



Living Walking Serving

FAITH AND GRACE CHURCH

BIBLE STUDY NOTE ON

THE PROMISE OF THE FATHER – THE HOLY SPIRIT (Joel 2:28-32, Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4-5, 2:1-4, 2:16-21)

STUDY 7: THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES: Mt.3:11, 28:19 Mk.1:8, Lk.3:16, John 1:33, Acts 1:4,5,8, 2:1-4, 37-39, 1Cor.12:13, Gal.3:27, 1Cor. 10:1-2, 1Jn.5:8

A. The Pentecost experience: Acts 2:1-4

The fulfilment of the promise of the Father was on the day of the feast of Pentecost. This feast was one of the three major festivals for the Jews, the other two are the Passover and the Feast of Tabernacles. The Feast of Pentecost is also called “the Feast of weeks” or “the Day of Firstfruits”. During this harvest celebration, the Jews brought to God the Firstfruits of their harvest in thanksgiving, expecting that God would give the rest of the harvest as His blessing.

The outpouring of the Holy Spirit began the church age; the disciples were both baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit; with the evidence of speaking in unknown languages or tongue. On this birthday of the church when the Holy Spirit was poured out on all the believers, Peter preached the first sermon of the church age and three thousand people were converted. This marked the beginning of the great harvest of souls who would come to Christ and be joined together through the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

B. Three baptisms every believer needs to experience

- At salvation, the Holy Spirit “baptized us into the body of Christ”. 1Cor.12:13, Gal.3:27
- Water baptism by the disciples Matt. 28:19
- Baptism with the Holy Spirit is by Jesus Mt.3:11, Mk. 1:8, Lk.3:16, John 1:33, Acts 1:4,5,8

The Old Testament example: The Apostle Paul shows us the Old Testament type of these three baptisms in 1Cor. 10:1-2, 6a

“Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under **the cloud**, all passed through **the sea**, ² all were **baptized into Moses** in **the cloud** and in **the sea**”.

Moses was a type of Jesus – their deliverer, crossing the red sea was a type of water baptism, and the pillar of cloud by day and fire by night was the Holy Spirit leading them through.

Jesus Christ our example: Unlike every believer, Jesus needed no salvation because He’s the savior of the whole world, He was born right at birth by the Holy Spirit (Lk.1:35) so no need for Him to be born again. But Jesus was water baptized, and the Father baptized Him with the Holy Spirit.

The day of Pentecost example: from the first sermon of Apostle Peter, he gave the conditions necessary for receiving the promise of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2:37-38

“...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**”.

Lastly, the three that bear witness on earth: 1John 5:8

Apostle John added his on confirmation this way: "And there are three that bear witness on earth: The Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one." The salvation of every believer is through the redeeming blood of Jesus Christ. The water is for the water baptism, and the Spirit represents the Baptism with the Holy Spirit.

C. Who can receive the promise of the Father? Acts 2:39

Any believer can receive the gift of the Holy spirit.

Today, there are many believers who have received Jesus Christ into their lives – Saved, Born-again - and water baptized but are yet to receive the promise of the Father due to some erroneous believes and fear:

some believe that the salvation experience is all there is, and that there is no difference between the salvation experience and the infilling or baptism with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongue. Another erroneous believe is that it was only for the Apostles and the early church.

The truth is, God gave this outpouring of the Holy Spirit not only to the 120 who were gathered in the Upper Room with the Apostles, but also to the church age – Apostle Peter declares in Acts 2:39 that, "For the promise is to you and to your children, **and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call**".

Some believers are afraid of the baptism with the Holy Spirit with the evidence of new tongue because they claim that they might receive a demonic or an evil spirit since they have the Holy Spirit already at the New birth. The antidote to this fear and claim is given by our Master, Jesus Christ in Lk 11:9-13. Jesus will not give you serpents and scorpions, which are evil spirit and demons, instead of the Holy Spirit if you sincerely ask Him. Lk10:19 says, "Behold, I give you the authority to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you".

NEXT: STEPS TO RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT AND THE EARLY CHURCH EXPERIENCES ON THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WITH EVIDENCE OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES