



Cherreguine Bible Doctrine Ministries

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BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is not the same as the filling of the Holy Spirit, just as it is not an experience or the work of grace after salvation, and it is not and never was, speaking of tongues. Those who failed to carefully distinguish the baptism of the Holy Spirit from spiritual gifts sincerely but inaccurately thought that the baptism of the Holy Spirit involves speaking in tongues.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs at the moment of salvation for all Church Age believers, while the gift of tongues operated only in the post-salvation experience of a few first-century Christians. The phenomenon of tongues was a temporary spirit gifts designed to warn Israel of impending national judgment (Isaiah 28:11) and evangelism. The listeners but not the speakers evangelized Jews in gentile languages understood. The gift of tongues practiced by few believers during the pre-canon period of the Church Age dramatizes the Jews failure to evangelize the Gentiles.

The gift of tongues was a miraculous sign to alert Israel to her decadence, which is why, no one, has legitimately spoken in tongues since A.D. 70, when Jerusalem fell, and the purpose for this temporary gift expired. "If there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away" (1 Corinthians 13:8b).

The gift of tongues ceased long ago, but the baptism of the Spirit occurs in every generation of the Church age, and it never involves human emotion or ecstatic experience, because genuine baptism of the Spirit has absolutely no relation to feelings. The believer may be elated or feel nothing at the moment of salvation. Regardless how a person feels in that initial instant of faith in Christ, the Holy Spirit unites him with Christ forever.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit comes unnoticed and without warning. No human being can sense or detect the baptism of the Holy Spirit in any way. No senses (sight, hearing, touch, or smell) can confirm this spiritual event in the life of a person. The spiritual ministry of the Holy Spirit at the point of salvation is known only through Bible doctrine, which the believer learns after salvation.

No person has the authority or power to command or demand the Holy Spirit to baptize an individual or group of individuals. The Holy Spirit will never submit, obey, or listen to human pleading or begging under the guise of powerful prayer of cultic preachers.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is never earned nor deserved by the believer. God give this fabulous gift by grace, totally without regard for human merit or human good works. Eternal union with Christ is complete at the very moment of salvation, accomplished entirely by the grace of God before any believer has a chance to perceive his spiritual position in Christ or learn about this thing. Baptism of the Holy Spirit comes before spiritual growth, Christian service, or knowledge of salvation.

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is not progressive and cannot be improved, since the ministry of the baptism of the Holy Spirit has permanent and eternal effect. Never in all eternity can it be undone, lost, canceled, or rendered void by anything, and never does it need to be repeated (Romans 8:38-).

The spiritual impostors have created their own "reverse version" of baptism of the Holy Spirit, which is filling with ecstatic emotions and mystical rituals. The primary purpose of baptism of the Spirit is to permanently link the saints to Christ, not to show off the "spiritual power" of the cultic preachers.