

Water, The Spirit and Fire

Water:

Joh 3:3 Jesus answered and said unto him, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born again** (*Gk.509-afresh, from above*), he cannot see (*Gk.1492-perceive, understand*) the kingdom of God.

- **Act 2:41** Then they that gladly (*Gk.780-with pleasure*) received (*Gk.588-take fully, welcome, approve*) his word were baptized (*via water*): and the same day there were **added** unto them about three thousand souls.
- **Col 1:13** Who hath delivered us **from** the power of darkness, and **hath translated us into** the kingdom of His dear Son:

Joh 3:4 Nicodemus saith unto Him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter the second time into his mother's womb, and be born?

Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, **Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born** (*Gk.1080-figuratively to regenerate*) **of** (*Gk.1537-origin [from the point whence motion or action proceeds]*) **water** (*baptized*) **and of** (*not in the original text*) **the Spirit**, (*not later but throughout the process, it's continual*) **he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.**

- **Tit 3:5** Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, by the washing (*Gk.3067-bath, that is, [figuratively] baptism*) of regeneration (*Gk.3824-spiritual rebirth or renovation*), and renewing (*Gk.342-renovation*) of the Holy Ghost; **This is not Holy Spirit baptism.** *It is a renewal of the teaching of the Holy Spirit within.*
- **Eph 1:13** In Whom ye also *trusted*, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in Whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed (*Gk.4792-stamp for security or preservation*) (**not baptized**) with that holy Spirit of promise,
Eph 1:14 Which is the earnest of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, unto the praise of His glory.

A down payment on a home or property gives you the ownership of it as long as you make the mortgage payments. Even if you miss the last payment you can lose your investment. So it is with our inheritance that awaits us in Heaven.

1Jn 1:7 But if we walk in the light, as He is in the light, we have fellowship one with another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanseth us from all sin.

Joh 3:6 **That which is born of the flesh** (*Gk.4561-human being*) **is flesh** (*Gk.4561-human nature*); **and that which is born of the Spirit** (*Gk.4151-Holy Spirit*) **is spirit** (*Gk.4151-mental disposition*). (*Takes on a spiritual nature.*)

- Eph 4:21 If so be that ye have heard Him, and have been taught by Him, as the truth is in Jesus:
Eph 4:22 That ye **put off** concerning the former conversation (*Gk.391-behavior*) **the old man** (*Gk.444-human being*), which is **corrupt** according to the deceitful lusts;
Eph 4:23 And be **renewed in the spirit** (*Gk.4151-mental disposition*) **of your mind** (*Gk.3563-intellect*);
Eph 4:24 And that ye **put on the new man**, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Gal 3:27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

- Rom 6:4 Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in **newness** of life.

Having been born of earthly parents we inherit a human nature. But, being born from above we inherit a spiritual nature. Thus, we become children of God through the "re-birth" process.

- Heb 12:7 If ye endure chastening, God dealeth with you **as with sons**; for what son is he whom the father chasteneth not?
Heb 12:8 But if ye be without chastisement, whereof all are partakers, then are ye bastards (*Gk.3541-illegitimate*), and not sons.
Heb 12:9 Furthermore we have had **fathers of our flesh** which corrected *us*, and we gave *them* reverence: shall we not much rather be in subjection unto the Father of spirits, and live?
Heb 12:10 For they verily for a few days chastened *us* after their own pleasure; but He for *our* profit, that *we* might be **partakers of His holiness**.

I look like my earthly father and my son looks like me. We inherit human traits. We are created in the image of God and as such we need to partake of those "spiritual" traits if we are truly the sons of God.

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The Spirit:

Concerning Jesus:

- Mat 3:16 And Jesus, when He was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto Him, and he saw the **Spirit of God** descending like a dove, and **lighting upon Him**: *Jesus did not have the ability to perform miracles before this moment.*
Mat 3:17 And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is My beloved Son, in Whom I am well pleased.

- Luk 4:1 And Jesus being **full of the Holy Ghost** returned from Jordan, and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness,

Concerning the apostles:

Mat 3:1 In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judaea,

Mat 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, Whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall **baptize** you (*future apostles*) **with the Holy Ghost**, and *with* fire: (*Acts 11:16*)

Joh 1:35 Again the next day after John stood, and two of his disciples;

Joh 1:36 And looking upon Jesus as He walked, he saith, Behold the Lamb of God!

Joh 1:37 And the two disciples heard him speak, and **they followed Jesus**.

Joh 1:38 Then Jesus turned, and saw them following, and saith unto them, **What seek ye?** They said unto Him, Rabbi, (which is to say, being interpreted, Master,) where dwellest Thou?

Joh 1:39 He saith unto them, **Come and see**. They came and saw where He dwelt, and abode with Him that day: for it was about the tenth hour.

Joh 1:40 One of the two **which heard John speak**, and followed Him, was **Andrew**, Simon Peter's brother.

Joh 1:41 He first findeth his own brother **Simon**, and saith unto him, We have found the Messiah, which is, being interpreted, the Christ.

Luk 9:1 Then He called His twelve disciples together, and gave them power and authority over all devils, and to cure diseases.

Joh 20:22 And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and saith unto them, **Receive ye the Holy Ghost: 23 Whose soever sins ye remit, they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained.**

Jesus only gave them "gifts" of the Holy Spirit at these times just as the apostles did in *Acts 8* when Peter and John went down to Samaria.

Act 2:1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, **they** were all with one accord in one place.

Act 2:2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

Act 2:3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it **sat upon** each of them.

Act 2:4 And **they** (*the 12 apostles*) **were all filled with the Holy Ghost**, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Act 8:14 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria (*A Samaritan was a Jew of mixed race. Shalmaneser, King of Assyria, re-colonized Samaria after he devastated and de-populated it. The Jews that remained intermixed with the heathens from Babylon, Cutha, Ava, Hamath and Sepharvain that returned there to repopulate the area. The New Thayers Greek-English Lexicon*) had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:

Act 8:15 Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:

Act 8:16 (**For as yet [until Cornelius] He was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized (immersed in water) in the name (Gk.3686-authority) of the Lord Jesus.**)

Act 8:17 Then laid they *their* hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

Act 8:18 And when Simon saw that **through laying on of the apostles' hands** the Holy Ghost was given, he offered them money,

The "laying on of the apostles' hands" was not a baptism of the Holy Spirit! **Only God could do that!**

Concerning Cornelius and company:

Act 10:44 While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost **fell** (*Gk.1968-to embrace or seize*) **on all them** which heard the word.

Act 10:45 And they of the circumcision which believed (*Jewish Christians*) **were astonished**, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the **gift of the Holy Ghost**.

Act 10:46 **For they heard them speak with tongues** (*Acts 2:4*), and magnify God. Then answered Peter,

Act 10:47 Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we (*referring to the apostles*)?

Act 10:48 And he **commanded** them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. (*thus showing the importance of being scripturally baptized. Cornelius was not yet saved or Peter would not have "commanded" them to be immersed for the remission of their sins [Acts 2:38]. A sinner could be baptized in the Holy Spirit and yet lost just as an apostle was not kept from sinning having been immersed in The Spirit- Gal 2:11*) Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.

Later, back in Jerusalem, Peter relayed his experience with the Jewish brethren...

Act 11:15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them (*Cornelius and company*), as on us (*apostles*) at the beginning (*speaking of all the way back to Pentecost since no others were baptized in like manner..."as yet" ...Acts 8:16*).

Act 11:16 Then remembered I the word of the Lord, how that He said, **John indeed baptized with water; but ye (apostles) shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost.**

Act 1:5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence. (Pentecost came ten days later.)

Peter and his entourage of believing Jews could not believe that the Gentiles were to be given the message of salvation and could thus become children of the covenant. It was because of Peter's unbelief that God poured out of His Holy Spirit on these non-Jews to show to Peter and the rest that God is no respecter of persons (*Acts 10:34*). Thus the only people we see Biblically baptized in the Holy Spirit are Jesus, His apostles and Cornelius and company. (*see Acts 8:18 for the transferal of gifts*)

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Fire:

Mat 3:5 Then went out to him (*John the baptist/immerser*) Jerusalem, and all Judaea, and all the region round about Jordan,

Mat 3:6 And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.

Mat 3:7 But when he saw many of the Pharisees and Sadducees come to his baptism, he said unto them, O generation of vipers, who hath warned you to flee from the **wrath to come?**

Mat 3:8 Bring forth therefore fruits meet for repentance:

Mat 3:9 And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to *our* father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

Mat 3:10 And now also the axe is laid unto the root of the trees: therefore every tree which **bringeth not forth good fruit** is hewn down, and **cast into the fire**.

Mat 3:11 I indeed baptize you with **water unto** (*Gk.1519-for the purpose of*) **repentance**: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, Whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: **He shall baptize you with** the Holy Ghost, and *with* **fire**:

Mat 3:12 Whose fan *is* in His hand, and He will thoroughly purge His floor, and gather His wheat into the garner; but He will **burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire**.

"Wrath to come" refers to the coming judgment on the world. That judgment refers to the "chaff" being burned "with unquenchable fire". The dross will be burned away from the precious metal and cast out. Thus fire holds a two-fold meaning. The first, of trials that are to strengthen/nurture us and second, being the fire of judgment that awaits those who do not pass the testing of our faith. (There exists **no command** to be baptized with **fire** or in the **Holy Spirit**.)

Mat 20:20 Then came to Him the mother of Zebedee's children with her sons, worshipping *Him*, and desiring a certain thing of Him.

Mat 20:21 And He said unto her, **What wilt thou?** She saith unto Him, Grant that these my two sons may sit, the one on Thy right hand, and the other on the left, in Thy kingdom.

Mat 20:22 But Jesus answered and said, **Ye know not what ye ask. Are ye able to drink of the cup that I shall drink of, and to be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?** They say unto Him, We are able.

Mat 20:23 And He saith unto them, **Ye shall drink indeed of My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with: but to sit on My right hand, and on My left, is not Mine to give, but it shall be given to them for whom it is prepared of My Father.** *The apostles would be immersed in suffering for the gospel's sake.*

- Mat 26:39 And He went a little further, and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, **O My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from Me: nevertheless not as I will, but as Thou wilt.**
- Mat 26:42 He went away again the second time, and prayed, saying, **O My Father, if this cup may not pass away from Me, except I drink it, Thy will be done.**

1Pe 1:7 That the **trial of your faith**, being much more precious than of gold that perisheth, though it be **tried (tested) with fire**, might be found unto praise and honour and glory at the appearing of Jesus Christ:

- Eze 22:18 Son of man, the house of Israel is to Me become dross: all they *are* brass, and tin, and iron, and lead, in the midst of the furnace; they are *even* the dross (*Heb.5509-refuse*) of silver.

The dross and/or chaff will be burned in the lake of fire where it will be "tormented day and night for ever and ever". (*Rev 20:10*)

Mar 9:43 And if thy hand offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter into life maimed, than having two hands to go into hell, into the **fire that never shall be quenched:**

Mar 9:44 Where their worm dieth not, and the **fire is not quenched.**

Mar 9:45 And if thy foot offend thee, cut it off: it is better for thee to enter halt into life, than having two feet to be cast into hell, into the **fire that never shall be quenched:**

Mar 9:46 Where their worm dieth not, and the **fire is not quenched.**

Mar 9:47 And if thine eye offend thee, pluck it out: it is better for thee to enter into the kingdom of God with one eye, than having two eyes to be **cast into hell fire:**

Mar 9:48 Where their worm dieth not, and the **fire is not quenched.**

Joh 12:48 He that rejecteth Me, and receiveth not My words, hath one that **judgeth him:** the word that I have spoken, the same shall judge him in the last day.

Act 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized ("*here is water*"-8:36; "*much water*"-Jn 3:23) every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ **for** (*reason*) the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the **gift of** the Holy Ghost. (*not miraculous in nature*)

- Gift- down payment (Eph 1:13), kingdom (Acts 2:33), eternal life (1 Jn 2:25)

Act 2:39 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.**

- 2Th 2:14 Whereunto He **called you by our gospel** (*good news*), to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Presently:

Eph 4:4 *There is* one body (*of Christ, the church*), and one Spirit (*Holy*), even as ye are called in one hope (*expectation of eternal life*) of your calling; 5 One Lord (*of Lords, Jesus*), one faith (*conviction*), **one baptism** (*immersion in water*), 6 One God and Father of all, who *is* above all, and through all, and in you all.

Is there more than one God? Holy Spirit? Lord? Hope? **NO!**

Then there can only be one church, faith **and baptism!**

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