

Introduction:

- Mark 16:15-18 - 15 And He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. 16 He who believes and is baptized will be saved; but he who does not believe will be condemned. 17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; 18 they[b] will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.”
- Luke 24:46-51 - 46 Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise[h] from the dead the third day, 47 and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. 48 And you are witnesses of these things. 49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem[i] until you are endued with power from on high.” 50 And He led them out as far as Bethany, and He lifted up His hands and blessed them. 51 Now it came to pass, while He blessed them, that He was parted from them and carried up into heaven.
- Acts 2:1-4 - 1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord[a] in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
- Acts 2:16-21 - 16 But this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: 17 ‘ And it shall come to pass in the last days, says God, That I will pour out of My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your young men shall see visions, Your old men shall dream dreams. 18 And on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days; And they shall prophesy. 19 I will show wonders in heaven above And signs in the earth beneath: Blood and fire and vapor of smoke. 20 The sun shall be turned into darkness, And the moon into blood, Before the coming of the great and awesome day of the LORD. 21 And it shall come to pass That whoever calls on the name of the LORD Shall be saved.’
- We are going to look at 5 issues surrounding the nature of Baptism with Holy Spirit

I. Its Command

- You... this was written in a command form – there seemed to be an expectation that they would want to do wait for it
- Wait to give? NO... Wait to receive...then give
- Acts 1:4-8 - 4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; 5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.” 6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?” 7 And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me[a] in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”
- Notice command...

- Do you have to “have” to experience the Baptism with HS to go to heaven? No... John 20:22, “And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit.” They were born again at that point... later experienced BwHS.
- This command is NOT condition for SALVATION, but a pre-requisite for SERVICE!
- Acts 6:2-4 - 2 Then the twelve summoned the multitude of the disciples and said, “It is not desirable that we should leave the word of God and serve tables. 3 Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; 4 but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word.”

II. Its Weight

- We are told that the Baptism with Holy Spirit is unimportant and irrelevant. Some say it CARRIES NO THEOLOGICAL WEIGHT.
- Sure there are some who really want it right and balanced, but in my experience the real arguments are based on the following:
 - Opinionated preference – I don’t like it
 - Object of unbelief – I don’t believe it
 - Outright disobedience – I’m not doing it
- Why is there weight to this experience
 - Delayed mission – WEIGHT defined by the WAIT; the importance is defined by the delay
 - After the resurrection, the disciples were told to wait.
 - Evangelism (preaching the Gospel) had to wait.
 - Because the message was incomplete? NO! The messengers were incomplete!
 - What is “weightier” than evangelism? Evidently, as weighty as evangelism is, Jesus thought the Baptism important
 - Fulfilled prophecy –
 - Joel 2:28-29 - 28 “ And it shall come to pass afterward That I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. 29 And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.
 - Isaiah 28:11-12 - 11 For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people, 12 To whom He said, “This is the rest with which You may cause the weary to rest, And, “This is the refreshing”; Yet they would not hear.
 - I Corinthians 14:21 - 21 In the law it is written: “ With men of other tongues and other lips I will speak to this people; And yet, for all that, they will not hear Me,” says the Lord.
 - Multiple mention
 - II Corinthians 13:1 - This will be the third time I am coming to you. “By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established.” See also Deuteronomy 19:15
 - Mentioned in both OT and NT

III. Its Universal

- Until you (in plural or universal sense) are endued with power from upon high
- You could be specific person or general group
- Characters – Who were filled
 - Is it just for a certain group of chosen or is it for everyone
 - Mark 16 sign for all believers
 - Acts 2 all filled
 - 5 Mentions of Baptism with Holy Spirit - EVERY TIME EVERYONE were filled
- Characteristics – What is the evidence
 - Initial – tongues – of the 5 mentions 3 specifically mentions tongues (Acts 2:4; 10:45-46; 19:6); 2 infers (Acts 9:17- Paul – I Corinthians 14:18; Acts 8:17-18 Simon saw something)
 - Ongoing – Love – Romans 5:5 - Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us.

IV. Its Promise

- Joel prophesied – Joel 2
- Jesus preached – Luke 24:49 – Promise of the Father – Luke 11:13 - If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!
- Peter proclaimed – Acts 2:16 – “this is that” meaning the promise is fulfilled
- Paul pronounced – Galatians 3:14 - that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

V. Its Unity

- Baptism with Holy Spirit not intended to be DEVISIVE, BUT DISTICTIVE
- Acts 2 – they were all in one accord
- Never a point of broken fellowship
- Also, never a point of diminished faith
- Genesis 11:5-8 - 5 But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. 6 And the LORD said, “Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. 7 Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another’s speech.” 8 So the LORD scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth, and they ceased building the city. 9 Therefore its name is called Babel, because there the LORD confused the language of all the earth; and from there the LORD scattered them abroad over the face of all the earth.
- If unified evil people can do anything; how much more can unified faith-filled spirit-baptized bible-believing church accomplish

Conclusion:

- Acts 2:16 – Peter proclaimed this is that

- Joel said in the last days – we are in the last days
- It was for them, more so for us!
- The Baptism with Holy Spirit – right now, right here