



1.08 - Receiving the Holy Spirit the Bible Way.

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(Scriptures from KJV unless noted otherwise)

A. The Holy Spirit is a Gift

John 14:16-17

¹⁶ And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; ¹⁷ Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it sees him not, neither knows him: but you know him; for he dwells with you, and shall be in you. (KJV)

Acts 2:32-33

³² This Jesus had God raised up, whereof we all are witnesses. ³³ Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost, he has shed forth this, which you now see and hear. (KJV)

- In the scriptures, there is a difference between being **born** of the Spirit and being **filled with** the Spirit.
- When we are **born again**, we receive eternal life. The life and nature of God recreates our spirit – our inner man. We become the “new creature” 2 Cor.5:17 speaks of.
- In John 14:16, Jesus spoke of the Comforter (the Holy Spirit), stating emphatically that the world cannot receive Him “because it sees him not, neither knows him.”
- People in the world – **those who are not born again** – cannot receive this experience of the Holy Spirit that Jesus spoke of. **Only born again people can be filled with the Holy Spirit.**
- There is an experience subsequent to salvation called in scripture “**receiving the Holy Spirit,**” or “**being filled with the Holy Spirit,**” or “**being baptized with the Holy Spirit.**”

Acts 8:5, 12-17

⁵ Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them. ¹² But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. ¹³ Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done. ¹⁴ Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: ¹⁵ Who, when they were come down, **prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:** ¹⁶ **(For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.)** ¹⁷ **Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.** (KJV)

- The Samaritans were saved when Philip preached the gospel for Peter defined salvation in **1Peter 1:23** “having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever,”
- The Samaritans were **then baptized** in water after receiving the Word of God (v14).
- Peter and John did not pray for salvation but that they might **receive** the Holy Spirit.
- Peter and John did not pray that God would give the Samaritans the Holy Spirit, but that they would **receive** the Holy Spirit.

We need to pray according to the Word of God. It is up to mankind to **receive** what God offers.

- Eternal life is a gift.
- Healing is a gift
- The Holy Spirit is a gift.

Notice how the Samaritans received:

¹⁷ Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost. (KJV)

The Holy Spirit was sent on the day of Pentecost – and the Holy Spirit has been here ever since and He is that part of the God head at work on the earth today. The first reference is in Acts:



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Acts 8:6-8

⁶ And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spoke, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. ⁷ For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed. ⁸ And there was great joy in that city. (KJV)

- Philip preaching under an anointing of the Holy Spirit – whenever the Word is preached, **the Spirit moves to confirm the Word.**

The Ministry of Laying on of Hands to Receive the Holy Spirit

Peter and John **had a ministry to lay hands on people** and they were empowered from the Holy Spirit to do this. Even when you do not have this ministry, you can still lay hands and **minister in faith** and God will honor this.

Acts 8:18-19

¹⁸ And when Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money, ¹⁹ Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost. (KJV)

- Simon the Sorcerer was not trying to buy the experience of the Holy Spirit, he was trying to buy the power to lay hands on people that they might receive the Holy Spirit.

²⁰ But Peter said unto him, Thy money perish with thee, because thou hast thought that the gift of God may be purchased with money. (KJV)

- **The word translated “gift” in v20 in the Greek means “an endowment,” that’s why they went to Samaria.**

B. To Tarry (wait) or not to Tarry (wait)

An old teaching was to **wait upon the Holy Spirit** to come upon the person seeking the filling of the Holy Spirit and this was taken from the custom in:

Luke 24:49

⁴⁹ And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: **but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.** (KJV)

- It was **necessary for them to wait in Jerusalem** because God’s plan to outpour the Holy Spirit had to have **its beginning in Jerusalem.**
- This is **not formula** for receiving the Holy Spirit, they had to wait for the Holy Spirit to come.
- Acts 2:1 says, “**And when the day of Pentecost was fully come..**,” after the day came they did not have to wait any more.
- **After Acts 2** you do not read in the Acts of the Apostles where anybody was ever instructed to wait, **nor do we see anybody waiting** to be filled with the Spirit.
- We also do not have to wait to be filled with the Holy Spirit simply because **we do not see the early church waiting.**
- **Receiving the Holy Spirit is a gift** like salvation, we do not have to wait but just receive by faith.
- People often try to get people filled in **all sorts of different ways**, but all we have to do is simply receive.
- **Lay hands on people** to receive the Holy Spirit, do it in faith for **it is scriptural.**



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C. Receive The Holy Spirit

- **Salvation is a gift**, all we have to do is receive by faith.
- **Healing is a gift**, God already sees us healed, we just have to receive because it belongs to us.
- The **Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a gift**, we just have to receive because it belongs to us.
- The Holy Spirit is a gentleman, He **leads**, He **guides** and it is up **to us to respond**.

Rom.8:14

¹⁴ For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God. (KJV)

- For people that have been searching for a long time to receive, **just read** the scriptures to them **and explain** that the Holy Spirit is a gift
- **Lay hands** on them and **say**, **“Receive the Holy Spirit**.

D. The new Testament Way

- Peter and John laid hands on the new converts in the book of Acts 8, and they received the Holy Spirit *without agonizing, without waiting, without disappointment* – and *without exception*.
- Peter went to the house of Cornelius at Caesarea to preach to his friends and relatives.

Acts 10:44-46

(The Holy Spirit Falls on the Gentiles)

⁴⁴ While Peter yet spake these words, **the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word**. ⁴⁵ And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. ⁴⁶ For they **heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God**. (KJV)

- The last recorded instance in the Acts of the Apostle of people receiving the Holy Spirit.

Acts 19:1-6

(Paul at Ephesus)

¹ And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, ² He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. ³ And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? **And they said, Unto John's baptism**. ⁴ Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. ⁵ When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ **And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied**. (KJV)

- Notice that were filled without waiting.

The Apostle Paul

¹⁷ And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; **and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto you in the way as you came, hath sent me, that you might receive your sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost**. ¹⁸ And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forth with, and arose, and was baptized. (KJV)

- Paul received without waiting.

1 Cor.14:18

¹⁸ I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all: (KJV)



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Old Fashioned Way

- **Jesus** in a vision to Ananias, **told him to lay hands** on Saul.
- We should teach and in minister baptism the Holy Spirit according to the Bible.

E. Come and Drink The Holy Spirit

John 7:37-39

³⁷ *In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, **and drink**.* ³⁸ *He that believeth on me, as the scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.* ³⁹ *(But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: **for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.**) (KJV)*

Jesus **did not say**,

- “Let him come and shout”
- “Let him come and pray”
- “Let him come and sweat”
- “Let him come and praise”
- “Let him prostrate himself and go away empty”

Notice Jesus said “**Let him come and drink**,” Jesus is using **water as a type** of the Holy Spirit.

- **You can not drink** water with your **mouth closed**, and you can not drink the Holy Spirit with your mouth closed – **Just open your mouth and drink!**

How long does it take you **to drink** when your thirsty?

- You just pick up and drink it.

How long do you have **to wait** before you can drink?

- You **do not** have to wait **to drink**, and you **do not** have to **wait** for the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

F. The Bible Way To Receive The Holy Spirit

Receiving the Holy Spirit is entirely a matter of **FAITH**.

For the person wanting to receive the Holy Spirit use the following guidelines;

1st. Help the person see that God already gave the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost.

Acts 2:1-4 (Coming of the Holy Spirit)

¹ *And when the day of Pentecost **was fully come**, they were all with one accord in one place.* ² *And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.* ³ *And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.* ⁴ ***And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.** (KJV)*

- The Holy Spirit has been in the world ever since.
- It is up to them to receive the GIFT of the Holy Spirit.
- The person is not to beg God to fill him with the Holy Spirit -- begging is unbelief.
- **Mary the mother of Jesus was there also (Acts 1:12-14).**



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2nd. Lead that person to see that everyone who is saved is ready to receive the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38

³⁸ Then Peter said unto them, **Repent**, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ **for the remission of sins**, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. (KJV)

- Become saved first and then receive the Holy Spirit.

3rd. It is scriptural to tell the person to expect to receive the Holy Spirit when hands are laid on them.

Acts 19:6

⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spoke with tongues, and prophesied. (KJV)

4th. Tell the person what to expect;

- Expect the Spirit of God to move on his vocal chords and put Supernatural words on his lips.
- The Holy Spirit gives the utterance, but man does the speaking.

Acts 2:4

⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and **began to speak** with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. (KJV)

Acts 10:46

⁴⁶ For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, (KJV)

1 Cor.14:18 (Paul Speaking)

¹⁸ I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all: (KJV)

1 Cor.14:2

² For he that speaks in an unknown tongue speaks not unto men, but unto God: for no man understands him; however in the spirit he speaks mysteries. (KJV)

- to get **into the flesh** – there is no other way **to receive but in the flesh.**

Joel 2:28 (God's Spirit Poured Out)

²⁸ And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon **all flesh**; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: (KJV)

5th. Tell the person to throw away any thoughts or false teaching that they would receive something false apart from the Holy Spirit.

Luke 11:11-13

¹¹ If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? ¹² Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? ¹³ If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: **how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?** (KJV)

- When you ask for the Holy Spirit you will not receive something else!

6th. Encourage the person to open his mouth wide.

- This is an act of **FAITH** – breathe in, and tell - god, "I am receiving the Holy Spirit right now by FAITH."
- **Absolutely insist** that the person not speak a single word in his natural language.
- Encourage him to **relax** and **fearlessly, boldly, lift his voice and make those supernatural sounds that want to come, working his tongue and lips** as he would if he were speaking English (or his natural language).



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- Tell him the Holy Spirit will want to **give him words** – that is his tongue will want to **try to say something**, this is so in every case.
- The **Holy Spirit** gives **utterance** – *the person* must do the talking.
- The **supernatural part** is **what is being said**; it is **not who is talking**.
- When you see the Holy Spirit is **moving on the lips and tongue**, tell him to **speak any sounds it seems easy to speak regardless of what they are**.
- Tell him to go right on speaking, praising God with those supernatural words until a free, clear language comes and he has an inner assurance that he has received.

7th. Do not crowd around the persons who have come to receive the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

- Do not give confusing instructions.
- **Those present** should **pray in the Spirit if they pray out loud**; *otherwise*, they should **pray quietly in their natural language**.

Jesus is Lord!