# THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

### **THE PROMISE**

There was a promise made by the Father first recorded by prophet Joel. This promise comes with power from on high.

***[Joel 2:28 NKJV] 28*** *"And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions.*

***[Luk 24:49 NKJV]******49*** *"Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."*

***[Act 1:4-5 NKJV] 4*** *And being assembled together with [them], He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," [He said], "you have heard from Me;* ***5*** *"for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."*

This promise is termed **The Baptism with/in the Holy Spirit.**

This promise has been accomplished on the day of Pentecost for the Jews and in the house of Cornelius for the Gentiles ***[Act 10:44-48]***. This is further confirmed in ***[1 Cor 12:13]***. Similar to salvation, all we need to do is to believe it and receive it by faith. We’ll see in more detail towards the end, how we can align ourselves to receive it.

Note in Act 1:5 there’s a comparison between baptism with/in water and baptism with/in the Spirit, suggesting it’s a similar process (same greek words used), just one is physical and the other spiritual.

The greek word **baptizo** means *to dip repeatedly, to immerse, to submerge.* There’s a process of dipping or immersion with the intent that the person being baptized is clothed or covered entirely or filled with/in the object of baptism or immersion.

In the phrase *baptized with -* **with** there can be interchanged with **in**. Infact the greek word ***en*** is used more times to refer to in, so you can read it as baptized **in** water or baptized **in** the Holy Ghost

When you’re immersed in water, the water covers or fills you up, same with the Spirit, when you’re baptized or immersed in the Spirit, the Spirit fills you up.

That’s why when the promise was fulfilled, Act 2:4 says

***[Act 2:4 NKJV] 4*** *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

This is also referred to as the gift of the Holy Spirit which the Father promised.

*[Act 10:44-48 NKJV] 44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. 45 And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because* ***the gift of the Holy Spirit*** *had been poured out on the Gentiles also. 46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, 47 "Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we [have]?" 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. Then they asked him to stay a few days.*

### **Definite Experience**

Also note that the outward sign that they have been baptized or filled with the Spirit is they began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Speaking in tongues allows one to know He has been baptized and this tells us that the baptism in the Spirit is a definite experience in that one can know if he/she has received it or not. To further buttress this, the first scripture we read in Luke 24:49, Jesus asked His disciples to *tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.* If it was not a definite experience, how would they have known when the commanded days of tarrying were over?

*[Act 19:1-2 NKJV] 1 And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples 2 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."*

The above is talking about the baptism in the Spirit as seen in vs 3. If the experience was not definite or not to be known for sure, why was Paul asking and how did they know they hadn’t received it. They were so sure of their answer.

*[Act 19:6 NKJV] 6 And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*

Again, we see here speaking in tongues as a sign.

The Bible is a very definite book, if you study it. It is very definite about salvation - anyone who knows his Bible can answer ‘yes’ or ‘no’ to the question of whether they have been saved. The same with the baptism in the Holy Spirit. There may be those though who are saved but don’t know it cos they don’t understand their Bible, but it is a privilege to know for sure whether you have been saved or not. Same it is with the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

#### Indwelling Spirit vs Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Every believer has the Holy Spirit indwelling or living in them - in which your body is the temple. You receive the indwelling Spirit at salvation as a seal or verification stamp that you have been saved ***[Eph 1:13]*** and the Holy Spirit begins the work of regeneration in you. Infact, without the Holy Spirit you and I cannot proclaim that Jesus is Lord and will not be saved ***[1Cor 12:3]*.** It is the Holy Spirit that convicts us. ***[John 16:7-9]***

So it’s the job of the Holy Spirit to convict one of sin and the sin here is that of unbelief. So the Holy Spirit convicts the unbeliever and when the unbeliever responds to the Spirit’s conviction and wholeheartedly turns to faith in Christ, confesses with his mouth that Jesus is Lord and believes that God raised Him from the dead, the person is saved and the Holy Spirit that brought Him comes to live inside of him as a sign.

How do we know that this indwelling experience is different from the baptism experience?

Before Jesus asked His disciples to wait for the promise, He had already breathed on them the Spirit which would indwell in them forever.

*[Jhn 20:20-22 NKJV] 20 When He had said this, He showed them [His] hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. 21 So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." 22 And when He had said this, He breathed on [them], and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.*

But they were not yet baptized as we saw earlier that Jesus later asked them to tarry in Jerusalem until the promise from the Father arrives. This is the same Holy Spirit inside of them and us for the purpose of regeneration – so we can have the divine eternal life of God *[John 3:16]* *[John 6:63]* but this time around, He will endue or clothe or fill them outwardly for the purpose of power and authority for service.

*[Act 8:12-17 NKJV] 12 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. 13 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. 14 Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, 15 who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.*

We see here that one might be a true believer, and not yet baptized in the Holy Spirit. Peter and John came down to the believers whom Philip preached to and prayed that they might receive the Holy Spirit for as yet He had fallen upon none of them.

We have ascertained from the scriptures that the Baptism is something distinct from and beyond the regenerating work of the Spirit.

Let us illustrate it using something else:

Now when you have a glass of water, you drink from it and it goes inside. So you have some water inside of you. But when you go to a swimming pool, you dive inside it and submerge yourself in it - the water fills you up without measure as it is not possible to measure the amount of water you are in and it is the whole of you that has been swallowed up. The first experience with the glass of water is the indwelling Spirit at salvation. The 2nd is the baptism in the Spirit

It is possible that both may happen simultaneously - a person can receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit the moment he/she is saved.

It was so in the household of Cornelius. This demonstrates that the apostles expected that when one is converted, they should also be baptized with the Holy Spirit at once and fitted for immediate service. If a man has experienced the regenerating work of the Holy Spirit, he is a saved man, but not fit for service until he receives the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. That was why Peter and John was sent to the people at Samaria just for the purpose of praying that they might receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

That was why Paul also asked the disciples at Ephesus if they had received the Holy Spirit. Being saved and regenerated was not enough. It was considered very important by the early apostles that when Paul went to those apostles, for him to ask that question means that probably there was something he was expecting to see when he visited them which he didn’t. There were not behaving as they should. And we see that the major outward sign which happened when people received the baptism was speaking in tongues. So perhaps they were not speaking in tongues and Paul had to ask them and when they said no, he ensured that they were baptized in the Spirit immediately. That’s how important it was for the early apostles.

So this is a question we need to bring back to the Church today. *Have ye received the Holy Spirit since you believed?*

### **Purpose of the Baptism**

The Baptism with the Spirit is not an experience that God grants us merely to make us happy. It will indeed bring joy to our lives such as we never knew before. But that is not the main purpose. It’s not intended to make us happy but make us effective. When we desire it, we should not look and long for ecstatic experiences but for power and efficiency in service to God.

It comes with power - power to serve which revolves around testifying & bearing witness to Christ. *Tarry ye in Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high*

*[Act 1:8 NKJV] 8 "But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

And we see what happened in the day of Pentecost in Act 2 when the promise was fulfilled, and the apostles were baptized. About 3000 souls were converted and saved that day (vs 41)

*[Act 4:31, 33 NKJV] 31 And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness. ... 33* ***And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus****. And great grace was upon them all.*

### **Power from the Baptism**

This power will not manifest itself precisely the same way in every individual. It manifests according to your ordination and calling as the Holy Spirit wills. When the baptism is first experienced by the individual the sign is mostly utterance based (speaking in tongues, prophecy) but you will also be equipped with the power to exercise the giftings you need at that period.

*[1Co 12:1-11, 30 NKJV] 1 Now concerning spiritual [gifts], brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant: 2 You know that you were Gentiles, carried away to these dumb idols, however you were led. 3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God calls Jesus accursed, and no one can say that Jesus is Lord except by the Holy Spirit. 4 There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit [of all]: 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another [different] kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills. ...*

V4 - Different gifts but the same Spirit

Gifts means charisma - favour or gift of grace that denotes extraordinary powers.

V5 - Services mean ministry but the same Lord. Jesus appoints or ordains you for a service and the Holy Spirit equips you for the service with the gifts necessary for it. Thus, He enables you to do whatever you are called to do.

V6 - Operations of the body of Christ or territorial Kingdom activities for which the services or ordinations seek to advance are administered by the Father.

V7 - The manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the common good of all so all in the body of Christ are edified. It’s not for self or for your personal gain. It’s all for the body of Christ to be built up effectively to advance the kingdom. Because it is the Spirit’s office to bear witness of and glorify Christ (John 15:26, John 16:14). **It’s all about Christ and His Kingdom.**

On the day of Pentecost, the Spirit filled men and women spoke about the mighty works of God. *(Acts 2,11)*. Peter’s sermon that day was all about Christ, and especially about His resurrection. When Saul or Paul got baptized in the Spirit by Ananias, he immediately started preaching Christ in the synagogues *(Acts 9, 17-20)*. When Cornelius and his household were baptized, they began at once to speak in tongues and magnify God *(Acts 10: 44-46).*

### Summary of Baptism Overview

In summary, The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of God coming upon the believer, taking possession of his faculties and entire being and imparting to him power or gifts not naturally his own but which qualifies him for the service to which God has called him.

While the power manifests itself in different ways, there will always be power. But it is the Holy Spirit that decides how the power will manifest itself in an individual. We have a right to desire earnestly the greater gifts as noted in *[1Cor 12:1]* but the Holy Spirit has the final say.

### **Who can receive the Baptism**

*[Act 2:37-39 NKJV] 37 Now when they heard [this], they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men [and] brethren, what shall we do?" 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. 39 "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."*

The Lord has called every believer in Christ so it is a promise made to every believer. Peter spoke and told the Jews, for you, for your children and all afar of. Many of us have not experienced this gift probably because of how we became believers in Christ or perhaps due to ignorance or because we have not taken. If you check a Bible lexicon, the exact force of the word receive in vs 38 (*lambanō)* is take. We have not taken/seized that which God has already made available for us.

How excited will you be if someone you know promises you a car or a house. Won’t you be excited. But what is a car or house compared to the Holy Spirit. So you should be excited with what the King has promised and delivered to you. It is yours for the taking! Alleluia!!!

## DAY II

### Refilling with the Holy Spirit

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit not a one-time experience.

We see that after the first baptism which occurred on the day of Pentecost in Acts 2, apostle Peter experienced the baptism or filling with the Holy Spirit again and again

*[Act 4:5-8 NKJV] 5 And it came to pass, on the next day, that their rulers, elders, and scribes, 6 as well as Annas the high priest, Caiaphas, John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the family of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem. 7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, "By what power or by what name have you done this?" 8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders of Israel:*

*[Act 4:31 NKJV] 31 And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.*

So it is not sufficient that one be once baptized with the Holy Spirit. It’s something you should constantly seek for in your service or ministry.

This gift must not be “neglected”***[1Ti 4:14 NKJV] 14*** *Do not neglect the gift that is in you, which was given to you by prophecy with the laying on of the hands of the eldership.*

But rather be stirred or kindled anew **[2Ti 1:6 NKJV] 6** *Therefore I remind you to stir [****to kindle anew, rekindle, resuscitate]*** *up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands.*

So repeated fillings with the Holy Spirit are necessary to rekindle, increase or upgrade the power/gifts you have been endued with for service to God

### **How can we receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit**

We have seen in brief what the Baptism with the Spirit which we really need is. Now a practical question? How can it be obtained?

The Bible points this out very plainly and we can split it into 7 steps which anyone who really desires it can take, and if you follow these steps, you can unwrap this gift with certainty. And by certainty, I mean faith. You have to receive it by faith because without faith, it is impossible to please God (Heb 11:6).

*[Act 2:37-38 NKJV] 37 Now when they heard [this], they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Men [and] brethren, what shall we do?" 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.*

The first 3 steps are clear and explicit. The others are clearly implied and are brought out more explicitly by other passages which we’ll come to later.

The first 2 steps are found in the word repent. Means to change your mind. About what? About God, about Christ, about sin. Let’s determine that using the passage to see what Peter was telling them to repent from. The first and most prominent thought is a change of mind about Christ. Peter filled with the Holy Spirit has just brought this charge against them that they had crucified Him whom God had made both Lord and Christ. Pricked in their heart by this charge which the Holy Spirit used to convict them, they cried out in vs37 *"Men [and] brethren, what shall we do?"* Peter says, repent. Change your mind about Christ. Change from a Christ-hating and crucifying attitude of mind and accept Him as Savior, Christ and Lord.

###### Accept Jesus as Savior, Christ and Lord.

Have you taken this step, are you relying wholly upon the atoning work of Jesus as your Saviour or do you try to add your own works to the finished work of Christ as a ground of acceptance with God? Do you recognize and accept Him as your Lord, the owner of your life which He purchased with His blood, or do you hate the thought of you having a Lord over your life? Have you accepted him as your Savior, Lord and that God raised Him from the dead. If not it’s time to repent because you need to be saved first before inheriting any promise in Christ.

###### Renounce sin

While the first change of mind is about Jesus, there must also be a change of mind about sin. From a sin loving or sin-indulging attitude of mind to a sin-hating and sin-renouncing attitude of mind. This is the 2nd step - **renounce sin and hate it**. For you to receive the gift of the holy Spirit, there must be very honest and thorough searching of the heart and it’s God that must do this cos we cannot do it satisfactorily.

We should go and ask Him to search us thoroughly and bring to light anything that displeases him, then wait for him to do it

***[Psa 139:23-24 NKJV] 23*** *Search me, O God, and know my heart; Try me, and know my anxieties;* ***24*** *And see if [there is any] wicked way in me, And lead me in the way everlasting.*

Now when this displeasing thing is revealed, it should be put away at once. It may appear small and insignificant but repent from it and ask for forgiveness immediately. In fact, this is how we should live our lives, in a constant state of repentance. Continuously asking the Lord to search you and reveal any wicked way (anything that’s not His way in you), and if the Holy Spirit brings anything to your heart, confess it to him and repent immediately. And when you confess it to Him in repentance and ask for forgiveness, believe with faith immediately that God has forgiven you.

***[1Jo 1:9 NKJV] 9*** *If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us [our] sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

So the 2nd step, is to put away every sin.

###### Be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins

It was immediately after Jesus’ water baptism that He prayed and was baptized with the Holy Spirit (with the Spirit descending on Him like a dove).

*[Luk 3:21-22 NKJV] 21 When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. 22 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."*

Even though He was sinless, He did it to fulfill all righteousness. He humbled Himself to take the sinner’s place and God highly exalted Him by giving Him the Holy Spirit and the audible testimony

So we must humble ourselves to make open renunciation of our sin and acceptance of Jesus Christ, in the place of water baptism.

***[Mat 10:32-33 NKJV] 32*** *"Therefore whoever confesses Me before men, him I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven.* ***33*** *"But whoever denies Me before men, him I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven.*

And remember baptism means immersion or submerging so it’s not sprinkling water on top of the head. If you have not been immersed in water in the presence of others for baptism purposes, please ensure you do so.

The Baptism with the Spirit is not for one who secretly takes his place as a sinner and believer in Christ but for one who does so openly because God is going to use you openly to advance His kingdom.

Most of the places we read in the scripture revealed that they were baptized in water before receiving the baptism with the Spirit. The rest of the cases reveals the Baptism with the Spirit may precede water baptism. May come before it as shown in the case of the household of Cornelius, and Saul but they were baptized in water immediately. Let’s look at these peculiar cases.

***[Act 9:17-18 NKJV] 17*** *And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 Immediately there fell from his eyes [something] like scales, and he received his sight at once; and he arose and was baptized.*

***[Act 10:44-47 NKJV] 44*** *While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.* ***45*** *And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.* ***46*** *For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, 47 "Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we [have]?"*

So if by the grace and sovereignty of God, He decides to baptize you with His Spirit before you have been baptized in water, you have to ensure that you get baptized in water afterwards.

###### Obedience

Implied in Acts 2:38 but is brought out more explicitly in Acts 5:32

*[Act 5:32 NKJV] 32 "And we are His witnesses to these things, and [so] also [is] the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey Him."*

It means total surrender to the will of God. It means, *Heavenly Father, here I am and all I have, Thou had bought me with a price and I acknowledge thine absolute ownership as Lord over my life. Take me and all I have and do with me whatsoever you will. Send me where You will and use me as You will. I surrender myself and all I possess absolutely, unconditionally, forever to Thy control and use*.

There needs to be total surrender and laying down of one’s will. “*Not my will but yours be done”*

###### Desire/Thirst

***[Jhn 7:37-39 NKJV] 37*** *On the last day, that great [day] of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.* ***38*** *"He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."* ***39*** *But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet [given], because Jesus was not yet glorified.*

***[Isa 44:3 NKJV] 3*** *For I will pour water on him who is thirsty, And floods on the dry ground; I will pour My Spirit on your descendants, And My blessing on your offspring;*

***[Mat 5:6 NKJV] 6*** *Blessed [are] those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.*

When one thirsts, you desire for one thing - water. Imagine you are so thirsty and there’s no water around you. Every pore in your body seems to cry out water, water, water. Your desire increases with each passing moment, and it feels to you like you can’t do without it then. That’s how much you desire it. That’s the same way you should desire this. Your whole being should cry out Spirit, Spirit, Spirit. This then is the fifth step - intense desire for the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. This desire must not be selfish and must come from a pure heart. See *[Acts 8:18-24]* in the case of Simon.

###### Ask

***[Luk 11:9-10, 13 NKJV] 9*** *"So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. ... 13 "If you then, 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!"*

When Christ has been confessed and accepted as Saviour and Lord, when sin has been confessed directly to God and put away, when there has been a total surrender of the will, when there is an earnest and pure desire, then there’s the simple act of asking God for this definite blessing. And this ask or prayer needs to stem from that desire, so from the heart. The ask can be as simple as *Lord fill me up till I overflow, use me as you will* - this is you asking and portraying obedience or surrender at once. This prayer can be done by someone else as well. Someone else can intercede for you so long as you desire it but you shouldn’t be relying on someone else to unwrap what God has in store for you

The disciples had to tarry in Jerusalem and continued praying till they received it. *[Act 4:31]* shows that they prayed again to be filled.

*[Act 4:31 NKJV] 31 And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.*

*[Act 8:14-16 NKJV] 14 Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, 15 who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

**Even our Lord and Saviour Jesus prayed before He was baptized**

*[Luk 3:21-22 NKJV] 21 When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. 22 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."*

So the son of God that was supernaturally conceived of the Holy Spirit, before He began His ministry prayed before the Spirit was poured out upon Him.

*How much more will [your] heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"*

###### Believe (without faith, it is impossible to please God)

*[Jas 1:5-7 NKJV] 5 If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him. 6 But let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for he who doubts is like a wave of the sea driven and tossed by the wind. 7 For let not that man suppose that he will receive anything from the Lord;*

You need to ask in faith and believe you have obtained it. It’s very important if you do want to experience it. If you doubt, you will not receive from the Lord. That’s why when Jesus was walking on water and asked Peter to meet him, the moment Peter doubted he began to sink.

So you need to believe in faith that you have received what you have prayed for.

*[Mar 11:24 NKJV] 24 "Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive [them], and you will have [them].*

The reason we should believe we have received what we prayed for, and in so doing we will have them - especially in this case of the Baptism with the Spirit is supported by

*[1Jo 5:14-15 NKJV] 14 Now this is the confidence that we have in Him, that if we ask anything according to His will, He hears us. 15 And if we know that He hears us, whatever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we have asked of Him.*

When you ask God for something, the first question should be: Is this petition according to His will? When you find that it is according to His will - for e.g. if the thing is promised in His Word, then you know for sure that He has heard us and that we have that which we have asked of Him - because it says so plainly in His Word.

So bringing this back to the Baptism with the Spirit, when we have met the conditions mentioned earlier, then we ask for it and ask ourselves, was this prayer according to His will? It says so in Luke 11:13 *"If you then, 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!"*

*[Act 2:38-39 NKJV] 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. 39 "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."*

So His word says He is more than willing to give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him. And this is a promise to me according to Actsv39. So it is clear that the prayer for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is according to His will. And then we know the prayer is heard and we have received what we ask for.

Then we have the right to proclaim on the authority of God’s Word: “I have the Baptism with the Holy Spirit!” And you open your mouth and begin to worship and thank Him in the Spirit, believing that the Spirit is giving you utterance.

**In summary, be sure you have met the conditions, and then simply ask, claim and act**

#### **Will there always be a manifestation?**

Yes there will always be a manifestation. *You shall receive power when the Spirit shall come upon you*.

1Cor 12:7 - To each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit to profit withal

What will the manifestation be? Read previous part on 1Cor12

**Manifestations summary from recorded baptisms:**

***[Act 2:4 NKJV] 4*** *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*

***[Act 4:31, 33 NKJV] 31*** *And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness. ...* ***33*** *And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.*

***[Act 10:44-48 NKJV] 44*** *While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.* ***45*** *And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.* ***46*** *For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.*

***[Act 19:6 NKJV] 6*** *And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.*

***[Act 9:17, 20, 22 NKJV] 17*** *And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." ...* ***20*** *Immediately he preached the Christ in the synagogues, that He is the Son of God. ...* ***22*** *But Saul increased all the more in strength, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this [Jesus] is the Christ.*

The major manifestations recorded during an initial baptism experience is speaking in tongues. In one of the cases, this is followed by prophesying. It’s possible that each person both spoke and prophesied but not probable as it’s only one mouth we have. It’s more probable that some spoke in tongues while some prophesied. Scripture didn’t make this very clear though. But we see utterance-based gifts manifested. The only initial baptism case that was recorded that speaking in tongues didn’t follow suit was the case of Saul/Paul. But we see in [*1Co 14:18]* that even if he didn’t speak then, he later spoke in tongues.

#### **TONGUES**

In the past we have dealt extensively at least twice on the importance of speaking in tongues. I advise you to search for and listen to it on our telegram channel if you haven’t already.

Picking out some verses in [1Cor 14] in the interest of time. Note that this is in a context of teaching or edifying or building up the church

*[1Co 14:2 NKJV] 2 For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands [him]; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries.*

*[1Co 14:4 NKJV] 4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.*

*[1Co 14:5 NKJV] 5 I wish you all spoke with tongues, but even more that you prophesied; for he who prophesies [is] greater than he who speaks with tongues, unless indeed he interprets, that the church may receive edification.*

Key thing to note is that in speaking in tongues, you are edifying or building up your spirit man who speaks to God. So you’re speaking to God directly for **no one** understands you not even the devil. In the spirit you speak mysteries. It’s only the Spirit of God that assigned the gift to you that understands you, so you’re speaking to God. Unless the same Spirit grants you or another the gift of interpretation to be able to interpret what you’re speaking.

*[1Co 14:14-15 NKJV] 14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. 15 What is [the conclusion] then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.*

So when you hear praying in the spirit, singing or worshipping in the spirit, it refers to speaking in tongues. *[Jde 1:20 NKJV] 20 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,*

*—-END—--*