



UNDERSTANDING THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

THE MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

PARTNERING WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

INTRODUCTION:

Jesus announced that God's kingdom in heaven was breaking into the earth. He followed this teaching with miraculous powers, signs, and healings. After Jesus' death, the power and the message of God's kingdom breaking into earth was continued through the ministry of the Holy Spirit in the life of his church.

IN THE BIBLE:

Acts 1:5,8 "For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit . . . But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

PETRA'S HOPE

...is that you will pursue the fullness of God by embracing the Holy Spirit and the entirety of his ministry.

PERSONAL GOAL

I will pursue a greater understanding and partnership with the ministry of God the Holy Spirit.

I. THE FOUR-FOLD MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

There is one Holy Spirit but various manifestations, impartations, and workings of the Spirit in a believer's life.

A. DISCIPLES' EXPERIENCE

Since the disciples were the closest to Jesus' teachings, we want to know how they experienced, understood, and practiced the ministry of the Holy Spirit. If we follow New Testament patterns, we will get New Testaments results.

1. The Holy Spirit is working upon the earth _____ us and creation.

This is the Holy Spirit's _____ work. Gen. 1:2; Jn. 14:16-17; John 16:8 "When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment."

DISCIPLES' EXPERIENCE: John 14:16-17 "And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever— the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you."

2. The Holy Spirit takes up residence ____ us at rebirth.

This is his _____ work. John. 3:1-7; I Cor. 3:16, 12:13; Jn. 20:22; Romans 8:9 "You, however, are controlled not by the sinful nature but by the Spirit, if the Spirit of God lives in you. And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ."

DISCIPLES' EXPERIENCE: John 20:22 "And with that he breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'"

- This is the moment they were 'born again' by the Spirit of God. As Jesus breathed on them, the Holy Spirit came in them.
- Jesus then tells them there is still another aspect of the Spirit's ministry that they were to receive and they were to expect it and wait for it.

Acts 1:5,8 "For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit . . . But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

3. The Holy Spirit comes _____ us with an empowering baptism.

This is his _____ work. Acts 1:5,8, 2:2-4, 8:15-17, 10:44, 19:6

DISCIPLES' EXPERIENCE: Acts 2:2-4 "Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."

DISCIPLES' EXPERIENCE: Acts 8:15-17 "When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit."

- The Holy Spirit in us is the saving transforming work of the Holy Spirit as we are born again.
- The Holy Spirit on us is the equipping empowering work of the Holy Spirit to help us walk in the power and gifts of the Spirit.
- This baptism of the Holy Spirit normally comes after salvation. It is not the same experience as salvation.
- We see one exception in the scriptures in Acts 10 and this was because Peter and the Jewish Christians thought that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit was only for Jewish Christians. So God sovereignly saved and baptized the gentiles with the Spirit in the middle of Peter's sermon to show that this gift is for all people.

DISCIPLES' EXPERIENCE: Acts 10:44-46 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

DISCIPLES' EXPERIENCE: Acts 19:6 When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

Summary: This was the disciples' pattern of ministry. They would lead people to faith in Jesus, baptize them with water and then lay hands on them to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. They understood the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as something subsequent or in addition to what a person receives when they are born again.

4. **The Holy Spirit _____ us with fresh infilling.**

This is his _____ work. Eph. 5:18, Acts 4:31, 4:8, 7:55, 13:9
Ephesians 5:18 Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.

DISCIPLES' EXPERIENCE: Acts 4:31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.

B. RECEIVING THE EMPOWERING BAPTISM

1. This Spirit baptism is a _____ and is received by faith. Acts 2:38, 10:45; Gal.3:14
2. We simply need to ask Jesus to baptize us with his Spirit. Lk. 11: 9-13; Matt 3:11
3. This empowering baptism of the Spirit was often imparted through the _____ . God is not limited to this pattern but it is a biblical example we have to follow. It's good to ask someone who has received this baptism to pray for us. Acts 8:17-18, 9:17, 19:16; II Tim. 1:6-7
4. Every Sunday the prayer teams are available to pray with you to receive this wonderful impartation of the Holy Spirit into your life. Just ask!