



HAVE YOU RECEIVED THE HOLY SPIRIT SINCE YOU BELIEVED?

- Apostle Paul, Acts 19



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Jesus Receives the Holy Spirit

Jesus, is both God and man and is always our example for spiritual growth. He identifies with us in our human form, our temptations and even our death. We strive to imitate Him and His spiritual life.

Jesus received the Holy Spirit in a dramatic way when He was water baptized in the Jordan River:

"and the Spirit of God descended as a dove coming upon Him"
See Matt 3:13-17

From that point He did miracles, signs, and wonders by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus promised this same power of the Holy Spirit to ALL who receive the Holy Spirit as the disciples did on the Jewish holiday of Pentecost.

"You shall receive power after the Holy Spirit has come upon you..." Acts 1:8

Baptism in the Holy Spirit

John the Baptist said two very important things about Jesus Christ in John 1:29-34:

"Behold the Lamb of God who
TAKES AWAY the sin of the world."

And

"He is the One who BAPTIZES
in the Holy Spirit."

The New Testament illustrates a wonderful spiritual encounter offered to all believers who are already born of the Spirit, as recorded five times in the book of Acts (ch. 2, 8, 9, 10, 19). Jesus and the Holy Spirit work together to bring you this life-changing gift. The Bible describes it in various ways, but the most frequent expression is the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

If Jesus has taken away your sins and you are born-again, then He also wants to baptize you in the Holy Spirit! Continue reading to learn about this wonderful gift. If you ask, Jesus will give you this gift exactly as John the Baptist said.

A Package Deal

This New Testament experience brings a fuller measure of the Holy Spirit in your life, enabling you to receive:

- More Scriptural insights (1 Cor 2:12-14)
- Greater boldness to witness (Acts 1:5, 8)
- More frequent conviction of sin (John 16:8, Eph 4:30)
- Greater fullness of God's love (Rom 5:5)
- Strength in the inner man (1 Cor 14:4, Jude 20)
- The ability to speak in tongues (Acts 2, 10, 19)

The Gift of Tongues

There are 25 gifts of the Holy Spirit found in the Bible. Speaking in tongues is the spiritual gift that accompanies receiving the Holy Spirit most often. In the first letter to the Corinthian church, the Apostle Paul shares about spiritual gifts and, in particular, the spiritual gift of tongues. Here are but a few highlights from 1 Corinthians 14:

- Your spirit (not mind) prays (v. 2, 4, 14-16)
- There are private & public use of tongues (v. 6-11)
- Apostle Paul spoke in tongues much (v. 5, 39)
- You are built up spiritually (v. 12-25)

When you pray in tongues, you speak to God from your human spirit in a real language, but not with your mind.



How to Receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Speak in Tongues

REPENT...and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. (Acts 2:38) - Make sure your heart is right before God, be fully repentant. Trust Him to completely forgive & cleanse you as you confess your sins. (1 John 1:9)

BELIEVE...in the Lord Jesus Christ. (Acts 2:38) - Declare your allegiance and faith in Jesus Christ, His crucifixion and resurrection from the dead.

ASK JESUS to baptize you in the Holy Spirit... and believe it's done. You are His child, all you need to do is ask!

"If you, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children,
how much more will your
Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit
to those who ask Him"
Luke 11:13

A Human & Divine Cooperation

God will not speak in tongues for you. He gives you the ability, so you must speak. The Bible says, "They began to speak, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Other examples of this principle:

- Peter first stood up and stepped out of the boat, then he walked on the water. (Matt 14:28-29)
- The wedding servants first poured the water, then Jesus changed it to wine. (John 2:1-10)
- Ten lepers first walked across Jerusalem, then they were healed. (Gospels)

When you begin - DON'T speak in any language you know. Instead, make worship sounds to God from your spirit and God will fashion it into the language He wants you to speak.

Pray this out loud to God:

Heavenly Father, I am a believer, not a doubter. You said, "If I ask, I will receive." Jesus, baptize me in the Holy Spirit and give me the gift of tongues to glorify Your name. By faith, I thank You that it is done...I'm baptized in Holy Spirit and can speak in tongues. Amen !

Now by faith, worship God and speak to God in tongues...