

THE ENDOWMENT OF POWER

Part I

Acts 1:5-8

Introduction: After a person has a personal encounter with Jesus Christ, resulting in the new birth (2nd Corinthians 5:17), they immediately become a candidate for the baptism into the Holy Spirit. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is a subsequent, following experience to salvation. Jesus made it clear that in order to carry out His work on earth, it would take a special endowment of supernatural power from the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:8, note the Amplified version: "But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you..."

I. The baptism in the holy spirit

A. Three baptisms

1. The baptism into Christ. *1st Corinthians 12:13.*
2. The baptism in water. *Matthew 3:13-15; Colossians 2:12; Romans 6:4-5.*
3. The baptism into the Holy Spirit. *Acts 1:8, 2:4.*

B. The process

1. The Holy Spirit baptizes you, the candidate, into the body of Christ.
2. The minister baptizes you, the candidate, in water as a testimony of your salvation.
3. Christ baptizes you, the candidate, into the Holy Spirit.

II. The purpose for the baptism in the Holy Spirit. Acts 1:5-8.

A. To penetrate the planet with the message of the Gospel. *Matthew 24:14.*

1. The power of the Holy Spirit will supply the energy to successfully live and work for Christ. The Greek word is *dunamis*, meaning supernatural ability. "To the remotest parts" – Campbell. "The farthest ends" – Norlie. "To the utmost limit" – Worley.

III. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is separate from salvation.

A. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is a following experience to the new birth. *Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8.*

B. Proof that it follows the new birth. *Acts 2:4, 10:44-48, 19:1-6.*

IV. The first physical evidence of being baptized in the Holy Spirit.

A. Speaking in *unknown* tongues. *Acts 2:4, 10:45-46, 19:6.*

1. While it is true there are other gifts of the Holy Spirit, God chose speaking in an unknown tongue as the first sign that the conditions for receiving the Holy Spirit had been met.

B. What is the value of speaking in an *unknown* tongue?

C. First of all, when a believer speaks in an *unknown tongue*, he is speaking to God. *1st Corinthians 14:2.*

D. Secondly, He edifies or builds up Himself in the Spirit. *1st Corinthians 14:4.*

E. If a person speaks in an *unknown* tongue and his voice is heard above others in a worship service, then the *unknown* tongues *must* be interpreted. *1st Corinthians 14:13.*

F. When you pray in an *unknown* tongue, your spirit prays. *1st Corinthians 14:14.*

G. A means of worship in our singing and praying. *1st Corinthians 14:15.* What value did Paul put on speaking in an *unknown* tongue? *1st Corinthians 14:18.*

H. Paul's warning concerning speaking in an *unknown* tongue. *1st Corinthians 14:39.*

V. How do I go about receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit?

A. Ask! *Luke 11:13.*

B. Believe. *Hebrews 11:6.*

C. Cooperate. Example – salvation. *Romans 10:9-10.* God does His part when you ask; you do your part by speaking in an *unknown* tongue. *Acts 2:4.* It is an act of obedience. It defies human logic because it is spiritually discerned.

Conclusion: The success of a Christian walk is dependent on God's help. When He ascended, Christ sent the third person of the Trinity, the Holy Spirit, for the purpose of aiding us to be successful as His representatives on earth. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is for all believers. There are presently over half a billion people in the world today who testify to this experience. It is time for you to be blessed with this endowment of power.