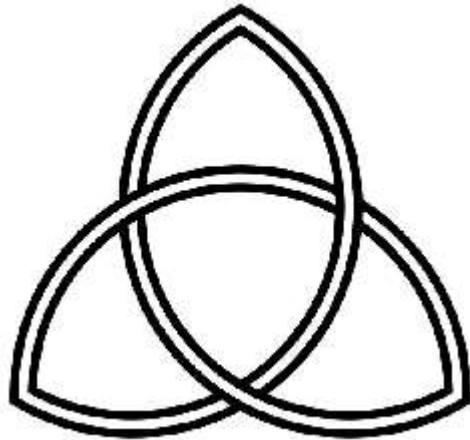


THE HOLY TRINITY AND YOU!



Seeds of Faith Ministries

<https://seedsofffaithministries.com/>

By: Randall E. Pickens, Sr.

THE HOLY TRINITY AND YOU

Preface:

The emphasis of this study guide will be placed on the personage and present power of the Holy Spirit. It is not my intention to emphasize the significance of one person of the triune of the godhead over another. It is my conviction that instruction regarding the personages of the Father or Son is not nearly as neglected, as is the third person, the Holy Spirit. It is this neglect that has compelled me to reveal the truth about the Holy Spirit.

When one looks at the universal Church today, it is no wonder many have questioned the authenticity of Christendom. For, the power of the gospel is lacking in the Church today. We see many individuals and organizations that **“having a form of Godliness, deny the power thereof.”**

The anointing on the Word of God is eternal. In spite of the abuse of men, the Word of God will continue to redeem the souls of men. Whether the Church or we exhibit the power of the gospel will be determined solely by our willingness to **receive the empowerment of the Holy Spirit.**

This study guide will help the student establish the truth of the power made available to the Christian by God. We will dispel the notion that the baptism in the Holy Spirit is optional or a luxury dispensation of God. The power of the gospel in the Church and lives of individual Christians is dependent on the indwelling Person of the Holy Spirit.

Denial of the personage and the present power of the Holy Spirit is a dreadful mistake. A mistake that will result in great loss. The loss of a victorious life, and the fulfillment of the commission given to the universal Church.

I pray that God will bless this effort to reveal the power and personage of the Holy Spirit. I pray that you will be challenged to grasp the truth of this message and regard the **Father, Son, and Holy Spirit as equally essential to your Christian walk.**

Seeds of Faith Ministries,

Pastor, Randall E. Pickens, Sr.

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Introduction to the Holy Trinity and You:

You may have noticed that I chose to title this study guide, “**The Holy Trinity and You.**” Most students receiving this study guide will have exhibited an interest in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. So why not title this guide, “The Holy Spirit and You”?

The answer to this question is: A fundamental understanding of the Holy Trinity is essential to understanding the person and purpose of the Holy Spirit. Unless one first establishes that the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Godhead, then one needs go no further in their study. The fault for the past mystery regarding the personage and purpose of the Holy Spirit rest squarely on the shoulders of the post Apostles messengers, not the lack of proof available in the Holy Scriptures. I would continue propagate this mystery if I were to dismiss the need for understanding the Holy Trinity in general.

Everything one needs to know of the Trinity and the individual personages of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit is in the Holy Scriptures. As you will see for yourself, Jesus and the Apostles spoke often of the Trinity and the Holy Spirit specifically.

This study guide will hopefully be an appetizer that will set the stage for the experience of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. I hope it will foster a lifelong commitment to seeking a walk in the Spirit.

This study guide deals specifically with New Testament references to the Holy Trinity and personage of each. There are as many references, if not more, in the Old Testament.

It is my prayer that the student will continue to fortify their belief and experiences with additional studies of the Holy Scriptures.

New Testament references to the Holy Trinity

Let’s begin by looking at some New Testament references to the Holy Trinity. Jesus spoke of the Holy Trinity in his initial commission given to the eleven disciples:

Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

As disciples, we are told to baptize believers in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost. John spoke of these three bearing witnesses in heaven and in the earth.

I John 5:7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

I John 5:8 And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

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We also have Jesus' own revelation that He is in the Father and the Father is in Him. Although the Holy Spirit is not mentioned here specifically, we know this oneness or indwelling was accomplished by the presence of the Holy Spirit in Jesus.

Jesus led us in the example of John's water baptism of repentance. Jesus had nothing to be repentant of, He was without sin. Jesus was setting an example for us to follow. It's interesting how man will accept the baptism of repentance and reject the baptism of the Holy Spirit that is equally endorsed by Jesus.

After Jesus baptism in water John witnessed the dissension and remaining of the Holy Spirit upon Jesus or the (Baptism of the Holy Spirit). We see that these baptisms were two distinctly different experiences.

Matthew 3:16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

This occurrence was the fulfillment of prophecy given to John the Baptist. The Holy Spirit revealed to John, that this would be the sign that would confirm the personage of the Son of God. God's stamp of approval and more important God's indwelling power and presence in Jesus.

John 1:32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.

John 1:33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

Evidence of the Indwelling of the Holy Spirit in Jesus

Jesus revealed another proof of this indwelling. Jesus revealed that the indwelling of the Holy Spirit resulted in visible evidence. The works Jesus spoke of are the miracles of His ministry on earth. Jesus acknowledged that He spoke and did only those things that He received of God. He gave God the Father all the credit for these miracles.

John 14:10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

John 14:11 Believe me that I [am] in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works' sake.

John 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we [are].

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John 17:21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, [art] in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

The importance of being baptized in the Holy Spirit

Jesus was so emphatic about the need for all to be baptized in the Holy Spirit that He commanded the Apostles to tarry (wait) until they had received the promise of the Father. The evidence of this occurrence was to be noted by a super natural power that would equip the Apostles for the task ahead.

Acts 1:4 And, being assembled together with [them], commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, [saith he], ye have heard of me.

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.

To emphasize the importance of this event in the life of a Christian, Jesus states the expediency of His departure. The reason for the expediency (urgency) was twofold.

First, Jesus had to **finish His commission** by presenting His precious blood to the Father, for the remission of sin.

Second, Jesus had to be freed from the confinement of an earthly body, in order for the Holy Spirit to be available to man. For you see, Jesus was the “fullness of the Godhead bodily.” While Jesus remained on the earth, the gift of the Holy Spirit could not be given. Jesus knew that the disciples could not fulfill the commission He had given them without the supernatural power from God, the Holy Spirit.

John 3:34 For he whom God hath sent [Jesus] speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure [unto him].

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

Colossians 2:9 For in him [Jesus] dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily

Conclusion:

There may be no doubt that the person of the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Godhead. The final dispensation of God to man, pending the return of Jesus.

This experience is vital to the successful work of God in man and through man; this experience is not an optional dispensation or gift that may be rejected. To reject this

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indwelling would be equally a denial of Jesus the Son and God the Father. Hardly the position any God-fearing person would choose.

At this conclusion, we can continue our study of “The Holy Trinity and You”. The next section of this study guide will pay specific attention to the following subjects:

The Gift, the Giver, and the Gifted!

Before turning to the next section, please take time to review the scripture references used throughout this discourse. It is crucial to the establishment of your faith. All points made in this discourse or any other, should be confirmed by the Word of God. **Read the chapter references in their entirety**, confirming that the message is clear and in context with the principle presented. If you allow anyone or material to become the sole source of your belief; you will be shaken when confronted with other opinions. Your faith must be established and defended **by the Word of God alone**. (Selah)

Romans 10:17 So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

The Holy Trinity (text references)

The following list represents scriptures referenced throughout the previous section. These scriptures are listed sequentially as presented in the New Testament (King James Version). The student should read each chapter in its entirety.

Matthew 3:16 And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him:

Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

John 1:32 And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon him.

John 1:33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

John 3:34 For he whom God hath sent speaketh the words of God: for God giveth not the Spirit by measure [unto him].

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John 14:10 Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the words that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the works.

Believe me that I [am] in the Father, and the Father in me: or else believe me for the very works sake.

John 14:16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;

John 14:26 But the Comforter, [which is] the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

John 15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom I will send unto you from the Father, [even] the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

John 16:7 Nevertheless I tell you the truth; It is expedient for you that I go away: for if I go not away, the Comforter will not come unto you; but if I depart, I will send him unto you.

John 17:11 And now I am no more in the world, but these are in the world, and I come to thee. Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me, that they may be one, as we [are].

John 17:21 That they all may be one; as thou, Father, [art] in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

Acts 1:4 And, being assembled together with [them], commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, [saith he], ye have heard of me.

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.

Romans 10:17 So then faith [cometh] by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Colossians 2:9 For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily.

I John 5:7 For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.

I John 5:8 And there are three that bear witness in earth, the Spirit, and the water, and the blood: and these three agree in one.

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The Gift of the Holy Spirit:

The Gift

Probably the most important aspect of this portion of study begins with realizing that the person of the Holy Spirit is a gift to mankind.

Luke 11:13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall [your] heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

We see in Luke 11:13, God relates to our natural maternal desire to give good gifts to our children. He goes on to emphasize **HOW MUCH MORE** or **BETTER** the gift of the Holy Spirit is than any gift we could ever give to our children.

God offers us the Holy Spirit as a gift. This in no way implies that the gift is optional. God does not consider this gift to be optional but states His willingness to present it without condition. **We do not deserve this gift, nor can we become deserving. We may only accept it as it is offered, by the grace of God.**

The gift of the Holy Spirit like any other gift can be refused. It would no doubt displease God as it would displease you if your child refused your gift. Personally, I can't imagine anyone refusing God's presence in his or her life.

As we continue in this study, it will become more evident that this GIFT is multi-faceted. The nature and character of the Holy Spirit reveal the purpose or result of His presence in our lives. For now, just remember that the Holy Spirit is a gift of God.

The Giver

You may think that the giver of the Holy Spirit is obvious and needs no further discussion. I disagree, if we really believe the **GIFT** of the Holy Spirit is from God then Christians would not have such difficulty receiving the gift. There is a great deal of misunderstanding regarding God's gift.

There are those who would say that the gifts of the Holy Spirit are of the Devil. This is a very serious accusation, one that will result in very serious consequence. The scriptures warn us of speaking such blasphemous words.

My advice to anyone who doesn't understand the person or purpose of the Holy Spirit is; don't reject Him unless you're willing to pay the consequence. You may be honest and admit your ignorance, but don't try to disprove the reality of the person and purpose of the Holy Spirit without expecting the judgment of God.

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Matthew 12:31 Wherefore I say unto you, all manner of sin and blasphemy shall be forgiven unto men: but the blasphemy [against] the [Holy] Ghost shall not be forgiven unto men.

Mark 3:29 But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation:

REMEMBER! God called the Holy Spirit a good gift. Who is man that he should contradict God?

Matthew 7:11 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things to them that ask him?

The Gifted

The subject of the **Gifted** takes us into a very common error regarding the gift. In our culture, much like the culture of Christ's day, someone that was thought to be gifted was one who had special talents, capabilities or had received a special standing with God.

Many thought that the gift of the Holy Spirit was reserved for the especially spiritual persons. Most felt this was an honor bestowed on the elite or specifically on the Apostles. We see in Acts 10:45 this was not the case. The elite Jews of the day (they of the circumcision) were astonished to see that the Gentiles (non-Jew) received this gift.

Acts 10:45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

The gift of the Holy Spirit is available to anyone who believes and is willing to receive. You are the target of God's gift.

Conclusion:

There should be no doubt that God is the Giver, the Holy Spirit is the Gift, and the believer is the Gifted.

There should be no doubt that the Gift is good, for God is good. The Gift is the Spirit of God. Who in their right mind would reject God?

The Gifted are those who believe and are willing to receive the Gift. Knowing that had it not been for Jesus; they could never hope to experience the indwelling presence of God in their lives. **The Gift is not reserved for the elect, the Gift confirms the believer to be His elect.**

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In the next section, we will look at the results of the indwelling presence of God in our lives. There are works of the Holy Spirit that the believer needs to know about. These works are crucial to the individual success of the believer and the success of the Church.

Gift of the Holy Spirit (text references)

The following list represents scriptures referenced throughout the previous section. These scriptures are listed sequentially as presented in the New Testament (King James Version). The student should read each chapter in its entirety.

Luke 11:13 If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall [your] heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 5:32 And we are his witnesses of these things; and [so is] also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.

Acts 10:45 And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 15:8 And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, giving them the Holy Ghost, even as [he did] unto us;

Romans 5:5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

I Thessalonians 4:8 He therefore that despiseth, despiseth not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his Holy Spirit.

Hebrews 2:4 God also bearing [them] witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

Hebrews 6:4-6 For [it is] impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, and have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come, if they fall away, to renew them again unto repentance,....

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Work of the Holy Spirit

Introduction

Thus far we have established that the Holy Spirit is the third person of the Holy Trinity. His presence is available to those who will receive Him, as a gift. Although we receive Him as a gift, His presence is not intended to be optional. The possibility of a victorious life without His indwelling presence is impossible.

The next portion of our study will deal with the work of the Holy Spirit. At the conclusion of this section the student will discover the importance of the Holy Spirit regarding every aspect of a believers' walk with Christ.

Witness of the Holy Spirit

The first work of the Holy Spirit is witnessing of the Father and Son.

Matthew 16:16 And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God. And Jesus answered and said unto him, blessed art thou, Simon Bar-jona: for flesh and blood hath not revealed [it] unto thee, but my Father which is in heaven.

I Corinthians 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and [that] no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

John 16:13-16 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [that] shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come. He shall glorify me: for he shall receive of mine, and shall shew [it] unto you. All things that the Father hath are mine: therefore said I, that he shall take of mine, and shall shew [it] unto you. A little while, and ye shall not see me: and again, a little while, and ye shall see me, because I go to the Father.

John 14:26 But the Comforter, [which is] the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.

We see in these scriptures that the Holy Spirit will always confirm the Father and Son. We also see that man could not know of the Father or Son had it not been for the witness of the Holy Spirit. The reference to the Holy Spirit as the Spirit of Truth is of itself a testimony of the Deity that He represents. He is ALL TRUTH. Without the Holy Spirit man could not hope to know the TRUTH.

We see that the TRINITY always agrees. The Father, Son, and Holy Spirit never act independently. They are one. We can take great comfort in knowing this. Knowing

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this, we know that all SPIRITUAL matters can and will be confirmed by the WORD. The Holy Spirit will lead us into all truth. Man cannot be deceived while under the direction of the Holy Spirit. However, without the Holy Spirit's guidance we will no doubt sin and fall short of the TRUTH.

Sealed by the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is the sealer of the believer. The Greek word for sealed was sphraizo. According to the "Strong's Concordance" this means to stamp, as with a signet, for security or preservation. The Holy Spirit stamps the Father and Son's seal of approval on the believer. The implication of signet is exciting. The sign that God is identifying Himself with us or more important that we belong to Him.

II Corinthians 1:22 Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.

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.

Another dimension of the word seal meant to be kept secret or hide. God has hidden us from the destruction to come. The Holy Spirit will guide and direct us in our walk here on earth with the intention of preserving us to the day of Jesus' return. What a wonderful blessing is the Seal of the Holy Spirit.

Baptized by Holy Spirit

To begin our discussion of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, I would like to build on the basic understanding of the word baptize (Greek "baptizo"). This word meant to be fully wet or fully washed according to the Strong's Concordance. The use of this word "baptizo", in conjunction with the Holy Spirit, explains a great deal about the experience. When used in reference to the Water Baptism this explains the origin of the doctrine of submersion. To be fully wet or washed requires a substantial amount of water encompassing the entire body. The adverb fully is very important to understanding both the Water Baptism and Holy Spirit Baptism experience.

To be baptized in the Holy Spirit implies being fully indwelt by the Holy Spirit, an internal experience. Therefore, the reference to fully is understood to mean filled as one would fill a container. In this case, we are the container. This is confirmed by Jesus when He said;

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John 14:23 Jesus answered and said unto him, if a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him.

Abode means to dwell, as you dwell in your home. Although the comparison of these two Baptisms can help our understanding, they are not to be confused or considered the same experience. The Water Baptism is an external act resulting from an internal change, where the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is an internal act resulting in external evidences. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is to be FILLED with the presence of God. The evidence of this experience being the working of the gifts and fruits of the Holy Spirit in our life.

Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit is given as a GIFT and once He is received brings Gifts to the believer.

Hebrews 2:4 God also bearing [them] witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

The miracles of God are performed by His Holy Spirit. Signs and wonders are accomplished in and around us by the Holy Spirit. Specific gifts are given to the believer by the Holy Spirit. Let's take a look at some of these gifts.

I Corinthians 12:1-13 Now concerning spiritual [gifts], brethren, I would not have you ignorant. Ye know that ye were Gentiles, carried away unto these dumb idols, even as ye were led. Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and [that] no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost. Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another [divers] kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also [is] Christ

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.

We see that there are diversities of gifts given by the Holy Spirit.

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An important point in this chapter is that the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. No one is excluded. That means YOU. Another important word here is manifestation. The implication here is that the indwelling presence of God in a believer will result in evidence that is tangible and recognizable. These recognizable and tangible manifestations can be a Word of Wisdom, Word of Knowledge, Faith, Ability to Administer Healing, Miracles, Prophecy, Discerning of spirits, Tongues, and Interpretation of Tongues.

How often have you heard someone say, I would like to see a miracle or see someone healed? Well, they will if they get hold of the TRUTH. How about you? Would you like to see these manifestations in your life? Of course you would. God wants these gifts working in every one of us. These gifts are the evidence of the power of salvation I spoke of earlier in this study.

Conclusion:

In this section, we have spoken of the works of the Holy Spirit. I have not exhausted all the works but have touched on the more obvious. Many Christian Denominations have confused being baptized with the Holy Spirit with the sealing that we spoke of in this section. The sealing of the Holy Spirit is not to be confused with being baptized in the Holy Spirit. Sealing occurs to all believers and is not an indication of man's will but God's. God chose to SEAL us; however, we must desire to be baptized in the Holy Spirit much the same as we followed in the example of the Water Baptism of repentance. The similarity being an act of will and submission. The difference being the Water Baptism dealt with the old nature and the baptism of the Holy Spirit deals with the new nature.

Acts 19:1 And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,

Acts 19:2 He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

Acts 19:3 And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.

Acts 19:4 Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

Acts 19:5 When they heard [this], they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Acts 19:6 And when Paul had laid [his] hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

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Acts 19:7 And all the men were about twelve.

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the culmination of the power and presence of God in a believer's life. Without this experience, we will never truly sense or accomplish the work of God in our individual walk or in the Church. In the next section, we will concentrate on man's part in receiving the Holy Spirit and how this experience is evident in our lives.

Work of the Holy Spirit (text references)

The following list represents scriptures referenced throughout the previous section. These scriptures are listed sequentially as presented in the New Testament (King James Version). The student should read each chapter in its entirety.

Luke 12:12 For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

John 14:26 But the Comforter, [which is] the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he [Holy Spirit] shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I [Jesus] have said unto you.

Acts 9:31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and walking in the fear of the Lord, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 10:38 How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

Acts 11:24 For he was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord.

Acts 13:2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

Acts 13:4 So they, being sent forth by the Holy Ghost, departed unto Seleucia; and from thence they sailed to Cyprus.

Acts 16:6 Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word

Acts 20:23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.

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Acts 20:28 Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

Acts 21:11 And when he was come unto us, he took Paul's girdle, and bound his own hands and feet, and said, Thus saith the Holy Ghost, So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man that owneth this girdle, and shall deliver [him] into the hands of the Gentiles.

Romans 5:5 And hope maketh not ashamed; because the love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.

Romans 9:1 I say the truth in Christ, I lie not, my conscience also bearing me witness in the Holy Ghost,

Romans 15:16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

I Corinthians 2:13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

I Corinthians 12:3 Wherefore I give you to understand, that no man speaking by the Spirit of God calleth Jesus accursed: and [that] no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost.

II Corinthians 6:6 By pureness, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, [ministers of God] by the Holy Ghost, by love unfeigned,

I Thessalonians 1:5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

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 3:5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

Titus 3:5 Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

Hebrews 3:7 Wherefore (as the Holy Ghost saith, Today if ye will hear his voice,

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Hebrews 9:8 The Holy Ghost this signifying, that the way into the holiest of all was not yet made manifest, while as the first tabernacle was yet standing:

Hebrews 10:15 [Whereof] the Holy Ghost also is a witness to us: for after that he had said before,

II Peter 1:21 For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake [as they were] moved by the Holy Ghost.

Baptized by, in, or of the Holy Spirit (text references)

The following list represents scriptures referenced throughout the previous section. These scriptures are listed sequentially as presented in the New Testament (King James Version). The student should read each chapter in its entirety

Matthew 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he (Jesus) shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and [with] fire:

Matthew 28:19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:

Mark 1:8 I in deed have baptized you with water: but he [Jesus] shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

Luke 3:16 John answered, saying unto [them] all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

John 1:33 And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he [Jesus] which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost.

Acts 1:5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

Acts 11:16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that he said, John indeed baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.

Hebrews 6:2 Of the doctrine of baptisms, and of laying on of hands, and of resurrection of the dead, and of eternal judgment.

Filled by or Full of the Holy Spirit (text references)

The following list represents scriptures referenced throughout the previous section. These scriptures are listed sequentially as presented in the New Testament (King James Version). The student should read each chapter in its entirety.

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Luke 1:67 And his father Zacharias was filled with the Holy Ghost, and prophesied, saying,

Luke 4:1 And Jesus being full of the Holy Ghost returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 4:8 Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Acts 6:3 Wherefore, brethren, look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business.

Acts 6:5 And the saying pleased the whole multitude: and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Ghost, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolas a proselyte of Antioch:

Acts 7:55 But he, being full of the Holy Ghost, looked up stedfastly into heaven, and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing on the right hand of God,

Acts 13:9 Then Saul, (who also [is called] Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him,

Acts 13:52 And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost.

Ephesians 5:18 And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;

Man's part in Receiving the Holy Spirit

Who may Receive the Holy Spirit?

As I stated earlier in this study, many Christian's have been robbed of the experience of the indwelling presence and power of God due to the notion that this experience was reserved for the elect. No doubt this experience is reserved for the elect; however, every believer fits this elect category.

Acts 2:38-39 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, [even] as many as the Lord our God shall call.

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Colossians 3:11 Where there is neither Greek nor Jew, circumcision nor uncircumcision, Barbarian, Scythian, bond [nor] free: but Christ [is] all, and in all.

Colossians 3:12 Put on therefore, as the elect of God, holy and beloved, bowels of mercies, kindness, humbleness of mind, meekness, longsuffering;

Acts 10:34 Then Peter opened [his] mouth, and said; Of a truth I perceive that God is no respecter of persons:

Paul and Peter knew and communicated this message to all. Paul was known as the Apostle to the Gentiles. If the election was reserved for the Jew or the Apostle, then Paul would not have had a ministry.

It is evident by these passages that this misunderstanding of which the elect are was equally prevalent in Peter and Paul's day. Frankly, the most difficult concept for any Sinner or Christian to accept is that they are worthy of such salvation or gifts. One must continue to reaffirm that the righteousness of Christ has been given in place of our unrighteousness. If you're still struggling with this matter then you should direct your full attention to who you are in Christ. If this is a problem for you or you know someone like this I would recommend a subsequent publication entitled "When You Look Into The Mirror." This publication deals specifically with the new nature and the inheritance of the new born Christian. See order information in this publication for additional study guides available.

How to Receive the Holy Spirit

This topic has been a subject of debate among various Denominations. There is little reason for debate. The scriptures are clear. The examples given throughout the scriptures are so diverse that no man could attempt proceduralism or formalize the experience.

The attitude of heart is the key to receiving the Holy Spirit. In Acts 8:18-21 we see an example of a man who recognized the power and worth of this experience so much that he offered to pay for the ability to administer the gift. Simon's heart was not right. He wanted to use this power for personal profit. Much to his debt he found that this angered God. To think that man could pay for or become worthy of such a gift any other way than through Jesus is not only foolish but dangerous.

Acts 8:18-21 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God

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may be purchased with money. Thou hast neither part nor lot in this matter: for thy heart is not right in the sight of God.

Now let's look at some examples of how the early Christians received the Holy Spirit.

In John 20:22 we see that Jesus breathed on the Apostles in the upper room and they received the Holy Spirit. In Acts 8:15 they Prayed and received. In Acts 8:17 they laid hands on the believers and they received. In Acts 10:44 and 11:15 the believer received while Peter was yet speaking. In Acts 19:6 Paul laid hands on the believer and they received.

Do you see any pattern in these examples? No? Well, there is, but it isn't a formula or procedure. There is no pattern regarding the way to receive the Holy Spirit, however, the pattern is in the attitude of heart or the belief of the individual. They believed and desired, thus they received. Can it really be that simple? Precisely! Everything that you will ever receive from God must be received by FAITH.

Hebrews 11:1 Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:6 But without faith [it is] impossible to please [him]: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and [that] he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

James 4:2 Ye lust, and have not: ye kill, and desire to have, and cannot obtain: ye fight and war, yet ye have not, because ye ask not.

Luke 11:9 And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.

The Evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Throughout this discourse, I have emphasized being baptized in the Holy Spirit is not optional nor is it without purpose. The purpose or evidence is where the real story begins. I mentioned previously that, "the power of the gospel is lacking in the Church today." I am convinced and you should be by now, that the power is not present because the Holy Spirit is not present in many congregations. **The reason so many Christians feel whipped and beaten is due to the lack of the presence of God in their lives.** The gifts and fruits of the Spirit must be present if we are to experience the victorious life that God intended. When we look at the objective of the gifts and fruits it is no wonder. How could the Church or we succeed individually

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without the gifts of the Holy Spirit? As we look at these gifts and fruits individually, think of both how the Church could be versus what we see today.

This study should not only enlighten you but should challenge you to seek the gifts and fruits of the Spirit. This is the only hope for the Church today. Individuals like yourself can make a difference when empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Faith, Wisdom, Knowledge, Healing, Miracles, Tongues, etc.

When we speak of the evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit many Christians that have some knowledge of the scriptures will think of the gift of Tongues.

Tongues no doubt are an initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, however, should not be over emphasized. However important tongues are they represent only one of many gifts and evidences of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The gifts or evidences of the baptism of the Holy Spirit include power, miracles, healing, a word of wisdom, a word of knowledge, prophecy, etc., all are equally important to the successful walk of the believer and the growth of the universal Church. Listen to how Paul felt when he said:

I Corinthians 14:18 I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:

I Corinthians 14:19 Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that [by my voice] I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an [unknown] tongue.

Paul in no way implied that the gift or evidence of Tongues was not important but did show that Tongues can be over emphasized. Jesus Himself told us that Tongues would be a sign of the believer. Throughout the Acts of the Apostles we see examples of this manifestation in the believer.

Mark 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

Acts 2:3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Paul and Jude show us the benefit of praying in Tongues. The benefit of this gift is both spiritual and natural.

Jude 1:20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

Romans 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helpeth our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.

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The gift of Tongues is only one evidence we should expect to see as a result of the baptism of the Holy Spirit. I would dearly love to see the Church functioning in all the gifts regularly. God wants the entire body (Church) to function in the gifts of the Spirit. This means He wants all, not just a few functioning in the gifts. We may function in one or all gifts from time to time. God's perfect will is to involve the entire body in ministering one to another in the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

We need to hear the Word of Wisdom. We need to hear the Word of Knowledge. We need special anointing's of Faith. We need to Heal the sick. We need to hear Prophecy. We need to know of what spirit a man or woman is responding.

How can we forsake such power? How can we deny the Truth any longer? God! Forgive us for taking so lightly these wonderful gifts.

I Timothy 4:14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

I Corinthians 12:8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

I Corinthians 12:9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

I Corinthians 12:10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another [divers] kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:

I Corinthians 12:11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

Conclusion:

Faith is the key to receiving any gift from God, whether it is for salvation or the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Any attempt by man at proceduralism is a work of the flesh and will not produce anything but stinking flesh. The works that please God are those that result from our faith. The evidence of an apple tree is its fruits. The evidence of being filled with the Spirit is the gifts and fruits of the Spirit active in the believer.

The time has come now for you to make a decision. Will you neglect this wonderful gift? Will you seek to be filled with the presence of God? God wants you to have this wonderful gift. He wants you to function in the gifts and fruits of His Holy Spirit. If you are ready to release the faith to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, at the earliest opportunity ask God to fill you with His Holy Spirit. Now would be a good

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time! Then expect to experience the evidences of this experience. I speak in faith and confidence that God will grant your petition.

Matthew 7:7 Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you:

Matthew 7:8 For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.

This concludes our study, as I stated earlier this was not intended to be an exhaustive study but rather an appetizer. The Spirit filled life is a victorious and exciting life. I sincerely pray that this study has sparked a flame that will continue to grow within each individual that has participated. There is much more to be learned and gained by this experience. Remember, the Holy Spirit will lead you into all TRUTH.

John 16:13 Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, [that] shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

How to receive the Holy Spirit (text references)

The following list represents scriptures referenced throughout the previous section. These scriptures are listed sequentially as presented in the New Testament (King James Version). The student should read each chapter in its entirety

John 20:22 And when he had said this, he breathed on [them], and saith unto them, Receive ye the Holy Ghost:

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Acts 8:15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:

Acts 8:17 Then laid they [their] hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

Acts 10:44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

Acts 8:18 And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

Acts 10:47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?

Acts 11:15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning.

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Acts 19:2 He said unto them, have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, we have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

Acts 19:6 And when Paul had laid [his] hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

I Corinthians 6:19 What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost [which is] in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

II Corinthians 13:14 The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, [be] with you all. Amen.

Evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost (text references)

The following list represents scriptures referenced throughout the previous section. These scriptures are listed sequentially as presented in the New Testament (King James Version). The student should read each chapter in its entirety.

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.

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

Acts 19:6 And when Paul had laid [his] hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

Romans 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not meat and drink; but righteousness, and peace, and joy in the Holy Ghost.

Romans 15:13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

I Thessalonians 1:5 For our gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Ghost, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for your sake.

I Thessalonians 1:6 And ye became followers of us, and of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Ghost:

II Timothy 1:14 That good thing which was committed unto thee keep by the Holy Ghost which dwelleth in us.

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Hebrews 2:4 God also bearing [them] witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will?

I Peter 1:12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.

Jude 1:20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost,

II Thessalonians 2:13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:

I Peter 1:2 Elect according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through sanctification of the Spirit, unto obedience and sprinkling of the blood of Jesus Christ: Grace unto you, and peace, be multiplied.

Romans 15:16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.