

## *INTRODUCTION*

# **THE BAPTISM AND FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

Sincere Christians want all the zeal and love that characterized the best in the apostolic church. In the Word of God we have authentic and authoritative information about the advent of Christianity and about the conditions of its founding. Various religious groups attempt to duplicate the apostolic fervor and believe that apostolic conditions must be realized today in order to experience apostolic power.

Of all the different functions of the Holy Spirit, the baptism of the Spirit and the filling of the Spirit seem to receive the greatest emphasis. In this booklet we submit teachings of the Word of God concerning the work of the Holy Spirit in the believer and especially as it relates to the baptism and the filling. The following points will receive attention:

1. Terms associated with the baptism of the Spirit.
2. What is the meaning and purpose of Holy Spirit baptism?
3. When does the baptism of the Spirit take place?
4. What does the Bible teach about the filling of the Spirit?

# *I.*

## **TERMS ASSOCIATED WITH THE BAPTISM OF THE SPIRIT**

John the Baptist announced that Jesus would baptize with the Holy Ghost. Matt. 3:11; Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33. Jesus describes the Holy Spirit baptism after His resurrection from the grave as the promise of the Father. Acts 1:4; Luke 24:49. He further announces the baptism of the Holy Spirit as imminent: “Not many days hence” (Acts 1:5). Jesus promised His followers that He would send the Holy Spirit as the Comforter. John 14:16, 26; 16:7, 13.

The promise of the Father is recorded by the prophet Joel in 2:28, 29. Peter tells us that Jesus Christ has received the promise of the Father since His exaltation to God’s right hand and has shed it forth as “ye now see and hear” (Acts 2:33). Prophecy declares that this gift will come to God’s children upon the exercise of faith after Jesus is glorified. John 7:37-39. The promise is to all, as many as the Lord calls. Acts 2:39.

The Gentiles received the promise of the Spirit through faith. Gal. 3:14. The Ephesians were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise. Eph. 1:13. The reception of the Holy Spirit as a seal is also called the earnest of our inheritance. Eph. 1:14.

The Spirit falling upon the Gentiles was the baptism of the Holy Ghost, Acts 10:44-47; 11:15, 16. The baptism of the Spirit is called the gift of God. Acts 8:19, 20. The Pentecostal converts (3000 in number) were promised the gift of the Holy Spirit upon repentance, water baptism, and the remission of sins. Acts 2:38. This was in answer to their question, “What shall we do?”

One of the problems that stands out after noting what the Scriptures have to say about the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the terms associated with this divine work is, “Why do people pick out the term baptism of the Holy Spirit and ignore the sealing by the Holy Spirit, the earnest of the Spirit, and the anointing of the Spirit when

they are all related to the believer's experience according to the Scriptures?" Is there any Biblical reason for believing that the baptism of the Spirit is of more importance than the other functions of the Spirit named above?

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