

## #15 THE DOCTRINE SPIRIT BAPTISM

30 PRACTICAL DOCTRINES YOU NEED TO KNOW | DR. RANDY WHITE

### SPIRIT BAPTISM HAS SEVERAL SYNONYMOUS TERMS

- Baptism of the Holy Ghost
  - Matthew 3:11 – a promise from John the Baptist (who was **filled with the Holy Ghost, even from his mother's womb** – Luke 1:15)
  - Acts 1:5 – a promise to the Apostles
  - Acts 11:15-17 – the promise fell on gentiles as well as Jews, and was called a **gift**.
- Filled with the Holy Ghost
  - Acts 1:5 speaks of being **baptized with the Holy Ghost** and Acts 2:4 says they were **filled with the Holy Ghost** and is shown in Acts 2:33 to be the fulfillment of Acts 1:5.
  - Acts 6:3 – Stephen was **full of the Holy Ghost**
  - Acts 11:24 – Barnabus was **full of the Holy Ghost**
  - Ephesians 5:18 – the instruction to be **filled with the Spirit**
  - Note: it is often taught that *all believers* are Baptized with the Holy Ghost, but not all believers are *filled with* the Holy Ghost. Ephesians 5:18 is the only passage from which this doctrine can be built. The astute student of the Word will recall that, wherever there was question as to whether the third person of the Trinity was involved, the KJV uses the word *Spirit* rather than *Ghost*. This particular verse does not have a definite article (though the Greek allows for an *assumed* definite article).
- Indwelling of the Spirit –
  - 1 Corinthians 3:16 and 6:19 – The **temple of the Holy Ghost** (with likelihood, a reference to the local church, but often taught as the individual believer).
  - 2 Timothy 1:14 – The **Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us**. See also Romans 8:9, 11
- Sealed with the Spirit –
  - Ephesians 1:13 and 4:30 – the assurance that our faith is secure

### SPIRIT BAPTISM WAS PROMISED BY THE FATHER PRIOR TO THE AGE OF GRACE

- John 20:22 – the Apostles and others (Luke 24:33) were instructed to **receive ye the Holy Ghost**. This passage is often taken to mean that they received the Holy Ghost on this day. However, in Acts 1:5 Jesus says that this event will take place **not many days hence**.

- The promise is seen in Joel 2:28, John 7:38-39, and many other passages.
- The Age of Grace is a mystery, unsearchable before it was revealed (Eph. 3:8). Therefore, the Age of Grace did not start with Spirit Baptism

### SPIRIT BAPTISM FOR ALL BELIEVERS BEGAN AFTER THE APOSTLE PAUL BEGAN HIS MINISTRY

- In the past:
  - The larger group of believers was filled with the Spirit sometime after Pentecost – Acts 4:31.
  - The Samaritans (under Peter) received the Holy Ghost *after* their water baptism in the name of Jesus, and the giving of the Spirit was done by Peter (and the Apostles) – Acts 8:14-18.
  - Paul did not receive the Holy Ghost until Ananias came to him – Acts 9:17.
  - A dozen Ephesian Jews (under Paul) received the Holy Ghost *after* their point of salvation, and the giving of the Spirit was done by Paul – Acts 19:1-7.
- But now...
  - Galatians 3:2 – The Spirit comes by the **hearing of faith**
  - Galatians 3:3 – the works of **flesh** is the opposite of the work of the Spirit.
- Though we are not told exactly when this change occurred, it was clearly not with the earliest assemblies.
- To be Christian today is to have the Spirit in your life – Romans 8:9
- The Christian today is to **live and walk** in the Spirit – Galatians 5:25

### SPIRIT BAPTISM IS THE “ONE BAPTISM” OF THE CHRISTIAN FAITH

- Ephesians 4:3-6, especially verse 5, teaches **one baptism**.
- This is *not* a single *water baptism*, as some teach it to be. Rather, the church is created with the *baptism of the Spirit* which makes each of us, as many, to be one, thus there is a **unity in the Spirit** (v. 3).
  - The Brethren baptize three times – but Brethren believers are part of the *one baptism* of the Spirit.
  - Many Baptists insist on a second (third, or fourth) baptism for people they acknowledge as believers – but a Baptist baptized multiple times just has the *one baptism* of the Spirit.
  - The *Grace* churches do not baptize at all – but are recipients of the *one baptism* of the Spirit.
  - Paul came *not to baptize*, but taught about the *one baptism* of the Spirit.