

# Life in The Spirit

## *The Holy Spirit: Baptism in The Holy Spirit*

Hebrews 6:1-3 - Therefore, leaving the discussion of the elementary principles of Christ, let us go on to perfection, not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, <sup>2</sup> of the doctrine of baptisms, of laying on of hands, of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. <sup>3</sup> And this we will do if God permits.

- Elementary (arche) = origin or beginning
- Principles (teleiotes) = maturity or adulthood

Introduction: today we will talk about a very important subject. Today as I teach, I want us all to realize that what I'm going to share with you is the fundamentals, the basics, the very elementary principles of the New Testament church. This was not a deep doctrine to them nor was this a difficult thing to comprehend. In fact, it was so elementary that the writer of Hebrews says that they need the permission of God to go back and spend time on such fundamental precepts.

Transition: There three distinct baptisms all of which play an important part in the New Testament life. Some organizations only focus on two and one religion claims there are 4 baptisms – baptism for the dead (1 Corinthians 15:29).

### Definition of the word "baptize":

- It's not an English word, it's a Greek word written in English letters. What they say technically, transliteration.
- The word baptize is taken directly from a Greek word, baptizo - not translated but written over in English letters.
- **Baptizo = immerse**

**Very Important:** Every kind of baptism spoken of in the New Testament really represents a *transition*. You move out of one thing into another. And the whole of you moves, not just part of you. For that reason I believe it's important to emphasize that baptism is total immersion. It's not just a little part of you that's affected, it's all of you that is affected by this process of baptism.

## THE THREE BAPTISMS:

### **1. The Holy Spirit baptizes us in Jesus.**

- 1 Corinthians 12:13 - <sup>13</sup> For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.
- This teaches us that it is the Holy Spirit who baptizes us into Jesus. The Holy Spirit reveals Jesus to us, and when we repent and believe in Jesus we are saved.

### **2. The disciples baptize us in water.**

- Romans 6:3–4 - Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? <sup>4</sup> Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.
- This says that when we are water baptized we are buried with Him into His death. Our old life is put away when we get water baptized.
- After salvation, a believer makes a conscious decision to get water baptized.

### **3. Jesus baptizes us in the Holy Spirit.**

- All four gospels confirm how Jesus baptizes us in the Holy Spirit. It is very important to understand that there are only five things that are recorded in all four of the Gospels: his birth, his death, his resurrection, the feeding of the 5000, and the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
- Matthew 3:11 - <sup>11</sup> I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
- Mark 1:8 - <sup>8</sup> I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.
- Luke 3:16 - <sup>16</sup> John answered, saying to all, “I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.
- John 1:33 - <sup>33</sup> I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’
- When we are baptized in the Holy Spirit, we are empowered to live our new life in Christ.

## Scripture confirms all three baptisms:

- 1 John 5:7–8 - <sup>7</sup> For there are **three** that bear witness in heaven: the Father, the Word, and the Holy Spirit; and these **three are one**. <sup>8</sup> And there are **three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one**.
  - shows that the blood (salvation), water (baptism), and Spirit (baptism in the Holy Spirit) are all in one agreement.
  
- Acts 2:38 - <sup>38</sup> Then Peter said to them, “**Repent**, and let every one of you be **baptized** in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall **receive the gift of the Holy Spirit**.”
  - tells us to repent (salvation), be baptized (water baptism), and receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (baptism in the Holy Spirit).
  
- Acts 8:12–17 - <sup>12</sup> But when they **believed** Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were **baptized**. <sup>13</sup> Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done. <sup>14</sup> Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, <sup>15</sup> who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might **receive the Holy Spirit**. <sup>16</sup> For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>17</sup> Then they laid hands on them, and they **received the Holy Spirit**.
  - **Five years later** people are told to believe, and then they were water baptized. Afterward Peter and John prayed that they would receive the Holy Spirit.
  
- Acts 19: - And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some **disciples** <sup>2</sup> he said to them, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” So they said to him, “We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.” <sup>3</sup> And he said to them, “Into what then were you **baptized**?” So they said, “Into John’s baptism.” <sup>4</sup> Then Paul said, “John indeed baptized with a baptism of repentance, saying to the people that they should believe on Him who would come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.” When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>6</sup> And when Paul had laid hands on them, the **Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied**.
  - Twenty-five years later, in Acts 19, the same pattern of all three baptisms occurred.

Conclusion: transition – who is our ultimate example? Jesus! Was this pattern a part of his life?

- Luke 1:35 - <sup>35</sup> And the angel answered and said to her, “The **Holy Spirit** will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be **born** will be called the Son of God.
  - it would be theologically incorrect to say that Jesus was born again or needed to be saved. Jesus was already right with God because he was God so therefore, he did not need to be born again in the sense that you and I have a salvation experience
  - However, the scripture is clear that he was born by the spirit of God.
- Luke 3:21-22 - <sup>21</sup> When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was **baptized**; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. <sup>22</sup> And the **Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him**, and a voice came from heaven which said, “You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.”