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# THE TRUTH ABOUT THAT TRADITION

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## Receiving the Spirit of God



“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 ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.”

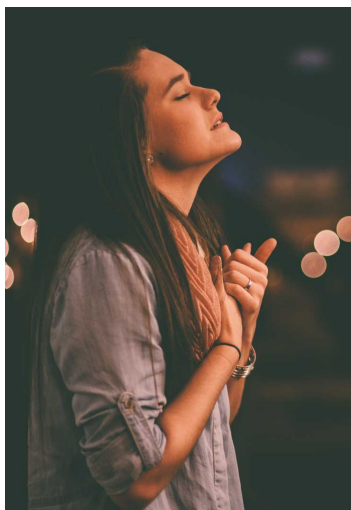
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Acts 2:38-39

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“Because of your obedience, your children are blessed.” The sky did not break open with a dove descending down, but it was the voice of the Lord speaking to us just the same! It happened on a Sunday night in late December of 1980, only a few months after my husband and I had relocated to Washington, DC. The Lord spoke that prophetic utterance through my sister who was visiting us for the holidays. It was to let us know that He was pleased with our decision to abandon our former denominational doctrine, to obey His Word instead. That’s when we received the Spirit of God, the Bible way!

Would you believe that there are over 45,000 Christian sects and denominations worldwide today?! With so many choices, how would one know which denomination is the right one? When my husband and I came to the knowledge of truth about denominations (about forty



years ago), we decided that our only recourse was to go back to the original source of truth, the Bible. We wanted to make sure that we were in obedience to the commandments and teachings of Jesus, as they pertained to Salvation, and more specifically, receiving His Spirit. We did not want to be among those who were “teaching for doctrine, the commandments of men” (Matthew 15:8-9).

**OUR TESTIMONY:** When my husband received his call to ministry in 1980, he accepted a position for campus ministry offered by the Southern Baptist Convention; he was hired as chaplain for the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) and Howard University. Shortly after arriving to Washington, DC, we began having Bible studies in our Student Center, conveniently located just around the corner from Howard. Once the news began to spread that there was a Bible study group nearby, we soon had students showing up at our front door, wanting to attend. As we got to know the students better, we discovered that there were many with problems that required special ministry and prayer; so we counseled and prayed, but at times it seemed like nothing was happening. It soon became apparent to us that there were serious spiritual needs (many related to occult bondage) which we found ourselves ill-equipped to handle.

However, as the Lord would have it, my husband and I soon met a woman (the mother of one of the students) who guided us in the right direction. She gave us a book to read called “Deeper Life in the Spirit”, by Hobart Freeman. We both read a couple chapters of the book and soon came to the same conclusion... that we had not received *the baptism of the Holy Ghost (as on the day of Pentecost, Acts 2)*. However, we knew that *that* was precisely what we needed! We lacked the power of God in our lives because we did not have His indwelling Spirit. Therefore, when we prayed for the students, we did not get the desired results!



Well, long-story-short, we believed God’s Word to be true, despite contrary Baptist beliefs. We asked God to fill us with the Holy Ghost, and guess what... HE DID! While in prayer, almost immediately after asking, **God filled us with His Holy Spirit (with the evidence of speaking in tongues) in the privacy of our own living room!** It was what I would describe as a vocal miracle! As we prayed and praised God, our words began to change, and we realized that we were speaking in other languages that we did not understand! **Yes, it happened with us just as it did in the Bible, 2000 years ago, in the upper room at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-6)!**

## WHY WE NEED THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST



1) **To be a part of the spiritual kingdom that Jesus established on earth.**

Mark 1:14-15; Matt. 5-7; Luke 6:20-49

2) **To be in the New Testament spiritual covenant that God established for man's redemption.**

Hebrews 8:6-8; Romans 14:17

3) **Receiving the baptism of the Holy Ghost is required to be part of the church of Jesus Christ.**

Acts 2:38, 8:14-20, 10:44-48, 19:1-7

4) **The Holy Ghost is a promised gift from God that we must desire and ask to receive.**

Luke 11:8-13; Acts 2:38-39; 2 Timothy 1:6-7

5) **We receive the Spirit of God to have power for signs and wonders.**

Acts 1:8, 4:7-14; Mark 16:15-18

6) **Flesh and blood cannot inherit the kingdom of God; we must be born again.**

1 Corinthians 15:50; John 3:5-8

7) **Life in the Spirit makes us free from the law (penalties) of sin and death.**

Romans 8:1-6, 10; Galatians 6:8

8) **"They that are in the flesh cannot please God... if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his."** Romans 8:8-9; 1 Corinthians 15:50

9) **It is by the power of the indwelling Spirit (the Holy Ghost) that believers will be "caught up" to meet the Lord when He returns.**

1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; Romans 8:11-13; 1 Corinthians 15:51-57; Ephesians. 4:30

10) **When we pray in the Spirit (tongues) the Spirit makes intercession for us, helping us to pray.** Romans 8:26-27

11) **We build up ourselves spiritually by praying in the Holy Ghost (tongues).**

Jude 20; 1 Corinthians 14:4

12) **When we receive the Holy Ghost, the Comforter abides within us and teaches us all truth.** John 14:16-18, 26; 15:26; John 16:7, 13-15

13) **The Spirit of God enables us to walk in love and bear fruit of the Spirit.**

Romans 5:5; Galatians 5:22-25

14) **We need the Holy Ghost to operate in the gifts and power of God.**

1 Corinthians 12:4-11, 27-28; Matthew 12:28; Romans 15:13, 18-19