

**Baptisms Number 2**

**Lesson Number 12**

**Hebrews 6:1-3 (KJV)**

1Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God, 2Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment. 3And this will we do, if God permit.

Last time we met, we talked about the doctrines of BAPTISMS.

1. Baptism into the body of Christ (the Church).
2. Baptism into water (a symbol of the first baptism).

Today we are going to talk about the third baptism, the **Baptism into the Holy Spirit.**

John the Baptist was the first to reveal the “baptism in the Holy Spirit.”

I have heard people, trying to disprove this important baptism, say that the term **“baptism in the Holy Spirit”** is not mentioned in the Bible. **Neither is “Bible” or “Rapture” or even “baptism in water.”** It is all a matter of semantics. Look what John the Baptist said:

**Matthew 3:11 (KJV)**

11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: **he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and *with* fire**:

Some people, typically Pentecostals use the term “Holy Ghost” where other denominations tend to use the term “Holy Spirit.” They both refer to the same Holy Spirit.

So John said, “The one who is coming after me, I am not even worthy to tie His shoelaces. He shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire!”

John knew how much greater the Messiah was and he knew that it was important for him to step back as Jesus came more and more to the forefront.

**John 3:30 (NLT)**

He must become greater and greater, and I must become less and less.

**Prophecy about this outpouring of (Baptism in) the Holy Spirit**

**Joel 2:28-29 (KJV)**   
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: 29 And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my spirit.

Peter repeats this prophecy in **Acts 2:16-17**

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

**Tongues**

Hebrew: *la`eg* (HSN-<H3934>), jester; mocker; stammerer. From *la`ag* (HSN-<H3932>), to deride; speak unintelligibly; mock; stammer; laugh. The idea here is that since the drunkards of Judah regarded the messages of the Lord through Isaiah as suitable only for children, He would teach them in a manner they did not like and instruct them through the language of foreigners as a sign of their unbelief. Paul used this passage speaking of the gift of tongues in the church as a sign to unbelievers (1Cor. 14:21-22). The word stammering does not mean that the language would not be real, but that the people hearing it would not understand it (Isa. 28:11; 33:19). These Hebrew words are translated mockers (Ps. 35:16); mock (2Chr. 30:10; Neh. 4:1; Job 11:3; 21:3; Prov. 1:26; 17:5; 30:17; Jer. 20:7); laugh to scorn (2Ki. 19:21; Neh. 2:19; Job 22:19; Ps. 22:7; Isa. 37:2); laugh (Job 9:23; Ps. 80:6); and have in derision (Ps. 2:4; 59:8). All this points to the experiences of the book of Acts, especially to the 120 who were baptized in the Spirit on the day of Pentecost and spoke in other languages as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:1-21). This was in fulfillment of Isa. 28:11. They became an object of mockery, laughter, scorn, and ridicule, and were accused of being drunk on new wine.

Dake's Annotated Reference Bible: Containing the Old and New Testaments of the Authorized or King James Version Text.

On the day of Pentecost, the 120 believers began to speak in tongues as they were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

There were many people there from other countries and they thought the 120 people were drunk (at around 9:00am). They heard the 120 people speaking in their languages which were unknown to the speakers.

This is the only time we see tongues being an actual, known, language!

**Acts 2:5-21 (NLT)**

At that time there were devout Jews from every nation living in Jerusalem. **6**When they heard the loud noise, everyone came running, and they were bewildered to hear their own languages **being spoken by the believers**. **7**They were completely amazed. “How can this be?” they exclaimed. “These people are all from Galilee, **8**and yet we hear them speaking in our own native languages! **9**Here we are—Parthians, Medes, Elamites, people from Mesopotamia, Judea, Cappadocia, Pontus, the province of Asia, **10**Phrygia, Pamphylia, Egypt, and the areas of Libya around Cyrene, visitors from Rome **11**(both Jews and converts to Judaism), Cretans, and Arabs. And we all hear these people speaking in our own languages about the wonderful things God has done!” **12**They stood there amazed and perplexed. “What can this mean?” they asked each other. **13**But others in the crowd ridiculed them, saying, “They’re just drunk, that’s all!” **14**Then Peter stepped forward with the eleven other apostles and shouted to the crowd, “Listen carefully, all of you, fellow Jews and residents of Jerusalem! Make no mistake about this. **15**These people are not drunk, as some of you are assuming. Nine o’clock in the morning is much too early for that. **16**No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel: **17**‘In the last days,’ God says, ‘I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams. **18**In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on my servants—men and women alike—and they will prophesy. **19**And I will cause wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below—blood and fire and clouds of smoke. **20**The sun will become dark, and the moon will turn blood red before that great and glorious day of the Lord arrives. **21**But everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.’

***ALL BELIEVERS ARE ELIGIBLE TO BE BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT!***

The baptism into the Holy Spirit is something that **DOES NOT** always happen at the time of salvation. You **must be saved (Baptized into the Body of Christ) to be baptized in the Holy Spirit**. The Apostles and others, maybe the 120 mentioned in the upper room on the day of Pentecost **were saved several days before Pentecost**.

**John 20:21-22 (KJV)**   
21Then said Jesus to them again, Peace *be* unto you: as *my* Father hath sent me, even so send I you. 22And when he had said this, he breathed on *them*, and saith unto them, **Receive ye the Holy Ghost**:

**This is when these people were SAVED! This is when they were baptized into the Body of Christ!**

As we look at each of the **Biblical examples of baptism in the Holy Spirit**, we will see that the people who were baptized in the Holy Spirit were already saved and “filled with the Holy Spirit.”

You cannot be saved without the work of the Holy Spirit!

**When you get saved, you receive the Holy Spirit into your life.**

**You can be FILLED with the Spirit MANY TIMES but still not be BAPTIZED in the Holy Spirit. You cannot however, be BAPTIZED in the Holy Spirit without being FILLED with the Holy Spirit.**

**Object Lesson:**

**Take a glass pitcher full of water and fill an empty glass with the water. This is the example of being FILLED with the Holy Spirit (water represents the Spirit). Now, take the full glass of water and immerse it fully into the water that is left in the pitcher. Now the glass is filled and completely surrounded (immersed, baptized) in water.**

When Jesus was ready to ascend to Heaven for the second and final time (the first time was when He had just risen from the dead and He told Mary not to touch Him because He had not yet ascended to His Father. He had to do the work of the High Priest with the Lamb. John 20:17), He told the people there, **who were already saved**, to WAIT on the promise from the Father, the Comforter, the Holy Spirit.

**Acts 1:4-5 (KJV)**

And, being assembled together with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me. 5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

**They had received the Holy Spirit when Jesus breathed on them but He was telling them to wait on the Holy Spirit and He would baptize them in Him.**

This “baptism in the Holy Ghost” or “baptism with the Holy Spirit” was a **SEPARATE AND DISTINCT ACT** from being saved. It always is.

**The only prerequisite to being baptized with the Holy Spirit is to go through the first baptism, the baptism into the body of Christ!**

We are told in the Bible that we should be baptized in water but WATER BAPTISM does not save us!

The evidence of them being saved is that we see them in public now. They are no longer afraid to be seen and for people to know they had been associated with Jesus Christ. They are also with Jesus. Before Jesus breathed on them and they were saved, they were in hiding, afraid for their lives.

**When we get saved, our lives CHANGE!**

**Jesus commanded the Apostles and believers to WAIT on the promise of the Father.**

**The promise of the Father was THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT!**

**Acts 1:1-5 (NLT)**

In my first book I told you, Theophilus, about everything Jesus began to do and teach **2**until the day he was taken up to heaven after giving his chosen apostles further instructions through the Holy Spirit.**3**During the forty days after he suffered and died, he appeared to the apostles from time to time, and he proved to them in many ways that he was actually alive. And he talked to them about the Kingdom of God. **4**Once when he was eating with them, he commanded them, “Do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. **5**John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”

Jesus commanded them that they should not leave Jerusalem but to **“wait on the promise of the Father.”** Then Jesus finished by saying, “You shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.”

What was the promise of the Father that these people were commanded to stay in Jerusalem and wait for?

It was that they would be “baptized in the Holy Spirit!” Many people believe that the believers were just told to wait on the Holy Spirit. They were, in fact, told to wait for the **promise of being baptized in the Holy Spirit!**

***Examples of believers being baptized in the Holy Spirit.***

***1. On the Day of Pentecost.***

**Acts 2:1-4 (KJV)**

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

These believers had met together for the feast of the Passover. This was, more than likely, in a room in the Temple. This is where they regularly hung out and prayed. (Luke 24:53).

There were a lot of “firsts” and “onlys” in this account of believers being Baptized in the Holy Spirit.

This was the first time that believers were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

This was the ONLY time tongues came with the SOUND OF A RUSHING, MIGHTY WIND and the APPEARANCE OF “CLOVEN TONGUES OF FIRE.”

This is also the ONLY time, in the Bible, where tongues were in known languages (unknown to the speaker).

**Old Testament saints were, OCCASIONALLY FILLED with the Holy Spirit but the Holy Spirit did not dwell inside them as He does with New Testament saints.**

**Being BAPTIZED and being FILLED are two separate things!**

Old Testament saints went to **“Paradise”** or **“Abraham’s Bosom,”** a compartment of hell (a place where there was no torment and it was separated from the main body of hell by a great gulf which no man could cross), when they died. After Jesus paid the price for our sins, when he ascended to Heaven, He took those people’s spirit and soul with Him.

1. People could not be saved until **AFTER** Jesus was resurrected.
   1. They were only temporarily filled with the Holy Spirit on special occasions.
2. Some Old Testament saints were FILLED with the Holy Spirit.
   1. Joshua – Numbers 27:18
   2. Samson – (Several times)

**Judges 14:5-6 (KJV)**

5 Then went Samson down, and his father and his mother, to Timnath, and came to the vineyards of Timnath: and, behold, a young lion roared against him. 6 And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him, and he rent him as he would have rent a kid, and *he had* nothing in his hand: but he told not his father or his mother what he had done.

* 1. Moses
  2. Elijah
  3. Elisha
  4. John the Baptist, etc.

**Old Testament Spiritual Experiences**

Old Testament saints had many experiences and blessings, as follows. They were filled (Ex. 28:3; 31:3; 35:31; Dt. 34:9; Mic. 3:8) and had the Spirit in them (Gen. 41:38; Num. 27:18; Dan. 4:8-9,18; 5:11-14; 6:3); within them (Ps. 51:10-11; Isa. 63:10-14; Ezek. 11:19); into them (Ezek. 2:2; 3:24; Acts 3:21); and upon them (Num. 11:17-29; Judg. 3:10; 6:34; 11:29; 14:6,19; 15:14). He moved many (Judg. 13:25; Acts 3:21; 2Pet. 1:21), but none were baptized in the Spirit. John the Baptist and others were filled with the Spirit, but not baptized (Lk. 1:15-17,41,67; 2:25-38). Mary was filled about 35 years before she was baptized with the Spirit at Pentecost (Lk. 1:45-56; Acts 1:13-15; 2:1-4). Jesus was filled about 30 years before He was baptized with the Spirit (Isa. 50:4-5; Lk. 2:40-52; Mt. 3:16-17). The disciples were filled and had the Spirit in them 3 years before they were baptized with the Spirit (Mt. 10:1-8,20; Acts 1:4-8; 2:1-4,33).

Old Testament saints had gifts and fruit of the Spirit (1Ki. 3:12; 1Ki. 17:1 -- 2Ki. 13:25; Acts 3:21; Heb. 11); different measures of the Spirit (Num. 11:16-25; 2Ki. 2:9; Lk. 1:17) but not the Spirit baptism or the Spirit "without measure" (Jn. 3:34; 7:37-39). The disciples had gifts and great power years before the Spirit baptism (Mt. 10:1-8,16-20; Mk. 6:7-13; Lk. 10), but were told to get the Spirit baptism before starting their ministry (Lk. 24:49; Jn. 7:37-39; 14:12; Acts 1:4-8).

Old Testament saints and disciples of Christ had salvation (Ps. 51:12); redemption (Ps. 31:5); grace (Ps. 84:11); physical healing (Ex. 15:26); names written in heaven (Ex. 32:32-33; Lk. 10:20); the new birth (Gal. 4:28-30); conversion (Ps. 19:7); righteousness (Rom. 4); the gospel (Gal. 3:6-14; Heb. 4:2); justification (Rom. 4); holiness; (Acts 3:21; 2Pet. 1:21); pure hearts (Ps. 24:4); sanctification (Ex. 29:42-44; 31:13; Ezek. 20:2; Jn. 15:3); and many other spiritual blessings before Pentecost (Jn. 7:37-39; Acts 2:33).

Therefore, one should not take any of these blessings as evidence of a Spirit baptism. From all this we gather that the Spirit baptism is the fullness of God in the lives of believers, not the Spirit by measure as in Old Testament times (Jn. 3:34; 7:37-39; Acts 10:38; Isa. 61:1; Rom. 15:29; Eph. 3:19).

The difference between a filling and a baptism or the Spirit by measure and without measure may be illustrated by a glass and a pitcher of water. To the extent the water is poured into the glass it is filled, but not baptized. By burying the glass in the fullness of the water it is both filled and baptized. Taking the glass out of the fullness of the water it is no longer baptized. So it is with believers. To the extent one is filled with the Spirit he has that measure of power and can do things according to the degree of anointing he has. If he is merely filled and has the Spirit by measure he is limited in spiritual power. If he has the Spirit in all fullness there is no limitation. He can do the works of Christ and the apostles (Mt. 17:20; 21:22; Mk. 9:23; 11:22-24; 16:17-18; Jn. 14:12; Acts 2:43; 3:6; 5:16; Rom. 15:18-19,29).

A filling always comes with a baptism, but a baptism does not always come with a filling. At Pentecost they were both filled and baptized (Acts 1:4-8; 2:4), and many fillings kept coming to them to replenish the Spirit and power they had received (Acts 4:8,31; 13:52). One must continue to live and walk in the Spirit and be filled with all the fullness of God in order to maintain that baptismal fullness (Eph. 3:16-20; 5:18; Gal. 5:16-26).

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1. Jesus had to give His life, becoming the sacrifice for mankind’s sins.
2. Jesus had to go to Heaven and do the deeds of the High Priest with His own body as the Lamb.
3. After Jesus ASCENDED, He sent the Holy Spirit, the Promise of the Father.
4. ***The Believers in Samaria***

**Acts 8:14-18 (KJV)**

14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria **had received the word of God**, they sent unto them Peter and John: 15 Who, when they were come down, **prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost**: 16 (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only **they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus**.) 17 **Then laid they *their* hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.** 18 And when **Simon saw** that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

**The “initial evidence” of being baptized in the Holy Spirit IS ALWAYS SPEAKING IN TONGUES!**

You can be FILLED with the Holy Spirit and not speak in tongues but if you are BAPTIZED in the Holy Spirit **you WILL speak in tongues**.

You MUST speak in tongues to be baptized in the Holy Spirit!

Here, in Acts Chapter 8, is the ONLY time in our Biblical examples of being baptized in the Holy Spirit that it does not say SPECIFICALLY that they spoke in tongues.

Simon, the sorcerer, **SAW** that they had received the Holy Spirit.

**How did he SEE that they had received the Holy Spirit?**

**It is EVIDENT that he SAW (HEARD) them SPEAK IN TONGUES!**

Notice that these were **BELIEVERS** (not unbelievers) in Samaria!

Baptism in the Holy Spirit is **ONLY available to believers**!

Peter and John prayed for these believers who **had been** baptized in water. WHY? Because they had believed on the Lord.

These Samarians were Christians but they had not been baptized with the Holy Spirit until Peter and John laid their hands on them and prayed for them.

1. ***Cornelius’ Household***

**Acts 10 (NLT)**

In Caesarea there lived a Roman army officer named Cornelius, who was a captain of the Italian Regiment. **2**He was a devout, God-fearing man, as was everyone in his household. He gave generously to the poor and prayed regularly to God. **3**One afternoon about three o’clock, he had a vision in which he saw an angel of God coming toward him. “Cornelius!” the angel said.

**4**Cornelius stared at him in terror. “What is it, sir?” he asked the angel.

And the angel replied, “Your prayers and gifts to the poor have been received by God as an offering! **5**Now send some men to Joppa, and summon a man named Simon Peter. **6**He is staying with Simon, a tanner who lives near the seashore.”

**7**As soon as the angel was gone, Cornelius called two of his household servants and a devout soldier, one of his personal attendants. **8**He told them what had happened and sent them off to Joppa.

**9**The next day as Cornelius’s messengers were nearing the town, Peter went up on the flat roof to pray. It was about noon, **10**and he was hungry. But while a meal was being prepared, he fell into a trance. **11**He saw the sky open, and something like a large sheet was let down by its four corners. **12**In the sheet were all sorts of animals, reptiles, and birds.**13**Then a voice said to him, “Get up, Peter; kill and eat them.”

**14**“No, Lord,” Peter declared. “I have never eaten anything that our Jewish laws have declared impure and unclean.”

**15**But the voice spoke again: “Do not call something unclean if God has made it clean.” **16**The same vision was repeated three times. Then the sheet was suddenly pulled up to heaven.

**17**Peter was very perplexed. What could the vision mean? Just then the men sent by Cornelius found Simon’s house. Standing outside the gate,**18**they asked if a man named Simon Peter was staying there.

**19**Meanwhile, as Peter was puzzling over the vision, the Holy Spirit said to him, “Three men have come looking for you. **20**Get up, go downstairs, and go with them without hesitation. Don’t worry, for I have sent them.”

**21**So Peter went down and said, “I’m the man you are looking for. Why have you come?”

**22**They said, “We were sent by Cornelius, a Roman officer. He is a devout and God-fearing man, well respected by all the Jews. A holy angel instructed him to summon you to his house so that he can hear your message.” **23**So Peter invited the men to stay for the night. The next day he went with them, accompanied by some of the brothers from Joppa.

**24**They arrived in Caesarea the following day. Cornelius was waiting for them and had called together his relatives and close friends. **25**As Peter entered his home, Cornelius fell at his feet and worshiped him. **26**But Peter pulled him up and said, “Stand up! I’m a human being just like you!” **27**So they talked together and went inside, where many others were assembled.

**28**Peter told them, “You know it is against our laws for a Jewish man to enter a Gentile home like this or to associate with you. But God has shown me that I should no longer think of anyone as impure or unclean.**29**So I came without objection as soon as I was sent for. Now tell me why you sent for me.”

**30**Cornelius replied, “Four days ago I was praying in my house about this same time, three o’clock in the afternoon. Suddenly, a man in dazzling clothes was standing in front of me. **31**He told me, ‘Cornelius, your prayer has been heard, and your gifts to the poor have been noticed by God! **32**Now send messengers to Joppa, and summon a man named Simon Peter. He is staying in the home of Simon, a tanner who lives near the seashore.’ **33**So I sent for you at once, and it was good of you to come. Now we are all here, waiting before God to hear the message the Lord has given you.”

**34**Then Peter replied, “I see very clearly that God shows no favoritism.**35**In every nation he accepts those who fear him and do what is right.**36**This is the message of Good News for the people of Israel—that there is peace with God through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all. **37**You know what happened throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee, after John began preaching his message of baptism. **38**And you know that God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

**39**“And we apostles are witnesses of all he did throughout Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a cross, **40**but God raised him to life on the third day. Then God allowed him to appear,**41**not to the general public, but to us whom God had chosen in advance to be his witnesses. We were those who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. **42**And he ordered us to preach everywhere and to testify that Jesus is the one appointed by God to be the judge of all—the living and the dead. **43**He is the one all the prophets testified about, saying that everyone who believes in him will have their sins forgiven through his name.”

**44Even as Peter was saying these things, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who were listening to the message. 45The Jewish believers who came with Peter were amazed that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles, too. 46For they heard them speaking in other tongues[**[**f**](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+10&version=NLT#fen-NLT-27270f)**]and praising God.**

Then Peter asked, **47**“Can anyone object to their being baptized, now that they have received the Holy Spirit just as we did?” **48**So he gave orders for them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Afterward Cornelius asked him to stay with them for several days.

**Notice that these men were believers but they had not been baptized. They were baptized in the Holy Spirit and THEN baptized in water.**

1. ***Believers in Ephesus***

**Acts 19:1-7 (NLT)** (Paul’s third missionary journey)

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul traveled through the interior regions until he reached Ephesus, on the coast, where he found several **believers**. **2**“Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?” he asked them. “No,” they replied, “we haven’t even heard that there is a Holy Spirit.” **3**“Then what baptism did you experience?” he asked. And they replied, “The baptism of John.” **4**Paul said, “John’s baptism called for repentance from sin. But John himself told the people to believe in the one who would come later, meaning Jesus.” **5**As soon as they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. **6**Then when Paul laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied. **7**There were about twelve men in all.

Paul found this group of **BELIEVERS** in Ephesus. They had **NOT YET BEEN BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

Many Christians believe that they are baptized in the Holy Spirit when they get saved.

**According to the scriptures, this is not the case.**

**The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a completely separate and distinct act from that of being saved (baptism into the body of Christ).**

The Baptism into the Body of Christ must occur in a person’s life FIRST.

**According to the Bible, speaking in a tongue that is unknown to the person speaking is ALWAYS the INITIAL EVIDENCE that a person has received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.**

1. ***Paul’s conversion.***

**Acts 9:1-8 (NLT)**

Meanwhile, Saul was uttering threats with every breath and was eager to kill the Lord’s followers.[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Acts+9&version=NLT#fen-NLT-27182a)] So he went to the high priest. **2**He requested letters addressed to the synagogues in Damascus, asking for their cooperation in the arrest of any followers of the Way he found there. He wanted to bring them—both men and women—back to Jerusalem in chains. **3**As he was approaching Damascus on this mission, a light from heaven suddenly shone down around him. **4**He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul! Saul! Why are you persecuting me?” **5**“Who are you, lord?” Saul asked. And the voice replied, “I am Jesus, the one you are persecuting! **6**Now get up and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do.” **7**The men with Saul stood speechless, for they heard the sound of someone’s voice but saw no one! **8**Saul picked himself up off the ground, but when he opened his eyes he was blind. So his companions led him by the hand to Damascus. **9**He remained there blind for three days and did not eat or drink. **10**Now there was a believer in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord spoke to him in a vision, calling, “Ananias!” “Yes, Lord!” he replied. **11**The Lord said, “Go over to Straight Street, to the house of Judas. When you get there, ask for a man from Tarsus named Saul. He is praying to me right now. **12**I have shown him a vision of a man named Ananias coming in and laying hands on him so he can see again.” **13**“But Lord,” exclaimed Ananias, “I’ve heard many people talk about the terrible things this man has done to the believers in Jerusalem! **14**And he is authorized by the leading priests to arrest everyone who calls upon your name.” **15**But the Lord said, “Go, for Saul is my chosen instrument to take my message to the Gentiles and to kings, as well as to the people of Israel.**16**And I will show him how much he must suffer for my name’s sake.” **17So Ananias went and found Saul. He laid his hands on him and said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has sent me so that you might regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.” 18Instantly something like scales fell from Saul’s eyes, and he regained his sight. Then he got up and was baptized.** **19**Afterward he ate some food and regained his strength.

Something like “scales” fell from Paul’s eyes. He regained his sight and he got up and was baptized.

It is not clear whether he was baptized in the Holy Spirit or if he was baptized in water.

Obviously he was baptized in the Holy Spirit. Ananias told Paul in verse 17, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road, has sent me so that you might regain your sight and **BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT**.”

We know, Biblically, that speaking in tongues is the initial evidence of being baptized in the Holy Spirit. Paul definitely spoke in tongues!

The Church in Corinth was plagued with problems. It was full of immature Christians, almost all of them spoke in tongues and there was confusion on a mass scale. Each time they met, many of them would try to give messages in tongues.

Paul, in his first letter to the Church at Corinth, gave them instruction on how the spiritual gift of tongues, interpretation of tongues and prophesy should be used.

The people in the church at Corinth would brag about how they spoke in tongues. Paul told them that he spoke in tongues more than all of them!

**1 Corinthians 14:18 (KJV)**   
I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:

**Paul spoke in tongues and understood the importance of speaking in tongues.**

1. ***The Believers in the Church at Corinth.***

Again, Paul had to INSTRUCT the Church at Corinth in the use of tongues. The people were causing much confusion with their overuse of the spiritual gifts.

**It is understandable that the other apostles along with many other believers in other churches spoke in tongues and operated in all of the nine spiritual gifts outlined in 1 Corinthians 12.**

**There are two types of tongues**.

1. Tongues are a sign that a person has been Baptized in the Holy Spirit. This is a personal “prayer language.”
   1. These types of tongues are available to **EVERY** believer.
   2. The believer can pray in tongues **AT WILL** once they have been Baptized in the Holy Spirit.
   3. God does not “take over” a person’s mouth and tongue.

**Acts 2:4 (KJV)**

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

* + 1. **THEY** began to speak in other tongues (NOT GOD).
    2. **Utterance – Grk.** Apophthengomai – to annunciate plainly, to speak forth, to declare.
  1. This is your spirit, speaking forth the mysteries of God.

**Romans 8:26 (ESV)**

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.

* 1. Our spirit, the real us, is connected to God and as we pray in tongues, we pray the perfect will of God even though our mind (soul) may not understand.
  2. It is so important to pray in the spirit because we simply do not always know how to pray or what to pray for!
  3. This type of tongues is not for an assembly of believers. It is personal.

1. The spiritual gift of Tongues.
   1. “Tongues are SO important for a timely word from God.” Jason Peebles.
   2. The spiritual gift of tongues is given in an “assembly” of believers.
   3. Because it is given in an assembly, there must always be an interpretation!
      1. Paul is very clear about this.

**1 Corinthians 14:6-13 (NLT)**

**6**Dear brothers and sisters,[[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+14&version=NLT#fen-NLT-28645c)] if I should come to you speaking in an unknown language,[[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=1+Corinthians+14&version=NLT#fen-NLT-28645d)] how would that help you? But if I bring you a revelation or some special knowledge or prophecy or teaching, that will be helpful. **7**Even lifeless instruments like the flute or the harp must play the notes clearly, or no one will recognize the melody. **8**And if the bugler doesn’t sound a clear call, how will the soldiers know they are being called to battle? **9**It’s the same for you. If you speak to people in words they don’t understand, how will they know what you are saying? You might as well be talking into empty space. **10**There are many different languages in the world, and every language has meaning. **11**But if I don’t understand a language, I will be a foreigner to someone who speaks it, and the one who speaks it will be a foreigner to me. **12**And the same is true for you. Since you are so eager to have the special abilities the Spirit gives, seek those that will strengthen the whole church. **13**So anyone who speaks in tongues should pray also for the ability to interpret what has been said.

* 1. Interpretation vs. translation.
     1. Interpretation – “the act or result of explaining or interpreting something : the way something is explained or understood.” Miriam Webster Dictionary.
     2. Translation – “a rendering from one language into another; also **:**  the product of such a rendering.”
     3. The difference is that a translation is basically word for word. An interpretation is not always word for word but gets the meaning across.
     4. There may be one message in tongues given and there may be two or three interpretations, all saying different things.

**Purpose of Tongues, Interpretation of Tongues and Prophecy**

1. **Tongues**, FOLLOWED BY an interpretation **is the same as** the spiritual gift of **“Prophesy.”**
   1. **Prophesy** is not telling the future.
   2. It is **SPEAKING FORTH** the **MIND**, the **WILL** and the **PURPOSE of God!**
2. Tongues and interpretation of tongues along with prophecy are given to the church for **EDIFICATION, EXHORTATION AND COMFORT!** (1 Cor. 14:3)

**1 Corinthians 14:1-5 (NLT)**

Let love be your highest goal! But you should also desire the special abilities the Spirit gives—especially the ability to prophesy. **2**For if you have the ability to speak in tongues, you will be talking only to God, since people won’t be able to understand you. You will be speaking by the power of the Spirit, but it will all be mysterious. **3**But one who prophesies strengthens others, encourages them, and comforts them.**4**A person who speaks in tongues is strengthened personally, but one who speaks a word of prophecy strengthens the entire church. **5**I wish you could all speak in tongues, but even more I wish you could all prophesy. For prophecy is greater than speaking in tongues, unless someone interprets what you are saying so that the whole church will be strengthened.

**What happens to a person when they are baptized in the Holy Spirit?**

**“Scales” fell from Paul’s eyes.** His spiritual eyes were opened.

When I was baptized in the Holy Spirit, it was as if my spiritual eyes were opened.

I began to see things in the spiritual realm that I had not seen before.

I began to hear God speak to me much more clearly.

The desire for sin was taken away.

I received POWER to live the Christian life!

**Acts 1:8 (NLT)**

But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”

***Other Testimonies of people who were baptized in the Holy Spirit.***

**How can you receive the Holy Spirit?**

1. Ask, believing you receive when you pray. Mark 11:24
2. Begin to praise and worship the Lord.
   1. Thank Him for the promise of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
3. As you feel the anointing of the Holy Spirit, begin to speak in tongues. (THEY began to speak in tongues).
4. God will not take you over. As you hear the words in your spirit (utterance) begin to speak them out, no matter what they sound like.

**James 1:5 (KJV)**   
5   If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

**Matthew 7:7-11 (KJV)**

7  Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you: 8  For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.   
9  Or what man is there of you, whom if his son ask bread, will he give him a stone? 10 Or if he ask a fish, will he give him a serpent?   
11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?