



The Holy Ghost

Acts 2:1-4; 38-39 & Romans 8:9-15

WHAT IS THE HOLY GHOST BAPTISM?

A dramatic supernatural experience from above where the eternal Spirit that indwelt Jesus Christ comes to dwell in our lives. After initial infilling, our values, perspectives and motives begin to move into alignment with the will of the Spirit dwelling in us. This explains the difference that friends and family notice in your attitudes and actions. Your priorities begin to change as you learn what pleases and displeases God. Your new found relationship with God is so unique and satisfying to your inner man it defies your ability to explain adequately to others.

1 Peter 1:8 KJV

Whom having not seen, ye love; in whom, though now ye see him not, yet believing, ye rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

Having received the Holy Ghost, you view life from a higher perspective. Even though unpleasant situations and circumstances may remain much the same, you find yourself at peace with yourself and others unlike before.

Romans 14:17 KJV

For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

At spirit baptism, you discover that you possess a greater level of motivation and will power overcoming previous vices and habits that had you bound. God took a demoralized and defeated disciple called Peter who had spoken out of turn, denied the Lord three times and repeatedly failed the Lord, and transformed him by the Holy Ghost into a powerful man of faith and anointing. Peter led the way and preached the key messages of salvation to the Jews in Jerusalem (Acts 2), the Samaritans in Samaria (Acts 8) and to the Gentiles in Caesarea (Acts 10). This new found experience suddenly becomes the most important thing that has ever happened to you. You find yourself wanting to share it with everyone!

Acts 1:8 KJV

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you; and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

The Holy Ghost changes your desire and ambitions. Things that were previously extremely important to you now begin to fade in value. Your relationship with God and God's people become more valuable to you than ever.

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THE HOLY GHOST EXPERIENCE WAS PROMISED IN THE OLD TESTAMENT:

Isaiah 28:11-12 KJV

For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people. (12) To whom he said, this is the rest where with ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing.

Joel 2:28-30

“And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: (29) And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out my soul.

The Holy Ghost fell upon the 120 on the day of Pentecost as promised:

Acts 24 KJV

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

The Apostle Peter identified this experience as a fulfillment of Old Testament prophecy of Joel:

Acts 2:16-18

“But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; (17) And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: (18) And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy.

THERE ARE SEVERAL SYNONYMOUS TERMS DESCRIBING THE HOLY GHOST BAPTISM:

- 1. Spirit of Christ:** Also called the Spirit of God because Jesus is God.

Romans 8:9-11 KJV

But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his. (10) And if Christ be in you, the body is dead because of sin; but the Spirit is life because of righteousness.

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2. **A Baptism:** To be baptized in the Holy Ghost is to be completely immersed into the Spirit of God. We are baptized into one body by the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:13

“For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.”

3. **A Birth:** We are born of water and Spirit which qualifies us for entrance into the kingdom of God. To be born of the water is to be baptized in water in Jesus’ name and to be born of the Spirit is to be baptized in the Holy Ghost.

John 3:5

“Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.”

4. **A Seal:** We are sealed unto the day of redemption when we are filled with the Holy Ghost.

Ephesians 1:13

“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: In whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that Holy Spirit of promise.”

Ephesians 4:30

“And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.”

5. **The Earnest of our inheritance:** As wonderful as the experience of the Holy Ghost is, we need to remember that it is only the down payment on what awaits us in heaven.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

“Now he which stablisheth us with you in Christ, and hath anointed us, is God: (22) Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.”

6. **Rest:** We are to go to Jesus in order to discover that spiritual rest that our souls are longing for. In Christ, we have entered into a state of peace and rest with God. Each day, we experience a holy day of rest (Sabbath) in the Holy Ghost.

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Isaiah 28:11

“For with stammering lips and another tongue will he speak to this people.”

Isaiah 28:12

“To whom he said, this is the rest where with ye may cause the weary to rest; and this is the refreshing.”

- 7. Power from on high:** Through the Holy Ghost, we have received power to live the Christian life that the Bible desires us to live. We become witnesses of God’s power and salvation.

Acts 1:8

“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: And ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

- 8. The Comforter:** “Comforter” literally means—one who comes along side of. Jesus is called the Holy Ghost—the comforter, the Spirit of truth that provides that genuine comfort, fellowship, peace, and joy that our souls thirst for.

John 14:16-18 KJV

And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever; (17) Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: But ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you. (18) I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.

Jesus explained in *John 16:7* that He had to go away or else the “Comforter” would not come. As long as Jesus was present with them in the flesh He would not be present spiritually in their hearts. It was only after Jesus ascended into heaven that He would return spiritually to indwell their hearts by His Spirit.