

What is being baptised with the Spirit? What is being filled with the Spirit?Introduction

- Where must we find our doctrine?

i What is Pentecost all about?

- Was the Holy Spirit involved in the Old Testament?
- How might you describe his old covenant work?
- Joel 2:28-29 says, “*And afterwards, I will pour out My Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on My servants, both men and women, I will pour out My Spirit in those days.*” What does this show about the expectations of the Old Testament prophets concerning the Spirit?
- Acts 1:4-5 says, “*On one occasion, while He was eating with them, Jesus gave them this command: ‘Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift My Father promised, which you have heard Me speak about. For John baptised with water, but in a few days you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.’*” What does this say will happen to the disciples?
- Acts 2:1-4 says, “*When the Day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.*” What does this say happened to the disciples?
- How does Peter explain it in Acts 2:14-18?
- What was special about the Day of Pentecost, then?

ii What is being filled with the Spirit all about?

- Here are three similar passages:
 - ⊙ Acts 4:8-10. “*Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: ‘Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel. It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.’*”
 - ⊙ Acts 7:54-56. “*When they heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ‘Look,’ he said, ‘I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.’*”
 - ⊙ Acts 13:8-11. “*But Elymas the sorcerer (for that is what his name means) opposed them and tried to turn the proconsul from the faith. Then Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked straight at Elymas and said, ‘You are a child of the devil and an enemy of everything that is right! You are full of all kinds of deceit and trickery. Will you never stop perverting the right ways of the Lord? Now the hand of the Lord is against you. You are going to be blind, and for a time you will be unable to see the light of the sun.’ Immediately mist and darkness came over him, and he groped about, seeking someone to lead him by the hand.*”
- What do they teach about being filled with the Spirit?
- Can being filled with the Spirit in this sense happen more than once?

- Here are three more similar passages:
 - ☉ Acts 6:1-4. *"In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Grecian Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, 'It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.'"*
 - ☉ Acts 11:22-24. *"News of this reached the ears of the church at Jerusalem, and they sent Barnabas to Antioch. When he arrived and saw the evidence of the grace of God, he was glad and encouraged them all to remain true to the Lord with all their hearts. He was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and faith, and a great number of people were brought to the Lord."*
 - ☉ Ephesians 5:18. *"Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit."*
- What do they teach about being filled with the Spirit?
- How does this commandment apply to us?

iii What is being baptised with the Holy Spirit?

- What does John the Baptist foretell in Matthew 3:11, Mark 1:8, Luke 3:16 and John 1:33? (Luke 3:16 says, *"John answered them all, 'I baptise you with water. But one more powerful than I will come, the thongs of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptise you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.'"*)
- How do Acts 1:5 (see above) and Acts 11:16 (*"Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptised with water, but you will be baptised with the Holy Spirit.'"*) show that this has been fulfilled?
- I Corinthians 12:12-13 says, *"The body is a unit, though it is made up of many parts; and though all its parts are many, they form one body. So it is with Christ. For we were all baptised by one Spirit into one body - whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free - and we were all given the one Spirit to drink."* What is Paul likening the church to?
- Who does he say has been baptised with the Spirit?
- When does this happen?
- Why do some groups disagree with this?
- How might you explain the fact that the disciples were baptised with the Holy Spirit after they were converted?
- How might you explain the Samaritan Christians' experience in Acts 8?
- Whose disciples had the people been who were baptised with the Spirit in Acts 19?
- Should you expect your own personal Pentecost?

iv What does it all mean to us?

- What four lessons should we learn from all of this?
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 - (ii)
 - (iii)
 - (iv)