

## TIMES OF REFRESHING FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD

Find more sermon outlines at [www.actsinafrica.org](http://www.actsinafrica.org)

**Sermon in a Sentence:** God wants to give you “times of refreshing from the presence of the Lord by filling you with His Holy Spirit.

**Sermon Purpose:** That believers will be baptized in the Holy Spirit.

**Text:** Acts 3:19

### Introduction:

1. Our Text is found in Peter’s second sermon in Acts. (Tell Story).
2. It is a description of the baptism in the Holy Spirit—
  - a. Peter describes the baptism in the Spirit as “times of refreshing...from the presence of the Lord.”
  - b. These words remind us of Acts 2:38-39
3. This message will focus on the phrase, “times of refreshing...from the presence of the Lord.”
  - a. A close look at this phrase reveals three important truths about the experience of the baptism in the Holy Spirit...
  - b. We will discuss three things the baptism in the Holy Spirit is not:

### I. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit Is Not an Man-made Experience. (By that I mean two things:)

- A. The baptism in The Holy Spirit Does not have its origin in the will or mind of man.
  1. It is not an invention of the modern Pentecostal movement.
    - a. It is an experience from God!
      - 1) Note: “times of refreshing *from the presence of the Lord.*”

- 2) Literally, “from the *face* of the Lord.”
  2. On version translates this text “direct from the Lord Himself” (20<sup>th</sup> Century NT).
  3. It reminds us of Acts 2:3: “Suddenly there came a sound *from heaven.* . . .”
  4. It’s “the Promise of the Father” (Acts 1:4).
- B. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is a life-changing encounter with the living God.
  1. In order to properly receive the Holy Spirit, we must have a clear understanding of who the He really is.
    - a. The Holy Spirit is in fact God!
    - b. Therefore, everything that can be said about God can be said about the Holy Spirit. For instance:

#### God is

- Holy
- Omnipotent
- Eternal
- Love

#### The Holy Spirit is

- Holy
- Omnipotent
- Eternal
- Love

2. Therefore, to be filled with the Spirit is to be filled with the very Presence and Power of God!
  - a. It is a time of refreshing from the presence of the Lord!
  - b. It is to be immersed in the Love and Holiness of God.
  - c. When you receive the Holy Spirit you become a channel of God’s power and love to others (John 7:37).

### II. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit Is Not a Dry, Unemotional Experience

- A. It is a time of refreshing!
  1. One translator translates this phrase as “times of revival” (Williams).

2. Another translates it as “a time when your soul will receive strength” (New Living).
  3. Paul wrote, “He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself” (1 Cor. 14:3-4).
- B. Being filled with the Spirit will bring you into a more intimate relationship with God.
1. Various biblical symbols for the Holy Spirit speak of how He refreshes and revives our souls:
    - a. He refreshes quenches ones spiritual thirst like a *cool drink of water* (John 4:13).
    - b. He comes into our lives like a *refreshing rain* from heaven (Zech 10:1).
    - c. He flows through our being like a life-giving river (John 7:37; Ezek.. 47:1-12)
    - d. He blows into our tired lives like a cool breeze on a torrid day (John 3:8).
  2. Let Him blow into your life today!
- C. Being filled With the Spirit will bring you into a more intimate relationship with God (Rom. 5:5; ref. Ps. 42:1).

### III. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit it Is Not a One-time-only Experience

- A. Note that the word “times” is plural.
1. This Indicates multiple experiences with the Spirit.
- B. The mistake that some make is to think that one experience with the Spirit is enough.
1. No matter how powerful, wonderful, or life-changing your experience with the Spirit may have been, one experience is not enough.
- C. In the New Testament we see repeated fillings:
1. Peter: Acts 2:4 --> 4:8 --> 4:31.
  2. Ephesians: Acts 9:6 --> Eph 5:18 (literally, “Be being filled with the Spirit”).

3. The literal translation of Luke 11:9-10 is “Keep on asking. . .”
4. We must keep seeking the Lord for repeated fillings with the Holy Spirit.

### Conclusion and Altar Call

1. You Ask Me, “How can I receive the Holy Spirit today?”
2. Out text answers your question: “**Repent** and **return**, so that your sins my be wiped away, in order that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord.”
3. DO THIS:
  - a. Return to the Lord.
  - b. Repent of your sins.
  - c. Ask Him to Fill you.
  - d. Believe His promise.
4. Come now!

— Denny Miller