

Baptism in Holy Spirit

The Bible teaches us some powerful things about the dunamis* power of praying in the Spirit:

- In Matthew 3:16, we learn that after Jesus Christ's water baptism, the Holy Spirit descended and remained on Jesus Christ, **before** He began His public ministry.
- In Acts 1:4-5, Jesus told the disciples to wait until they are baptized into the fire of Holy Spirit, **before** starting their ministry assignments.
- In Acts 19:2, Paul came upon some new believers and made sure to **also** lead them to Holy Spirit baptism and tongues.
- In Ephesians 1:14, Paul says: That [Spirit] is the guarantee of our inheritance [the firstfruits, the pledge and foretaste, the down payment on our heritage], in anticipation of its full redemption *and* our acquiring [complete] possession of it—to the praise of His glory.
- In Ephesians 6:18, Paul instructs us to pray in the Spirit frequently. This is the personal prayer language of tongues - not to be confused with the public prophetic language of tongues mentioned in 1 Corinthians 14:6-13.
- In 1 Corinthians 14:15, Paul goes on to say "What is *the conclusion* then? I will pray with the Spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the Spirit, and I will also sing with the understanding.
- The Holy Spirit knew in advance that man would be deceived by people (via Satan's fearful influence) into becoming apprehensive about tongues; afraid that they might get possessed by a demon, or receive some counterfeit form of tongues, by deception. So Holy Spirit gave us a **guarantee** of authenticity of tongues in Luke 11:11-13. This guarantee is for the true believer in Christ Jesus, not the "hyper-spiritual" person who is trying to add Jesus Christ to their tool-belt of gods/religions. The true believer in Jesus Christ renounces ALL affiliation with other gods/religions when they get saved by grace through faith.
- In Jude 1:20, it says: But you, beloved, **building yourselves up** on your most holy faith, praying in the **Holy Spirit**. (The Greek word for building yourselves up is "**oikodomeo**", which in this case means to build and repair "the house" - the house being our physical body.) It has been scientifically proven that people who pray in the Spirit receive health benefits, such as lowered blood pressure and a measureable release of endorphins, resulting in physical healing and edification.
- 2 Timothy 1:6-7: Fan into flames, the Spiritual Gift (tongues) God gave you, upon being baptized in the Holy Spirit. This is the *"dunamis"*, which means miraculous power, might, and strength!
- Isaiah 28:11-12 tells us about the "rest" that we can enter into by praying in the Spirit: For with stammering lips and another tongue He will speak to this people,

Baptism in Holy Spirit

to whom He said, "This *is* the rest *with which* you may cause the weary to rest," and, "This *is* the refreshing".

- In Romans 8:26-27 it is written that: The Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will.
- In John 7:38-39 Jesus said: He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart (belly) will flow rivers of living water." But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet *given*, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

The entire ministry of the Holy Spirit (everything He does), is to point us to, and glorify Jesus Christ! When we get saved, the Holy Spirit baptizes us into Jesus Christ and puts His seal on us. If we choose to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, it is Jesus who baptizes us into the Holy Spirit and into fire. It is a "circular" baptism. The Holy Spirit, Who is the third person of the Godhead, is our:

- Advocate
- Paraclete (Helper)
- Comforter
- Counselor
- Intercessor
- Leader
- Prompter
- Teacher
- Representative
- Defender
- Assurer
- Standby
- Strengthenener
- Testifier

Baptism in Holy Spirit

We pray in the Spirit to collaborate, cooperate, acknowledge, intercede and come into agreement with the perfect will of God for us, and others, through the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us the "utterance" to pray in the Spirit for things we don't even know to pray for, things we don't know how to pray for, and for the tearing down of the negative strongholds in our lives of: Satan, our flesh, and our minds. We pray perfect prayers in this way, because it takes us out of the way. Praying in the Spirit is another way to point the soul away from the flesh and toward the spirit/Spirit. It is also a perfect doorway to the "secret place", "shadow", and "refuge" mentioned in Psalm 91:1-2 (NKJV).