

# THE HOLY SPIRIT

31/10/10

*Well meaning Christians have turned this topic of the Holy Spirit into a fruit salad of concepts, dogmas, opinions, ideology and theology; with many of their conclusions limiting the Word of God and hindering the knowledge of bible salvation. If we want expert opinion on matters of doctrine, we need to turn to the experts.... those who God inspired to write the bible. We read in Revelation 22:18-19 of the unchanging "Word", which can neither be added to, nor taken from. These words were spoken by Jesus himself who is identified in Heb 13:8, "to be the same yesterday, today and forever". Today we will investigate the Holy Spirit and its life saving capacities from the scriptures.*

**Jesus makes some very direct and informative statements.**

**LUK 24:49** And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but **tarry** (don't do anything else ...be patient and wait) ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be **endued** (clothed... you are spiritually naked without the powers of God) with **power** (dunamis ...the miracle working power of God) **from on high**. Jesus was unable to begin his ministry until he had been baptized and received the Holy Spirit. Are we any better than him that we should bypass our Lord's personal testimony?

**Luke repeats the same words of Jesus in his introduction in Acts.**

**ACT 1:4** 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. The promise of the Father referred to being baptized in the Holy Ghost. This experience was not optional; it was **commanded** by Jesus.

**Luke quotes Jesus again, further detailing what he was talking about.**

**ACT 1:8** But ye shall receive **power** (dunamis), after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth. The effective witness can't begin until the Holy Spirit enters your body... this is the baptism of the Holy Ghost. It was no different with Jesus and his ministry. **REV 12:11** AND THEY OVERCAME HIM BY THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB, AND BY THE WORD OF THEIR TESTIMONY; AND THEY LOVED NOT THEIR LIVES UNTO THE DEATH. How can you be an overcomer, if you don't have the power to witness... the evidence of salvation?

**Back in Luke, Jesus had already told Peter that he needed to be converted by the power of the Holy Spirit.**

**LUK 22:32** But I have prayed for thee, that thy faith fail not: and when thou art **converted** (1994 turned about), **strengthen** (establish) thy brethren. Peter who was the most loyal and faithful disciple that Jesus knew, still didn't have the necessary power to be loyal to Jesus and to perform miracles in his own right... that occurred on the day of Pentecost when Peter was anointed by the Holy Spirit. Consider the use of the same word 'converted' in the following verse. **ACT 3:19** REPENT YE THEREFORE, AND BE **CONVERTED** (1994), THAT YOUR SINS MAY BE BLOTTED OUT, WHEN THE TIMES OF REFRESHING SHALL COME FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD; This is much more than an optional experience... it is salvation.

**Again, Jesus speaks powerfully and directly.**

**JOH 3:5** Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God. This refers to water baptism and Spirit baptism... being born of water is not natural birth. No spirit baptism means no entry into God's kingdom... that only leaves death as the viable option.

**Peter told them what to do... just after he did it himself.**

**ACT 2:38** Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

**39** For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. Notice that the rules are the same for everyone, and so are the promises. This is what had just happened to Peter... **ACT 2: 1** 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. This is what he is referring to... the New Testament salvation.

**Jesus told them the measure that they had to apply.**

**JOH 7:38** He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. He that believes as the scripture hath said... not a religious choice or option.

**39** (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.) You must receive the Holy Spirit. It isn't an optional, nor debatable experience as far as God is concerned. The Holy Spirit wasn't given because Jesus still had to die and raise from the dead.

**Believing and obeying God is the only option available if permanent death is to be avoided.**

**ACT 5:30** The God of our fathers raised up Jesus, whom ye slew and hanged on a tree.

**31** Him hath God exalted with his right hand to be a Prince and a Saviour, for to give repentance to Israel, and forgiveness of sins. **32** And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that **obey** him. The Holy Ghost will be given to all them that obey him... to no other. There are no options for those who wish to obey Christ. It is far easier to believe the Word of God and enjoy the full blessing than to try and avoid it. Believe God, trust his word.