The Purpose and Necessity of the Baptism with the Holy Spirit!

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **The fulfillment of God's design!**
  - **"I send the promise of My Father upon you… for power from on high!" Luke 24.49**
  - **"You will receive power to be witnesses for Me!" Acts 1.4, 8**
  - **"The gift, promised to all who believe…" Acts 2.38**
  - **"All the promises of God in Christ are yes and amen!" 2Corinthians 1.20**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **The fulfillment of God's design!**
  - **"Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law… that the blessing of Abraham might come on the gentiles through Jesus Christ that we might received the promise of the Spirit through faith!" Gal 3.13,14**
  - **"We have been given exceedingly precious promises whereby we become partakers of the Divine nature!" 2Peter 1.4**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for witnessing!**
  - **We have been given power to witness to others regarding Jesus/Good News!**
    - **Acts 1.4,8 is power to testify to our own (Jerusalem), to people somewhat like us (Judea), to people outside our arena (Samaria), people unlike us who don't like us (Uttermost part of the earth)!**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for witnessing!**
  - **Jesus was anointed with the Spirit before beginning His ministry!**
  - **He healed by the power of the Spirit!**
    - **"God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit and power; went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil…" Acts 10.38**
    - **"Cast out demons by the Spirit of God!" Matt 12.28**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for witnessing!**
  - **Jesus was anointed with the Spirit before beginning His ministry!**
  - **He preached by the Spirit!**
    - **"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me to preach the gospel to the poor, to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and the recovery of sight to the blind…" Luke 4.18**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for witnessing!**
  - **Jesus was anointed with the Spirit before beginning His ministry!**
  - **And then He promised that He would send the Holy Spirit so that…**
    - **"Most assuredly I say, those who believe in Me, the works that I do they will do also; and greater works that these will they do because I go to My Father!" John 14.12**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for witnessing!**
  - **Jesus was anointed with the Spirit before beginning His ministry!**
  - **From the frightful group in the upper room before the Holy Spirit came – they were transformed into fierce witnesses that the pain of death could not stop! Acts 5.17-20**
  - **"We must speak what we know!" A4.19,20**
  - **"Lord, look on their threats…" A4.29-31**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for witnessing!**
  - **Jesus was anointed with the Spirit before beginning His ministry!**
  - **"Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders among the people and they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke!" Acts 6.8,10**
  - **"My speech and preaching were not with enticing words of mans wisdom but in the Spirit and power!" 1Cor 2.4**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power to discern the will of God!**
  - **"And it will come to pass in the last days, says God, that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions and your old men will dream dreams. And on My servants I will pour out my Spirit in those days!" Acts 2.17,18**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power to discern the will of God!**
  - **By the Holy Spirit, believers are able to discern the will of God!**
    - **Peter was guided to the Italians by a dream given by the Holy Spirit! A10.9,10**
    - **Paul's journeys were guided by the Holy Spirit! Acts 16.6,7 9,10**
  - **He is our personal Guide through life! John 16.13**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for spiritual warfare!**
  - **Born into a kingdom conflict, all believers have a mission that requires Holy Spirit power!**
    - **"We do not wrestle with flesh and blood but against principalities, powers, the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in heavenly places!" Ephesians 6.12**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for spiritual warfare!**
  - **Born into a kingdom conflict, all believers have a mission that requires Holy Spirit power!**
    - **“Though we walk in the flesh, we do not war according to the flesh. For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds…” 2Corinthians 10.3-5**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for spiritual warfare!**
  - **Born into a kingdom conflict, all believers have a mission that requires Holy Spirit power!**
    - **We need the power He provides!**
    - **It's in Him that we have power to stand!**
    - **"He who is in you is greater than he that is in the world!" 1John 4.4**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for 'overflow!'**
  - **"If anyone thirsts let him come to Me and drink. He who believes in Me, as the scripture says, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water. But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those who believe in Him would receive; for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified!" John 7.37-39**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for 'overflow!'**
  - **Notice that Jesus said the power would flow out of the bliever…**
  - **Believers are expected to have power that flows outward!**
  - **We are vessels and channels of experience with God's power that overflows to others!**
  - **It's not about how much you have but how much overflows!**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for 'overflow!'**
  - **"Now unto Him who is able to do exceedingly above all that we ask or think according to the power that works in us!" Ephesians 3.20**
    - **It speaks of God's desire to do mighty things through us – according to the power that works in us!**
    - ***'Power to* heal the sick, cast out devils…'**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for 'ability!'**
  - **Power from on high, is ability to do good on the earth, in the lives of people!**
    - **It's the commission we have!**
    - **I's the ability to follow God's directives to places only He knows about!**
    - **Ability to hear and obey His voice!**
    - **To live to exalt His name!**

The Purpose and Necessity!

- **Power for 'ability!'**
  - **Power from on high, is ability to do good on the earth, in the lives of people!**
    - **To love like He loved!**
    - **To preach with passion and conviction!**
    - **To exercise spiritual gifts!**
    - **To suffer persecution and keep on!**
    - **To live holy lives by new standards!**

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit gives believers the ability to work until He comes or we complete our race on earth!

Those Who Can Receive the Holy Spirit!

Every Christian!

Those Who Can Receive…

- **The baptism with the Holy Spirit was intended to be the normal, divine provision for every believer!**
  - **But that is no longer the case!**
  - **Now it is for every believer who will receive Him!**
  - **Never intended to be for a special class or group of people!**
  - **Always for "as many as the Lord calls!"**

Those Who Can Receive…

- Some people believe the baptism was only for the early apostles, a special 'kick off' of the Church!
  - "Repent, be baptized every one of you in Jesus name for the remission of sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. For the promise is to you, yours, and all that are afar off, as many as the Lord will call!" Acts 2.38,39
  - No time limit; no early age designation!

Those Who Can Receive…

- Some people believe the baptism was only for the early apostles, a special ‘kick off’ of the Church!
  - As long as people are being saved; should be getting baptized w/the Holy Spirit!
  - As long as there is a mission…people should be receiving the Baptism!
  - As long as there is call to holy living we will need the Baptism with the Holy Spirit and the power He brings!

Those Who Can Receive…

- Some believe the Holy Spirit is just for ministers, especially missionaries, or special people for special service!
  - Every Christian is called to special service to the Lord!
  - There are no greater or lessor important ones in the Body of Christ!
    - All parts have equal importance!
    - All of us need Him for our assignments!

Those Who Can Receive…

- Some believe the Holy Spirit is just for ministers, especially missionaries, or special people for special service!
  - "Then Peter said, I perceive that God is no respecter of persons, but in every nation he that fears God and works righteousness is accepted with Him!" Acts 10.34,35
  - "while he was speaking the Holy Spirit fell on them all…" v44-48
  - He is the promised gift to all who believe!

The Baptism with the Holy Spirit is not to increase the believers prestige, but the quality of their service!

Those Who Can Receive…

- **Some believe the baptism with the Holy Spirit requires time and maturity!**
  - **Jesus said, "Wait for the promise…"**
  - **Waiting happened 2000 years ago… and He came… and He never went away!**
  - **The only wait time we have now is the time it takes to understand the promise!**
  - **"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed? We haven't heard…" Acts 19.2ff**

Conditions for those who want to receive the Holy Spirit!

Conditions…

- **Salvation!**
  - **“Repent and be baptized in the name of Jesus for the remission of sins and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit!” A2.37ff**
    - **Baptism in water is not a prerequisite, Acts 9.17,18 10.44-48 but not being willing to obey (Mt3) can be a hindrance!**
  - **“Heavenly *Father (at adoption)* gives the Spirit to those who ask.” Luke 11.13**

Conditions…

- **A deep sense of need!**
  - **"I cannot do this without power and ability beyond my own!"**
  - **"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness; they will be filled!" Matthew 5.6**
  - **"If anyone thirsts let him come to Me and drink… speaking of the Holy Spirit!" J7.37**

Conditions…

- **Surrender!**
  - **We can be saved without having the baptism with the Holy Spirit!**
    - **People who think about that most often are the ones who struggle to receive!**
  - **But there are many who ‘want more/all’ and they seek, and yield and receive!**
    - **Because they want all of God’s will!**

How to receive the baptism with the Holy Spirit!

How to receive…

- Not one way!
  - God uses many ways… and no two people are the same in their discernment and reception of spiritual things!
- But all the ways begin with: FAITH!
  - "We receive the promise of the Spirit through faith…" Galatians 3.14
  - "He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive…" John 7.37

How to receive…

- Not one way!
  - God uses many ways… and no two people are the same in their discernment and reception of spiritual things!
- But all the ways begin with: FAITH!
  - "God is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him…" Hebrews 11.6
  - Not feelings, but faith in His promises… and that He will do what He says He will! 2Corinthians 1.20 Luke 11.11-13

How to receive…

- Not one way!
  - God uses many ways… and no two people are the same in their discernment and reception of spiritual things!
- But all the ways begin with: FAITH!
  - Faith to believe ‘promise is for all…’
    - Not some, not special, but for believers!
  - Faith to believe “God is no respecter…’
    - “if He did it for you, He will do it for me!”

How to receive…

- Not one way!
  - God uses many ways… and no two people are the same in their discernment and reception of spiritual things!
- But all the ways begin with: FAITH!
  - Persistent faith!
    - There may be hindrances to receiving…
    - But that's on our side, not His…
    - So we endure!

How to receive…

- **Not one way!**
  - **God uses many ways… and no two people are the same in their discernment and reception of spiritual things!**
- **But all the ways begin with: FAITH!**
  - **We wait in praise and thanksgiving!**
  - **Praise is a manifestation of faith in God!**
  - **A ‘manifesting trust’ that He will follow up and fulfill His promises!**

How to receive…

- By fully yielding to the Holy Spirit!
  - You can realize your need for the Baptism…
  - You can want the Baptism…
  - You can ask for the Baptism…
  - And you can still struggle to have the full experience because it's easier for us to handle things than receive them!
- This baptism, by Jesus Matt 3.11 Mark 1.8 Luke 3.16 needs to be yielded to!

How to receive…

- Asides: How much do you ‘handle’ Water Baptism?
  - You hear that you need to be baptized and you yield yourself to the baptizer!
  - You trust the one baptizing you to dunk you and bring you up!
- Why is it so different with Holy Spirit baptism?
  - You hear and you weigh in…
  - You pray and you stall…

How to receive…

- **“This Jesus, being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received form the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear!” Acts 2.32,33**
  - **God will not give you a counterfeit!**
  - **Jesus is faithful and true and trustworthy!**
  - **And yielding for baptism is the intent of the baptism altogether!**

How to receive…

- **“This Jesus, being exalted to the right hand of God, and having received form the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He poured out this which you now see and hear!” Acts 2.32,33**
  - **Every phase of holy living/wielding power is the result of yielding to the Holy Spirit!**
  - **God teaches believers, from the start, the secret of success, yielding to Him!**

How to receive…

- **Asides: Yielding is virtually impossible to tell another person how to do!**
  - **People have gone years trying to find out why they were never 'baptized…'**
  - **Only to finally say, "If I had only known how to yield I would have received years ago!"**
  - **But every believer needs to discover this pathway to surrender for themselves!**

How to receive…

- **Asides[2]: Yielding does not mean losing yourself, personality, control of self.**
  - **This is not movie screen possession!**
  - **He does not say, "yield…" and then OVERTAKE!**
  - **He sets us on fire! He shines God's glory through us!**
  - **We yield! We pray! We shine!**