

Receive the Holy Spirit

One Good Thing Leads to Another

by Pastor John Hamel

“And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples, He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost. And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism. Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues and prophesied.” (Acts 19:1-6)

The Apostle Paul lived and Pastored God's flock in a city called Ephesus for two years. Paul, of course, was also used by the Holy Spirit to write the majority of the New Testament. This should tell us that he knew what he was talking about when it came to the things of God. While Pastoring in Ephesus, he came in contact with some of John the Baptist's disciples. They believed all John had preached about Jesus the Messiah, but they had not yet heard the full Message of the Gospel. They knew nothing about the Holy Spirit Who had come into the Earth at “Pentecost” many years earlier. (Acts 2:1-5) They apparently knew about the Good News of Jesus but they had not heard the additional Good News. Paul explained there was another experience after the salvation experience called the “Baptism with The Holy Spirit.” They hadn't heard of it. I'm sure Paul explained the experience to them something like this.

Once you accept Jesus as your Savior by saying, “Jesus, You're my choice” (Romans 10:13) you come back into a position of right standing with God. (2Corinthians 5:21) At that time you receive a “measure” of the Holy Spirit's power. I compare this to a glass filled to the top with water. Now, because you are a

vessel cleansed by Jesus' Blood, you qualify as a dwelling place for the Holy Spirit in ALL of His "fullness". This is when you really receive power from God to live life victoriously. I compare this subsequent experience to taking that glass filled with water that I mentioned and dropping it down inside of a pitcher filled with water. Now the glass is both FILLED and IMMERSED, or "baptized" in the water.

This is what happens to the Born Again Believer who receives the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. They become both filled with and immersed in power. This is a Baptism of Power reserved only for Believers in Jesus.

How about you? Have you said, "Jesus, You're my choice" in order to come back into union with Creator God? Because if you have, you can now pray, "Father, fill me with the Holy Spirit and Power, in Jesus' Name." This is an experience that will radically change your life. You will receive power in prayer that you never knew before. Once you have asked the Father to fill you with the Holy Spirit and Power read these Scriptures: Acts 2:1-4; Acts 10:1-44; 1Corinthians 14:1-40; Jude 20 and Isaiah 28:11. Being Born Again is a good thing. But God wants you to know that one good thing always leads to another. In this case it leads to the Baptism with the Holy Spirit. It's a gift just waiting to be received.

When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you'll know it because you'll begin to worship God in an unusual language that you've never spoken before. Those words will come right up out of your "belly" (spirit) just like Jesus said in John 7:37. That is your new prayer language called "Tongues". I call it "A hotline to Heaven". It's a language that Satan can't understand so he can't interfere with it. It's a language that only God can understand. (1 Corinthians 14:2,3; Romans 8:26-28) By yielding your tongue to this supernatural prayer language, God is actually praying through you. When God prays through you, it NEVER goes unanswered. So yield yourself to this supernatural gift no matter what kind of negative talk you've heard from others about this God-given gift. People criticize the Baptism with the Holy Spirit as evidenced by speaking with other tongues because they do not

know what the Bible teaches about it. They have simply been taught wrong. You have now been taught "right." Give God your tongue by yielding to this prayer language and you'll see things happen supernaturally that you had never even considered before. Try it. You'll like it. Check out some of our other teachings on the Holy Spirit under "Additional E-Bible Studies" back at the Home Page.

Then get under a Holy Spirit filled Pastor who has had this experience and believes that ... ONE GOOD THING LEADS TO ANOTHER!

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