

## Foundations pt4 – Water and Spirit Baptized

Dr. John Carmichael

[Heb 6:1-3 NASB95] 1 Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, 2 of instruction about washings and laying on of hands, and the resurrection of the dead and eternal judgment. 3 And this we will do if God permits.

[Jhn 3:5 NASB95] 5 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.

- It is hard to get away from our bias. "Washings" was possibly a biased translation. Greek (baptism plural of baptismos) or baptisms. What baptisms?
- Wesley Adams LITSNTC, ". . . water and Spirit baptisms under the new covenant."
- A deep mystery between symbols and reality. The true believer will seek both. Maybe it is not causal, but it is definitely symptomatic of salvation.
- Paul explains water baptism. [Rom 6:4 NASB95] 4 Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.
- Jesus teaches Spirit baptism.
  - [Luk 24:49 NASB95] 49 "And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."
  - [Act 1:5, 8 NASB95] 5 for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now." ... 8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

**What are some important instructions we need to know about WB and SB?**

**Here are 4 important instructions we need to know about WB and SB.**

### I. The importance of WB and SB.

#### a. WB

- i. Repentance [Act 2:38 NASB95] 38 Peter [said] to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- ii. Public confession. Identification with Jesus.
- iii. Obedience. [Mat 28:19 NASB95] 19 "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

#### b. SB

- i. Empowerment [Act 1:8 NASB95] 8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."
- ii. Necessity [Luk 24:49 NASB95] 49 "And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."
- iii. Initial evidence (tongues – 3 of the 5 specifically say tongues; the other 2 refer to something Paul and Simon) and ongoing evidence (Spiritual gifts/Christlikeness).

### II. The disagreements of WB and SB.

#### a. WB

- i. Sprinkle vs immersion.

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- ii. In Jesus Name vs Father, Son & Holy Spirit. We see both in the Bible.
- b. SB
  - i. Continuous vs Cessation. Only one verse speaks of cessation, clearly when Christ returns.
    - 1. [1Co 1:7-8 NASB95] 7 so that you are not lacking in any gift, awaiting eagerly the revelation of our Lord Jesus Christ, 8 who will also confirm you to the end, blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
    - 2. [1Co 13:8-12 NASB95] 8 Love never fails; but if [there are gifts of] prophecy, they will be done away; if [there are] tongues, they will cease; if [there is] knowledge, it will be done away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part; 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away. 11 When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things. 12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known.
  - ii. Initial Evidence vs No Tongues.
- c. Water baptism: immersion is clearly taught, while the methodology is interchangeable.
- d. Spirit baptism: continuous with the initial evidence of speaking in tongues.

### III. The connection of WB and SB.

- a. In Acts, when SB is presented, so is WB.
- b. Acts:
  - i. 2:38 – WB then SB. [Act 2:38 NASB95] 38 Peter [said] to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
  - ii. 8:13 WB then 8:15 SB. [Act 8:13, 15-16 NASB95] 13 Even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip, and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was constantly amazed. ... 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
  - iii. 9:17 SB then 9:18 WB. [Act 9:17-18 NASB95] 17 So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit." 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, and he got up and was baptized;
  - iv. 10:44-46 SB then 10:47-48 WB. [Act 10:44-48 NASB95] 44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. 45 All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. 46 For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered, 47 "Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we [did,] can he?" 48 And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay on for a few days.
  - v. 19:5 WB then 19:6 SB. [Act 19:5-6 NASB95] 5 When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they [began] speaking with tongues and prophesying.

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- c. There is no set order. Both are needed and prioritized.

### IV. The agreement of WB and SB.

- a. Both refer to the work of the Holy Spirit.
  - b. [Isa 44:3 NASB95] 3 'For I will pour out water on the thirsty [land] And streams on the dry ground; I will pour out My Spirit on your offspring And My blessing on your descendants;
  - c. [Eze 36:24-27 NASB95] 24 "For I will take you from the nations, gather you from all the lands and bring you into your own land. 25 "Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols. 26 "Moreover, I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 "I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be careful to observe My ordinances.
  - d. [Tit 3:5 NASB95] 5 He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit,
  - e. Both WB and SB refer to the work of the Holy Spirit for
    - i. Regeneration (WB – conversion.)
    - ii. Renewal (SB – empowerment.)
  - f. Holy Spirit, convert us and empower us!
- **WB and SB are important works of the Holy Spirit in our lives that are needed for today so we can become all that God has called us to become.**