

YOU CAN EXPERIENCE THE TRUE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Sermon in a Sentence: You can experience the true baptism in the Holy Spirit today.

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

Text: Acts 2:1-4

Introduction

1. Today many are confused about the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
2. We need a clear word on the experience.
3. Out text shows us three things about a true baptism in the Holy Spirit:

I. The True Baptism in the Holy Spirit is Closely Associated with God's Harvest (v. 1).

- A. Historically Pentecost was a Jewish harvest festival (Lev. 23:11-16; Deut. 16:9-10)
 1. God providentially chose to send the Holy Spirit during this harvest festival.
 2. Pentecost thus symbolizes the beginning of God's worldwide harvest of souls.
- B. The power of Pentecost is to promote the growth of the church worldwide.
 1. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is the chief reason for the worldwide growth of the Pentecostal movement.
 2. When you are baptized in the Holy Spirit you should become more involved in God's harvest

II. The True Baptism in the Holy Spirit is for Born Again Believers—God's New Temple (vv. 2-3).

- A. In the Old Testament wind and fire symbolized God's presence.

1. The sound of wind reminded those present that God was about to do something.
 2. The fire signified God's acceptance of the church as God's new temple (2 Chron 7:1-3; 1 Cor. 3:16; Eph. 2:21-22).
 3. The individual flames indicated that each believer was a temple of the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:19).
 4. Note that these two signs were "inauguration signs" and were not repeated in Acts.
- B. As a living temple of the Holy Spirit, every true believer can be empowered by the Holy Spirit.
1. As a living temple of God the life of every believer should be a place of faith, worship, sacrifice, forgiveness, thanksgiving, witness, and offering.
 2. As a living temple of God every believer is ready to be baptized in and empowered by the Holy Spirit.
 3. Just as a poet, an artist, or businessman can take a blank piece of paper and turn it into a thing of great value, even so, God can take a sinful life, wash it in the blood of Jesus, and fill it with His Spirit and make it a blessing to the whole world.

III. The True Baptism in the Holy Spirit Can Be Yours Today (v. 4).

- A. At Pentecost all 120 believers were baptized in the Holy Spirit.
 1. God's plan for believers today is for all to be filled.
- B. The Bible uses a number of terms to describe this experience.

1. For example: filling, pouring out, falling on, receiving, baptizing.
 2. These terms describe a relational experience with the Holy Spirit.
- C. When you are filled with the Spirit you will speak in tongues as the Spirit enables.
1. At Pentecost they spoke as the Spirit gave the words (Acts 2:4)
 2. This is the only repeated sign of Spirit baptism in the book of Acts (2:4; 10:45; 19:6).
 3. The words will not come from your mind, but from your spirit (1 Cor. 14:2).
 4. Many other results will follow (such as powerful witness, closer relationship with God, power over demons, spiritual gifts, etc.)

Conclusion

1. You can experience the true baptism in the Holy Spirit today.
2. Just believe, ask, and receive by faith.

— Jim Lemons