

Baptism and Filling of the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:5; 2:4
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Introduction:

1. Last week we saw that ...
2. **First:** Spirit came on limited number
 - a. The Spirit came only on prophets, priests, kings, craftsmen.
 - b. Under the NC the Spirit was given to **ALL** believers!
3. **Second:** Spirit remained for a limited time
 - a. The Spirit would come on people for as long as it took to complete the kingdom task given.
 - b. Under the NC the HS is given **permanently!**
4. **Third:** Spirit had limited purposes
 - a. The Spirit came on those specific people to give them the supernatural, wisdom, empowerment, and words needed!
 - b. Under the NC the HS was also given so believers **could obey God!**
5. Today we'll look more closely at the baptism and filling of the HS.

A. **The baptism in the Spirit happens to ALL believers at salvation**

1. Just before Jesus ascended, He instructed the disciples to return to Jerusalem and wait there to be baptized in the Spirit.
2. **Acts 1:5 (NIV)** *John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit*
3. And with that Jesus was taken up before their eyes to ask the Father if He could then send the promised blessed Holy Spirit (Acts 2:33).
4. The apostles returned to Jerusalem, to wait for the HS.
5. 120 believers gathered to pray for the Spirit to come.
6. And then it happened! The Paraclete came in power!
7. **Acts 2:1-4 (NIV)** *When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ all of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*
8. From this event some see the BAPTISM of the HS as an experience of the HS that believers receive subsequent to salvation.

9. The reasoning is based on the fact that the disciples had the HS **AFTER** Pentecost, yet they received the baptism of the HS **AT** Pentecost.
10. Here's why that rationale is problematic ...

First: the disciples lived during a transition period in redemption history

1. The HS came on certain OT people to accomplish their role
2. The people in the Gospels lived before the NC was inaugurated
3. So, the apostles, for example, had the HS on them as we saw.
4. But, this wasn't the HS outpouring that would permanently indwell **ALL** believers and enable **ALL** to obey and minister on God's behalf.
5. So, ALL believers needed the HS baptism, including the disciples!

Second: baptism in the HS came to the Jews at salvation

1. Peter declared that Jesus rose from the dead, that He ascended into heaven, and had poured out the promised HS, as they had witnessed
2. When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and asked Peter and the apostles what they should do (2:37).
3. **Acts 2:38 (NIV)** *Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. AND you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*
4. Peter (and Luke) would have us conclude that when the 3000 believed they received forgiveness AND the Holy Spirit simultaneously!
5. For the 3000 the baptism of the HS was their first experience of the HS!

Third: baptism in the HS came to the Gentiles at salvation

1. Peter objected to a vision in Joppa to eat ritually unclean animals
2. Just then the HS told him that 3 men were waiting at the door to escort him to Cornelius, a Gentile centurion, who lived in Caesarea.
3. As Peter preached the Gospel there the HS came down upon them.
4. **Acts 10:44-45 (NIV)** *While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. ⁴⁵ The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles.*
5. Recounting this event later, Peter said God "granted them repentance unto life" (11:18), and "cleansed their hearts by faith" (15:9)
6. Just like the 3000 Jewish believers, Gentile believers received the baptism of the HS at salvation!

Fourth: Samaritan baptism in the HS needed verification by apostles

1. When persecution broke out in Jerusalem the believers scattered taking the Gospel with them throughout Judea & Samaria (Acts 8:1).
2. Philip ended up in a city in Samaria, where he preached Christ (8:4-5).
3. He performed powerful signs, healed, & exorcised demons, just as Jesus had taught them, to spread the Gospel, & many were saved (8:12-14).
4. When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them.
5. **Acts 8:15-17 (NIV)** *When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, ¹⁶ because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized (water) into the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.*
6. Why the contrast between the Jews and Gentiles on one hand, and the Samaritans on the other hand?
7. For centuries there had been a bitter rivalry between the Jews and Samaritans (mixed blood), so that Jews had no dealings with Samaritans
8. **John 4:9 (NIV)** *For Jews do not associate with Samaritans.*
9. God waited to give the HS to the Samaritans through the apostles (vv. 14-17) to teach the highest leadership in the Jerusalem church that Samaritans were not 2nd-class citizens but full members of the church.
10. **Apostolic verification was important:**
 - a. **First:** Peter saw the HS fall on the Gentiles firsthand & that satisfied the Jewish believers (Acts 11).
 - b. When a dispute arose about whether Gentile believers had to adopt Jewish practices (circumcision) to be saved, it was resolved by **church history's first church-wide council!** NOT Nicaea 325 AD!

Conclusion: ALL believers have been baptized in the Spirit at salvation. So never ask another believer if they've been baptized in the HS – **THEY HAVE!**

B. Does the Holy Spirit also baptize us?

1. Some agree with what I said and conclude there are 2 baptisms:
 - a. The initial one by Jesus at salvation
 - b. A second one by the HS later on
2. They base their claim on something Paul said in 1 Corinthians 12:13.
3. When you read some English translations, it seems they may be right.

4. **1 Corinthians 12:13 (NIV)** *For we were all baptized **by one Spirit into one body**--whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free--and we were all given the one Spirit to drink. (also: NASB, NKJV)*
5. But **6 NT passages** say Jesus would baptize people with or in the HS:
6. **Luke 3:16 (NIV)** *He will baptize you **with** the Holy Spirit and with fire.* (also: Matt 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33; Acts 1:5; Acts 11:16)
7. The Gk grammar for both is the same, yet the NIV translates them inconsistently: in **Luke** Jesus is baptizing, but in **1 Cor** the HS is baptizing!
8. All 7 verses must either stand or fall together – you can't translate 6 one way, and the 7th another way.
9. So, why have 3 translations muddled the waters?
10. The verse already says this baptism was "into one body."
11. Perhaps the translators thought it awkward to say, "IN one Spirit we were all baptized INTO one body."
12. Yet, when translating a similar grammatical construction ALL English Bible were content to go with an awkward translation.
13. **1 Corinthians 10:2 (NIV)** *They were all baptized **INTO** Moses **IN** the cloud and **IN** the sea.*
14. Consistency requires that if they were willing to translate it like that in ch. 10, they should have done so in ch. 12 too – as the ESV did!
15. **1 Corinthians 12:13 (ESV)** *For **IN** one Spirit we were all baptized **INTO** one body...*
16. Add to this fact that NO OT prophecy, nor teaching of John the Baptist, nor of Jesus mentioned 2 baptisms, further undergirds our conclusion
17. So then, Jesus is the One who baptizes believers in the HS at salvation

C. Multiple fillings of the Holy Spirit

1. What then about those who report subsequent experiences of the HS?
2. Are they misguided or wrong about that? ABSOLUTELY NOT!
3. I can't conceive of NOT having additional experiences of the Holy Spirit!
4. I have had multiple experiences with the Holy Spirit scale ranging from mild to strong in nature. And so have most of you!
5. If that isn't the baptism of the Spirit, what should we call it?
6. We learned that at salvation we are ALL baptized with the HS!
7. But the **RESULT** of that baptism is that we are **FULL of the Holy Spirit.**
8. Jesus had told the disciples to go to Jerusalem where they would be baptized in/with the HS!
9. **Acts 1:5 (NIV)** *In a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit ...*

10. Yet, when you get to the story of Pentecost, it doesn't say they were **BAPTIZED** in the HS. It says they were **FILLED** with the Spirit!
11. **Acts 2:4 (NIV)** *All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit ...*
12. What is going on here?!
13. **Baptize** is a transliteration of the word, "**baptizo**," NOT a translation.
 - a. **Translation:** we know what that means
 - b. **Transliteration:** to change letters of a word in one language to corresponding letters in another language.
14. **Submerge** or immerse is a translation of the word 'baptizo.'
15. So then, Jesus said they would be submerged in the Holy Spirit, and when they were filled with the Holy Spirit! **Example ...**
16. You can take a sponge and submerge (baptize it) it in a pail of water, so that it is then filled with water!
17. When Jesus submerges a person in the Holy Spirit at salvation, they are filled with the Holy Spirit!
18. However, once you are baptized (submerged) in the HS and filled by the HS, you can & need to be repeatedly filled with the HS! **Peter was!**
 - a. Filled at Pentecost (Acts 2:4)
 - b. Filled after his arrest when speaking before the Council (Acts 4:8)
 - c. Filled when he reported to the church, and they prayed (Acts 4:31)
19. In fact, though we are NOWHERE commanded to be baptized in the HS, we ARE commanded to be filled with the Holy Spirit!
20. **Ephesians 5:18 (NIV)** *Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, **BE FILLED** with the Spirit.*
 - a. **Imperative mood** – means it is our responsibility to be filled
 - b. **Passive voice** – means we allow Jesus to fill us with His Spirit.
 - c. **Present tense** – means we are to be continually filled. Not once!
21. Why do we need to be continually filled with the Holy Spirit?
22. Why doesn't God simply fill you up with the HS, & then leave you alone?
23. Because God only gives His special gifts to those with humble hearts.
24. **Matthew 5:3 (NIV)** *Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.*
25. If we're proud know-it-alls who think we can do it without Him – He'll oblige. He leaves us alone – we're on our own! In that case: **Good luck!**
26. But the poor in spirit know they can't do anything that will last eternally without Him! They KNOW how much they need Him. They will be filled!

D. **The effects of the filling of the Spirit**

1. When the HS fills a person, it has **EFFECTS!**
2. When the 120 were submerged (baptized) and filled with the HS, the crowd of thousands who had traveled to Jerusalem for the Feast of Pentecost, heard the 120 speaking in their own languages!
3. **Acts 2:5-6 (ESV)** *Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶ And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language.*
4. In vv. 7-9 it lists the languages – 15 in all!
5. That was what they were able to do b/c they were filled with the HS!
6. Some people will tell you that evidence that you have been baptized in the HS is that you can speak in tongues/languages (mother tongue)
 - a. First, these were human tongues/languages, not heavenly tongues/languages, which Paul says are also legitimate (1 Cor 13:1)
 - b. Second, it is TRUE that **ONE** evidence of the filling of the HS can be the ability to speak a heavenly tongue or language – no question!
7. But it isn't the only evidence, as seen by what happened at Pentecost!
8. In fact, the effects of the filling of the HS are almost limitless!
9. **Only using the words "filled," or "full," or "fill," this is what I found:**
 - a. Boldness – disciples arrested (Acts 4:8 cp 4:13) church (Acts 4:31)
 - b. Joy – Jesus (Lk 10:21); disciples (Acts 13:9); David (Acts 2:28)
 - c. Hope – (Rom 15:13)
 - d. Peace – (Rom 14:17; 15:13)
 - e. **Wisdom** – deacons (Acts 6:3)
 - f. Faith – Stephen (Acts 6:5); Barnabas (Acts 11:24)
 - g. God's love – (Rom 5:5)
 - h. Prophesying – Zechariah (Lk 1:67); Agabus (Acts 11:28)
 - i. **Withstand** temptation – Jesus (Lk 4:1-14)
 - j. Signs and wonders – Stephen (Acts 6:8)
 - k. Visions – Stephen (Acts 7:55)
 - l. Effective preaching – Paul (1 Th 1:5)
 - m. **Guidance** – Jesus (Mt 4:1)
 - n. Witnessing – disciples (Acts 1:8)
 - o. Ability, intelligence, knowledge, craftsmanship (Ex 31:3, 31, 35)
 - p. Leadership – 70 elders (Nu 11:25)
 - q. **Ministering** to one another (Eph 5:18)
 - r. Singing & making melody to the Lord (Eph 5:18)
 - s. Thankfulness to the Lord (Eph 5:18)

- t. Submission to one another (Eph 5:18)
- 10. If we use phrases such as, “by the Spirit” we get even more:
 - a. Casting out demons – Jesus (Mt 12:28)
 - b. Taught by the Spirit – Paul (1 Cor 2:13)
- 11. You get the idea – the ongoing filling of the HS is what produces fruit!
- 12. People often report mild to strong experiences at salvation: great joy, desire to pray, boldness in witness, hunger for the Word, etc.
- 13. Sometimes, when older seasoned Christians see new believers respond this way they respond condescendingly: “They’ll grow out of it!”
- 14. The old believer doesn’t realize the new believer is like that not because they’re immature in the faith, but because they’re filled with the HS!
- 15. The older believer betrays that they are no longer filled with the HS!
- 16. These are **RESULTS** or **EFFECTS** of being filled with the HS at salvation, or subsequent to salvation!
- 17. No wonder we need to be continually filled!
- 18. **Analogy: sailing**
 - a. The sails of a sailboat need to be constantly filled with air from a blowing wind in order to move.
 - b. You can’t fill the sails on Sunday and then sail around all week and then fill them again next Sunday.
 - c. In order to keep moving you need to constantly keep the sail filled.
 - d. If you don’t, you’ll stop in the water OR you’ll drift with the current.
- 19. The wind of the HS is always blowing, but it is up to you and me to adjust in order to harness the wind of the Spirit! **How do we do that?**

E. **How to be filled with the Holy Spirit**

First: repent for grieving, quenching or resisting the Spirit

1. Grieving the Spirit
 - a. **Ephesians 4:30-31 (NIV)** *And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. ³¹ Get rid of all bitterness, rage and anger, brawling and slander, along with every form of malice.*
 - b. Sin grieves the HS and breaks fellowship with Him, just as sin against another breaks fellowship and distances them from us.
 - c. **1 John 1:6 (NIV)** *If we claim to have fellowship with him yet walk in the darkness, we lie and do not live by the truth.*
2. Quenching the Spirit

- a. **1 Thessalonians 5:19-21 (NIV)** *Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰ Do not treat prophecies with contempt ²¹ but test them all; hold on to what is good.*
 - b. The context tells us what quenching the HS means
 - c. Prophecies are communications from God by His Spirit
 - d. Now, what does it mean to treat a prophecy with **contempt**?
 - e. It means that either through conscious disregard or neglect, we set aside God’s messages to us through His Spirit, in favor of our own human wisdom, ideas and plans.
 - f. God has choice words for such
 - g. **Isaiah 30:1 (NIV)** *“Woe to the obstinate children,” declares the LORD, “to those who carry out plans that are not mine, forming an alliance, but not by my Spirit, heaping sin upon sin.”*
 - h. Quenching the HS may seem tame compared to grieving the HS
 - i. But God calls it contemptuous! The source & outcome are the same
 - j. Pride is the devilish root of both; and the distancing of the Spirit with His accompanying filling and blessings, is the outcome!
 - k. If we’re embarrassed by Him or don’t think we really need Him (He knows if He’s just a doctrine we hold to!), He’ll take the hint and refrain from working supernaturally in our lives. **No more filling!**
3. Resisting the Spirit
 - a. **Acts 7:51 (NIV)** *You stiff-necked people, with uncircumcised hearts and ears! ... You always resist the Holy Spirit!*
 - b. This was spoken by Stephen to the religious leaders just before they stoned him to death!
 - c. At this point the HS has usually moved on from convicting us internally to bringing correction and warning through others.
 - d. If we resist that, we’ve removed ourselves from the realm of the HS’s filling and working in us – we’re on our own!

Second: obey the Holy Spirit

1. God instructed Saul to destroy all the Amalekites, as well as their herds
2. But Saul spared the king and the best of the herds and flocks.
3. He reasoned, saying that he was saving them to sacrifice to the Lord.
4. Awwww! How nice. Right?! What did the Lord think?

5. **1 Samuel 15:22 (NIV)** *Does the LORD delight in burnt offerings and sacrifices as much as in obeying the voice of the LORD? To obey is better than sacrifice, and to heed is better than the fat of rams.*
6. Samuel then said ...
7. **1 Samuel 15:26 (NIV)** *You have rejected the word of the LORD, and the LORD has rejected you as king over Israel!*
8. As a result, the Spirit left Saul!
9. **1 Samuel 16:14 (NIV)** *Now the Spirit of the LORD had departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD tormented him.*
10. REALLY? Saul obeyed 90%. **But partial obedience is no obedience.**
11. Jesus said something interesting which relates to this ...
12. **John 15:10 (NIV)** *If you obey my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have obeyed my Father's commands and remain in his love.*
13. When we obey we remain in Him – the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit!
14. That's where the fulness with all the benefits is!
15. So, if we wish to be filled with the Spirit, we must return to obedience

Third: pray for the filling of the Holy Spirit

1. **Luke 11:13 (NIV)** *If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!*
2. It was no coincidence that as Jesus was praying at His baptism, that the Spirit came upon Him
3. **Luke 3:21-22 (NIV)** *Jesus was baptized too. And as he was praying, heaven was opened²² and the Holy Spirit descended on him*
4. Just before Jesus ascended into heaven, He instructed the disciples: "Do not leave Jerusalem but wait for the gift my Father promised" (Acts 1:4).
5. Notice how the 120 interpreted "wait for the gift my Father promised."
6. **Acts 1:14 (NIV)** *They all joined together constantly in prayer*
7. And then the Spirit came! Pray daily for the filling of the HS!

Fourth: live by the Holy Spirit (Gal 5:25)

Fifth: laying on of hands (1 Tim 4:14; 2 Tim 1:6)

Conclusion:

PRAYER

Hand over to Stefan