

## Gifts of the Spirit 06

with Dr. Bob Abramson

### BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT **AND FIRE!**

#### God the Holy Spirit is Constantly Present in the Believer

When you accept Christ as Lord and Savior, the Holy Spirit immediately takes up residence in you. He abides in you.

1. The Holy Spirit is the gift Jesus gave His disciples.

*John 20:22 (NIV) "And with that he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.""*

2. The Holy Spirit makes the believer and unbeliever aware of the following:

- Sin and God's judgment on sin
- The opportunity to be righteous in God's presence

*John 16:8 (NIV) "When he comes, he will convict the world of guilt in regard to sin and righteousness and judgment:"*

The Holy Spirit is with you constantly. He cares about you and watches out for you. He speaks to you and works in your life. Even with all of this, **there is something more**. It is a gift from God. It is freely available to all. This experience is a wonderful opportunity for each of us to live in the fullness of God's power.

Are you called to be a person who breaks the devil's power? If so, you need to touch God with your hunger for Him. Then, He will touch you through the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

- The Baptism in the Holy Spirit (or Baptism "with" the Holy Spirit) is an immersion into a special touch from God. It is liberating and empowering. It releases the power of God in you, and radically changes your life.
- God designed your access to Him to be unlimited through the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

### BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

#### The Outpouring – Prophesied since the Days of Joel

*Joel 2:28 29 (NIV) "And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. [29.] Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days."*

The date of Joel's prophetic office is uncertain, but probably was about seven to nine centuries before Pentecost. Joel, the prophet of the Lord, prophesied that people would move in the gifts of God's Spirit. They would become a demonstration of His power.

### Who gives us this gift?

Jesus is our Baptizer. He baptizes with the power and authority to bring our spiritual gifts to life.

*Mark 1:8 (NIV) "John the Baptist, speaking about Jesus, said, "I baptize you with water, but **he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.**"*

*Acts 2:1-4 (NIV) "When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. {2.} Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. {3.} They saw what seemed to be **tongues of fire** that separated and came to rest on each of them. {4.} **All** of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them."*

*Acts 2:32-33 (NIV) "God has raised this Jesus to life, and we are all witnesses of the fact. {33.} Exalted to the right hand of God, **he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.**"*

### Meanings of Baptism in the Holy Spirit

The Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a one-time, complete immersion in the presence of God. It is a special touch from God in answer to your prayer. This special touch results in a new level of relationship with the Holy Spirit. You must seek the Baptism in the Spirit and only you can maintain it. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit brings empowerment to do work of the ministry.

*Luke 24:49 (NKJV) "Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are **endued with power from on high.**"*

*Acts 1:8 (NKJV) "**But you shall receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."*

The work of the ministry includes:

- a. Witnessing (Acts 1:8)
- b. Working miracles (Acts 3:4-10; 5:12)  
(These two are among many others, but they require power.)

As part of this empowerment for ministry, Spirit-baptized believers are given the necessary spiritual gifts: Here are some Scriptures that explain it.

(Romans 12:4-8; 1 Corinthians, Chapters 12:1 through 14:40; 1 Pet. 4:10-11)

Spirit-baptized believers are given a deep, clear access to the voice of the Holy Spirit. They hear and receive the voice of knowledge and guidance (John 14:26, 16:13).

**Baptism in (or with the Holy Spirit) is a one-time, lasting immersion (baptized) in the presence of God, accomplished by the touch of God in answer to your prayer. It leads to a new, deeper connection and more intimate relationship with the Holy Spirit, as the believer seeks it through loving obedience. The Baptism in the Spirit can empower the believer to operate more fully and powerfully in his or her spiritual gifts. It is a gift to any believer who asks for it.**

## **BAPTISM WITH FIRE**

**Fire** is a biblical symbol that represents God's continuous presence. **Fire** can be a physical manifestation of God.

### **Fire in Old Testament Days**

Fire is a common Old Testament physical manifestation of God's presence. This is illustrated several times in the Bible:

- The making of the covenant with Abraham (Genesis 15:17)
- The appearance of the pre-incarnate Christ in the burning bush (Exodus 3:2)
- God leading the Israelites by a pillar of fire by night (Exodus 13:21-22; 14:24 and Numbers 9:15-16; 14:14; etc.)
- God's appearance on Mount Sinai (Exodus 19:18; 24:17; Deuteronomy 4:11-36; 5:4-26; etc.)

**Fire** may be symbolic in the O. T. Hebrew Scriptures.

In the Old Testament, fire often represented God's constant presence while the children of Israel worshiped. (Leviticus. 6:12-13).

## A Touch from God

Isaiah 6:1, 5-6 (NIV) *"In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord seated on a throne, high and exalted, and the train of his robe filled the temple...{5.} "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the LORD Almighty." {6}] Then one of the seraphs flew to me **with a live coal in his hand, which he had taken with tongs from the altar. {7}] With it he touched my mouth and said, "See, this has touched your lips; your guilt is taken away and your sin atoned for." {8}] Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, "Whom shall I send? And who will go for us?" And I said, "Here am I. Send me!"***

**God's presence through fire represented judgment and purification. The words "purify" and "purge" come from the Greek word for "fire."**

- To be in God's presence is to be in the presence of absolute holiness. In His presence, no sin or unrighteousness can stand. It will be consumed by fire.
- To be in God's presence is to have the overwhelming sense of uncleanness. This brings an overwhelming desire to be clean.

God touched Isaiah's lips with a fiery, supernatural coal. It burned something *out* of him. It burned something *into* him. Sin fled from Isaiah and a desire to serve was birthed in the fire. Isaiah was to become anointed and powerful. He would hear and speak things that ordinary people would never experience.

## In New Testament Days

### What does it mean to be baptized with fire?

**If you are hungry enough for God, the Baptism in the Holy Spirit will bring the FIRE! Do you have the fire?**

- We serve a God who answers by fire.
- What does it mean to be baptized with fire?

*Matthew 3:11 (NKJV) "I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**"*

*Luke 3:16 (NKJV) "John answered, saying to all, "I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. **He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**"*

- Believers have been burned to death for their faith. This is not being baptized by the Holy Spirit with fire.

- The statement “*He shall baptize you with the Holy Spirit, and with fire,*” means that Jesus will immerse (baptize) people into the incredible presence and power of the Holy Spirit.
- When you are baptized with Holy Spirit fire, there is a flame kindled in your heart. There is a spark ignited that explodes into a raging holy zeal. It is hotter than anything the world can offer. **Are you combustible? Will you burn for Jesus with a zeal that cannot be quenched?**

## Four things the fire establishes in your life

### 1. Your heart will burn, but you will **not** burn up.

The baptism with fire brings with it the power to incinerate the oppressive weight of past and present pressures. Your circumstances lose the right to control you. Your past is no longer qualified to determine your future. Your heart will burn hotter than any furnace of affliction.

### 2. Your heart will burn, but you will **not** burn out.

You will have a supply of strong, divinely given power. The power of the Holy Spirit will sustain you. With the zeal of Spirit baptism at work in you, Satan will learn you are not an easy target. You need fire. **You need Holy Spirit fire!**

Open your eyes and see the fire of God. There are more with you than against you. They stand ready to wage war on your behalf. Spiritual darkness cannot withstand the fire from heaven.

*2 KINGS 6:17 (NIV) “And Elisha prayed, “O LORD, open his eyes so he may see.” Then the LORD opened the servant's eyes, and he looked and saw the hills full of horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha.””*

Here is the prayer we all need to offer to God. “*Lord, open my eyes so that I will no longer see in the darkness of compromise, indifference and unbelief. Show me chariots of fire, Lord.*”

### 3. You will burn with a desire to burn up everything in you that does not please the Holy Spirit.

Baptism with fire is the beginning of a journey. In this journey, you will undergo a refining and miraculous change. You will be

cleansed. The threads of your soul will form garments of praise and righteousness.

*Malachi 3:2, (NIV) "But who can endure the day of his coming? Who can stand when he appears? **For he will be like a refiner's fire or a launderer's soap.***

#### **4. You will burn on with zeal for the Lord - all the way to the end. You will remain dangerous to the devil!**

The steps of your life will be like hot branding irons. Your steps will mark the path you take all the way home to Jesus. **You are dangerous to the devil. Never stop burning for Jesus!**

*Hebrews 12:1-3 (NIV) "Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, **and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.** {2} Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. {3} **Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.**"*

### **PUT THE TWO BAPTISMS TOGETHER.**

**"He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."**

**Fire + power = firepower!**

We serve a God who answers by fire. Jesus will come back one day and purge all the evil in the earth with fire. He will establish His throne forever. He is Spirit and He has divine fire. It has been said that if you really want to know someone, take the time to look into their eyes. The eyes are the mirror of the soul and the reflection of the heart. Look into the eyes of the Lord Jesus Christ. Here is what you will see:

- Immeasurable love
- The greatest compassion
- Your Great Physician, your Healer
- Pure holiness, the eyes of the spotless, sinless, Lamb of God
- You will also see the eyes of the King of kings. He is the Lord of lords, and the Mighty Warrior. He is the almighty Son of God. Look for yourself. Look now. Ask Him to baptize you with the Holy Ghost and fire!

***Revelation 1:14 (NKJV) “His head and hair were white like wool, as white as snow, and His eyes like a flame of fire;”***

***Revelation 2:18 (NKJV) “And to the angel of the church in Thyatira write, ‘These things says the Son of God, who has eyes like a flame of fire, and His feet like fine brass:”***

***Revelation 19:12 (NKJV) “His eyes were like a flame of fire, and on His head were many crowns. He had a name written that no one knew except Himself.”***

**Catch the fire!**

**(Who will catch it right now?)**

Thank you Holy Spirit!