**

1. *Acts 2:38* \_\_\_\_\_
2. *Acts 5:32* \_\_\_\_\_
3. *John 7:37* \_\_\_\_\_
4. *John 7:38,39* \_\_\_\_\_
5. *Luke 11:13* \_\_\_\_\_

God can baptise you with the Holy Spirit without human help, but it is more common for people to receive, after the laying on of hands, as was the pattern in the early Church.