



Cherreguine Bible Doctrine Ministries

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Baptism of the Holy Spirit ***(Positional Truth In Christ)***

At the moment of salvation, the believer enters into a spiritual union with Jesus Christ and remains in that position forever. "Positional Truth" is the formal title on the subject of the Christian's position "IN (union with) Christ". The Christian is placed spiritually in Christ through a mechanism known as the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. This is described in 1 Cor. 12:13 and Gal. 3:27,28.

Knowing the difference between a Real Baptism and a Ritual Baptism is a pre-requisite to an understanding of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

There are 5 Real and 3 Ritual Baptisms.

The word "baptize" (from the Greek **baptidzo**) means "to identify" or "to be made one with". In general, it refers to the act of identifying one thing with another thing in such a way that its nature or character is changed, or it represents the idea that a real change has already taken place

A REAL baptism refers to a transformation that takes place when a person is identified with someone or something else. He is changed by that identification.

A RITUAL baptism is a ritual that identifies a person with water that is symbolic of something else. However, no real change takes place.

Characteristics of the believer's Union with Christ:

- 1** Union with Christ is a fact, not an experience. It has nothing to do with emotion or how one feels.
- 2** Union with Christ is a fact for all Church Age believers, spiritual or carnal. 1 Cor. 1:2; cf. 1:11; 3:1-4
- 3** The Baptism of the Holy Spirit occurred for the first time on the Day of Pentecost, Acts 2:1-4 cf. 11:15,16. Therefore, it is unique to Church Age believers.
- 4** The believer's position in Christ makes him a "new creature" in Christ, 2 Cor. 5:17.
- 5** Therefore if any man is in Christ, he is a new creature. The "Old Things" have passed away – condemnation, sp. death, control of OSN. The "New Things" have come – eternal life, +R, indwelling of H.S.

- 6** Union with Christ is not progressive; it cannot be improved upon; we receive it in total at salvation.
- 7** Union with Christ is not commanded by God; it is given by God at salvation.
- 8** This Union is permanent; it will never be taken away; it does not depend upon our faithfulness; it depends on the faithfulness of God. It is a guarantee of eternal security, Rom. 8:38-39; 1 John 5:11,12; Rom. 8:1.
- 9** Union with Christ makes the believer perfect in the sight of God, *Col. 2:9,10.
- 10** Union with Christ makes every believer equal at the point of salvation, Gal. 3:27,28.
- 11** Since the believer is identified with Christ, he shares certain aspects of His life:
- * We share in His election, Eph. 1:4.
 - * We share in His destiny, Eph. 1:5,11.
 - * We share in His sonship, Eph. 1:5; Heb. 2:10; Gal. 3:26.
 - * We obtain the +Righteousness of Christ, 2 Cor. 5:21.
 - * We share in Christ's inheritance, Rom. 8:16,17; Gal. 4:7.
 - * We share His priesthood, 1 Pet. 2:5,9.
 - * We share in His Kingdom, Col. 1:13; 2 Pet. 1:11.
 - * We share in His resurrection, Eph. 2:6.
 - * We share in His life, Eph. 2:5; Col. 2:13; 1 John 5:11,12.
 - * In Him we have redemption and forgiveness of sins, Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:14.

12 Bible illustrations of Union with Christ:

- * Vine and Branches, John 15
- * Head and Body, Eph. 1:22,23
- * Bridegroom and Bride, Rev. 19:7-9; 21:9; Eph. 5:27
- * Shepherd and Flock, John 10:16
- * Chief cornerstone and building, 1 Pet. 2:4,5
- * High Priest and Priesthood, Heb. 4:14; 5:5,6,10

