

# BAPTISM

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The miracle of the indwelling Holy Spirit has been almost completely missed by most Christians. Of course we learned in Spiritual Kindergarten that the new birth occurs when you receive the Holy Spirit into yourself transforming your first born spirit into a new creature. This is not a 'grafting' but an absorption. Your Spirit absorbs the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit absorbs your Spirit. Now there is no distinction that CAN be made between your Spirit and Him. This must be true for every Christian or they are not Christian.

Some, in extolling a 'second work of grace', a baptism of the Holy Spirit, have equated it with emotion and ecstatic utterances. In so doing they have drawn millions to God but have misunderstood His nature and His character. Millions have been caught up in a fervor that glorifies themselves more than Him. Because of this the fruit they produce is meager and bitter.

There is a true baptism of the Spirit, a baptism of fire. This fire cleanses and purifies not from without through law but from within through a new Spirit. In scripture God speaks of being filled with the spirit. Indeed He says that you should continuously be being filled. This certainly does NOT mean that you get empty. How could you? You and the Spirit are ONE! Rather He speaks of control. Be continuously be being led, influenced, and controlled by the indwelling Holy Spirit.

For modern mankind with its foolish independence and pride, this is difficult. The difficulties increase because of the teaching and examples of Christian leaders and teachers. We have been taught by word and deed to become important, do great things. The great things are almost inevitably things that are great in the eyes of other men, which commonly has little to do with what God considers great.

God teaches you to be humble.

They teach you to elevate yourself using an appearance of humility.

God teaches you to love unconditionally.

They teach you to love if the other is repentant and deserves your efforts.

God teaches you to GIVE, give to Him and the Holy Spirit will direct. Give from your closet.

They teach you to give to building funds, special drives, buy bricks, and pay huge salaries. You are not taught to give where God's Spirit says give. No, you are taught to give where certain leaders say give.

Jesus teaches you to pray, My Father who is in heave -----,

They teach you to pray for traveling mercies and all manner of things about which I have laid no burden. Their prayers are pontifical and useless and they teach others to do the same.

Baptism in His Spirit will draw you from the teachings of men toward the divine nature. Baptism in the Holy Spirit means a total immersion (body, soul, and spirit) into the Holy Spirit. It must be accompanied by a wholehearted decision and choice to forsake all the 'old' and strongly clasp the 'new'. This is the imperative first step. Any religious ceremony that does not include this volitional act is – merely a ceremony. If ANY child of God does commit, does die to the old and live to the new – he/she will be baptized into Him regardless of whether there is ceremony or not. He looks inside and He works inside.

We must discuss the terms 'old' and 'new'. The old refers to that which came before the miracle of 'new birth'. Before the birth the human fit will into the worldly systems. They were of the flesh, fleshly. The primary focus was building our own lives and kingdoms. We strove, primarily, to create lives of purpose, security, and happiness for ourselves and those we love. There was little thought of eternal things and little or no hope for eternity, though you entertained some vague comforting thoughts of heaven, you had no reason to hope. So, you lived for this earthly life and based your hopes on temporal things. You were dominated by the lust of the eyes, the lust of the flesh, and the boastful pride of life. This was quite natural and virtually universal. Without His Spirit, no one can even glimpse the glory (value) of His Kingdom. So they become gods to themselves. They strive to provide for themselves the kind of provision only God can provide. Jesus said, "Take no thought for tomorrow, what you shall eat, what you shall drink, what you shall wear". Before new birth you spent much time thinking about and providing – what you shall eat, what you shall drink, what you shall wear, where you shall live. You were required to provide for your own creature comforts, security, and future.

After new birth, these old things passed away. They became irrelevant. You were no longer master of your fate, Captain of your soul. Your Father is! Behold, all things become new. You have become a New Creature. You have a new name written down in His books. You have a new future, a new destiny.

When you absolutely submerge yourself into God, die to the old that you may live anew, this begins a cleansing of Your mind, your habits. It is the Holy Spirit who teaches you about Jesus and Father, who they are, what they are like. It is His Spirit who transforms you by the renewing of your mind.

Author's Note: I believe I heard a still small whisper from the Holy Spirit say, "It is My desire for you, for each of My Children, that you be immersed in My Spirit, walk in My Spirit, live in My Spirit, be ONE with My Spirit, and grow to be like Me.

If you can get even a glimpse of Me and My Kingdom, you will see that this is the only sensible and reasonable way for to TO LIVE."

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