



## By Design Spirit Baptism

Matthew 3:11

11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

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Who is the Holy Spirit?

The bible says there is only one God but that eternally exists as 3 persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. These three persons are co-equal and of the same essence, but they are very distinct in their roles. These three persons are a tri-unity from which theologians use the word Trinity to describe one God.

Man is created in the image of God as a triunity; body, soul, and spirit.

Our soul is a triunity comprised of our mind, our will, and our emotions.

A father, mother, and child are one flesh and form one family, but they are three persons.

The primary colors that form light are red, blue, and green.

Every human eye has 3 different types of light cells, but it is only one eye.

In one solar system there are stars, planets, and moons.

Fire needs three parts to exist; fuel, heat, and oxygen.

Water molecules (H<sub>2</sub>O) are made of two Hydrogen atoms and one Oxygen atom.



There are three leaf clovers.

There are a countless number of other examples in nature of things that are three but one. The world was created to reveal the image of God.

But there is nothing that God has created that is an adequate comparison to Himself. The Psalmist said....

[Psalms 89:6-7](#)

[6 For who in the heavens can be compared to the Lord? Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to the Lord?](#)

[7 God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be held in reverence by all those around Him.](#)

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There is only one God, but He eternally exists as three persons; Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. There are many evidences of the trinity in creation, but ultimately, we must accept the Word of God by faith.

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What does baptize mean?

The word baptize means to immerse. The word was used by the Jews to describe the action of soaking any person, place, or thing.

Who was John the Baptist?

John the Baptist was the last prophet to the Jews in the Old Testament period. He lived in the first century AD. He predicted that a messiah was among them and that He would save the Jews from their enemies. He called the Jews to repent of their sins to prepare themselves for the messiah. He predicted that the messiah would save the Jews by immersing the Jews with the Holy Spirit.

John the Baptist based His prophecies on other prophets in Israel that preceded him by over 400 years.

The baptism with the Holy Spirit was first mentioned by a prophet named Joel. Joel wrote to the Jews in the 9<sup>th</sup> century BC.

Joel 2:28-29

28 "And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions.

29 And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days.

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Another prophet named Ezekiel also talked about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Ezekiel wrote to the Jews in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC.

Ezekiel 36:26-27

26 I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of 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 keep My judgments and do them.

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The prophet Jeremiah wrote to the Jews in the 6<sup>th</sup> century BC. He indicated that the Baptism with the Holy Spirit was a part of a new covenant that God would make with Israel.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

31 "Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah —

32 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the Lord.

33 But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.

34 No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more."

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The prophet Isaiah wrote to the Jews in the 8<sup>th</sup> century BC. He indicated that these prophecies would occur after the messiah arrived in Israel and initiated the covenant.

Isaiah 59:20-21

20 "The Redeemer will come to Zion, and to those who turn from transgression in Jacob," Says the Lord.

21 "As for Me," says the Lord, "this is My covenant with them: My Spirit who is upon you, and My words which I have put in your mouth, shall not depart from your mouth, nor from the mouth of your descendants, nor from the mouth of your descendants' descendants," says the Lord, "from this time and forevermore."

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When John the Baptist baptized Jesus in water and saw the signs that Jesus was the messiah, John said Jesus is the messiah that will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.

John 1:33-34

33 I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'

34 And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

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Jesus fulfilled these prophecies for the Jews after His death, resurrection, and ascension. It happened on a day the Jews called Pentecost. At the same time every year, 50 days after Passover, the Jews commemorated the giving of the law to Moses on Mount Sinai and the covenant God made with the nation of Israel. Since Jesus was crucified on Passover, it was by design that the baptism with the Holy Spirit in the new covenant would occur on the exact same day of the year that God initiated the old covenant by giving the law of God to Moses.

Those who believed Jesus was the messiah were gathered together in Jerusalem for the celebration of Pentecost. There was 120 of them. Jesus had told them to wait together in Jerusalem for the fulfillment of the promise.

Acts 1:4-5

4 And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me;

5 for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

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By this time, they understood that the baptism with the Holy Spirit was not going to save them from their political enemies but from their spiritual enemies.

Here is what they expected based on what Jesus and the prophets had promised.

- **Jesus said they would be born again. (John 3:1-8)**  
Jesus said the Holy Spirit had been with them, but He would be in them. (John 14:17). Their spirit would become one with the Holy Spirit. This would radically change who they were. Ezekiel said they would receive a new heart and a new spirit that would cause them to obey God. Jeremiah said they would receive an internal hard drive of the laws of God on their hearts and their minds that would cause them to know God.
- **Jesus said the Holy Spirit would give them power that would enable them to be His witnesses. (Acts 1:8)**  
Joel said they would receive prophesy, dreams, and visions from God. Isaiah said they would receive God's Words in their mouths.

Throughout the bible, the nature of people and things radically changed when the Holy Spirit of God united with them.

1. **An axe head floated**
2. **An ass talked**
3. **A burning bush was not consumed**
4. **Warriors had exceptional skills**

5. Prophets predicted the future and had miraculous powers
6. People were raised from the dead; diseases were healed; the lame walked, the blind saw, and the deaf were healed.

These first believers in Jesus were expecting something to happen to them that was incredible. They knew it was impossible for anyone or anything to remain the same when they were baptized with the Holy Spirit.

When they were baptized with the Holy Spirit, the results had to exceed their expectations. It was a phenomenon unlike anything they had ever heard about or experienced.

It started with the sound of a rushing wind and it filled the whole room. Then flames of fire rested on each one of them. Then the words of God filled their mouths and they spoke those words in languages they had never learned. Bystanders were astonished by what they saw. They wanted to know what it meant. Peter preached. 3000 Jews believed in Jesus.

If this promise was for the Jews, what does it have to do with us?

- The apostles taught the church that the baptism with the Holy Spirit was for anyone who received Jesus. (Acts 10:44-46)  
This meant Jew or Gentile.
- The apostles taught the church that the baptism with the Holy Spirit was a deposit on their future inheritance. (Ephesians 1:13-14)  
In other words, if you do not have the Holy Spirit, you do not have the eternal inheritance. The apostle John wrote...  
1 John 3:24  
24 Now he who keeps His commandments abides in Him, and He in him. And by this we know that He abides in us, by the Spirit whom He has given us.  
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Based on what Jesus, the prophets, and the apostles said, you cannot receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit and stay the same.

People join things all the time and it changes their lives. If you go to college, join the military, take a new job, get married, or have children, it will change your life.

You cannot be joined with Jesus Christ through the Baptism with the Holy Spirit and stay the same.

### Do you need the baptism of the Holy Spirit?

#### 1. Do you live in sin?

Are you comfortable living with sin?

Is it the intent of your heart to sin?

When we leave here today, do you intend to satisfy your desires in a way that God forbids, and you are comfortable with that? You do not feel any need to make amends for your sin? You do not have any problem hiding your sin from others and being a hypocrite?

#### 2. Are you in bondage to sin?

Are your emotions and your behavior out of control? Is your life unmanageable and you are powerless to change it?

You are a gossip, a thief, a liar, insubordinate, an adulterer or a fornicator, perverted, profane, an addict, a hypocrite, abusive, a hedonist, and you do not feel that you can stop?

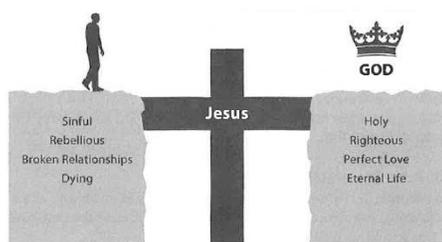
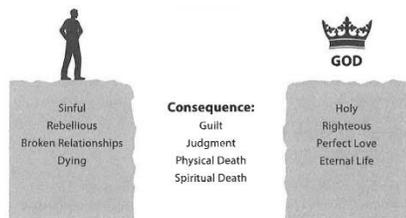
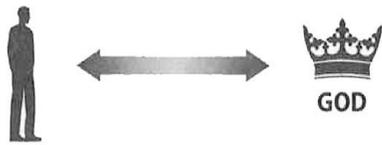
#### 3. Do you need a new identity?

Are you tired of being who you have been? Do you want to become someone that loves all people and has compassion for them? Do you want to become someone who is gracious and forgiving? Do you want to become someone that is not always focused on yourself but puts others first?

#### 4. Do you suffer from the fear of judgment?

Do you carry a load of guilt and shame? Do you worry about what is going to happen to you after you die? Do you want a personal relationship with God that is not based on fear but His unmerited love for you? Do you want to be at peace with God and experience the peace of God?

You need to receive Jesus and He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.



How do you walk across that bridge?

You do not walk across that bridge by committing your life to Jesus Christ!

There is not one verse that says to be saved we need to commit our life to Jesus Christ. Jesus is not interested in you committing your old life to Him. There is not anything about your old life that is worth anything to Jesus. Jesus wants to crucify your old life.

[Galatians 2:20](#)

[20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.](#)

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Jesus wants to give you a new life through the baptism with the Holy Spirit. He wants to give you His life. When that exchange happens, you become a new creation.

[2 Corinthians 5:17](#)

[17 Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.](#)

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To receive Jesus and the baptism with the Holy Spirit you must come to Jesus as a pauper that has nothing to offer Him. You must come to Jesus wanting the new life that only He can provide. If you come to Him in faith that He is Lord and that He rose from the dead, He will forgive your sins and baptize you with the Holy Spirit. You will become a new creation in Christ.

Will you receive Jesus and let Him baptize you with the Holy Spirit?