

“The Baptism Of The Holy Spirit” (The Flowing Of The Spirit In The Church)

*My experience with being baptized in the Holy Spirit...

- June 24th, 1999 – 6:30pm – MST - (Separated)
- June 8th, 2003 – 3:57pm – EST (Sr. Pastor)
- June 17th, 2005 – 10:30pm – Puerto Rico (For this pivotal moment in our church)

OPEN TO:

- 2Chronicles 16
 - o READ: Vs. 9

AND...

- When we ask the Lord to come into our heart...

- He fills us with His Holy Spirit...
 - o But there is a deeper relationship, that we can experience...

FLIP TO:

- John 7
 - o READ: John 7:37-39

WELL...

- The question is:
 - o HOW can we have the HOLY SPIRIT...
 - FLOWING like torrents of living water...
 - FROM our lives???

*WE SEE IN THIS TEXT THAT:

- God desire for The Holy Spirit to:
 - o FLOW IN HIS CHURCH!!!

NOW...

- LET'S SEE WHERE and HOW this is possible!

FLIP TO:

- 1) John 14
 - a. READ: Vs. 15-20 (PRE-conversion)

- 2) John 20 (Conversion)
 - a. READ: Vs. 1-22

THEN the 3rd encounter...

- 3) Acts 1 (POST-conversion)
 - a. READ: Vs. 1-8

*Which happens about 10 days later in:

- Acts 2
 - o READ: Acts 1:12-2:15

NOW...

- There are (3) ways in the scripture that we read of...
 - o On HOW a person can be baptized in the Holy Spirit...
 - THROUGH:
 - 1) Prayer
 - o READ: Acts 1:14, Acts 2:1
 - 2) Teaching of the Word
 - o READ: Acts 10:44
 - 3) Laying on of hands...
 - o READ: Acts 19:2-6

YOU SEE...

- In each of these instances...
- AND
 - o In others...

*There had been those who WERE BELIEVERS...

BUT

- Had not yet been...
 - o Empowered...BAPTIZED in The Holy Spirit!

FLIP TO:

- Acts 8
 - o READ: Vs. 14-17

FLIP TO:

- Acts 19:1-6
 - o Paul went to Ephesus and prayed that the believers there would receive the Holy Spirit!

YOU SEE...

- The BAPTISM of the Holy Spirit...
 - o IS SO IMPORTANT for the church...

THAT...

- Not only does God mention it...
 - o IN the early church model...
 - ALL throughout the book of Acts

BUT...

- It is mentioned in ALL (4) of the Gospels...
 - o READ: Matthew 3:4-11
 - o READ: Mark 1:4-8
 - o READ: Luke 3:16
 - o READ: John 1:33

*ALSO in:

- Psalm 23... ("The Lord is my Shepherd")
- **T**he LORD *is* my shepherd; I shall not want. ² He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. ³ He restores my soul; He leads me in the paths of righteousness For His name's sake. ⁴ Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; For You *are* with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. ⁵ You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; **You anoint my head with oil; My cup runs over.** ⁶ Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me All the days of my life; And I will dwell in the house of the LORD Forever..."

YOU SEE...

- God understood that we need...
 - o TO BE EMPOWERED
 - By His Holy Spirit...

EMPOWERED to:

- Accomplish the task or tasks that He has set before us...

To EMPOWER us to:

- Be GREAT witnesses...
 - o EVERYWHERE we go!!!

NOW...

- Our MODEL is: JESUS...

REMEMBER:

- Our (3) gages are:

- Is it anywhere in the Bible...?
- Is it anywhere in the early church...?
- It is anywhere in the life of Jesus...?

SO FAR...

- We have seen it in the BIBLE...
- IN THE EARLY CHURCH...

BUT...

- Do we see it in the life of JESUS...

FLIP TO: Matthew 3

- READ: Vs. 13-17
 - o Jesus was baptized and the Bible says that the Holy Spirit descended down like a dove, and came "UPON" (epi) Jesus...

AND

It was then and there that Jesus' earthly ministry would "kick in to high gear".

YOU SEE...

- I believe God...
 - o Wants to set a FIRE in us...
 - o A FIRE that burns for the things of Him...

NOT...

- A FIRE that we conjure up...
 - o BUT
 - o THAT:
 - The Holy Spirit IS...

REMEMBER...

IN: Luke 3:16 it says:

- "John answered, saying unto [them] all, I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit AND WITH FIRE!!!..."

MAYBE...

- You are going through something right now...
- You have been wanting a Spiritual gift...
 - o 1Corinthians 12:8-10
 - Word of Wisdom
 - Word of Knowledge

- Faith
 - Gifts of healings
 - Working of miracles
 - Prophecy
 - Discerning of spirits
 - Tongues
 - Interpretation of tongues
- Maybe...
- You feel powerless...
 - There is no POWER in your life...

AMEN!!!