

1 The Spirit of Pentecost

2 John the Baptist

- “I baptize you with water for repentance.
- But after me will come one who is more powerful than I, whose sandals I am not fit to carry.
- He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.
- His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor, gathering his wheat into the barn and burning up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”

3 The Father’s Promise

- On one occasion, when the resurrected Jesus was with his disciples, he gave them an important commandment.
- “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 1:4-5 NIV)

4 The Father’s Promise

- If you then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him! (Luke 11:13 NIV)
- Questions
 - What is the content of the “Father’s Promise?”
 - Who receives the Holy Spirit?

5 Living Water

- “Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.”
- By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive.
- Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

6 Another Counselor

- “If you love me, you will obey what I command. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever — the Spirit of truth. The world cannot accept him, because it neither sees him nor knows him. But you know him, for he lives with you and will be in you. (John 14:15-17 NIV)
- Questions
 - What must we first do before Jesus will ask the Father to give us the Holy Spirit?
 - Why can’t the world receive the Holy Spirit?
 - What advantages do believers have in receiving the Holy Spirit?

7 Another Counselor

- In John 16:8–11, Jesus tells of the Holy Spirit’s impact on the world.
- When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment:
 - in regard to sin, because men do not believe in me; {the essence of sin is refusing to believe a faithful God}
 - in regard to righteousness, because I am going to the Father, where you can see me no longer; and {Jesus’ resurrection vindicates His message and ministry}
 - in regard to judgment, because the prince of this world now stands condemned. {Satan is a liar concerning the nature of God. His rebellion has no basis and is now condemned}

8 The Day of Pentecost

- When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.
- Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting.
- They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them.
- All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. (Acts 2:1–4 NIV)

9 What is Pentecost?

- Pentecost is one of the 7 prominent feasts in the Jewish Calendar.
- It literally means “50” and in the Old Testament commemorates the giving of the Mosaic Law on Mt. Sinai, which was 50 days after the Exodus.
- Not only is this important date considered the birthday of Israel, but it is also the birthday of the Church.
- In the Old Testament the law was written on stone, but in the New Testament the law is written by the Spirit on flesh and imbedded in our heart and conscience.

10 The Reaction

- According to the Book of Acts,
 - People who heard them speaking in tongues were bewildered as they heard the believers speak in their own language.
 - Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this mean?” (Acts 2:12 NIV)
 - Some said they were drunk.
 - Peter, however, got up and started preaching.

11 Peter’s Preaching

- Quoting from the book of Joel, Peter, tells the crowd that all of this is in fulfillment of what was prophesied for the last days.
 - The Spirit was now being poured out upon all flesh.
 - The judgment of fire was soon to come upon all of God's enemies.
 - Upon hearing this and that they were guilty of killing God's Son, 3,000 came forward to repent and be baptized.

12 Day of Pentecost

- The Spirit of God was poured out as promised by Jesus.
- A general amazement was created.
- Peter clarifies what was happening and that the beginning of last days events were beginning to be fulfilled.
- Great conviction came over the crowd and many were (water) baptized in the name of Jesus.

13 Spirit Baptisms

14 Tongues

15 Two Baptisms

- Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus.
- He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures.
- He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and he spoke with great fervor and taught about Jesus accurately, though he knew only the baptism of John.
- He began to speak boldly in the synagogue.
- When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately. (Acts 18:24-26 NIV)

16 Gift of Tongues

- To one is given through the Spirit
 - the message of wisdom,
 - to another (allos) the message of knowledge, by means of the same
 - to another (heteros) faith by the same Spirit,
 - to another (allos) gifts of healing by the one Spirit,
 - to another (allos) miraculous power,
 - to another (allos) prophecy,
 - to another (allos) distinguishing between spirits,
 - to another (heteros) speaking in different kinds of tongues, and
 - to still another (allos) the interpretation of tongues.

17 Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

- It is the promise of the Father to give us power to live out the faith and be a witness of His grace and power to save.
- It is also the beginning of the last days as God is first pouring out His Spirit on all flesh, but will later pour out fire and judgment upon all His enemies.

18 How to Receive

- Be fully consecrated to serve the Lord.
 - If there are any outstanding areas in our commitment to the Lord, they should be fully addressed.
 - If there are any outstanding areas in our faith, they should be fully addressed as well.
- Many Pentecostals spend time praying and seeking the Lord before they ever step forward for the Baptism.
- Study the Scriptures in reference to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and know how the gifts and the fruits operate.
- When you're ready, simply believe and ask the Father for He is more eager to give than we are to receive.

19 How to Receive

- A simple prayer of faith . . .
 - “Heavenly Father, I am a believer. I am Your child and You are my Father. Jesus is my Lord. I believe with all my heart that Your Word is true.”
 - “Your Word says if I will ask, I will receive the Holy Spirit. So in the Name of Jesus Christ, my Lord, I am asking You to fill me to overflowing with Your precious Holy Spirit. Jesus, baptize me in the Holy Spirit.
 - “Because of Your Word, I believe that I now receive and I thank You for it. I believe the Holy Spirit is within me and, by faith, I accept it.
 - “Now, Holy Spirit, rise up within me as I praise God. I fully expect to speak with other tongues, as You give me the utterance.”
 - Now begin giving sound to the expressions in your heart. Speak and hear the Holy Spirit speaking through you.

20 Summary

- The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a second work of God's grace and is available to all who believe.
- It is God's spirit coming to live inside us so that the presence of Christ can guide us and give us power to live out God's word.
- The Baptism of the Holy Spirit also opens the door for the operation of supernatural power in the form of gifts that not only help strengthen the church but give a witness of God's ability to save.

- So then let us focus our thoughts not on the gifts, but on being filled with His Spirit because we are fully committed to serving the Lord first.