

“More Power”

Luke 24: 46-49 “...Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

Understanding the scriptures is important, and is in itself a work of the Spirit (John 16: 13-15). But understanding the word is not enough. This is why Jesus told them to go and wait for the promise of the Father, power from on high. This empowering would be the baptism with the Holy Spirit.

Acts 1:5 “...for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

Acts 1:8 “But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be witnesses to me...”

There is a difference between being born of the Spirit and being filled with the Spirit. The difference is who is doing the baptizing and what the purpose is. Many Christians lump them together in error and miss the fullness God intended.

Example 1

I Cor. 12: 13 – “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body...”

Who is the baptizer? The Holy Spirit

What are we baptized in? The body of Christ

What is the purpose? Salvation, or joining the body of Christ

Example 2

Matt. 3: 11 – “I baptize you with water unto repentance...”

Who is the baptizer? John

What are the people baptized in? Water

What was the purpose? Repentance (an acknowledgement of repentance)

Remember, water baptism doesn't save us. It's an outward sign of an inward grace, in obedience to Christ.

Example 3

Matt. 3: 11b – "...but He who is coming after me is mightier than I...He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."

Who is the baptizer? Jesus

What are we baptized in? The Holy Spirit

What is the purpose? Power (Acts 1: 5, 8)

Also, there is one baptism in the Spirit, but many fillings.
(Acts 2:4, 4:8, 4:31, 13:9, 13:52)

What is the Holy Spirit's role in the believer?

1. To empower (Acts 1: 8)
2. To teach (John 16: 13-15)
3. To help (John 14: 16-17, Rom 8:26)
4. To bear witness (Rom 8:16)
5. To purify (I Thess. 4: 7-8)
6. To lead (Rom. 8: 14)