

# PNEUMATOLOGY

## The Study (Doctrine) of the Holy Spirit Study Outline – Lesson 7

### The Work Of The Holy Spirit

Is there a difference between being Born of the Spirit and Baptized in the Spirit?

#### Introduction

A Christian may know and experience two major operations of the same Holy Spirit:

- Being born again of the Spirit
- Being baptized in the Spirit

#### Two General Groups

**Evangelicals** – The new birth of the Spirit and the baptism in the Spirit are seen to be one and the same experience, taking place at one and the same time.

**Pentecostals** – The baptism of the Holy Spirit is an experience that comes after being born of the Spirit.

There is a wide range of beliefs that fall into and between both groups.

#### Example 1 – Jesus Christ

Jesus is the divine pattern of all things for the Christian. Jesus experienced two major operations of the Holy Spirit in His life.

#### JESUS - BORN OF SPIRIT

**Luke 1:34-35 - Then Mary said to the angel, “How can this be, since I do not know a man?” The angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you. Therefore the Holy One who will be born will be called the Son of God.**

The Father, through the Holy Spirit overshadowed Mary, planted the seed within Mary's womb. Jesus was the first fruits of the new creation.

**Colossians 1:15 - He is the image of the invisible God and the firstborn of every creature.**

**1 Corinthians 15:23 - But every man in his own order: Christ the first fruits; afterward, those who are Christ's at His coming.**

Jesus was born of God.

## JESUS - BAPTIZED IN THE SPIRIT

**Luke 3:21-22 - 21 Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heavens were opened, and the Holy Spirit descended in a bodily form like a dove on Him, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son. In You I am well pleased."**

Jesus came to be baptized in water in the river Jordan by John the Baptist. Here He experienced another main operation of the Holy Spirit in His life.

It could be asked: Did not Jesus already have the Spirit? Was He not born of the Spirit thirty years previously? Had He not been led of the Spirit and walked in the Spirit over those thirty years? Yes

What happened in this experience of the Holy Spirit in the life of Jesus that was different from and previously?

The Scriptures provide the answer.

**Luke 4:1 - Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,**

Jesus was 'filled with the Spirit'. We can say Jesus was 'baptized in the Spirit' even as He was baptized in water. The Holy Spirit empowered Christ for ministry.

### *Life Of Christ*

- He was born of the Spirit - Luke 1:30-35; Matthew 1:18-25
- He was baptized in the Spirit thirty years later - Matthew 3:16-17
- He received the Spirit without measure - John 3:33-34
- He was full of the Spirit - Luke 4:1
- He was led of the Spirit - Matthew 4:1
- He preached and taught by the power of the Spirit - Luke 4:18-19
- He cast out demons by the Spirit - Matthew 12:28
- He healed the sick by the power of the Holy Spirit - Acts 10:38
- He offered Himself on Calvary by the eternal Spirit - Hebrews 9:14
- He was resurrected by the power of the Spirit - Romans 8:11

Two distinct operations of one and the same Holy Spirit are seen in the life and experience of Jesus Christ.

### Example 2 – The Disciples

The Disciples of Christ lived in overlapping of covenants.

## BEFORE THE RESURRECTION

The disciples, like every Old Testament figure, proclaimed their faith in the coming sacrifice of Messiah for sins when they laid their hands on the required animal sacrifice and received forgiveness, as proclaimed by the priest at the altar.

They also experienced some of the ministry and power of the Holy Spirit, even as did Old Testament saints and ministries; prophets, priests, kings, judges.

## AFTER THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST

**John 20:20-22 - When He had said this, He showed them His hands and His side. The disciples were then glad when they saw the Lord. So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As My Father has sent Me, even so I send you." When He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.**

Jesus who has risen and is alive has now appeared to the disciples and breathed on them, commanding them to 'receive the Holy Spirit'. Just as God breathed into Adam the breath of life, and Adam became a living soul (**Genesis 2:7**).

Here, after the resurrection, but still before Christ's ascension, they 'received the Holy Spirit' as the breath of life.

**Romans 8:9 - You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God lives in you. Now if any man does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.**

The disciples then were Born of the Spirit after the cross, but before Pentecost.

Though "born of the Spirit", Jesus told them that they were to wait in Jerusalem. **Acts 1:5 - For John baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.**

## AFTER THE ASCENSION OF CHRIST (PENTECOST)

The Book of Acts brings us now to the next step in the disciples' experience.

**Luke 24:49 - And look, I am sending the promise of My Father upon you. But wait in the city of Jerusalem until you are clothed with power from on high."**

**Acts 1:8 - But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.**

Jesus had told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the coming baptism of the Holy Spirit.

All were there, in one accord, in one place. All understood that they were to stay there until they received the promised baptism of the Holy Spirit. Jesus was the Baptizer.

**Acts 1:2-4 - When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. 2 Suddenly a sound like a mighty rushing wind came from heaven, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 There appeared to them tongues as of fire, being distributed and resting on each of them, 4 and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to speak.**

## SUMMARIZE

They were 'born of the Spirit and then 'baptized in the Spirit' - two major operations of one and the same Holy Spirit.

### Example 3 – Samaritan Disciples

**Acts 8:4-8 - Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the word. 5 Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. 6 When the crowds heard Philip and saw the miracles which he did, they listened in unity to what he said. 7 For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed. And many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. 8 So there was much joy in that city.**

**Acts 4:14-17 - 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 When they came down, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 for still He had come on none of them. They were only baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.**

## BORN OF THE SPIRIT

Philip, the evangelist, goes to Samaria, preaching the Gospel of the Kingdom with signs following. There was great response in the city to the good news.

We can see that the Samaritans were 'born again' of the incorruptible seed, the Word of God, and born of the Spirit.

**1 Peter 1:23 - for you have been born again, not from perishable seed, but imperishable, through the word of God which lives and abides forever.**

To “receive the Word”, to “believe in Christ” is to be saved/

Water baptism is primarily for believers. The Samaritans believed, they received the Word, and they were baptized.

## BAPTIZED IN THE SPIRIT

Although they had believed in Christ and had been baptized in water, they had not received the Spirit. They had not been baptized in the Holy Spirit. Peter and John were sent from Jerusalem to Samaria. Peter and John laid hands on the Samaritans and they received the Holy Spirit. There must have been some visible, audible and physical sign of receiving the baptism of the Spirit.

### *Simon Saw*

**Acts 8:18-19 - When Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, saying, “Give me also this power, that whomever I lay hands on may receive the Holy Spirit.”**

Notice **(VS 9-13)** that Simon did not ask Philip, the evangelist, for the power he exercised when he healed the sick and lame, and when he cast devils out of people in his evangelistic ministry.

## SUMMARIZE

The Samaritans experienced two distinct operations of the same Spirit in their lives.

Under Philip, they were born again of the incorruptible seed of the Word. They were born of the Spirit.

Under Peter and John they were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

## Example 4 – The Ephesian Disciples

**Acts 19:1-7 - While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper regions and came to Ephesus. He found some disciples and said to them, "Have you received the Holy Spirit since you believed?" They said to him, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." He said to them, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." Paul said, "John indeed baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people that they should believe in the One coming after him, that is, in Christ Jesus." When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in other tongues and prophesied. There were about twelve men in all.**

It is evident that Paul sensed "something" was missing here.

Paul immediately checked on their water baptism.

Note then:

- There were disciples at Ephesus.
- They had come to repentance.
- They had come to faith in the coming Messiah.
- They had experienced John's baptism in water by immersion.

## CHRISTIAN BAPTISM - SALVATION

They would've had to have received Christ in order for them to be baptized into His Name.

These disciples are now saved, or, they were "Born of the Spirit". Born Again.

## BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

After they had been baptized into the Name of Jesus Christ, Paul laid hands on them, and the Holy Spirit came on them.

The second baptism (Holy Spirit) was the confirmation and seal of the first baptism (Jesus Christ).