Module : The Foundation Doctrines of Christ

**Session**: The Benefits of Baptism in the Holy Spirit





In our sessions regarding the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, we addressed the following questions :

- 1. Where in the Bible is the word 'baptism' used with reference to the Holy Spirit?
- 2. How many recorded incidences of the baptism in the Holy Spirit are there in the Bible?
- 3. Who baptises one in the Holy Spirit?
- 4. What exactly is baptism in the Holy Spirit?
- 5. What are the conditions for baptism in the Holy Spirit?
- 6. Is baptism in the Holy Spirit a separate experience from the indwelling Spirit?
- 7. What are some keys to receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit?

In this session, we focus on the following:

## WHAT ARE THE OUTCOMES OR BENEFITS OF THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT?

You may view this teaching via one of these links: YouTube: https://youtu.be/bCiyOYE0SIY

Facebook: https://tinyurl.com/4j8h3xau

The baptism in the Spirit has both **immediate and long term outcomes in the life** of the believer. Some of the immediate outcomes are **speaking in tongues**, **prophecy**, **dreams and visions**. Other long term effects (which can also be immediate) are operations in the Gifts of the Spirit, boldness in proclaiming God's Word, oneness in the Body of Christ, a deeper prayer life, etc.

The 120 disciples received the baptism in the Holy Spirit in the upper room and were accused of being drunk with wine by others who heard and saw them. Peter responds by saying that they were not drunk, but simply baptised in the Spirit. What is interesting is that later he says the effects produced by the Holy Spirit baptism could be **SEEN and HEARD**.

Acts 2:33 Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has <u>poured forth</u> this which you both SEE and HEAR.

What was seen, and what was heard?

<u>SEEN</u>: What was <u>seen</u> was probably specific behaviour similar to someone that is drunk with alcohol. A possible explanation for this would be that sometimes our physical bodies cannot bear the intensity of the Spirit's power that we receive. In the past, there have been **fleshly**, **unauthentic manifestations** of this. **Nothing must be contrived.** Although there have been fleshly excesses, in no way does it nullify the possibility of this kind of manifestation taking place authentically.

It seems that this also was **not prolonged**, for when the question was posed as to why they were drunk, Peter, with absolute sanity and sober thought, answered by delivering the first sermon in Acts in an **extremely intelligent and coherent fashion**.

Initially your body, and your emotions (which is part of your soul) may react or respond to the Holy Ghost's coming upon you - you may or may not become emotional or fall to the ground. After Acts 2, other occurrences of the Holy Spirit Baptism do not contain any kind of behaviour indicative of one who is drunk. I personally believe that this shows progression and a maturity in the handling of this baptism. It was probably to be expected at His first outpouring, that the external seen signs would be overt.

Notable results of the baptism in the Spirit was great power and a boldness to preach, witness, prophesy, of people coming into the Kingdom, corporate oneness in the Church, etc. Some of these are discussed below.

HEARD: What was 'heard' was the disciples speaking in 'other tongues'. Three of the Holy Spirit baptisms in the book of Acts inform us of what was 'heard'. In Acts 2:2-4, 10:44-46 and 19:6, outward manifestations of the Spirit's baptism is common, viz. they spoke 'with tongues' or 'in other tongues'. This ability to speak in tongues is given by the Holy Spirit Himself - you cannot learn this from another person - you speak as the Spirit 'gives you utterance'.

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

Acts 2:4b ... as the Holy Spirit gave them this ability. (NLT)

Let us list some biblical outcomes of the baptism in the Spirit that could be seen and heard.

# 1. A Baptism of and in POWER

The baptism into the Holy Spirit is a baptism into power.

"But you will <u>receive power</u> when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall <u>be My witnesses</u> both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

The Kingdom of God is a Kingdom of power and authority. Colossians 1:13 indicates that we have been translated out from the dominion of darkness into the Kingdom of God's Son. This Kingdom to which we now belong is one of great power, might and authority, because of the Person and work of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 14:17 For the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.

Omitting the middle of this verse, we may read it as follows:

'The kingdom of God is ... in the Holy Ghost'.

The Holy Ghost is the power and administrator of the Kingdom of God, which is in us.

- 1 Cor. 4:20 For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power.
- 1 Cor. 2:4,5 and my message and my preaching were not in persuasive words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, so that your faith would not rest on the wisdom of men, but on the power of God.

The Kingdom of God is a Kingdom of POWER! Paul said that God's Kingdom consists and exists in POWER (1 Cor. 4:20). He maintained that his preaching was "IN THE SPIRIT and in POWER" (1 Cor. 2:4,5). In Romans 14:17, he argued that the Kingdom of God IS IN THE HOLY SPIRIT. Jesus said that the Kingdom of God, a Kingdom of POWER, is WITHIN YOU (Lk. 17:21).

The rule, dominion, power and authority of God is WITHIN YOU. This power is progressively activated in you when you are baptised and in-filled with the Spirit (Acts 1:8). It is your allotment as part the dynasty of Christ in the family of God.

In the POWER of the Spirit, for three days, Paul blinded a sorcerer who functioned in the occult via satan's kingdom, because this sorcerer sought to inhibit the reception of God's Word by a significant leader, who was the proconsul on the island of Paphos. This obstacle to God's will being done in the life of the proconsul was removed, and he was saved and swept into the Kingdom of God. The Scripture clearly points out that this power of the Spirit in Paul was operative, because he was FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT (Acts 13:9).

The INHERENT POWER of the Spirit in you and I, can be EXERTED FORTH OUTWARD to neutralise any work of satan that is in opposition to the will of God being done in our lives or the lives of others.

Realise this! You are in God's Kingdom! This Kingdom is a Kingdom of POWER! This Kingdom and power is WITHIN YOU, and meant to effortlessly and naturally FLOW OUT FROM YOU to effect God's purposes in YOUR WORLD!

# 2. Power to be a Witness

"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."

Acts 1:8 contains the primary reason stated for the baptism in the Spirit, viz. to receive power ('dunamis' in the Greek) to BE A WITNESS for Christ. Note the emphasis is not TO witness, but TO BE a witness.

This includes not just the ability to effectively evangelise, but more importantly, to exhibit God's nature and will to your 'world' by the very PERSON you are - in character and in exact representation as God's son. When you ARE a witness, then witness you shall - through your words, character and conduct - in the power of the Holy Spirit.

The early apostles WITNESSED to the resurrection. They experienced the resurrection life of Christ within their lives and hence they could witness to His actual resurrection. And they did this in the POWER of the Holy Ghost.

And with <u>great power</u> the apostles <u>were giving testimony</u> to the <u>resurrection</u>
of the Lord Jesus, and <u>abundant grace</u> was upon them all.

#### Witness = mártus =

- One who has information or knowledge of something, and hence, one who can give information, bring to light, or confirm something;
- Designation of those who have suffered death in consequence of confessing Christ

A 'martus' was an eye witness, with first-hand information to be brought to light in verifying the truth or otherwise, of a matter. The eyewitness must, of necessity, have personal subjective involvement with the issue at hand and not carry secondary or 'hearsay' information.

In this regard, our being a witness for Christ implies we have a personal and subjective experience of salvation by Him and a transformed life to prove it. For this task, the Holy Spirit baptism is given to grant to us the POWER to make our BEING a witness, more effective.

The English word 'martyr', i.e. one who is prepared to die for his faith, is derived from the Greek word, 'martus'. We are prepared to die for our witness of Christ and His work in us. The greater truth is that, when you are prepared to die to self, self-preservation, selfishness, selfish ambition, etc., then the power of the Holy Spirit finds its most powerful potential activation in us.

Receive the Power of the Spirit to be an effective WITNESS for Christ. If you are not prepared to fulfil the objective of the baptism in the Spirit, viz., to be a witness, then the Spirit will not be poured out in any great measure over you. As your desire to be a WITNESS for Him heightens, so will His attendant power be progressively released on, in and through your being.

## **POWER**

The word 'power' has a wide range of meanings.

**Power = dúnamis =** Power, especially achieving power.

- (i) Spoken of **intrinsic power**, either physical or moral.
- (ii) Spoken of **power as resulting from external sources** and circumstances.

Force (literally or figuratively);

- specifically miraculous power (usually by implication a miracle itself):
- ability, abundance, might

# **Thayer's Definition**

Power = dúnamis = strength, power, ability

- a) inherent power, power residing in a thing by virtue of its nature, or which a person or thing exerts and puts forth
- b) power for **performing miracles**
- c) moral power and excellence of soul
- d) the power and influence which belong to riches and wealth
- e) power and resources arising from numbers
- f) power consisting in or resting upon armies, forces, host

The essential idea associated with the word, 'dunamis', the Greek word for 'power', is that the power was intrinsically inherent within the person by virtue of his/her nature.

From this basis, this power can then be exerted, having particular expressions outwardly. But primarily, the thought is INHERENT POWER.

Although our modern English word 'dynamite' is derived from the Greek 'dunamis', dunamis has very little to do with explosive external power. Dynamite was only invented in 1866, so the concept or idea was not common place in the life of the early church. Rather this idea of 'power' was largely INHERENT or INTRINSIC power.

The word INHERENT can be broken up into two parts, viz. 'IN' and 'HERE'. INHERENT POWER is IN HERE power, i.e. it resides deeply within your identity and nature as God's son.

The concept of DYNASTY is more akin to DUNAMIS than dynamite. 'Dynasty' refers to a line of hereditary rulers or kings. God's family too is royal, made up of His sons, who are also kings in Christ. Members of the British Royal Family have certain powers and privileges, simply because of their identity and nature as the royal family. They were born into this 'power'. They obviously have to model specific behaviour and principles associated with the royal family, but there is also an attendant innate power they assume or come into.

Similarly, in God's family, He has innately given all the sons in His royal house, executive privilege, power and authority in Christ. This flows out from our beings as God's sons. This power is native to our identity and nature as the sons of God.

This is the dynastic power of the Holy Spirit. It is resident within us, but activated to overflowing by His coming over/upon us and filling us internally to overflowing. The baptism IN the Holy Spirit is an activation of the inherent or intrinsic power of the son of God in us by virtue of our identity as sons of God in His royal power.

It has very little to do with public displays of 'power' often dramatised on public stages in Christendom. It certainly does include miraculous signs and wonders, etc., but even this is unforced and naturally occurring - without attempts to artificially whip up a frenzied type of atmosphere where people are hyped up in their soul such that succumb to a type of placebo effect rather than experience an authentic move of the Holy Spirit.

This dunamis is an internal, raw, confident assertion of what God has granted to each of His sons and is part of their allotment and privilege, so that they will represent Him exactly, and efficiently execute His purposes in the earth.

Paul was convinced that Christ would be revealed IN HIM. This revealing would be progressive.

Gal.1:14:15
But when God, who had set me apart even from my mother's womb and called me through His grace, was pleased to reveal His Son in me so that I might preach Him among the Gentiles, I did not immediately consult with flesh and blood

The fullness of Christ is already present within us positionally, but this reality is unveiled progressively through time as we more closely align ourselves in obedience to His righteous standards and designs for our lives (John 14:21-23). John said that Christ must INCREASE, and he must decrease (John 3:30). The increase of Christ, decreases our flesh. Less of us will be seen in the light of the progressive increase of Christ in us.

Similarly, we have the indwelling Spirit because of the new birth experience, and an overflowing well in the Spirit because of the baptism in the Spirit. This well of the Spirit is activated into a <u>river overflowing within us and then from out of us.</u> The power of the Holy Ghost is given to us because we are already sons of God in Christ Jesus. That power in INHERENT and intrinsic to the very nature we carry as sons of God in the family of God. It is "IN HERE" - within you. Recognise this. Be thoroughly aware of this. The Holy Spirit power is an essential part of WHO you are and WHOSE you are.

Acts 10:38 You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed Him with the Holy Spirit and with power, and how He went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

<u>Stephen was the first martyr in the NT</u>. He testified boldly of the truth of God's Word to an audience that was antagonistic and hostile towards his message. They stoned him and murdered him. He died because of his witness. What gave Stephen such boldness? It was the fact that he was <u>FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT</u>. Take the time to read through Acts chapters 6 and 7 and note the following verses about Stephen:

- Acts 6:5 Stephen, a man FULL of FAITH and of the HOLY SPIRIT
- Acts 6:8 And Stephen, FULL of GRACE and POWER
- Acts 6:10 But they were **UNABLE to COPE** with the <u>WISDOM</u> and the <u>SPIRIT</u> with which he was **SPEAKING**.
- Acts 7:55 But being <u>FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT</u>, he gazed intently into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God

Paul was baptised in the Spirit.

Acts 9:17 So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

Note the details of Paul's account of his conversion and infilling with the Holy Spirit

# Acts 22:12-15

- "A certain Ananias, a man who was devout by the standard of the Law, and well-spoken of by all the Jews who lived there,
- came to me, and standing near said to me, 'Brother Saul, receive your sight!' And at that very time I looked up at him.
- And he said, 'The God of our fathers has appointed you to **know His will** and to see the Righteous One and to hear an utterance from His mouth.
- 15 For you will be A WITNESS for Him to all men of what you have seen and heard.

Paul was a chosen vessel of God to the Gentile world in particular. He was to be a WITNESS to the nations of the earth. He was TO BE A WITNESS of things he had SEEN and HEARD.

He was to BEAR GOD's NAME before all people, including people of influence like politicians.

Acts 9:15 But the Lord said to him, "Go, for he is a chosen instrument of Mine, to

BEAR MY NAME before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel; for I

will show him how much he must suffer for My name's sake.

The text does not say Paul would speak of God's name, **but BEAR it.** The word 'names' denotes:

- (1) Nature and Character
- (2) Authority and Power
- (3) Purpose and Destiny
- (4) Representation and Inclusivity of the entire Godhead.

Paul is to embody in his person all these qualities relative to God before many people. To do this effectively and efficiently, he needed the infilling with and baptism in the Holy Spirit. It is my view that all sons of God need the baptism in the Spirit to be effective in the specific mandate of God attendant with their lives. The more significant, widespread, all-encompassing and global the mandate (as in Paul's case), the more important the baptism and the infilling with the Spirit is. But, having said this, for ALL of us, irrespective of what our roles and functions are in in life, we need the baptism in the Holy Spirit to be a **WITNESS WHEREVER** God has placed us to function.

In your secular job, God has chosen you to represent Him to people in that sphere of work. You must see your workspace as something spiritual, not just natural. You are His witness to the people within this work sphere. Right there, you need to be empowered to **BE A WITNESS**. This does not just mean you must exhibit a Christ-like mindset, character, speech, etc. It also means you must demonstrate **EXCELLENCE** in your work ethic and effort. The Holy Spirit is able to enhance your natural capacity, which is God-given in any case, to a heightened level of effectiveness and success, such that others would note it and conclude that it is God at work in and through you. By this, God is able to speak to them.

#### **Examples:**

The first time we read of the Holy Spirit filling someone in the Bible is in Exodus 31:1-4, viz., Bezalel. The primary effect of this infilling was skill and excellence in practical work. Bezalel was FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT for the purpose of practical work in artistically fashioning the various furnishings and artifacts in the Tabernacle of Moses.

# **Bezalel**

#### Exodus 31:1-4

- 1 Now the Lord spoke to Moses, saying,
- 2 "See, I have called by name Bezalel, the son of Uri, the son of Hur, of the tribe of Judah.
- I have **filled him with the Spirit of God** in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of craftsmanship,
- 4a to make artistic designs for work, ...

#### Rich Marshall comments on this passage i:

Here we see that God fills with the Spirit, not just for preaching, not just for evangelizing, not just for prophesying...God fills with the Spirit for the purpose of workmanship.

I remind you that God has a special anointing for even the most difficult tasks in the high tech age. God wants to fill your mind with His powerful Spirit; He wants to take your motor skills and enhance them with His Spirit; He wants to give you creative solutions, inventions and skill sets that surpass your natural abilities.

For those of you in sales, God will open the door to people who are ready to buy, and He will give you the right approach for the sale.

For those of you working at a computer, God will provide you with special insight. He has an anointing for marketing, manufacturing, management, and construction.

He anoints some as attorneys, and others as government workers. God can, and will anoint you for the business at hand, the profession He has called you to.

Many only focus on things like prophecy or tongues as outcomes of the infilling of the Holy Spirit. But the Holy Spirit's grace in you will make you a better worker in the workplace! After you have prophesised or spoken in tongues, now manifest excellence in your chosen vocation and put on display the wisdom and grace of God, your Father, as a witness for all to see, and indeed conclude, "He/she has the spirit of God in them".

#### **Daniel**

Daniel was FILLED with the SPIRIT and had an extraordinary spirit that manifested itself in excellence and wisdom that was noted by the king, who gave him a significant promotion and appointment over the entire kingdom.

<u>Daniel 6:3</u> Then this Daniel began distinguishing himself among the commissioners and satraps because he possessed **an extraordinary spirit**, and the king planned to appoint him over the entire kingdom

#### **Joseph**

Pharaoh noted that Joseph was a man in whom the SPIRIT was present based on the gift of his interpretation of dreams and the wisdom to practically apply it.

Gen. 41:37,38 So the advice was good in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of all his servants. And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find such a

one as this, a man in whom is the Spirit of God?" (NKJV)

Both Daniel and Joseph received major promotions in their workplaces in the economic and political spheres. May I encourage you to allow the Holy Spirit in you to manifest His wisdom, understanding, diligence and excellence in your field of work today, and may this position you for your next level of favour, growth and increase.

# Note:

In the Old Testament (OT), certain individuals were filled with the Spirit to accomplish specific tasks (see examples above and Micah 3:8). If the New Testament (NT) infilling with the Spirit is equated to and part of the baptism in the Spirit, and baptism in the Spirit is essentially a NT experience after the death, resurrection and ascension of Jesus, how do we explain people in

the OT being filled with the Spirit, when for the most part, the Spirit simply come upon them periodically to fulfill certain assignments through them?

The OT is a shadow of things that would be substantive in the NT. David was a king, but also engaged in priestly activity, in a time when these two offices and functions were separate. At times, God permitted certain NT realities to be operative in the OT in specific seasons and on certain people, as a prophetic witness and sign of those realities becoming far more substantive and corporate expressions in the NT. I believe that such is the case here.

# 3. Boldness in Speaking the Word without Fear and with Great Confidence

One of the glorious outcomes of the baptism in the Spirit is that it significantly alters the way in which you communicate God's Word and / or indomitably hold on to God's principles, without consideration of the consequences. A BOLDNESS becomes yours that displaces fear and anxiety associated with any reactions or reprisals from your confident stance and sharing forth of God's Word.

Note the early church was FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT and resultantly, they SPOKE GOD's WORD with BOLDNESS.

Acts 4:31 And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all <u>filled with the Holy Spirit</u> and began to speak the word of God <u>with boldness</u>.

The Greek word for **boldness** is 'parrhesia' which means the following: freedom in speaking; unreservedness in speech; speaking openly, frankly, i.e. without concealment; speaking without ambiguity or circumlocution; speaking without the use of figures and comparisons; free speech and fearless confidence, cheerful courage, assurance.

Fearless, frank, confident, unreserved, open, unambiguous, direct, cheerfully courageous, and assured speaking forth of God's Word, characterises those baptised in the Spirit. This truth is powerfully exhibited in the life of Peter. Before being baptised in Spirit, wracked with fear, he cowardly denied knowing Jesus when questioned by a SINGLE little girl. After being baptised in the Spirit, of all the apostles, he was the one who STOOD UP before a crowd of more than 3000 people representing approximately 15 nations, and BOLDLY, without fear,

gave an extremely powerful, logical, comprehensive and inspired response to an inaccurate corporate perception of what was happening on the day of Pentecost.

The baptism in the Spirit removes all FEAR that causes retreat away from aligning oneself to Christ, His principles and purposes in your world. It expunges all fear and anxiety and replaces it with BOLDNESS and BOLD SPEECH. The speaking forth in other tongues is not the only effect of this baptism relating to words from your mouth. No, your mouth will now begin to utter BOLD INTELLIGIBLE SPEECH - frank and direct.

Prov. 28:1b ... the righteous are BOLD as a LION.

In the aftermath of the healing of the paralysed man at the Gate called Beautiful, when Peter and John were questioned by the Sanhedrin as to what power they engaged to generate this healing, Peter, FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT, responds BOLDLY to the rulers ...

Acts 4:7,8 When they had placed them in the center, they began to inquire, "By what power, or in what name, have you done this?" Then Peter, FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT, said to them, "Rulers and elders of the people, ...

Subsequently, he and John were commanded to discontinue preaching in the name of Jesus. Again, they responded boldly without fear.

- Acts 4:13 Now as they observed the confidence of Peter and John and understood that they were uneducated and untrained men, they were amazed, and began to recognize them as having been with Jesus.
- Acts 4:18,19 And when they had summoned them, they commanded them not to speak or teach at all in the name of Jesus. But Peter and John answered and said to them, "Whether it is right in the sight of God to give heed to you rather than to God, you be the judge; for we cannot stop speaking about what we have seen and heard
- Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me Because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor He has sent me to proclaim release to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind To set free those who are downtrodden To proclaim the favourable year of the Lord

# 4. The Capacity to Prophesy, Dream Divine Dreams and see Visions

Prophecy, dreams and visions are just three of many ways in which God communicates to us. Both Joel and Peter state that a direct result of the Holy Spirit baptism would be the accessing of communication from the Lord through the mediums of prophesy, dreams and visions.

Joel 2:28
"It will come about after this That I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind;
And your sons and daughters will prophesy, Your old men will dream dreams, Your young men will see visions.

Acts 2:16,17

But this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel: AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says, 'THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND; AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHESY, AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS;

Note first that this prophecy is given to 'sons and daughters' - those who function as part of a 'household of faith', the church, relating to a spiritual father. In this context, the prophecy will find its greatest fulfilment and most accurate expression. This realm of prophetic operation found in Joel 2:28 and Acts 2:16,17, has reference to the general ability of all of God's people to prophesy, and is distinct from the gift of prophecy (one of the gifts of the Spirit) and the office of the prophet (one of the governmental offices of the church).

Note when Paul laid his hands on John's disciples, they received the Holy Spirit's baptism, and simultaneously, prophecy was activated within them immediately

And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying

# 5. The Ability to Speak, Pray and Sing in Tongues

Tongues is discussed in our next session.

# 6. The Gifts of the Spirit become Ignited

There are nine gifts of the Spirit which are listed in 1 Corinthians 12:8-10. The baptism in the Spirit facilitates one's entrance into the reception and operation of the gifts of the Spirit in your life. You can desire the gifts (1 Cor. 12:31) and defer to the Holy Spirit to grant the gifts you need in different situations (1 Cor 12:11). It takes faith and obedience to function in them. These gifts significantly enhance and elevate your effectiveness in executing God's purposes, particularly in helping someone else in some respect.

## 1 Cor 12:7-11

- 7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.
- 8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;
- 9 To another **faith** by the same Spirit; to another **the gifts of healing** by the same Spirit;
- To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues:
- But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

# **Revelation-gifts**

- Word of wisdom
- Word of knowledge
- Discerning of spirits

# **Power-gifts**

- Faith
- Gifts of healings
- Working of miracles

# Speaking-gifts

- Speaking in tongues
- Interpretation of tongues
- Prophecy

May these gifts flow in and through your life in your workplace today. Biblically these gifts can function in and outside the Church.

Yield to the Spirit and allow His power and authority to function through you via how He chooses to 'GIFT' you. Remember, the highly specified intent of these gifts is not to bring attention to yourself, but instead to EDIFY OTHERS. It is the 'OTHER' whom you love and desire to bless that must be the primary beneficiary of the operation of your giftedness in the Holy Spirit.

The gifts of the Spirit are avenues through which the power of God is expressed and demonstrated.

Jesus was granted all power and authority by God, His Father.

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

The Holy Spirit takes what has been granted to Jesus and grants it to us.

John 16:14,15 He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.

Jesus said the Spirit will take what has been given to Him and make it known to us. To believe that gifts of the Spirit are not necessary, would be to impoverish yourself from one of the significant portals through which God's power and authority is put on display to accomplish very specific purposes in the lives of people.

# 7. Activation of the Fruit of the Spirit, and the Ability to deal with the works of the Flesh

Just as there are nine gifts of the Holy Spirit, there are also nine fruit of the Spirit. These are equally as important to the nine gifts and are listed here below:

- Love
- Joy
- Peace
- Patience
- Kindness
- Goodness
- Faithfulness
- Gentleness
- Self-control

The Holy Spirit's primary work in us has to do with the configuring and establishment of a firm sonship identity within us and also to facilitate our progression in **Christ-like character** and **nature**. The **Fruit of the Spirit**, of which there are nine specific aspects of the Spirit, are set in **contrast with the works of the flesh**, and will produce the **image and likeness of God in us, making us credible witnesses for Christ**.

# **Galatians 5:16-25**

- But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.
- 17 For the **flesh sets its desire against the Spirit**, and the Spirit against the flesh; for these are in **opposition to one another**, so that you may not do the things that you please.
- But if you are **led by the Spirit**, you are not under the Law.
- 19 Now the **deeds of the flesh are evident**, which are: immorality, impurity, sensuality,
- idolatry, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions,
- envying, drunkenness, carousing, and things like these, of which I forewarn you, just as I have forewarned you, that those who practice such things will not inherit the kingdom of God.
- But the <u>fruit of the Spirit</u> is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness,

- 23 **gentleness**, **self-control**; against such things there is no law.
- Now those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires.
- 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

Note that the fruit of the Spirit contextually, are set in contrast to "deeds of the flesh", amongst which are immorality, impurity, sensuality, sorcery, enmities, strife, jealousy, outbursts of anger, disputes, dissensions, factions, envying, drunkenness, carousing, etc. Crucifying the flesh is overcoming the deeds of the flesh and the only way to do this is in and through the empowerment of the Spirit, who is intent on developing the fruit of the Spirit designed to mature Christ-like character in us.

The fruit of the Spirit is developed, strengthened and matured over time, but the presence of the Spirit's fullness, coupled with a life of obedience to God's Word and compliance with His leading, will most certainly enhance the development of the Fruit of the Spirit greatly. The fruit of the Spirit is evidence of the ongoing and active work of the Spirit in us, enabling us to put to death the works of the flesh.

You cannot sustain increasing POWER of the SPIRIT without a commensurate development in the FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT.

You must have the commensurate Christ-like character that is able to receive and sustain greater deposits of the Spirit's grace, power and anointing. We have seen tremendously gifted people make shipwreck of their lives and destinies, because although highly gifted, had not the attendant Christ-like character to contain, sustain and properly managed the increased anointing they desired.

You cannot have the POWER of the Spirit without the CHARACTER of the Holy Spirit. Growing in the fruit of the Spirit will position you for greater reception and operation in the gifts and power of the Spirit.

Jesus took 30 years to develop character before receiving the Spirit without measure. Jesus had a sufficient strength of character to contain a significant dimension of the Spirit's anointing. He then went forth to execute purpose in the gifts and power of the Spirit.

In the modern church, there are some that claim 'power', but lack 'character'. This was the Corinthian problem. They lacked love, even though they flowed powerfully in the gifts and

power dimension of the Spirit. Paul wrote to them to correct the imbalance, because he foresaw that they, in the long term, would not be able to sustain increasing degrees of the power of the Spirit and the continued operation of the gifts in their midst.

A reminder that one of the meanings of 'dunamis', the Greek word for 'power', is 'moral power and excellence of soul'. (Thayer). The soul refers to our minds (our mindsets and thoughts), our will (our decisions/ choices), and our emotions (our feelings). Our soul is a key determinant of our character and nature. Our souls are in the process of 'being saved' and need constant renewal through the Word of God on a daily basis. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is also designed to enhance the sanctifying work of the Spirit to fully redeem our souls and produce spiritual and moral excellence in this sphere.

Here is a useful comparison of the fruits and gifts of the spirit and the interplay between them:

# FRUITS OF THE SPIRIT GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

Fruits are **grown** Gifts are **given** 

Fruits are **developed over time**Gifts given at one point in **time**, **are sharpened** 

and mature through obedience through use

Fruits are **developed in you**Gifts are given to you to **flow through you** 

Fruits affect you directly Gifts are given with someone else in mind

Fruits MAKE you Gifts EMPOWER you

If one desires more of the Spirit, especially in respect of His enabling power and gifts, one cannot simply desire this without developing the commensurate character to sustain it through developing the fruit of the Spirit. Develop the Fruit of the Spirit that allows you to maintain, sustain and sharpen the Gifts of the Spirit you have received. Gifts are sharpened through use, but also through the development of the Fruits of the Spirit – the requisite character to sustain it.

<u>For consideration</u>: You cannot prophesy (gift of the Spirit) over someone, whom you do not genuinely love (fruit of the Spirit). The presence of love (fruit) is the basis and platform for prophecy (gift) to function. The absence of love, limits and would indeed invalidate, the operation of the gift of prophecy.

One has to be **assignment or task focussed**, since the power and gifts are given to make you a more effective witness, and also to minister in ways to someone else. The operation of the gifts through me are specifically designed to benefit someone else. The fruit of the Spirit will prepare you for the gifts of the Spirit to flow more effectively through you for someone else's benefit. Fruits are FOR ME; Gifts are THROUGH ME. You have to be 'other-people' focussed if you desire to increase the dimension of the Spirit's anointing in your life. A selfish, self-centred person will not grow in the power dimension of the Spirit of God.

You are Anointed for service, and service is for the benefit of someone else.

Luke 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He anointed Me TO preach the gospel TO the poor. He has sent Me TO proclaim release to the captives, And recovery of sight TO the blind, TO set free those who are oppressed, TO proclaim the favorable year of the Lord.

If we are too full of ourselves, we cannot be full of the Holy Spirit. Seek to be a blessing to the world with pure motives. You cannot have an 'anointing' unto yourself. God anoints you to minister to someone else. When God anoints you, He usually has someone else in mind. While you are the custodian of that anointing, your focus must be the benefit of another.

# 8. ONENESS in the Body of Christ

Oneness is both a catalyst and a consequence of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

- **A.** Oneness is a catalyst for the Spirit's Outpouring. The Spirit of God is attracted to contexts which prioritise oneness.
- On the day of Pentecost, when the Spirit was first poured out, the disciples were with one accord (Acts 2:1 NKJV), in one place and in prayer.

## Acts 2:1

**NASB:** When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

KJV : And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

There was ACCORD - not DISCORD. There was consonance - not dissonance. There was consent - not dissent. There was agreement - not disagreement. There was congruence - not incongruence. Division among these saints, who were in oneness, was the height of

impossibility. Then, based on the perfect timing of the Day of Pentecost being fully come, Jesus found this context the ideal one in and on which to pour out the Spirit.

The Spirit filled the WHOLE House, then Filled the People

## Acts 2:2-4

- 2 And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and **it filled the whole house** where they were sitting.
- 3 And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.
- 4 And **they were all filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

It is interesting to note that the Holy Spirit first filled the house (Acts 2:2) that they were in before filling the 120 persons gathered there (Acts 2:4.). The Holy Spirit fills environments before filling people. The Spirit found the atmospheric environment conducive - invaded it and then filled the persons. The word house in the Greek is **OIKOS**, and figuratively does not refer to the physical structure per se, but alludes to the **quality of relationships that exists in the house** (the same applies to the Hebrew word for house, 'bayith'). It highlights the importance **of accurate relationships one to another.** This is what the Spirit filled. If you seek to grow in the measure of the Spirit's anointing in your life, seek to master love in relationships with EVERYONE in the broader Body of Christ.

The 120 people, FACE to FACE and TOE to TOE - crowded in a small upper room - had to resolve any potential differences and become ONE. 120 denotes apostolic government and a context given to maturity. They were not united, they were ONE.

# B. Oneness is a Consequence or Product of the Spirit's Outpouring and Work

The oneness that the Holy Spirit requires as the most ideal environment in which He will move, is exactly what He intends to facilitate and produce in the first place.

Eph. 4:3 Be eager and strive earnestly to guard and keep the harmony and oneness of [and produced by] the Spirit in the binding power of peace. (AMP)

Harmony and oneness are produced by and are direct and deliberate objectives and outcomes of the Person and Power of the Holy Spirit. He produces oneness. Oneness is a

supernatural condition. The Spirit's outpouring was both a result of a level of oneness, and also amplified this oneness after He was poured out. He comes to establish oneness, and then is poured out in that context to further consolidate and entrench that oneness, so that God's purposes could proceed on a higher level and with greater power than ever before.

On the day of Pentecost they were with one accord in one place. This one accord-ness was a product of the Holy Spirit indwelling each of them. Recall, after His resurrection, to His disciples, Jesus said, "Receive the Holy Spirit" and the Spirit indwelt them because the price for man's sin had been paid on the Cross in His death. One accord-ness is not possible without the Holy Spirit.

After the Spirit was poured out on the 120 persons and they spoke in tongues, there manifested unprecedented and higher levels of oneness than before. The Spirit first produced the condition of one accord-ness, then He fell on them having found that condition of oneness the most magnetic and facilitative of His intended operation, and then HE accentuated that level of oneness to the next dimension. This was expressed through demonstrable love exhibited through acts of care and concern for the physical and material well-being of everyone.

There was love and concern for the welfare of one another. The result was - 'THERE WAS GREAT GRACE UPON THEM ALL' (Acts 4:33b - NKJV).

GRACE becomes GREAT and also OVER ALL the entire community of saints, when our love for each other is practically demonstrated. When you prioritise, pursue and preserve oneness among the saints, you enter into an economy called GREAT GRACE. ALL of the saints in the early church had GREAT GRACE because they were ALL in ONE accord. GREAT GRACE only comes to YOU as an individual if you are part of the oneness company. Great grace does not come upon those who are individualistic, isolationist, divisive, aloof or schismatic in their hearts relationally towards the Body of Christ in their locality and beyond.

From the condition of being in ONE ACCORD in Acts 2:1, the saints in the early church proceeded to ONE HEART and ONE SOUL in Acts 4:32. As a result, PRACTICAL EXPRESSIONS OF LOVE ABOUNDED because GREAT GRACE was on them all. In this environment, the preaching of the Apostles heighted to another level - for with GREATER POWER they witnessed the resurrection of Jesus (Acts 4:33).

GREAT POWER attends GREAT GRACE which attends The OUTPOURED Holy Spirit, which attends and produces ONENESS.

May GREAT GRACE rest on us all at GMDC. May we love more demonstrably.

Acts 4:32a And the congregation of those who believed were of ONE HEART and SOUL.

The heart is often synonymous with one's spirit. We must love with our spirit and soul. ONENESS HAS TO BEGIN IN SPIRIT – before it can manifest in soul. Paul claimed that he and Timothy were united in soul (Phil. 2:20).

What did the Apostles do differently after Pentecost than before? They loved differently and became 'ONE'. Before and after Pentecost, they performed mighty works and healings. Before, even while walking with Jesus, there was subtle jostling for supremacy above each other. Their chief concern is, "Who is the greatest?". James and John were vying for the best seats near Jesus on his left and right in the Kingdom of God (Mark 10:35ff.). After Pentecost, the Spirit established a higher degree of oneness among the apostles, rooted in a higher dimension of love within them.

For your further study: The issue of ONENESS as both a catalyst to and consequence of the outpouring of the Holy Ghost is dealt with more comprehensively in the extended series on the Holy Spirit. Here below are four links to the relevant sessions on oneness:

- Oneness in the Body and the Holy Spirit: https://tinyurl.com/2s42cm7s
- The Holy Spirit of Love: https://tinyurl.com/4amr5ued
- Corporate Anointing: https://tinyurl.com/568sj2s8
- Overshadowing Power: https://tinyurl.com/ykz8tp5j

## 9. Supernatural Signs and Wonders

At the hands of the apostles <u>many signs and wonders were taking</u>

<u>place</u> among the people; and they were all with one accord in Solomon's portico.

In point 1 of this note, I mentioned the following ...

In the POWER of the Spirit, for three days, Paul blinded a sorcerer who functioned in the occult via satan's kingdom, because this sorcerer sought to inhibit the reception of God's Word by a significant leader who was a proconsul on the island of Paphos. This obstacle to God's will being done in the life of the proconsul was removed, and he was saved and swept into the Kingdom of God. The Scripture clearly points out that this power of the Spirit in Paul was operative, because he was FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT (Acts 13:9).

## Acts 13:6-12

<sup>6</sup>When they had gone through the whole island as far as Paphos, they found a magician, a Jewish false prophet whose name was Bar-Jesus, <sup>7</sup>who was with the proconsul, Sergius Paulus, a man of intelligence. This man summoned Barnabas and Saul and sought to hear the word of God. <sup>8</sup>But Elymas the magician (for so his name is translated) was opposing them, seeking to turn the proconsul away from the faith. <sup>9</sup>But Saul, who was also known as **Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit**, fixed his gaze on him, <sup>10</sup>and said, "You who are full of all deceit and fraud, you son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, will you not cease to make crooked the straight ways of the Lord? <sup>11</sup>Now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and not see the sun for a time." And immediately a mist and a darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking those who would lead him by the hand. <sup>12</sup>Then the proconsul believed when he saw what had happened, being amazed at the teaching of the Lord.

The whole purposes of a sign or wonder it to accomplish something greater than the sign or wonder itself. The blinding of Elymas was to facilitate the salvation of Sergius Paulus. Being used by the Holy Spirit in great signs and wonders is not to bring attention to oneself, but to promote the person of God and fuel His purposes.

# 10. <u>Disclosure of Mysteries</u>

A mystery is something hidden, and not yet unveiled or made known. There are secrets or mysteries that are God's to know, but then there are those He wants us, His sons, to know.

<u>Deut. 29:29</u> "The secret things belong to the Lord our God, but the things revealed belong to us and to our sons forever, that we may observe all the words of this law.

It is the Holy Spirit who makes plain to us the hidden things of God which He has determined should be known and experienced by us.

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#### 1 Cor. 2:7-13

- but we speak **God's wisdom in a mystery**, the hidden wisdom which God predestined before the ages to our glory:
- 8 the wisdom which none of the rulers of this age has understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory;
- but just as it is written, "Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, And which have not entered the heart of man, All that God has prepared for those who love Him."
- For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God.
- For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God.
- Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God,
- which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.

The person of the Spirit takes what the Father has disclosed to Jesus and reveals it to us.

#### John 16:11-15

- and concerning judgment, because the ruler of this world has been judged.
- 12 "I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now.
- "But when He, <u>the Spirit of truth</u>, comes, <u>He will guide you into all the truth</u>; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come.
- "He will glorify Me, for <u>He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you</u>.

"All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.

This process can takes place personally through one's engagement with God's Word, but more often than not, takes place through the ministry of authentic Apostles and Prophets, to whom God has given grace to decode hidden mysteries in His Word.

Eph. 3:4,5

By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit

Now, when we pray in togues to God, biblically, we speak "mysteries" - things we do not know. Our natural minds do not understand what we are saying, even though we may be communicating mysteries.

1 Cor 14:2 For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries.

The point is this, that speaking or praying in tongues is one of the outcomes of the baptism in the Spirit, and this dynamic of speaking in tongues is the mechanism through which we speak mysteries. Thus, the baptism in the Spirit opens up the way to speaking mysteries, perhaps not immediately understandable to you, but these communicated mysteries are present in the spirit. In time, I believe, primarily through authentic apostles and prophets, via the medium of unveiled disclosures from His Word, God will make these plain to you.

These mysteries are locked up in God's Word, which the Holy Spirit can illuminate to our understanding.

Great Grace and Peace be yours; Randolph Barnwell

# You may view this teaching via one of these links:

YouTube: https://youtu.be/bCiyOYE0SIY

FB: https://tinyurl.com/4j8h3xau

#### For your further study on the Holy Spirit:

Via this link, you may review more than 30 sessions on the Person and Power of the Holy Spirit: https://tinyurl.com/3mp3xsep

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>i</sup> https://www.facebook.com/photo?fbid=10224620414241360&set=a.1392224849215