

## SURPRISED BY THE SPIRIT

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN WE PRAY FOR SPIRIT BAPTISM?

### LUKE 11:1–13

What has been your experience in asking for the Spirit?

In Acts, prayer for the Spirit was sometimes accompanied by laying-on of hands (Acts 8:14–17; 9:17–19; 19:6), and sometimes not (Acts 4:23–31). He is received by faith (Luke 11:9–13)—and such prayer can be repeated daily or often (Ephesians 5:18). “From hours spent with God, (Jesus) came forth morning by morning to bring the light of heaven to men. Daily He received a fresh baptism of the Holy Spirit” (Ellen White, *Christ’s Object Lessons*, page 139).

### HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM

Is for all believers—Acts 2:37–39

- › Is associated with water baptism, although the sequence differs.
- › Being baptised with water, without Spirit baptism—leaves our witness enfeebled.

Acts 2:1–12 Who was surprised—and why?  
Acts 10:44–48 Who was astonished—and why?

### HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM—TEACHING

He confirms our belonging to the body of Christ.

- › 1 Corinthians 12:12, 13—all “were” baptised
- › Galatians 3:26–28—unity in diversity
- › Ephesians 4:4, 5—“one Lord, one faith, one baptism.”

### THE clearest teaching on Holy Spirit baptism

He empowers our witness—Acts 1:4–8

- › What is the evidence of your Spirit baptism?
- › What is your S.H.A.P.E.?

He transforms mission—Acts 10:1–48; 11:1–18  
—the tipping point for mission.

Without Calvary and Jesus’ resurrection, there would be no salvation, and without Pentecost and the Holy Spirit, there would be no awareness of salvation. The Holy Spirit is the sensitive, caring Person who draws us to Jesus. And, when we respond and believe, He works the miracle of new birth, lives in us and through His baptism, we belong to the body of Christ and are empowered for witness.

What surprises have you had when sharing the good news of Jesus with another person?

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# IF YOU ARE THIRSTY YOU CAN BE SPIRIT-FILLED

EMPOWERED FOR WITNESS BY HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM



NEW BOOK—COMING SOON

## IF YOU ARE THIRSTY YOU CAN BE SPIRIT FILLED

### JESUS MODELLED LIVING IN THE SPIRIT

#### JOHN 7:37–39 (JOHN 7:1–10:21)

In what ways were those at the Feast of Tabernacles thirsty?

And what about you? What could “streams of living water” mean for you?

The Holy Spirit is mentioned 88 times in 22 of the 39 books of the Old Testament. And He was very involved in the life of Jesus. However, He could not do His greatest work for us until after Calvary and Jesus’ glorification (John 12:23–31; Revelation 4 and 5).

#### HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM

The prophecies, fulfilment and teaching.

1. **Prophecies.** John the Baptist declared Jesus “will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire” (Matthew 3:11; Luke 3:16; cf. Mark 1:8; John 1:33). Jesus said the Spirit would come after He returned to the Father (John 7:37–39; 14:16, 17; 16:7). And, on resurrection evening, Jesus “breathed on” His disciples, saying: “Receive the Holy Spirit” (John 20:22).

##### John 1:28–46

What does a Spirit-baptised person look and act like?

##### Acts 1:1–8

How do you think Jesus’ Spirit-baptism paralleled that of His body of believers?

What is the evidence of Spirit baptism?

2. **Fulfilment**—in an historic event and in personal lives.

➤ Pentecost day      Acts 2:1–11      (for Samaritans, Acts 8:14–17)

➤ Personal lives      Acts 9:17–19      (for Saul, as an example)

What was the immediate impact for those Spirit baptised?

#### PRAYER FOR HOLY SPIRIT POWER.

“For the daily baptism of the Spirit every worker should offer ... petition to God” (Ellen White, *Acts of the Apostles*, pages 50, 51).

##### Acts 4:23–31

1. How would you describe your experience of Holy Spirit baptism?

2. What evidence have you seen of Him empowering your witness to Jesus?

## WELCOME, HOLY SPIRIT

### GETTING TO KNOW HIM

**He is God’s second greatest gift to us**—introduced in the first stories of the Old and New Testaments, and integral to the final prophecies of both. Jesus loved to speak of Him.

We live in the era of the Spirit and, although some may not realise it, we are totally dependent on Him. Unfortunately, He is the most neglected person of the Godhead.

**The Holy Spirit is special.** We can easily visualize the Father and Son, but unfortunately can be unsure of the Holy Spirit—with the result, He is the displaced person of the Godhead.

#### HE IS A REAL.

➤ John 14:5–31

➤ John 15:26–27

➤ John 16:5–15

What do you learn about Him from Jesus?

**He has all the attributes we associate with a person.**

➤ Romans 8:27

the mind of the Spirit.

➤ 1 Corinthians 2:11

the knowledge of the Spirit. (See Acts 15:28)

➤ 1 Corinthians 12:11

the will of the Spirit.

He enjoys fellowship (2 Corinthians 13:14), loves (Romans 15:30), can be grieved and insulted (Ephesians 4:30; Hebrews 10:29), speaks (1 Timothy 4:1), bears witness, helps and intercedes for us (Romans 8:16, 26); He distributes gifts (1 Corinthians 12:11) and invites us to look to Jesus (Revelation 22:17).

**What difference does it make whether the Spirit is a person or just an influence?**

He is God, bearing His qualities. He is eternal (Hebrew 9:14), everywhere (Psalm 139:7–10), all-powerful (Luke 1:35) and all-knowing (John 16:12, 13)—the same distinctly divine attributes of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

#### HE IS A DISTINCT PERSON.

**How clear is this from Jesus?**

➤ Baptism

Matthew 3:16, 17; Luke 3:21, 22

➤ Promise

John 14:16, 17

➤ Commission

Matthew 28:18, 19

**He does the works of God**—He creates (Job 33:4; Psalm 104:30), gives life (John 6:63; Romans 8:11) and inspires (2 Samuel 23:2, 3; 2 Peter 1:21; 2 Timothy 3:16). He bears the names of God—with even LORD Jehovah as His name (cf. Isaiah 6:1–10 with Acts 28:25–27).

**Every close and personal work that God seeks to do in our lives, He does through the work and influence of this special, divine person. Welcome, Holy Spirit.**