



Global College of Ministry

EXPLAIN

The Christian and Salvation (Holy Ghost)

Holy Ghost Baptism Is a Promise

“And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them”
(Ezekiel 36:27).

The Old Testament contains promises of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Jeremiah 31:33-34; Ezekiel 36:26-27; Joel 2:28-29). God’s Spirit would actually live inside of man. When the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Day of Pentecost it was a fulfillment of Joel’s prophecy. The question was asked, “What meaneth this?” (Acts 2:12). The answer, “But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh” Acts 2:16-17).

The initial (first) evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit is speaking in other tongues, as the spirit gives the utterance.

Benefits of having the baptism of the Holy Ghost

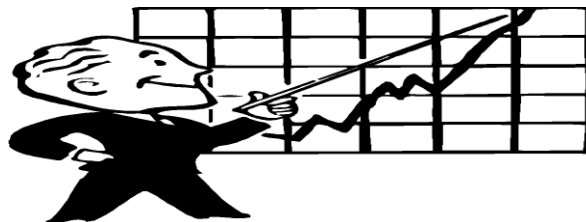
- ☑ Teaches us all things; gives understanding of the Word (John 14:26).
- ☑ Refreshes and gives rest to the weary (Isaiah 28:12).
- ☑ Gives power for witnessing (Acts 1:8).
- ☑ Provides a promise that we will be resurrected (Romans 8:11).
- ☑ Helps us intercede (Romans 8:26).
- ☑ Christ puts seal of ownership on us (Romans 8:9).
- ☑ Will raise up a standard against our enemies (Isaiah 59:19).

God made a promise and He keeps His promises. (Romans 4:21; Numbers 23:19) The baptism of the Holy Spirit is for “whosoever” (Acts 2:21).

Peter claimed the promise of the Holy Ghost was for:

“For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call” (Acts 2:39).

“Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?” (Acts 19:2). The literal translation of this question is, “Having believed, did you receive the Holy Spirit?”



They Shall Speak in Tongues

“And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues”
(Mark 16:17).

The initial (first) evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit is speaking in other tongues, as the Spirit gives the utterance. The Book of Acts provides five occurrences of people receiving the Spirit. Three of these accounts specify speaking in tongues as the initial proof of receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

- ☑ “And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” (Acts 2:4).
- ☑ “While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God” (Acts 10:44-45).
- ☑ “Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied” (Acts 19:2-6).
- ☑ “And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues” (Mark 16:17).
- ☑ “And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high” (Luke 24:49).



HOW DO YOU MEASURE UP?

Speaking in tongues is the initial evidence of receiving the Holy Spirit.

	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Is this what the Bible teaches?			
Is this what you believe?			
Is this what your church teaches?			

Study Questions

1. The Book of Acts provides five occurrences of people receiving the Spirit. Three of these accounts specify speaking in tongues as the initial proof of receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Write out the verses (with Scripture reference) for each of these three.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

The Holy Ghost Is For You!

“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you”
(Romans 8:11).

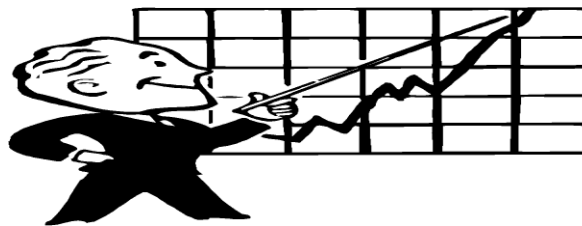
“Is it necessary to have the baptism of the Holy Spirit?” If it was necessary for the Apostles, Mary the Mother of Jesus, and other disciples of Jesus Christ to have the Spirit then it is necessary for us to have it also. The disciples walked with Jesus, witnessed, preached, and even cast out devils. They could do these great works because Jesus was there with them. However, when He ascended, another “Comforter” had to be sent (John 14:16). This “Comforter” was just the same as having Jesus walking with them again. “Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Colossians 1:27). He comes into us through the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

A sobering thought is this: “If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his” (Romans 8:9). This Scripture implies that if we do not have the baptism of the Holy Spirit we do not belong to Jesus Christ.

“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you” (Romans 8:11). We will need the baptism of the Holy Spirit in order to go in the rapture.

Isaiah said, “until the spirit be poured upon us from on high” (Isaiah 32:15). For this reason Jesus commanded the disciples to tarry in Jerusalem until they receive the promise (Luke 24:49).

Jesus wants to open the doors of heaven and give you an outpouring of the Holy Spirit. He wants to flood you with the Spirit. Your heavenly Father knows how to give good gifts. He will “give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him!” (Luke 11:13).



HOW DO YOU MEASURE UP?

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is essential for the believer.

	YES	NO	NOT SURE
Is this what the Bible teaches?			
Is this what you believe?			
Is this what your church teaches?			

Study Questions

1. How could the disciples do the great miracles they performed without the Holy Spirit?

2. Briefly explain why the “comforter” was necessary for the disciples and for us today. (Support your answer with Scripture.)

3. Given the following Scripture references, briefly explain what each tells us about the need for or benefit of experiencing the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

1) Romans 8:9

2) Isaiah 32:15

3) Luke 24:49

4) Luke 11:13

Additional Notes

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it set upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” (Acts 2:1-4).

Introduction

Many today speak of being “spirit-filled” and “born again.” But what are they talking about?

The term “born again” usually refers to Jesus’ conversation with Nicodemus, the Pharisee who came to him at night in John 3:5-6: *“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.”*

What do people mean by “spirit-filled?”

More than one Old Testament prophet wrote of this phenomenon of God’s Spirit actually living inside of us:

- 📖 Jeremiah 31:33-34 says: *“But this shall be the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel; After those days, saith the LORD, I will put my law in their inward parts, and write it in their hearts; and will be their God, and they shall be my people. And they shall teach no more every man his neighbour, and every man his brother, saying, Know the LORD: for they shall all know me, from the least of them unto the greatest of them, saith the LORD: for I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”*
- 📖 Ezekiel, in his important prophecy about the New Testament Messiah promised: *“A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. And I will put my spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes, and ye shall keep my judgments, and do them”* (Ezekiel 36:26-27).
- 📖 Probably the most well-known prophecy about being “spirit-filled” is found in Joel 2:28-29, *“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.”*

What does the New Testament say about this same phenomenon?

- 📖 Acts 2:4 clearly states that the Spirit gave the disciples the utterance of *“other tongues,”* – the initial sign manifesting His indwelling presence.

- 📖 When Peter told the Jews assembled in Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost that *“this was that”* which was spoken by the prophet Joel, his answer linked speaking with tongues to the gift of the Holy Ghost (Acts 2:16-18).
- 📖 Again, in Acts 2:33, Peter identified the sign of speaking with tongues as the evidence that the disciples had received the *“promise of the Holy Ghost.”*

Both the Old and New Testaments agreed that God would fill people with His Spirit, and when that happened, the initial evidence was speaking in tongues. Fred Kinzie gives us several reasons in his tract about this subject:

The Sovereignty of God – God is not accountable to us for what He chooses to do. We have no reason to question His ways, nor dispute His actions. If you have any doubts about the connection between speaking with tongues and the baptism of the Holy Ghost, read the following Scriptures:

- 📖 Isaiah 28:11-12
- 📖 Mark 16:17
- 📖 Acts 10:46
- 📖 Acts 2:4
- 📖 Acts 19:1-6

An External Evidence – There are many evidences of the operation of God’s Spirit in one’s life. With some, such as the fruit of the Spirit, it is a matter of time before they are manifested. These follow after the Holy Ghost comes to live in our heart and life and are results of it. Peter and the six who went with him to Caesarea knew the Gentiles had received the Holy Ghost, not because of long-suffering, gentleness, meekness, or temperance, but because they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. This is an outward evidence, instantly observed and heard.

A Uniform Evidence – In speaking about being born of the Spirit, Jesus states in John 3:8, *“So is everyone that is born of the Spirit.”* This is uniformity. By carefully analyzing this verse, you will see that Jesus places emphasis upon the word “sound.” You hear the sound of the wind blowing, and this is evidence of its presence. It is not seeing nor feeling that is important, though these evidences may be present, but hearing the sound. Some may conclude that this means the experience at Pentecost where they heard the sound as of a rushing mighty wind. However, this rushing mighty wind was not spoken of in Acts 10:46, or in Acts 19:6, but speaking in tongues was. We must conclude that the important part of the Spirit’s evidence at Pentecost was the speaking in other tongues. The *wind* was impersonal; the *speaking* was personal.

Complete Control – The speaking in tongues symbolized God’s complete control of the believer. James teaches very revealing things about the nature of the tongue:

- 📖 It is capable of defiling the whole body.
- 📖 Though it is a small member, it has never been tamed by mankind.

Since these things are true about the tongue, wouldn't it need to be tamed before the whole body could be consecrated to God? In Matthew 12:29, Jesus says that before one can enter a strong man's house and spoil or plunder his goods, he must first bind the strong man. The strong man of our house is our tongue. When God tames our tongue, we are under His control and endued with a spiritual force from on high for His service.

The Tongue is Man's Greatest Expression of His Spirit – The ability and power to coordinate thought and tongue into intelligent speech is one of the highest prerogatives of man and elevates him above the beasts of the field. This makes him superior to any other of God's creations. Therefore the tongue is the vehicle of expression for the spirit.

It is not difficult, after realizing these things about the tongue, to understand why God would use speaking in tongues to express the greatest, most wonderful experience man could receive. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost, God's Spirit and ours become one. He uses our tongue and voice to express it. It is the wonder chosen by God, the sovereign ruler of the universe.

Who Needs the Holy Ghost?

In the Bible, there are six categories of people who needed the Holy Ghost. By studying them, we can see who needs the Holy Ghost even in modern society. Bro. Simeon Young wrote an excellent article on this subject, and he says:

1. Religious Activists Need the Spirit – Even the twelve apostles who had been with Jesus for three and a half years needed the Holy Ghost. They had been healing the sick and casting out devils. Jesus told them to wait in Jerusalem until they were given the "power from on high" (Luke 24:49). In the book of Acts, Luke says that these twelve men received the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 1:13-14; 2:1-2).

2. Highly Favored and Blessed People Need the Spirit – Mary, the mother of Jesus who had been called "highly favored" and "blessed" at least five times in the first chapter of Luke needed the Holy Ghost. Her name was listed with the names of the twelve apostles and other family members of Jesus who were waiting in the upper room when the Holy Ghost first fell on the Day of Pentecost. Just because God blessed her and favored her did not mean she was okay without God's Spirit living inside her.

3. Those Healed and Delivered Need the Spirit – *"Unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many (Samaritans) that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame were healed. And there was great joy in that city" (Acts 8:7-8).* Peter and John still came from Jerusalem and *"prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Ghost"*

because even with the divine touch of God in healing, they still needed His Spirit dwelling inside (Acts 8:15-17).

4. Sincere, But Misguided, Religious Zealots Need the Spirit – Saul of Tarsus was all of these things. But Saul desperately needed God’s Spirit living inside. God sent him a preacher and Saul became Paul with a new birth (Acts 9:17).

5. Prayerful, Generous Friends of the Church Need the Spirit – Cornelius was generous, and he prayed so hard that God sent an angel to speak to him! But this God-fearing Gentile still needed the Spirit of God dwelling within (Acts 11:14).

6. Long-Standing Church Members Need the Spirit – Paul found twelve men in the city of Ephesus who had been followers of John the Baptist for years. It was obvious these men were true believers, but Paul STILL asked them, *“Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?”* (Acts 19:2). After Paul baptized them again – this time in the name of the Lord Jesus – he *“laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them: and they spake with tongues, and prophesied”* (Acts 19:5-6).

These six examples from God’s Word prove that anyone who does not have the Holy Ghost needs it.

What Does the Holy Ghost Do For You?

- 📖 John 14:26 says that the Holy Ghost will teach and bring all things to our remembrance, so we will have an understanding of the Word of God.
- 📖 Isaiah 28:12 lets us know that the Holy Ghost is refreshing and gives rest to the weary.
- 📖 John 16:13 says the Spirit of truth lets us know things to come in the future.
- 📖 Acts 1:8 tells us the Spirit gives us power for witnessing.
- 📖 Romans 8:11 helps us understand that the Spirit is our promise; we will be resurrected.
- 📖 Romans 8:26 gives us assurance that the Spirit even helps us to pray – through intercession.
- 📖 Isaiah 59:19 says the Spirit of the Lord will raise a standard against the enemy of our soul.
- 📖 Romans 8:9 says Christ places His seal of ownership on us by His Spirit *in us*.

If someone were offering you a gift that would grant all of these benefits, would you refuse it? The gift of the Holy Ghost is a wonderful thing that is needed by all and has tremendous benefits. If you want this gift, obey God’s Word and . . . ***Receive Ye the Holy Ghost!***

Study Questions

1. What does the term “born again” usually refer to? Give Scripture reference to support.
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2. Write out the verses (with reference) from three Old Testament prophets that speak of the phenomenon of God's Spirit living inside of us.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

3. Briefly explain the connection between these Old and New Testament passages of Scripture: Isaiah 28:11-12 and Acts 19:1-6 _____

4. Both Old and New Testaments agree that God would fill His people with His Spirit, and the initial evidence would be speaking in tongues. Briefly explain each of the four reasons given below, and support your answer with Scripture.

1) The Tongue is Man's Greatest Expression of His Spirit _____

2) An External Evidence _____

3) A Uniform Evidence _____

4) Complete Control _____

5. Given the following categories of Bible people who needed the Holy Ghost, write the names of specific people included in each group. Support your answer with Scripture.

1) Religious Activists - _____

2) Highly Favored and Blessed People _____

3) Long-Standing Church Members _____

4) Those Healed and Delivered _____

5) Prayerful, Generous Friends of the Church _____

6) Sincere, but Misguided Religious Zealots _____

6. List (with Scripture reference) eight (8) things the Holy Ghost will do for you.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

6) _____

7) _____

8) _____

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit, Who Can Have It?

“For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call” (Acts 2:39).

<i>For Who?</i>	<i>Scripture</i>
To all Flesh	Acts 2:16-17
For all	Matthew 3:11
For you	Acts 2:39
For your children	Acts 2:39
For those afar off	Acts 2:39
Those who obey Him	Acts 5:32
Samaria	Acts 8:5-25
African	Acts 8:27-39
Cornelius	Acts 10:22, 44-48
Every nation	Acts 10:35; Revelation 5:9
For Religious Leaders	Acts 1:13-14; 2:1-4
Blessed People Highly Favoured	Luke 1:28, 42; Acts 1:14
Those Healed and Delivered	Acts 8:7-8; 8:15-17
Sincere But Misguided People	Acts 22:3; 26:9-19; 9:17
Generous People	Acts 10; 11:14
Prayerful People	Acts 10
Believers	Acts 19:2; 5-6
Everyone	2 Peter 3:9
Jailer	Acts 16:12-34

Have you received the Holy Ghost since you believed? (Acts 19:2).

The Baptism of the Holy Ghost

(Adapted from Raymond Woodward's *Life Course 101*)

“For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people”
(Isaiah 28:11).

Receiving **THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST** is the third step that God requires in obedience to His salvation plan. God's Word teaches that this “Spirit baptism” is **ESSENTIAL** for salvation, and promises the Holy Ghost to every believer! The Holy Ghost is the indwelling Spirit of God, which gives us the power to live a Christian life. For the purposes of our study, we are referring to the baptism of the Holy Ghost as a “**third step**,” but we must always remember that there is only one **NEW BIRTH**.

1. Throughout the Word of God, the Baptism of the Holy Ghost is prophesied.

- It was prophesied by Isaiah.
- Isaiah foretells God using stammering lips and another tongue (Isaiah 28:9-12)
- Paul makes reference to Isaiah's prophecy in writing to the New Testament church (1 Corinthians 14:21)
- Isaiah refers to the joyfulness of this experience as drawing water from the wells of salvation (Isaiah 12:1-6)
- It was prophesied by Joel.
- Joel foretells the outpouring of the Spirit upon all flesh (Joel 2:28-29)
- Peter informs us that the outpouring of the Spirit on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4) is the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy (Acts 2:16-18)
- It was prophesied by John the Baptist.
- All four gospel writers record John's prophecy of Christ baptizing with the Holy Ghost and fire (Matthew 3:11, Mark 1:18, Luke 3:16, John 1:33)
- Jesus himself declared that John the Baptist was a prophet (Luke 7:24-30)
- It was prophesied by Jesus Christ.
- Jesus alludes to the Holy Ghost as rivers of living water (John 7:37-39)
- The Holy Ghost is the living water (John 4:10-14)
- When Jesus spoke of being born of the Spirit, without question He meant being baptized with the Holy Ghost (John 3:1-8)
- Jesus foretells of the coming Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost (John 14:16-17, 14:26, 15:26, 16:7-13)
- Jesus promises His followers that they will be baptized with the Holy Ghost shortly after His ascension to heaven (Acts 1:5)
- Jesus ascended to heaven to fulfill all these promises (Acts 2:1-4)

2. What is the Holy Ghost? First and foremost, it is the Spirit of God. Each of the following are synonymous terms ...

- It is called the Spirit of Christ.
- The terms “Spirit of God” and “Spirit of Christ” are used interchangeably because Jesus is God (Romans 8:9-11)
- Jesus spoke of being WITH us and also being IN us; the Holy Ghost is the Spirit of God coming into our lives (Joel 2:28-29, Acts 2:16-18)
- It is called a baptism.
- The Holy Ghost is an “immersion” of the Spirit; God’s Spirit baptizes us into one body (1 Corinthians 12:13)
- Being baptized with the Holy Ghost completes our “one baptism” into Bible salvation (Ephesians 4:5)
- It is called a birth.
- Two distinct elements constitute the “born again” experience – water baptism in the name of Jesus Christ and the Holy Ghost baptism (John 3:5)
- Jesus likened the Holy Ghost to birth of the Spirit (John 3:6-8)
- It is called a seal.
- God gives us the Holy Ghost to seal us until the day of redemption (Ephesians 1:13, 4:30, 2 Corinthians 1:22)
- It is called the earnest of our inheritance.
- As great as the baptism of the Holy Ghost is, it is only a “down payment” on what we will receive in the end if we are faithful (2 Corinthians 1:22, 5:5, Ephesians 1:13-14)
- Paul refers to this experience as “the first fruits of the Spirit” (Romans 8:23)
- It is called a rest.
- Jesus invited us to come unto Him and find rest for our souls (Isaiah 28:12, Matthew 11:28-30)
- In Christ, we cease from our labors and enter into the rest (“Sabbath”) of the Holy Ghost (Hebrews 4:1-11)
- It is called the spirit of adoption.
- Through the Holy Ghost we have been adopted as sons of God (Romans 8:15, Galatians 4:4-7, Ephesians 1:5)
- It is called living water.
- Those who have the Holy Ghost have tasted spiritual water from a “spiritual Rock” (1 Corinthians 10:1-4)
- Living water is refreshing and revitalizing; that’s what Jesus said the Holy Ghost is like (John 4:10-14, 7:37-39)
- It is called power from on high.
- We are weak and need power outside the human realm; God has provided this through the Holy Ghost which is power from above (Luke 24:49, Acts 2:1-4, 1 Peter 1:12)
- The Holy Ghost gives us power to be witnesses and live as God directs us in His Word (Acts 1:8, Galatians 5:16)
- It is called the comforter.
- Jesus calls the Holy Ghost by several names identifying His roles: Comforter, Spirit of Truth, a Guide, a Testifier and a Reprover (John 14:16-17, 14:26, 15:26, 16:7-13)

3. Who can have the Holy Ghost? The Bible teaches that God is no respecter of persons, so ANYONE can receive this wonderful gift.

- God's promise of the Holy Ghost is to be poured out on all flesh (Joel 2:28-29, Acts 2:16-17).
- John the Baptist didn't exclude anyone in his preaching about the Holy Ghost (Matthew 3:11).
- Peter declared that the Holy Ghost was for the Jews and those "afar off" (Acts 2:39).
- God has promised to give the Holy Spirit to them that ask Him (Luke 11:13).
- God's Word declares that He will give the Holy Ghost to those that obey Him (Acts 5:32).



God has given "conditional promises" to those who want the Holy Ghost. Acts 2:38 is one of them – once you repent and get baptized, you are ready to receive His gift!

4. What is the initial evidence of receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost? The Bible teaches us that it is speaking in tongues.

- When the New Testament church began on the Day of Pentecost, the disciples spoke in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:1-4).
- Isaiah prophesied of God giving spiritual rest and speaking to His people through stammering lips and another tongue (Isaiah 28:9-12).
- Simon the Sorcerer observed "evidence" when the Samaritans received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost by laying on of hands (Acts 8:14-20).
- Cornelius' household, who were gentiles, spoke with other tongues when they received the Holy Ghost (Acts 10:44-48).
- Paul had this experience (Acts 9:17-18), for he spoke with tongues more than anyone in the Corinthian church (1 Corinthians 14:18).
- Believers who had only experienced John's baptism were re-baptized and spoke with tongues (Acts 19:1-6).

5. Why did God choose speaking in tongues as a sign? We cannot be absolutely sure, but we must accept His plan by faith. Here are some possible reasons ...

- God is sovereign and can do what He wants to do (Isaiah 40:13-14)
- The Bible teaches that "from the heart the mouth speaketh" (Matthew 12:34)
- The tongue (our speech) is the chief means of expression (Proverbs 18:20-21)
- The tongue is the most difficult member of the body to control (James 3:2-8)
- Speaking in tongues is an obvious, universal, external and uniform sign (Acts 11:15-17)
- God often uses things that are unusual, foolish or despised to do His will (1 Corinthians 1:25-29)
- Speaking in tongues reverses the confusion of the Tower of Babel, showing the unity of the church
- God has historically used outward, physical signs to accompany His covenants with man
- Speaking in tongues provides "certainty" since it signifies Spirit baptism at a definite point

in time

6. What will the baptism of the Holy Ghost do for me? It provides inner power to help me live for God!

- It brings me rest, peace and joy (Isaiah 28:11-12, Romans 14:17)
- It helps me pray (Romans 8:26, 2 Corinthians 14:14-15, Jude 20)
- It gives me power to witness to others about the Lord (Acts 1:8, 4:31)
- It teaches, guides and shows me things to come (John 14:26, 16:13)
- It gives me power over the enemy (Luke 10:19-20, Isaiah 59:19, 1 John 4:1-4)
- It opens the door to other Gifts of the Spirit in my life (1 Corinthians 12 & 14)
- It gives me assurance in my heart that I am truly saved (Romans 8:16)

7. How important is the baptism of the Holy Ghost? The Bible teaches that it is essential for me to receive this experience.

- The Holy Ghost is such a sacred thing that Jesus warned us not to blaspheme (“speak against”) the Holy Ghost (Mark 3:28-30).
- Without the Holy Ghost we will not be in the rapture of the church when Jesus returns (Romans 8:11, 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17).
- Without the Spirit of Christ we are “none of His” – we do not belong to the family of God (Romans 8:9, 1 Corinthians 12:3, 2 Timothy 2:19).
- The Bible teaches that we cannot even call Jesus the Lord of our lives except by the power of the Holy Ghost (1 Corinthians 12:3).

8. I want to receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. What do I need to do?

- Believe the Gospel of Jesus Christ and repent of your sins (Luke 24:47, Acts 20:21)
- Be baptized in Jesus’ name for the remission of your sins (Mark 16:16, Acts 2:38)
- Be comfortable – you don’t have to be in a certain posture to receive God’s gift (Acts 2:2)
- Ask and believe for God’s gift – you do not have to earn it or beg for it (Luke 11:9-13, Acts 5:32)
- Offer worship to God, for nothing pleases Him more – talk to Him like you would talk to your best friend (Hebrews 13:15, Psalm 116:17)
- Let the Spirit of God submerge your spirit and flow through you (John 4:14, 7:37-38) – forget human reasoning and lose yourself in God (Isaiah 55:9)
- Become like a little child, surrender your tongue to the Spirit’s control, and don’t be afraid to speak in an unknown language (Matthew 18:2-4, Galatians 4:6, Isaiah 28:11, Acts 2:4, Psalm 81:10)
- Emotions become affected by what is happening in the spirit, and you may express yourself in a variety of ways – everyone is unique (Acts 13:52)
- You will be in control at all times, and can stop speaking at any time – but the Spirit baptism cannot be fully enjoyed until you drink long and deep (1 Corinthians 14:32, John 4:14, 7:37-38)



Remember that it is **IMPOSSIBLE** for God to fill people with His Spirit when they refuse to yield. No one can be filled with **SELF** and **GOD** at the same time. Neither can two languages be spoken at once. Since God will not take your vocabulary away, you must **VOLUNTARILY** yield yourself to His control. **GOD** does not speak in tongues – **PEOPLE** speak in tongues as His Spirit gives the words. What an incredible experience it is to surrender completely to God!

“As bad as you are, you still know how to give good gifts to your children. But your heavenly Father is even more ready to give the Holy Spirit to anyone who asks.” (Luke 11:13)

The Holy Spirit is Given to “Believers”	
First believe then receive!
“And these signs shall follow them that believe in my name ... they shall speak with new tongues.” (Mark 16:17)
“He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive ...” (John 7:38-39)
“... Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.” (Acts 2:38)
“... after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise.” (Ephesians 1:13)
“... how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?” (Luke 11:13)
“... God gave them the like gift as he did unto us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ ...” (Acts 11:17)	“... Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed ?” (Acts 19:2)

When Jesus was crucified and buried, these were ACTS OF MEN. But when He resurrected, it was an ACT OF GOD! When we repent and get baptized, these are ACTS OF MEN (in obedience to God’s Word). But when God fills us with His Spirit, it is a miraculous ACT OF GOD!

When I receive the Holy Ghost, I am applying the resurrection of Jesus Christ to my life, making it effective in me!

The Gospel of the NT Preachers

Chart by David Bernard

All the New Testament writers and preachers taught the same salvation message in answer to the question of what a person must do to be saved. The elements (excluding faith) necessary to experience salvation in one's life are as follows:

Preacher	Repentance	Water Baptism	Spirit Baptism
John the Baptist	Matthew 3:2,8, Luke 3:8	Matthew 3:6, Mk. 1:8, Lk. 3:3	Matthew 3:11, Mark 1:8, Luke 3:16
Jesus Christ	Matt. 4:17, Mk. 1:15, Lk. 13:3-5	Matt. 28:19, Mark 16:16, Jn. 3:5, 4:1	Acts 1:4-8, Lk. 11:13, Jn. 3:5, 7:38-39, 20:22
Peter	Acts 2:38, 3:19	Acts 2:38, 10:48	Acts 2:38, 11:15-17
Philip		Acts 8:12,16	Acts 8:15-16
Ananias		Acts 22:16	Acts 9:17
Paul	Acts 17:30	Acts 19:3-5	Acts 19:2,6
Author of Hebrews	Hebrews 6:1	Heb. 6:1, 10:22	Hebrews 6:1, 10:15
John the Apostle		1 John 5:8-10	1 John 5:8-10

Study Questions

1. List the four Gospel accounts of John the Baptist's prophecy of Christ baptizing with the Holy Ghost and fire.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____

2. List (with Scripture reference) the six (6) times Jesus prophesied of the Holy Ghost baptism.

- 1) _____
- 2) _____
- 3) _____
- 4) _____
- 5) _____
- 6) _____

3. Give a brief definition of the term "Holy Ghost." _____

4. Write the synonymous term for "Holy Ghost" mentioned in each of the Scripture passages listed.

1) Romans 8:9-11 _____

2) John 14:16-17, 26 _____

3) Acts 2:1-4 _____

4) 1Corinthians 10:1-4 _____

5) Ephesians 1:13-14 _____

6) 2 Corinthians 1:22 _____

7) Ephesians 4:5 _____

8) John 3:6-8 _____

9) Galatians 4:4-7 _____

10) Hebrews 4:1-11 _____

5. List five verses (Scripture references) that support the statement that "ANYONE can have the Holy Ghost."

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

6. If you want to receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost what do you need to do? List nine (9) suggestions (with Scripture reference) that will help.

1) _____

2) _____

3) _____

4) _____

5) _____

6) _____

7) _____

8) _____

9) _____

7. What New Testament preacher gave the salvation message in each of the following Scripture passages?

1) Hebrews 6:1, 10:15, 22 _____

2) Acts 2:38; 3:19; 10:48; 11:15-17 _____

3) Matthew 3:2,6,8,11; Luke 3:3, 8, 16; and Mark 1:8 _____

4) 1John 5:8-10 _____

5) Matthew 4:17; 28:19; Mark 1:15, 16:16; Luke 13:3-5, 11:13; and John 3:5, 4:1, 7:38-39, 20-22 _____

6) Acts 17:30; 19:2-6 _____

7) Acts 8:12, 15-16 _____

8) Acts 9:7; 22:16 _____

Additional Notes

The Treasure Is Closer Than You Think

“And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance” (Acts 2:4).

Ravi Zachariah in *A Life of Integrity* tells a simple parable that makes an excellent point.

A prosperous man was making a long journey. In his bag he packed all his valuable jewels and money. A thief started to follow him, pretending to be a friend, and waiting for the opportunity to steal the wealthy man's riches.

The rich man was aware of the man's motives and thought of a plan. Each night as he would stop at a local hotel he would invite the thief to share the room.

Once inside the rich man would say, “Here is a towel. You go and wash up for the night.”

While the thief took his shower the rich man hid his treasures.

When the thief returned to the room, the rich man would go and bath. While away, the thief searched frantically for the riches. He looked in the rich man's luggage, searched the closet, drawers, under the bed, between the mattresses, and under the rich man's pillow. The treasure could not be found.

At the end of the journey, the rich man boarded a train to go home. He called out to the thief, “I know why you have been following me. You've been trying to steal my treasures. Each night you have looked in my bags, searched the closet, rummaged through the drawers. You've looked under my bed, between the mattress, and even under my pillow. The one place you never looked was under your own pillow. The treasure was closer than you thought!”

What are the benefits of receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost? Many think it is to “speak with other tongues.” Indeed, this is the initial evidence of receiving the Spirit. Paul said, “I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all” (1 Corinthians 14:18).

However, we look for power, protection, ability to overcome sin, hope for our future, wisdom, spiritual gifts, and progressive changes in our lives, never realizing the treasure is closer than we think. All these, and more, can be found and experienced through the baptism of the Holy Ghost. The power is available. Have you plugged into the power source?

The search begins. What are we looking for? The treasures we find in the baptism of the Holy Ghost. This short list does not include all the benefits of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Power to Witness

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

Before the Holy Ghost outpouring the disciples were timid and afraid. At Pentecost they were strong and willing to stand up and explain the Gospel.

Power to Go in the Rapture

“But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you” (Romans 8:11).

What powerful words, “Jesus is alive! He has risen!” The same spirit that raised Jesus will one day rapture us.

See 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18.

Power to Be the Sons of God

“For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God” (Romans 8:14).

The Spirit of God leads us, not from some distant throne or control center, but from within our hearts. He is in charge. We are His sons.

“The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God: And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together” (Romans 8:16-17).

We have become heirs of our Father’s kingdom. Jesus Christ is “heir of all things” (Hebrews 1:2) and we have become joint-heirs.

“He said to me: “It is done. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End. To him who is thirsty I will give to drink without cost from the spring of the water of life. He who overcomes will inherit all this, and I will be his God and he will be my son” (Revelation 21:6-8, *NIV*).

Power to Pray

Have you ever experienced a time when you did not know what to pray? At times, the Spirit takes over and prays through us using words we cannot comprehend. We do not know all the problems coming our way, but the Spirit does, and prays through for us.

“Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered” (Romans 8:26).

“And he that searcheth the hearts knoweth what is the mind of the Spirit, because he maketh intercession for the saints according to the will of God” (Romans 8:27).

He is interceding for us, knows the will of God for our lives, and prays accordingly. God has a plan and is bringing it to pass.

Power to Defeat

“So shall they fear the name of the LORD from the west, and his glory from the rising of the sun. When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the LORD shall lift up a standard against him” (Isaiah 59:19).

When we are weak and helpless, and the enemy comes, the Spirit shall put him to flight, and drive him away. God is a deliverer, combating on our behalf. The Spirit conquers our enemies.

Power to Know

“But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you” (John 14:26).

Let’s amplify that a bit.

“But the Comforter (Counselor, Helper, Intercessor, Advocate, Strengtheners, Standby), the Holy Spirit, Whom the Father will send in My name [in My place, to represent Me and act on My behalf], He will teach you all things. And He will cause you to recall (will remind you of, bring to your remembrance) everything I have told you” (John 14:26, *AMP*).

Bring it on, Teacher. I am ready to learn!

Power to Refresh

“In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)” (John 7:37-39).

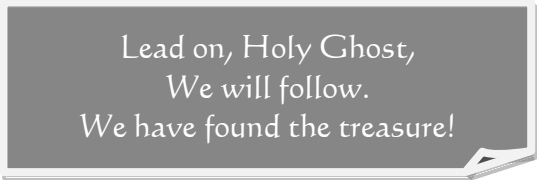
Anyone thirsty? Anyone tired? The baptism of the Holy Ghost provides rest, and a drink so powerful you will never thirst again.

“Jesus answered and said unto her, Whosoever drinketh of this water shall thirst again: But whosoever drinketh of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life. The woman saith unto him, Sir, give me this water, that I thirst not, neither come hither to draw” (John 4:13-15).

“To whom he said, This is the rest wherewith ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing: yet they would not hear” (Isaiah 28:12).

Power of Ownership

“But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his” (Romans 8:9).



Lead on, Holy Ghost,
We will follow.
We have found the treasure!

“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that holy Spirit of promise, Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of his glory” (Ephesians 1:13-14).

We belong to Jesus Christ. (See 2 Timothy 2:19.) He has marked us with His seal which shows that we are His people. The Holy Ghost is a deposit which guarantees our inheritance and redemption. The Spirit is God’s guarantee that He will give us everything He promised. It is like a seal on a document that gives validity to the terms of the contract contained within.

Salvation and heaven is the possession purchased for us by our Redeemer (Acts 20:28).

Power Within

Jesus is not only walking with us, but living in us. Some sing, “He’s as close as the mention of His name.” That’s not entirely true. He’s closer. He lives within us.

“I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you” (John 14:18).

“To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, the hope of glory” (Colossians 1:27).

Power to Know the Future

