

Jesus, the Baptizer of the Holy Spirit

Mark 1:1-8

*“And this was his message: ‘After me comes the one more powerful than I, the straps of whose sandals I am not worth to stoop down and untie. **I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.**”*

1. In the first century some Jews looked forward to an anointed king who, they hoped, would restore the kingdom of David. **THEY THOUGHT JOHN WAS THE** coming MESSIAH, the king that they had been waiting for as prophesied by Isaiah (v1)

Luke 3:15 – Everyone was expecting the Messiah to come soon, and they were eager to know whether John might be the Messiah.

2. John the Baptist was quick to reject.

*“No, I am not!” - MARK 1:8; Luke 3:16 – John answered their question by saying, “I baptize you with water; **HE WILL BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WITH FIRE.**”*

*“I am not!” **BUT I WAS SENT AHEAD OF HIM TO PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR HIS COMING....***

(v4-5); Matthew 3:(2) Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the kingdom of Heaven is near.”

*“**IF YOU ARE NOT, THEN WHO IT IS?**” John pointed the people to JESUS!*

John 1:26 – John told them, “I baptize with water but right here in the crowds is someone you don’t recognize. (29) *the next day John saw Jesus coming to him and said, “Look the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world!* (30) He is the one I was talking about when I said, “A man is coming after me who is far greater than I am, for He existed long before me. (31) I did not recognize him as the Messiah, but I have been baptizing with water so that he might be revealed to Israel. (32) Then John testified, “I saw the Holy Spirit descending like a dove from heaven and resting upon him.

(33) I did not even know he was the one, but when God sent me to baptize with water, he told me, “the One whom you saw the Spirit descend and rest is the One who will baptize with the Holy Spirit. (34) I saw this happen to Jesus, so I testify that he is the chosen one of God.”

3. The baptism for repentance is not equivalent or identical to Holy Spirit baptism. It is separate from salvation but is consequential to salvation. Acts 19:2 - Paul asked, “Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?”

The Greek rendering of the phrase “when you believed” is *pisteuō* which means “*believe (in), have faith (in) (with God or Christ as object).*” Paul’s question, therefore, should be read, “. . . when you believed in Christ?”

“Paul said, ‘John’s baptism called for repentance from sin. But John himself told the people to believe in the one who would come later, meaning Jesus. (NLT)

Acts 8:14-17 “When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that the people of Samaria had accepted God’s message, they sent Peter and John there. (15) as soon as they arrived, they prayed for these new believers to receive the Holy Spirit. (16) The Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them, for they had only been baptized in the name of Jesus. (17) then Peter and John laid their hands upon these believers, and they received the Holy Spirit.”

The order of events shown here is that the believers were baptized in water in Jesus’ name even though they have been previously baptized by John.

4. Speaking in tongues is an initial physical evidence of Spirit-baptism, a ***sign that the believer has been endued with the Spirit’s power*** and can be accompanied by other signs such as prophesying, supernatural anointing in ministry and other missional efforts that cannot be done by human abilities alone.

To the Ephesian believers, one thing that is clear, the Holy Spirit immediately “came upon them,” upon the laying on of Paul’s hands. They knew that the Holy Spirit had come because the 12 disciples were having physical manifestations of the experience. They were speaking in tongues and prophesying, two divine abilities of which they were not capable of doing before. Acts 2:1-4; 10:44-48

You know when you have been baptized with water because you were soaking wet. That’s the evidence. Same thing, you know that you have received the Spirit-baptism of Jesus because there are evidences. ***It cannot be mistaken for something else. (Mark 6:17)***

There are those who believe that speaking in tongues is confined in the apostolic age and therefore has ceased “shortly after the first century of church history.” But, speaking in tongues has continued on through the history of the church and this gift is legitimate and being practiced by many.

Many years ago, I asked Jesus to baptize me with the Holy Ghost. I was alone in my prayer room when He did! **ASK JESUS TO BAPTIZE YOU WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT!** He will not disappoint a hungry heart like yours.