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HOLY GHOST BAPTISM

Speaking in Tongues

e Book



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BAPTISM
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Introduction

I grew up in a Christian home where both of my parents are both ordained Ministers of the Gospel. I accepted Jesus as my savior at a young age, but I always felt like something was lacking in my Christian life. When I was seventeen years old, I had an encounter with the Holy Spirit that transformed my life forever.

I attended a believers' convention, which was held at a campsite under a large tent. My father preached a sermon on the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, and at the end of the sermon he made an altar call. I remember kneeling in the sand pleading with Jesus to baptise me with His Holy Spirit. In less than a minute, I received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. I felt a fire in my body at the same time. It was an encounter that changed my life. From that moment on, I felt the Call of God to preach the gospel. Right away, I enrolled at Hauraruni International Missionary Training Center (HIMTC). The Baptism of the Holy Spirit was an experience that pushed me into my destiny.

In this book, I will seek to share with you how you can receive this Glorious Encounter ("Holy Spirit Baptism – Speaking in tongues"), which is available to all Christians.

I dedicate this book to my father, Apostle Keeshan Banwarie, who was preaching at the time I received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Who is the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is the Third Divine Person of the Eternal Godhead, co-equal, and co-existent with the Father and Son. It is the Holy Spirit's ministry to convict and convert man as well as to reveal the Son and the Father to the believer. Since the glorification of the Lord Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit in all His glorious operations is working through all who believe in the Father through the Son. This is why the present era is known as the age of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is not to be looked upon merely as an influence. Many believers are robbed of a personal relationship with the Holy Spirit because they consider the Holy Spirit to be an impersonal influence, power, force or energy.

Who is the Baptiser?

Anyone can baptise you and me in water, but no one can baptise us with the Holy Spirit. Jesus saves, heals, and delivers, but He also holds the office of the Baptiser. Today I would like to introduce Jesus as the Baptiser. He is the only one that can baptise us with the Holy Spirit. In Luke 3:16 (NKJV), John says about Jesus:

"I indeed baptise you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

From this scripture we clearly see that Jesus Christ is the One who baptises us with the Holy Spirit.

Biblical Evidence of Being Filled

What is the initial Biblical evidence of being baptised in the Holy Spirit or being filled with the Holy Spirit? I believe that the evidence of being filled or baptised in the Holy Spirit is speaking in tongues. In the scriptures, we can see a pattern of someone speaking in tongues as soon as he or she is filled with the Holy Spirit. Let's look at a few instances from the Bible. In Acts 2:4 we read,

And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

We see here that the Apostles and other brethren received the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues immediately.

In Acts 8:17-18,

Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the Apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money.

The magician Simon "saw" something when the people received the Holy Spirit. He most likely saw and heard the people speaking in tongues.

Acts 10:44-46,

While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the Word. And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.

We see here that while the Apostle Peter was speaking to the brethren, the Holy Spirit fell upon them and the people spoke in tongues. As soon as they were baptised in the Holy Spirit they spoke in tongues.

The Apostle Paul was baptised in the Holy Spirit in Acts 9:17, and later in 1 Corinthians 14:18 he said that he spoke in tongues:

Acts 19:1-2 (NKJV)

And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples he said to them "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

We see here that the Apostle Paul was passing through different villages and he met some people about twelve of them and asked them if they were baptised in the Holy Spirit. These men never even heard about the Holy Spirit! There are many Christians today that have never heard about the baptism of the Holy Spirit. If you are like these men, you are cutting yourself short of the power of God. A powerful preacher, R.A. Torrey, once declared that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is the birthright of every believer.

In Acts 19:6, we read:

And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

The same men who knew nothing of the Holy Spirit, after Paul told them about the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, received the infilling of the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. We see here again that the initial Biblical evidence of Holy Spirit Baptism is speaking in tongues.

Kingdom Language

People who belong to Brazil speak Portuguese, people who belong to Venezuela speak Spanish, people who belong to America speak English, and people who belong to Guyana speak Creolese (and English too). People who belong to the Kingdom of Darkness speak the language of lies, accusation, gossip, and indecent language. But people who belong to the Kingdom of God speak the heavenly language, which is evident in speaking in tongues.

Tongues is not a Language Learnt

When you receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, you instantly speak in tongues. You don't have to attend a class to be taught this language because the Holy Spirit instantly gives you the utterances.

Conversion and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Is Conversion a Separate Experience from Being Baptised with the Holy Spirit?

A lot of people may argue that when they receive Jesus into their lives they automatically receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Let's examine what the scriptures say.

The Apostles and other brethren who received the Holy Spirit Baptism in Acts 2 had already received Jesus and had their names written in Heaven (Luke 10:20). The apostles believed in Jesus and were sent out and were healing the sick and casting out demons, but they had not yet received the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The Samaritan believers in Acts 8:5-17 had already received Jesus. When the Apostles came and laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit fell upon them and they spoke in tongues.

In Acts 10, Cornelius was a man committed to God and he and his household feared God. After Peter came and preached to them, they received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues just like the believers in Acts 2.

In Acts 19, some brethren had already believed in Jesus and were saved but they had not received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. They spoke in tongues when Holy Spirit fell upon them.

From these scriptures, we can conclude that it is normal for a Christian to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit as a separate experience following his or her conversion experience.

Can a Person receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit at the same time of Conversion?

As soon as someone accepts Jesus, he or she can receive the Holy Spirit. Even if a person receives the Holy Spirit baptism at the same general time of conversion, the Holy Spirit baptism still technically remains a distinct experience. The fact that persons have been genuinely converted doesn't mean they have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Benefits and Purpose of Being Filled with the Holy Spirit

Gives Us Power

When you have been baptised with the Holy Spirit and begin to speak in tongues, you will receive Holy Ghost power. Jesus said in Act 1:8 to His disciples that, “you shall receive Power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you”. When they received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and began to speak in tongues, they were no longer timid but became bold as lions.

Immediately after Peter was baptised in the Holy Spirit, he stood up and addressed the large crowd of people and preached boldly. The people were amazed. This experience transformed Peter. Get ready; you will receive power! One of the Greek words for power, *dunamis*, is translated as “dynamite”. When you begin to speak in tongues you will be like dynamite - an explosive force - in the hands of God.

Before I received the baptism of the Holy Spirit, I was timid and nervous to stand in front of people. My hands and knees would literally shake. My face and cheeks would literally twitch. But when I received the Holy Spirit and began to speak in tongues, I instantly became bold. The nervousness and twitching immediately stopped.

A Musician Receives Baptism in Spirit

I know a keyboardist who would play wonderful music. He knew all the keys well, but he couldn't speak in tongues. The worship service was “okay”, but not anointed. While we were hosting a series of revival meetings, the Holy Spirit gave me special instructions for this musician. The Holy Spirit wanted him to stop playing the keyboard and cry out to God to be filled. In a matter of seconds, he began to speak in tongues. Now whenever he plays, miracles take place and you can always sense God's presence in the music. You shall receive power!

Makes Us Bold

Some people are afraid of the dark, of animals, and all sorts of things. God said he has not given us a Spirit of fear but He has given us a spirit of power, love, and a sound mind. Acts 4:31 speaks about the story of the Apostles and other brethren being threatened by authorities to stop preaching about Jesus, but they came together and prayed in tongues and they were

strengthened. When you are baptised in the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues you no longer have anything to fear. You will be bold!

Useful in Warfare

1 Corinthians 14:2 says that when we speak in tongues we do not speak to men, but to God. When we pray in tongues the devil gets confused. Tongues is the only language that the devil cannot understand. Sometime ago I was praying for someone who was possessed by a demon, and I heard the Holy Spirit say “pray in tongues”. When I began to pray, the demon was confused and tormented. In a matter of seconds, the demon screamed and left the person! (Side note: in different times of deliverance, you can hear what God is saying to do for that particular case).

When we set up a social media account, there is a section that asks us to choose the language that we speak. If we type in Heavenly Language or Tongues, obviously it will be rejected. This simple example demonstrates that not even computers, science or the devil can comprehend speaking in tongues.

Helps In Our Weakness

Romans 8:26 says that the Spirit helps us in our weaknesses and helps us to pray when we don't know how to. Many times in our lives we feel spiritually, emotional or physically weak. Sometimes we are confused about our circumstances. The scripture says that the Holy Spirit will lead us in prayer. When we pray in tongues we unknowingly become strong and begin to intercede in words that cannot be explained. But one thing for sure is that our prayers are touching God. Rest assured that God understands you.

Edifies or Builds Us Up

A simple dictionary definition of edify is ‘to build’. In 1 Corinthians 14:2, it says “he who speaks in a tongue edifies himself [...]”. Jude 1:20 says “building yourselves up on your most holy faith, by praying in the Spirit. The way we pray in the Spirit is by speaking in tongues.

In the same way that a cellphone battery needs to be charged by being plugged into electricity, we who are baptised in the Holy Spirit need to speak in tongues to charge up our Christian faith. Doctors normally recommend supplements to boost our health, and in a similar manner we also need to pray in tongues to boost our spiritual lives. A bodybuilder goes regularly to the

gym to lift weights to keep fit, and in the same manner we need to be just like that and pray in tongues to keep fit in the Spirit. I sometimes spend hours praying in tongues, and I feel stronger every time I do that.

Helps in Conversation With God

Many times when we pray, we run out of words. Sometimes our vocabulary fails us in expressing ourselves to God. When we can't seem to find words to express ourselves to God, we can talk to God in tongues – in the language that connects us to the heavenly and catches God's attention.

Hindrances to Being Baptised in the Holy Spirit

Sin

Where there is sin in our lives, God cannot work. But God is a forgiving God. One time I was praying for young lady and she was not receiving the Holy Spirit, then I asked her to search her heart to see if she was right with God. She said she had unforgiveness in her heart towards her cousin. She repented of her sin and instantly she was baptised in Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues.

Unbelief/Doubt

Some people cannot receive the Baptism because they doubt God. They put their education in the forefront of their mind and try to analyze being filled, and then unbelief steps in causing them to miss out on the Baptism. I have witnessed people laugh or mock the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. When you do this, you lock yourself out of God's blessings. That is why sometimes a younger person in the faith receives the Holy Spirit faster than a person who analyzes everything. Don't doubt God; just believe. One young man was laughing cynically in our meetings because of the church background he came from. All of a sudden he cried out, "Help my unbelief Jesus!! I believe!!" I laid hands on him and immediately he spoke in tongues.

Fear

God has not given us a Spirit of fear. Some people are fearful that they will receive a demon instead. But God promised in his Word that He would give the Holy Spirit to those who ask (Luke 11:13).

On one occasion in our services, I was praying for a young lady who really loved Jesus but she wasn't receiving. I looked into her eyes and I saw fear. I asked her, "Are you afraid?" and with tears in her eyes she said "yes". I told her to put away her fear.

Pride

Some people cannot receive the Holy Spirit because they believe they know it all - like Lucifer. You need to humble yourself as a little child to receive. I have seen many times where young boys and girls receive the Holy Spirit faster than other persons because of their simplicity and humility.

Spiritual Dumb Demon

I once preached a sermon on the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and at the end I made an altar call and many came forward, but no one was getting filled with Holy Spirit. I then clearly heard the Holy Spirit say to rebuke the spiritual dumb demon. I rebuked the spiritual dumb demon and instantly everyone was baptised in the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. Oh what a glorious time we had! I rebuke every spiritual dumb demon over your life!

You Are Worried You Will Fake It

You might be worried that you might pretend to speak in tongues and doubt the authenticity of the Holy Spirit. As the saying goes, Just let go and let God. Let the Spirit in. He will take control.

Qualifications to Receive the Holy Spirit & FAQs

The number one requirement to receive the Holy Spirit is that you must be saved. You must accept Jesus as Lord of your life and repent of your sins (Acts 2:38).

Do you have to be a Christian for days, months or years to receive?

No. As soon as you repent of your sins and receive Jesus you are qualified to be baptised in the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues. A one-minute old Christian can receive the Holy Spirit.

Do I have to be baptised in water?

Not necessarily. In Acts 10:46-48, some brethren received baptism in Holy Spirit spoke in tongues and then were baptised in water. God is God and He can change up the order anytime. But if you are not water baptised I encourage you to do so. It is important you get water baptized. He who believes and is baptised shall be saved (Mark 16:16).

Is age a requirement?

No. It does not matter how young or old you are. You can be filled with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues. Many years ago I was in Guyana's interior preaching and everyone got filled, and I saw in our midst a girl about nine years old. I laid hands on her and prayed for her, and she received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. Today she is still serving God.

Is education a requirement?

No. The Holy Spirit is for all classes of people once you are washed with the blood Jesus Christ. Apostle Peter was uneducated, but he still received the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. I have prayed for the uneducated and educated, and have seen them all speak in tongues. You don't have to write and pass an exam to become qualified to receive the Holy Spirit. Jesus has already won the victory.

The Apostle Paul in the Bible was a very intelligent man - he was a scholar. But we see from the scriptures he received the Holy Ghost Baptism and spoke in tongues (1 Corinthians 14:18) after his formal education.

One time I prayed for a University lecturer to receive the Baptism. She fell on her knees in desperation, cried out to Jesus and immediately she received the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. The Holy Spirit is for everyone who is washed with the blood of Jesus. Your background, education, or economic status does not matter. Just believe in Jesus.

You Don't Have To Be Perfect

A lot of people believe that they have to attain a level of perfection to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Some people say to me, "Pastor, I'm not perfect. I cannot receive the Holy Spirit". Let me say to you that none of us are perfect except God alone. We are all striving for perfection, but God sees Christ's righteousness in us. We are made perfect through Jesus' blood. We receive salvation by faith, not by works. It is this same way that we receive the Holy Spirit by faith in Jesus Christ. It is a gift. We cannot work for a gift.

Ask And It Shall Be Given

Jesus said that if we ask it shall be given. Just as a son asks his father for a gift so we must ask Jesus for His Holy Spirit (Luke 11).

The Promise

The Bible says that the Holy Spirit is the promise to all who belong to Jesus (Acts 1:4; 2:39). Claim the promise of the Holy Spirit Baptism in Jesus' name. It is yours! Jesus can never break His Promise.

The Wait Is Over

A lot of people believe that they have to plan tarry meetings, or wait for hours to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. I disagree. Jesus gave his disciples those specific instructions to wait on the Promise. Jesus told them to wait because the Holy Spirit had not yet come. Jesus' promise to His followers still stands. He said that when he ascends into heaven he will not leave us as orphans, but will send the Holy Spirit to be with us and live in us. The wait is over. Just call on Jesus to baptise you with His Spirit.

Are You Ready?

You don't necessarily need someone to lay hands on you, but if you can it would be good. When I was in Bible School praying in the midnight hours in my room, I didn't know that my friend who had a room next door was listening; and all of a sudden he got filled and began to speak in tongues.

Who Speaks In Tongues?

Is it you that speaks in tongues or is it the Holy Spirit? It is you who speaks in tongues. The Holy Spirit comes into your life and gives or enables you with utterances to speak, so you must open your mouth and talk to God and receive by faith. If you close your mouth nothing will happen, and you will not receive. You must speak. I don't like praying for people to receive the Holy Spirit when they keep their mouths closed. You must speak by faith.

Are You Ready To Receive?

Prayer Time

Are you ready to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit? Then I ask if you would get on your knees and begin to repent of your sins, and ask Jesus to wash you with His blood. Invite Him in your life again.

Begin to declare that Jesus is your Baptiser. Declare that He is the one who baptises with the Holy Spirit. Ask Him to baptise you with His Holy Spirit. Tell him that you want to speak in tongues. Begin to call on Him to baptise you with the evidence of speaking in tongues. Pray and call on Him. He will fill you! Trust Him. Don't doubt.

Prayer

Pray this prayer in faith asking for the baptism of Holy Spirit with evidence of speaking in tongues:

Jesus I come to you asking you to forgive me for every sin I have committed. Come into my heart and wash me with your blood. I believe that you are the Son of the Living God. I believe you are my savior, healer, deliverer, and today I confess that you are the Baptiser, the one who baptises in the Holy Spirit. You said in your Word that when you go away you will not leave us as orphans but will send your Holy Spirit to be with us and live in us. You said in your word that the Holy Spirit is your promise to me. I ask you today to give me this promise. Jesus I ask you today to baptise me with your Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. I want to speak in tongues. Baptise me today Jesus.

Close your eyes and call on Jesus to baptise you with His Holy Spirit. Begin to praise God and expect to speak in tongues! Hallelujah!

Notes

The following works were consulted when writing this book:

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