

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

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Is there biblical proof of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

Acts 2:4 - And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 10:44 - 46 - While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit came down on all those who were listening to his message. The Jewish believers who had come from Joppa with Peter were amazed that God had poured out his gift of the Holy Spirit on the Gentiles also. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God.

Acts 8:14-17 - Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Acts 9:17-18 - And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."
(1 Cor 14:18 - I speak with tongues more than all of you)

Acts 19:1-6 - While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" They answered, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." So, Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?" "John's baptism," they replied. Paul said, "John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

There are two main purposes for being baptized in the Holy Spirit.

First, He (the person of the Holy Spirit) supernaturally empowers you to build the kingdom of God.

Acts 1:4-8 - On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he 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 baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power after the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Power (Dunamis in the Greek) means miraculous, violently mighty power or abundant ability. Witness (Martus in the Greek) means to testify as in a courtroom and having the power to lay down your life as a martyr. Jesus was about to ascend and left about 100 people to change the world. He knew they needed supernatural power to achieve this.

Second, the Spirit brings you personal edification.

I Corinthians 14:2-4 - For he who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God, for no one understands him; however, in the spirit he speaks mysteries or divine secrets. But he who prophesies speaks edification and exhortation and comfort to men. He who speaks in a tongue edifies or builds up himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.

I Corinthians 14:14-17 - For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful. So, what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind. If you are praising God with your spirit, how can one who finds himself among those who do not understand say "Amen" to your thanksgiving, since he does not know what you are saying? For you indeed give thanks well, but the other is not edified. I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all;

Is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit for today?

Acts 2:38-39 - Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive THE GIFT of the Holy Spirit. THE PROMISE is for you and your children and for ALL who are far off — for ALL whom the Lord our God will call."

The power to be a witness and personal edification are needed until the return of Christ. However, you must choose to receive this promise.