

## You Must Have the Spirit of God

John 1:25-33 <sup>25</sup> They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" <sup>26</sup> John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, <sup>27</sup> even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." <sup>28</sup> These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing. <sup>29</sup> The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup> This is he of whom I said, 'After me comes a man who ranks before me, because he was before me.' <sup>31</sup> I myself did not know him, but for this purpose I came baptizing with water, that he might be revealed to Israel." <sup>32</sup> And John bore witness: "I saw the Spirit descend from heaven like a dove, and it remained on him. <sup>33</sup> I myself did not know him, but he who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain, this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'

### ❖ Introduction

#### ➤ Expound Briefly on these verses

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#### ➤ John the Baptist is Pointing to Jesus

- People are coming to hear him and be baptized by him
- But He is pointing them to Jesus

#### ➤ He calls Jesus the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world

- The importance of that statement MUST be stressed
- A Lamb... A Sacrifice... Something to be slaughtered
- Jesus the perfect acceptable lamb
- Takes away God's wrath toward us, and puts it on Himself
  - This is illustrated by John in the Third Chapter

- ♦ John 3:36 <sup>36</sup> Whoever believes in the Son has eternal life; whoever does not obey the Son shall not see life, but the wrath of God remains on him.

### ❖ John's Baptism = An Outward Cleansing...

#### ➤ John was simply a voice in the Wilderness

- He was attempting to turn people's hearts back toward God
- And the baptism was just significant saying... I am turning my heart toward God

#### ➤ But, this baptism could not save them... it was not enough...

- We know this from Acts 19... Disciples of John were not saved by His baptism
  - They needed Jesus' Baptism

#### ➤ John the Baptist tells the hearers, it is Jesus that will baptize you with the Holy Spirit

- this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'

### ❖ The Significance of this Statement cannot be Stressed enough

- This Act of Spirit Baptism is Paramount for all of us here today

#### ➤ Baptism of the Spirit – Literally means to be immersed in the Spirit of God.

- To have the Spirit of God poured out all over you surrounding you
- It is to have the Holy Spirit of God placed within you,
- Filling you...

#### ➤ If you have Never been baptized by Jesus with the Holy Spirit...

- You have never been saved from your sins... You are still in them...
- No matter how many times you may have asked God to forgive you

- No matter how many times you have walked an isle
- No matter how many times you have come to church
- No matter how many times you have read your Bible, or were obedient to God...
- **You have never been saved...**
  - Now this is true... but give me a moment to help you see this...

❖ **Today we are going to go deeper in our understanding of Salvation**

➤ **Illustration:**

- I like movies... they are fun to watch
  - Stuff like transformers, and superhero movies...
  - And the special effects are out of this world...
  - But I normally just see the movie...
- When it comes out on DVD and I am able to see the Behind the scenes footage
  - My perspective completely changes..
  - I understand how they are able to do certain things...
- **We normally see the end product when it comes to the salvation of souls...**
  - But today we are going behind the scenes
  - We are going to look at how a person really comes to know the Lord...
  - To repent of their sins, and place their trust in Jesus...
- **I am trying to go deep, but in a not so deep way...**
  - Much more to look at than we can today, but we will exhaust this Truth in the future

❖ **Regeneration by the Spirit (You will learn this word today)**

- **To understand what it means to be baptized with the Holy Spirit**
  - You need to understand what it means for us to be regenerate
  - This word is as important for us to understand as Justification and Sanctification
    - Don't let me lose you hear... (not hard stuff, just unfamiliar to some)
    - Quick explanation
- **Regeneration – it consists in a spiritual renovation of our very nature**
  - **It is not the moral Reformation of our lives...**
    - It is not the outward actions of the person...
    - It is a renewal of the nature of the man...
  - **Illustrated in the scriptures (in just one of many places)**
    - **Titus 3:5 he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit,**
      - ◆ Not our Works.... His Mercy...
      - ◆ A Washing... of Regeneration
      - ◆ And Renewal of the Holy Spirit...
      - ◆ A Work of the Holy Spirit....
- **Illustration:**
  - Mr Billy Wascomb renovates old cars...
  - Lots of shows on tv...
  - They take an old beat up rundown car or something... that doesn't run or work
    - And they fix it up like new...
    - They bring that old piece of junk to life...
- **Regeneration is the Initial Act of the Holy Spirit in the Salvation of the person**

- Before Regeneration, people often partake in the graces of the Holy Spirit...
  - If in conviction, or hearing of the great glories of God
- Regeneration is also not the only thing John had in mind when He spoke of Spirit Baptism
  - There are other workings and effects of Spirit Baptism that are true and important...
- **But... Regeneration is primary....**
  - Because you can fake the others...
  - Regeneration cannot be faked... And it must come first...
- ❖ **And... We have 2 types of people in this world... (All men fall under this category)**
  - 1) Regenerate 2) Unregenerate
  - 1) Saved 2) Unsaved
    - But the first terms... get a little deeper into this issue for people...
  - We have both here today... I am certain of this...
    - Shouldn't that cause many of you to beg God to move in others lives... ?
- ❖ **The Spirit of God causing our Regeneration is Significant Because...**
  - **All men are born Unregenerate... ( This is proven in the Bible)**
    - Men are Either
      - In darkness
      - Or blinded
    - Matthew 4:16 the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned."
    - Acts 26:18 (Jesus sent Paul) to open their eyes, so that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and a place among those who are sanctified by faith in me.'
    - Ephesians 5:8 for at one time you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.
- ❖ **Therefore We Need the Spirit to Enter the Kingdom of God**
  - **This is what Jesus told Nicodemus**
    - John 3:3 Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God."
    - John 3:5-6 Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. 6 That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.
  - **The Spirit of God Moves Freely and Sovereignly**
    - John 3:8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit."
- ❖ **The Messiah was to Come with the Spirit**
  - **The Jewish leaders were asking John....**
    - Why are you baptizing if you are not the Messiah... (essentially)
  - **Because they expected a Baptism of the Spirit... When Messiah came (look at just one verse... there are others)**
    - Isaiah 44:3 For I will pour water on the thirsty land, and streams on the dry ground; I will pour my Spirit upon your offspring, and my blessing on your descendants.

## ❖ Jesus is the Baptizer

### ➤ John Points to Jesus....

- **this is he who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.'**

### ➤ At the Day of Pentecost...

- For those unfamiliar... it was one of the Jewish people feasts they had...
- So many would come from all over the world to celebrate...
- It was during this feast, after Jesus had been Resurrected and Ascended back into heaven...
- The Holy Spirit came in power like no other day before....

### ➤ **Acts 2:33 Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.**

### ➤ **Only Through Jesus can one receive the Holy Spirit**

- Jesus immerses us in the Spirit, and places the Spirit within us

### ➤ **God causes our Rebirth**

- **1 Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,**

## ❖ What Baptism of the Spirit accomplishes

### ➤ Look Closely at Ezekiel 36....

- **Ezekiel 36:26-27 And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. 27 And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules.**

#### ▪ **Give a New Heart**

- Remove the heart of stone.....Replaced with a heart of flesh
  - ◆ *Expound on Heart of Stone vs heart of flesh*

#### ▪ **A new Spirit**

- Our previous one was dead...
- His Spirit placed within us

#### ▪ **This will Cause us to walk in His statutes**

- And cause us to be careful to obey His rules...

### ➤ **We respond to this placement of the Spirit**

- In...Repentance and Faith

### ➤ **Being Baptized by Jesus with the Holy Spirit does much more**

- Regeneration does bring about Moral Reformation
- Empowers, Giftings, Teaches, Convicts, Comforts, Leads, Miracles

### ➤ **The Spirit is A Seal... (Confirming to us, that we are God's Child)**

- **Ephesians 1:13 In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit,**

## ❖ It Should not be difficult to know if you have been given the Spirit of God

### ➤ **Paul says examine yourselves...**

### ➤ **Has God's Spirit come into you? ... and...**

- Caused you to Repent of your Sins
- Given you Faith to believe that Jesus is the Only Son of God
- Shown You He is True, and is Truth.....And the only Avenue to get to heaven

### ➤ **Has your Heart of Stone ever been replaced with a Heart of flesh?**

## ❖ What if you do not have the Spirit

- **What should you do?**
  - Since it is freely His work?
- **Please Recognize this... and do not feel ashamed!.... God has not yet done this work in you!**
- **Beg and plead God For Him**
  - **James 4:8 Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, you sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded.**
- **Get on your Knees and beg for Him...**
  - **Romans 10:13 13 For “everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”**
- **The Preaching of the Word is God’s means of Saving the Sinner**
  - **Romans 10:17 So faith comes from hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.**

## ❖ APPLICATION: Believers Should pray for a more powerful and overwhelming presence of the Spirit in their lives

- **Are there Degrees of Spirit filling?**
  - Yes and No...
- **You do not get part of the Spirit... You get it all...**
  - But there are times when He is more clearly working and moving you...
  - This is also true in the church...
    - He is always Here... but not always...
    - Manifesting Himself in a mighty way...

## ❖ We can do nothing without the Spirit

- **It is interesting to note, that when Jesus was planting His first church...**
  - He taught the men who God is, Revealed God to them, and then left...
- **But He didn’t tell them to build an awesome building, or plan programs**
  - Not that those things are wrong...
  - Because they did establish churches in cities...
  - But, He didn’t tell them to plan out a budget or form committees and teams...
- **He told them to wait for the Spirit.**
  - **Acts 1:5 ...for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”**
- **Any Church intent on being pleasing to God... and successful for His kingdom**
  - Must be led by the Spirit of God... Not strategy
  - Strategy is good... so long as it comes from God...
- **This is true for the individual Christian as well...**
  - So, if you find yourself trying to make spiritual decisions, without first
  - Seeking God... Asking for the help of His Holy Spirit...
  - You are quickly going in the wrong direction

## ❖ Recap

- **The Word of God is Revealed through Preaching of it or reading of it...**
  - The Spirit of God is moving in that, since He is the author of it.
  - The Spirit of God regenerates the person
  - So they can repent and Believe
- **If a person is Born Again... it is a sovereign work of God (dependant upon Him)**
- **If a Person is Born Again**
  - It is because of their sin and hard heart