

NINETH STUDY

THE SPIRIT'S ACTION IN THE CHURCH (John 20:22; Acts 1:5-8; 2:1-21)

There are two important events which indicate the beginning of the fresh development in the Holy Spirit's work:

(1) The Bestowal of the Spirit on the Apostles immediately after the Resurrection (John 20:22).

This bestowal of the Spirit is not the same as that described in Acts 2:4. The first took place while Jesus was with His disciples, the latter after His ascension into heaven. The first was the receiving of being born again of the Spirit: by being breathed on by Jesus Himself, as was spoken to Nicodemus in John 3:3-8. This was the baptism into the body of Christ (see Baptisms, Hebrews 6:2).

(2) Later, there came the fuller outpouring of the Spirit on the day of Pentecost for power for the harvest (Acts 1:5-8; 2:1-21).

In both cases, as also the Baptism of our Lord, the bestowal of the Spirit was symbolized by some outward form, a dove, the breath of Christ, the rushing wind (with which we may compare John 3:8), and the tongues of fire (cf. Matthew 3:11). From this time forward the Spirit's action in the Church has been a more continuous and abiding personality than anything known under the old Covenant.

1. In John 20:21-23, Jesus commissioned and gave

In Acts 19:1-7, Paul came into Ephesus: and found *certain disciples, and he said unto them, have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?* They told him they had not even heard of the Holy Ghost. Then he asked them, *Unto what then were ye baptized?* They answered, *Unto John's baptism.* Paul then explained that *...John 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.*

They only knew the name of God for John did not know the Son until a certain sign happened (John 1:33). They were then baptized once again in water in the name of the Lord Jesus: which simply means "by the authority of the Lord Jesus" but how Jesus authorized is recorded in Matthew 28:19. ¹

11. After the water baptism, Paul laid his hands on them. Describe what happened then. (Acts 19:6)

Speaking in tongues took place in Acts 2:4; 10:44-48; 8:17-23; and other places (Mark 16:17; I Corinthians 12:4-11; 28-31; 13:1-2; 14:1-40; etc.)

1. Dake's annotated Reference Bible, p. 146.

the power of attorney to the disciples to do the works of Christ. After He commissioned them, what did He do before He said, "Receive ye the Holy Ghost?" _____ .

There are 7 Baptisms in Scripture:

(1) John's baptism in water (Matthew 3; Mark 1; Luke 3; 7:29-30; John 1:31-33; 3:23-26; 10:40; Acts 1:5; 11:16; 19:3)

(2) Christ's baptism in water (John 3:22; 4:1-2)

(3) Baptism in suffering (Luke 12:50)

(4) Baptism in the cloud and in the sea (I Corinthians 10:2)

(5) Christian baptism in water (Matthew 28:19; Mark 16:16; Acts 2:38-41; 8:12-16; 36-38; 9:18; 10:47-48; 16:15; 33; 18:8; 19:3-5; 22:16; I Corinthians 1:13-17)

(6) Baptism into Christ and into His body (Romans 6:3-7; I Corinthians 12:13; Galatians 3:27; Peter 3:21; Colossians 2:12)

(7) Baptism in the Holy Spirit (Matthew 3:11, 14; 20:22-23; Mark 1:8; 10:38, 39; Luke 3:16; John 1:33; 7:37-39; Acts 1:5; 11:16; 19:2-3) ¹

2. From Matthew 3:11, what was John's baptism?

3. (a) Was Jesus' baptism by sprinkling or by submersion? (Matthew 3:16) _____

(b) How do you know? _____

1. From Dake's Annotated Reference Bible, Matthew 3:6 note n., with revisions made by this author.

4. In Mark 1:8, who is the "He" that shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost? _____
5. John was baptizing many people during his ministry, so how did he know when it was Jesus he was baptizing? (John 1:33) _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

6. Jesus made a great declaration in John 7:37-39. To what was He referring? _____
- _____

7. Jesus gave a prophecy in Acts 1:5. To what was He referring when He said, *not many days hence...*(or not many days from now)? _____
- _____

8. From Acts 1:8, what would happen to those after receiving the Holy Ghost? _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

9. What great event in Jesus' life took place directly after He made the last statement in Question 8? (Acts 1:9, 10) _____

10. In your own words, describe what happened on the day of Pentecost? (Acts 2:1-4) _____
- _____
- _____