

HOW IS THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT RECEIVED?

Sermon 3 of 4 in the "Baptism in the Holy Spirit Series"
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Sermon in a Sentence: God will fill you with the Holy Spirit today.

Sermon Purpose: To see believers baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Text: Luke 11:9-13

Introduction:

1. In this passage Jesus instructs His disciples how to receive the Holy Spirit.
2. Today we will use this passage, and other passages, to answer the question, "How can one receive this powerful experience?"
3. Let's begin by looking at . . .

I. The Context in Which the Holy Spirit Is Received:

A. The Context of Prayer

1. When the disciples asked Jesus to teach them how to pray, He taught them how to be filled with the Spirit (Luke 11:1-13).
2. Jesus was praying when he was baptized in the Holy Spirit (Luke 3:21-22)
3. The disciples were praying before the day of Pentecost (Acts 1:14).
4. Paul was praying just before he was baptized in the Holy Spirit (Acts 9:11-12).
5. We must pray and ask God to fill us with the Spirit (Luke 11:9-13).

B. The Context of Obedience

1. God gives the Spirit to those who obey the Great Commission (Acts 5:32).

2. The disciples obeyed Jesus' last command (Acts 1:4-5).
3. Will you obey Christ and be filled with the Spirit today?

C. The Context of Consecration

1. The seven days of waiting before Pentecost must have been a time of consecration.
2. To consecrate means to give yourself completely to God and His purposes in your life.
3. We, like those first Christians, must consecrate ourselves to Christ's mission of reaching the lost with the gospel.

D. The Context of Humility

1. We are commanded to consecrate ourselves to God (1 Pet. 5:6).
2. Humility is evident in those who received in the New Testament:
 - a. **ILLUS:** The humility of Jesus as He waited to receive the Spirit (Luke 3:21)
 - b. **ILLUS:** The humility of Saul of Tarsus before Ananias laid hands on him (Acts 9:8)
 - c. **ILLUS:** The humility of the household of Cornelius (Acts 10:33).
 - d. **ILLUS:** The humility of the household of Cornelius (Acts 10:33).
3. "No flesh should glory in His presence" (1 Cor 1:29).

E. The Context of Faith

1. Faith the prime ingredient for receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
2. You ask, "How can I receive the Holy Spirit?" The answer, "By faith."
3. Faith is connected with the Holy Spirit 29 times in the New Testament (i.e., Gal 3:2, 3:14).
4. Read: John 7:37-38, noting the phrase, "he who believes."

II. To Receive the Holy Spirit–Do This:

- A. Approach the throne of grace with boldness.
 - 1. Read: Heb 4:16.
 - 2. Know that you are in the perfect will of God (1 John 5:14-15).
- B. Ask in faith.
 - 1. Claim his promises (i.e., Luke 11:9-13).
 - 2. Expect God to fill you (Mark 11:24).
 - 3. Expect to speak in tongues like the believers at Pentecost (Acts 2:4).
- C. Receive by a bold act of faith.
 - 1. The Holy Spirit is not received passively but by aggressive, active faith.
 - 2. **ILLUS:** Like when Peter stepped out of the boat (Matt. 14:25-31).
- D. Sense the Spirit's presence within.
 - 1. Focus your attention on God and what He is doing in you.
 - 2. He will come upon you, and He will fill you.
 - 3. You will sense His presence within.
- E. Speak forth in faith.
 - 1. Allow this power and presence to flow out.
 - 2. Speak, trusting God to give you the words.

Conclusion and Altar Call:

- 1. God is ready to fill you with the Holy Spirit today.
- 2. Come and be filled.