Tenets of the Faith – Week 10

Indwelling/Baptism of the Holy Spirit

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**The Holy Spirit “indwells” in believers.** One of the ministries of the Holy Spirit is His indwelling. From a study of Scripture, we learn the following about the indwelling work of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit Indwells All Who Believe in Jesus - there are no exceptions to this. The gospel of John records Jesus testifying to this fact in the city of Jerusalem at the Feast of Tabernacles. **John 7:37-39 On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.** Jesus promised that those who believed in Him would receive the Spirit of God.

**The Holy Spirit indwells believers permanently.** The Holy Spirit has a unique ministry when Jesus promised the Spirit would indwell believers and that the indwelling would be permanent. **John 14:16 And I will pray to the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever.** The permanent indwelling would NOT be for a select few but for ALL believers. Once we accept Jesus Christ as our personal Lord and Savior, we get to receive the Holy Spirit at the exact moment we get saved with the Lord, not sometime later. When we receive the Holy Spirit at that moment of our conversions to the Lord, we are actually baptized with Him. **Acts 2:38 Then Peter said to them, Repent, and let everyone of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.**

**Mark 1:8 I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.** The Bible says that there is only one baptism, and that one baptism is when we receive the Holy Spirit into our human spirits at the exact moment of our conversions to the Lord. This one baptism is not water baptism. **Ephesians 4:4-5 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism.**

**Matthew 3:11 I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.** We now have the Holy Spirit literally living on the inside of us as a result of our conversions to the Lord.

**The Holy Spirit is a Gift.** The Holy Spirit s given to all believers in Jesus without exception. No conditions are attached to the gift of the Spirit except faith in Christ**. (John 7:37-39 quotes above)**

Many scriptures speak of the Holy Spirit as being given to believers. The word give in these instances means to bestow a gift. **1 Thess 4:8 He therefore that, despised not man, but God, who hath also given unto us his Holy Spirit. 1 John 4:13 Hereby know we that we dwell in him, and he in us, because he hath given us of his Spirit.** The Holy Spirit is given as a gift, there is nothing the person can do to receive the gift apart from accepting it**.**

**The Holy Spirit is given at salvation.** The sealing of the Holy Spirit is one of the many works God performs on behalf of the believer to secure his salvation. **Ephesians 1:13 In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.**

This indicates the Holy Spirit is given at the moment of salvation.

**1 Corinthians 6:19 Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?** For you were bought at a price; **therefore, glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God’s.**

**Sealing of the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 4:30 And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.** The Holy Spirit is God and Lord Himself and is the third Person of the Triune Godhead and not only do we get to receive the Holy Spirit at the exact moment of our conversions to the Lord, but His presence is a SEAL. The word seal means – to confirm, authenticate, guarantee, to pledge. This seal will now act as a very powerful, spiritual bond between us and the Lord. **2 Corinthians 1:21 Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a deposit.**

**2 Corinthians 5:5 Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.** The Holy Spirit is given to the person who believes in Christ as a seal, identifying the believer as belonging to God.The principal idea of sealing is that of OWNERSHIP. Hence, the sealing not only emphasizes ownership but also SECURITY. The seal is permanent with a view to the believer’s ultimately glorification. **Ephesians 4:30 (quoted above)** We are sealed at conversion.

**A Person NOT Possessing the Holy Spirit is an unbeliever.**

**Romans 8:9** **But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man has not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his**. In Jude refers to unbelievers as devoid of the Spirit. **Jude 19 These be they who separate themselves, sensual, having not the Spirit.**

**Renewed and Regenerated by the Holy Spirit.** Once we receive the Holy Spirit into our human spirits at the moment of our conversions to the Lord, another very powerful thing will then happen. Our human spirit will be immediately and instantaneously regenerated by the Holy Spirit. **Titus 3:4-7 But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.** Notice two very important things in this verse: First, this regeneration is being directly tied to us getting saved in the Lord. The words but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit are definitely telling us that we are saved by God’s grace and mercy and that when He does save us, He is saving us through the regeneration of the Holy Spirit. Second, this regeneration and renewing is being done directly by the Holy Spirit Himself. As a result of this regenerative work that is immediately and instantaneously done by the Holy Spirit at the moment of our conversions with the Lord, our human spirits are immediately born again.

**Born of the Spirit.** Here is the verse direct from Jesus Himself telling us exactly what it means to be born again with Him: **John 3:3,5 I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. Unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.** Notice that being born again is referring direct to being born of the Holy Spirit Himself. In other words, if you do not have the Holy Spirit living on the inside of your human spirit, then you are not truly born again in the Lord. It is only when the Holy Spirit comes and enters into your human spirit are you truly born again in the Lord – *and the only way to be able to get the Holy Spirit to enter into your human spirit is to be willing to accept Jesus Christ as your personal Lord and Savior.* WE REPENT, tun away and make Him Lord of our lives and live by His plan for our lives and His word only. There is no other way into the kingdom of God.

We either come through Jesus and the blood that He has personally shed for all of us on the cross or we do not come through at all. **Acts 4:12 Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**

As a result of being truly born again, our spiritual relationship with the Lord has now been fully restored. We are now brand-new creatures who have now been given a brand-new life by the Lord. The Bible tells us that all old things have now passed away and that all things have now been made brand new. **2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.**

The regeneration of our human spirits by the Holy Spirit is a very powerful, supernatural work that is done by the Lord so He can get all of us back into the right relationship with Him. Unless you have the Holy Spirit living on the inside of your human spirit, you will have no lifeline, no inner connection back to God the Father who dwells in heaven.

**What does the Bible mean by the term baptized in the Holy Spirit?**

The baptizing work of the Holy Spirit may be defined as that work whereby the Spirit places the believer into union with Christ and into union with other believers in the body of Christ. **1 Corinthians 12:13 For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.** This is where we are placed into the body of Christ.

The baptizing work did not occur in the Old Testament, it is unique to the church age which begins at Pentecost. That this ministry of the Spirit began at Pentecost can be seen by comparing **Acts 1:5 For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence** which indicates the baptizing work is still future, **Acts 11:15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning**. This is where the subsequent act of empowering for service. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is performed by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is the agent of baptism in Acts 1:5 and 1 Cor 12:13. We see the baptism of the Holy Spirit principally on the Day of Pentecost and subsequent events similar to the Day of Pentecost in which those who were gathered were baptized in the Holy Spirit. The bible would affirm that the primary meaning of the concept of baptism in the Holy Spirit is the work of the Spirit upon a human being to endow that person with the power necessary to carry out their mission and vocation as a disciple of Christ.

**Great Commission.** The New Testament is that the whole body of the people of God is now being equipped and empowered from on high to carry out its task. Notice that Pentecost is tied very closely to the great commission. Jesus said, Go into Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and the outermost parts of the earth, but before you go, tarry in Jerusalem. After the Holy Spirit comes upon you, then you can go and carry out this mandate. **Acts 1:8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.**

The Bible says, **1 Cor. 2:10-11 The Spirit searches all things, even the deep things of God. For whom among men knows the thoughts of a man except the man’s spirit within him? In the same way no one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God.** I like that about the Holy Spirit. He goes where I cannot. He comprehends things I cannot. The baptism of the Spirit refers to being equipped or empowered by God’s Spirit to carry out the task that Jesus has given the church.

The Scriptures refer to this as being filled with the Holy Spirit. When we are filled with the Holy Spirit, we walk by the Spirit and are led by the Spirit. **Galatians 5:16-18 This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusted against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would. But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law**. Live by the Spirit and keep in step with the Spirit. **Galatians 5:25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.** According to the apostle Paul, being filled with the Holy Spirit makes the difference between life and death.

**What is the *Evidence* of Having Received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**

When you first receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, one of three things may happen: The Gift of Tongues - Some of you may receive the gift of tongues immediately. You have just been given a powerful prayer gift from God and you can now start to use this powerful gift in your prayer life with Him. **Jude 20 But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost.** When the apostles first received the Holy Spirit in the upper room, they came out speaking in other tongues. Acts 2:1-4; Acts 8:18-19; Acts 10:44-46

The benefits of having received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit:

Gives spiritual refreshing – Isa. 28:11-12

Giving Thanksgiving – 1 Cor. 14:15-17

Brings your tongue under control – James 3:8; 1 Cor 14:3-4

Praying inline with the will of God - Romans 8:26-27

**Evidence of Receiving/Being Filled with the Holy Spirit (Heavens Language)** Paul declares in **1 Corinthians 14:18-40 I thank my God; I speak with tongues more than ye all**. Paul the man of God who gave more instruction to the church than any one person. He has this to instruct the church about tongues and it proper usage.

**Tongues to Speak to God. 1 Corinthians 14:2 For one who speaks in an unknown tongue speaks not to men but to God, for no one understands or catches his meaning, because in the Holy Spirit he utters secret truths and hidden things not obvious to the understanding.** God has given this to us in a powerful way. The ability to speak to God. There are four distinctive tongues spoken of in the bible (2- outwardly (publicly) & 2- privately) and their proper usages of tongues in the new Testament with clear purpose for each. It is important to bring clarity with this beautiful gift from the Spirit.

**Tongues for a sign to Unbelievers. 1 Corinthians 14:22 Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serves not for them that believe not, but for them which believe.** This is the TYPE of tongue spoken publicly for the purpose of the instructions for unbelievers. Paul was giving instruction to the body of Christ the Corinthian Church. We see this same TYPE of tongue referenced in Acts 2 at the outpouring at Pentecost.

**Day of Pentecost. Acts 2:1-21 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marveled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born? Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia, Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes, Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God. And they were all amazed, and were in doubt, saying one to another, What meanest this? Others mocking said, These men are full of new wine. But Peter, standing up with the eleven, lifted up his voice, and said unto them, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words: For these are not drunken, as ye suppose, seeing it is but the third hour of the day. But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy: And I will shew wonders in heaven above, and signs in the earth beneath; blood, and fire, and vapor of smoke: The sun shall be turned into darkness, and the moon into blood, before the great and notable day of the Lord come: And it shall come to pass, that whosoever shall call on the name of the Lord shall be saved.** They spoke outwardly (publicly) in their own languages. It was the beginning on the day of Pentecost and outlined the outpouring spoken in the book of Joel 2:28

**Tongues used for Interpretation. 1 Corinthians 12:30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?** It is a gift from the Holy Spirit. **1 Corinthians 12:10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers’ kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues.** Paul brings teaching on the gift of speaking in tongues and interpretation of tongues as two of the several gifts of the Spirit. It’s a Heavenly language and MUST be interpreted because it is spoken publicly.

**Order for Tongues.** The word of God embraces instruction and correction in it use.In **2 Timothy 3:16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness; that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.** Paul speaks of the proper order and way the gifts must be unified in the body to be edified in the body. He was giving instruction to the body of Christ the Corinthian Church on its proper usage of tongues and prophecy. **1 Corinthians 14:18-33 I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all: Yet in the church I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue. Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be you children, but in understanding be men. In the law it is written, with men of other tongues and other lips will I speak unto this people; and yet for all that will they not hear me, saith the Lord. Wherefore tongues are for a sign, not to them that believe, but to them that believe not: but prophesying serves not for them that believe not, but for them which believe. If therefore the whole church be come together into one place, and all speak with tongues, and there come in those that are unlearned, or unbelievers, will they not say that ye are mad? But if all prophesy, and there come in one that believeth not, or one unlearned, he is convinced of all, he is judged of all: And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so, falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth. How is it then, brethren? when ye come together, every one of you hath a psalm, hath a doctrine, hath a tongue, hath a revelation, hath an interpretation. Let all things be done unto edifying. If any man speak in an unknown tongue, let it be by two, or at the most by three, and that by course; and let one interpret. But if there be no interpreter, let him keep silence in the church; and let him speak to himself, and to God. Let the prophets speak two or three and let the other judge. If anything, be revealed to another that sits by, let the first hold his peace. For you may all prophesy one by one, that all may learn, and all may be comforted. And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. For God is not the author of confusion, but of peace, as in all churches of the saints.**

**Tongues for Intersession (privately). Romans 8:26 Likewise the Spirit also helps our infirmities: for we know not what we should pray for as we ought: but the Spirit itself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered.**

**Tongues for Personal Use (privately)**. **1 Corinthians 14:14-15 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prays, but my understanding is unfruitful. What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with understanding also.** Paul was referencing your private language in intersession with the Lord in prayer.

**Perfect is come. 1 Corinthians 13:10-12 But when that which is perfect is come, then that which is in part shall be done away. When I was a child, I spoke as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things. For now, we see through a glass, darkly; but then face to face: now I know in part; but then shall I know even as also I am known.** That which is perfect —This verse shows, by the emphatic then, that the time when the gifts shall cease is the end of this dispensation. The imperfect shall not cease until the perfect is brought in. In this context charity is much to be preferred to the gifts on which the Corinthians prided themselves. From its longer continuance. It is a grace, lasting as eternity. The present state is a state of childhood, the future that of manhood. Such is the difference between earth and heaven. What narrow views, what confused notions of things, have children when compared with grown men! Thus, shall we think of our most valued gifts of this world, when we come to heaven. All things are dark and confused now, compared with what they will be hereafter. They can only be seen as by the reflection in a mirror, or in the description of a riddle; but hereafter our knowledge will be free from all obscurity and error. It is the light of heaven only, that will remove all clouds and darkness that hide the face of God from us. To sum up the excellence of charity, it is preferred not only to gifts, but to other graces, to faith and hope. **Ephesians 4:11-13 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ.**

**Acts 10:44-46. While Peter yet spoke these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all of them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.** For they heard them speak with tongues — Speak in divers languages, which they had never learned; and magnify God — In such exalted sentiments and terms, as abundantly proved that their thoughts as well as their expressions, their minds as well as their tongues, were immediately under a divine influence.

**Acts 19:1-6 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 spoke with tongues and prophesied.**

**Clarifying the Indwelling**

Here are a few biblical scriptures that raise problems with the new testament teachings on the permanent indwelling of the Holy Spirit:

**Psalm 51:11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy Holy Spirit from me.** Relates to the temporary indwelling of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament economy. Following Pentecost, the indwelling of the Spirit was permanent.

**Acts 5:32** **And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.** Peter is NOT establishing obedience as a condition for the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, but rather Peter uses OBEY as a synonym for believe. This is also seen similarly in Act 6:7.

**Acts 8:14-17 Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John: Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.** This was a unique situationduring the transition from Law to Grace and from Israel to the Church.