

# The Baptism Of The Holy Spirit

*We all need power.*

- A lot of people treat the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as optional – it's for them but not me.
- It's often perceived as a preference or choice rather than a command.
- It is a life changing experience – perhaps the most life changing decision you will ever make.

## Acts 1:1 – 8

- Jesus performed began **TO DO** and **TO TEACH**. (vs. 1)
  - Teaching challenges us to go to another level.
  - Jesus wants to push us to new places in Him.
    - To levels we've never been
    - He wants to pull us higher
    - It may sometimes be uncomfortable
    - He is trying to get us to identify with Him, His will, His way

**Are you trying to pull Jesus down to your level or are you allowing Him to pull you to His level?**

**Are you willing to face the uncomfortable to go to the places God has for you?**

- There's something about the Holy Spirit that convinces us that Jesus is alive – the Holy Spirit is proof that the Resurrection actually happened.
- It's why Satan doesn't want you to believe/receive it.
- Jesus had to be seated back beside God before the Holy Spirit could come.
- God gives us the Holy Spirit as a gift – available to ALL who ask. (vs. 4)
  - He is a gift for the Church
    - Some are more into self- talents and abilities.
    - The Holy Spirit is a gift from Heaven.
    - We fall into the belief that we can fix it ourselves and only trust God when we hit rock bottom and the want God to pull us out.
    - Self-gifting or talent = no power.
    - Holy Spirit gifting = power from on high, a force that cannot be stopped.

## **Do you focus more on your gift or from Heaven's gift - (the Holy Spirit)?**

- Our gifts may impress emotions, but Heaven's gift will change the nature of people – it will change lives.

### **To be baptized means: (1:5)**

- It takes over and completely covers you.
  - Complete emersion.
  - Covers every area of your life.
  - Only the Holy Spirit can touch every area of your life all at once.

### **To be baptized means: (1:8)**

- The Holy Spirit is power = it where we get our word dynamo from = inherent power.
  - Inherent power is power that once started CANNOT be stopped. (1:8)
  - You can step in His path and be overtaken, completely consumed but you cannot stop Him.
- Power to witness.
  - You can witness without the Holy Spirit.
    - Without you witness for Jesus
  - With the Holy Spirit
    - He witnesses through you.
    - God reveals things to others through you.
    - You are the vessel that provides His voice.
- Many will go to fortune tellers, mediums, etc and believe that their DEAD relative or pet can speak to them from the other side – but yet do not believe Jesus is ALIVE and can speak through people.

## **What do you think, which is easier to believe? Dead pets or Jesus?**

## **Acts 2:1 – 4**

- Day of Pentecost – Day of Baptism
  - They didn't know what was about to happen.
  - They didn't know how long it would take.
  - They just showed up EXPECTING.

## **How do you show up for church – ASSUMING OR EXPECTING?**

**Just assume what will happen based on experience or expect something to happen based on faith?**

**Have we stopped expecting?**

**What would happen if we all showed up expecting God to actually meet us there?**

**Are you willing to miss out on what God might do just because you “know the order of service”?**

**Have you let expectation from the world trump (rob) you from expecting God to show up and meet you where you are?**

- Expectation gets you to church early and keeps you late.
- It stirs curiosity about what God just might do – when He will show up.
- It's about God, His purpose His gifts.

**What are you expecting?**

## **Acts 2:1-8**

- If the Baptism of the Holy Spirit wasn't for everyone, why did ALL 120 receive it?
- When God first initiates something, His character is shown,
- Satan is anti- Holy Spirit because it touches the most intimate way to communicate – language.
- ALL 120 spoke as the Spirit gave them utterance.
  - They spoke languages they did not know but others knew.
  - On the day of Pentecost God undid what He did at the Tower of Babel. (Genesis 11:1 – 8)
    - People were united through common language.
    - Nothing would be impossible.
    - They were moving further from the will and presence of God.
    - God came down and confused languages – created different languages.
    - People went their own way and stopped building the tower
    - Acts 2 undoes Genesis 11.
    - Same language, humans– Different languages, humans – Same language, Heaven's language.

- God reunited language to take the world for Him. Heaven wanted to speak it's language through us so the world could be impacted.