

# **A DISCUSSION ON THE PURPOSE AND THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE SALVATION OF MANKIND AND ALSO IN LIVING THE CHRISTIAN LIFE**

I believe that All Christians would agree, that The Holy Spirit is a Bible subject, that gets the least amount of attention, than any other subject in the entire Bible.

For example; About 10 years ago I was in an adult Bible class, and one of the Elders was teaching the class. When he read a Verse that had The Name Holy Spirit in it, one of the students asked him a question about The Work of The Holy Spirit. Here is his response to the question. I do not know enough about The Holy Spirit to even make a Comment on that question. This seems to be the Norm in the Church today.

Lets give This Question some serious thought before we give our Answer. First, let each of us examine ourselves, and see what kind of an answer we would give to the exact same question. If we will be completely honest with ourselves, we may be just a little embarrassed right now, at Our own lack of knowledge on this subject.

Now, after we have come face to face with our own Lack of Knowledge on this subject, the serious Question would now be, **What Are We Going To Do About It?**

**We have Two Choices.**

1. We can continue on just like we are.
2. We can start now with the Book of Matthew, and read and study the entire New Testament on The Holy Spirit, because, if we don't we are going to miss the most important helper in our Christian lives.

If we will do this, we will be prepared to share with others What we have learned, and they too will be able to live a life of victory in Christ Jesus.

Before God ever Created the first day, He had a plan already in his mind for mankind. That plan included:

1. The Creation of man.
2. A Law to govern man.
3. The Fall of man in The Garden of Eden

4. The Spiritual Death of man.
5. A Savior for mankind.
6. And through The Holy Spirit of God, give mankind the opportunity to choose to regain the Spiritual Life, that he lost in The Garden of Eden when he sinned. And many other things.

We must notice also in this plan of God, that it did not include Eternal Forgiveness for sin. But this plan did provide a resting place for those who lived and died in The faith, believing that someday in the near future that God would fulfill The promises that He had made to fallen man in Genesis 3:15, and in Genesis 12:1-7. We need to read these verses, because of their importance in our study.

Genesis 3:15, *“And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her Seed; It shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise His heel.”*

Genesis 12:1, *“Now The Lord had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father’s house, unto a land that I will show thee.”*

Verse 2, *“And I will make of thee A great Nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing.”*

Verse 3, *“And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and In thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.”*

Verse 4, *“So Abram departed as The Lord had spoken unto him; and Lot went with him: and Abram was seventy five years old when he departed out of Haran.”*

Verse 5, *“And Abram took Sarai his wife, and Lot his brother’s son, and All their substance that they had gathered, and the souls that they had gotten in Haran; and they went forth to go into the land of Canaan; and into the land of Canaan they came.”*

Verse 6, *“And Abram passed through the land unto the place of Sichem, unto the plain of Moreh. And the Canaanite was then in the land.”*

Verse 7, *“And The Lord appeared unto Abram, and said, Unto thy seed will I give this land: and there builded he an altar unto The Lord, who appeared unto him.”*

Here is what we need to know, about what has just happened to Adam and Eve, so that Genesis 3:15 can be easily understood.

Satan tempted Adam and Eve to eat of the Forbidden fruit, and they did eat. The penalty for eating of this Tree is found in Genesis 2:17.

Genesis 2:17, "*But of The Tree of The Knowledge of Good and Evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in The Day that thou eatest thereof thou shall surely die.*"

Now here is what God said to Satan. It is found in Genesis 3:15.

Genesis 3:15, "*And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her Seed; It shall Bruise thy head and thou shalt bruise His heel.*"

**This Was A Promise, That Was To Be Fulfilled At Some Future Date.**

Now, lets read Genesis 12:1-3, ( See Genesis 12:1-7 typed above in this lesson ) because it will shed a lot of light on Genesis 3:15.

We read in Genesis 12:1, who God is talking to. "*It is Abraham.*"

Verse 2, God said to Abraham, "*I will make of thee A great Nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing.*"

Verse 3, "*And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: ( Now we must listen closely to the rest of This Verse ), And In thee shall all families of The Earth be blessed.*"

**Question - What should we have learned from these verses?**

**Answer - We should have learned, that in these verses. God has revealed unto fallen mankind, that at some Future date, God will bless All Nations through the Seed of woman. This Seed of woman would be called The Son of God, The Savior of The World.**

There is another chapter in The Bible that we must read to help us get a fuller picture in our minds about the things that has already been said in this lesson, and That was the importance of Faith in the lives of those who lived during the first part of God's Plan. The Chapter is the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter of Hebrews. Please read the first 12 verses of this Chapter, and then read Verse 13.

**Hebrews 11:1, “Now Faith is the substance of things hoped for, The evidence of things not seen.”**

**Verse 2, “For by it the Elders obtained a good report.”**

**Verse 3, “Through Faith we understand that The Worlds were framed by The Word of God, so that things which are seen were not made of things which do appear.”**

**Verse 4, “By Faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh.”**

**Verse 5, “By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; AND WAS NOT FOUND, BECAUSE GOD HAD TRANSLATED HIM: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.”**

**Verse 6, “But without Faith it is impossible to please Him: for he that cometh to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek Him.”**

**Verse 7, “By Faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an Ark to the saving of his house; By the which he condemned The World, and became heir of the Righteousness which is by Faith.”**

**Verse 8, “By Faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; And he went out, not knowing whither he went.”**

**Verse 9, “By Faith he sojourned in the Land of Promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the Same Promise.”**

**Verse 10, “For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.”**

**Verse 11, “Through faith also Sara herself received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged Him faithful who had Promised.”**

**Verse 12, “Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, so many as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.”**

Now read Verse 13, *“These all died in Faith, not having received The Promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the Earth.”*

Everyone who reads this lesson is now probably wondering, What is the purpose of all this studying, and we have not yet learned anything about our subject, which is supposed to be about the Holy Spirit.

The purpose is to reveal the Plan of God for mankind, and then show that *Jesus* has a very Important part in this plan of God. We also should be better prepared to understand the role of The Holy Spirit in God’s plan.

We are now at the point in our discussion where we are near the end of the Old Testament.

Question - What should we have learned thus far, that is of major importance?

Answer - That man is separated from God by his sins. He has lost his Eternal Life that was given to him at birth. So now he only has physical life and everlasting existence, because when he sinned, he became spiritually dead, separated from God.

We read in Ecclesiastes 12:7 that when men die. *“Then shall The dust return to the earth as it was: and The spirit shall return unto God who gave it.”*

We learn from Luke the 16<sup>th</sup> chapter, that God has made a judgment on the spirits of the just in Abraham’s bosom, and the spirits of the unjust in torment.

Question - Who has the responsibility of giving life to these Spiritually dead spirits?

Question - In God’s plan, what was His number one purpose for the Holy Spirit to do, so God could have His very own spiritual Kingdom here upon this earth?

Answer - Read 2 Corinthians 3:6, *“Who also hath made us able ministers of the New Testament; not of the letter, but of The Spirit: for the letter killeth, ( Now listen carefully ) but The Spirit giveth life.”*

**John 6:63, “It is The Spirit that quickeneth; ( This word in the Greek means, made alive, ( Again ) the flesh profiteth nothing: The Words that I speak unto you, they are Spirit and they are life.”**

**Titus 3:5, “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, But according to His mercy He saved us, By the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Spirit.”**

**Romans 8:2, “For “The Law of The Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus” hath made me Free from “The Law of Sin and Death.” ( Thank God for such A great deliverance ).**

**Please notice what 1 Peter 3:18 says about Jesus’ dead body.**

**1 Peter 3:18, “For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the Just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to Death in the flesh, but Quickened by The Spirit.”**

**My hope is that each one of us who reads this lesson, will understand that the main purpose of the Holy Spirit, was to give fallen mankind back The Eternal Life, that he lost when he sinned against God.**

**God had made No provision under the Old Testament for fallen man to have his sins forgiven, and be made alive again. But now he can be reconciled back to God’s Spiritual Family, through the sacrifice of His Son Jesus Christ on the Cross, and by a person’s obedience to obey the Gospel.**

**John 3:5, Jesus says, “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, EXCEPT a man be born of Water, and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God.”**

**Titus 3:5, “Not by works of righteousness which we have done, But according to His mercy He saved us, by The washing of Regeneration, and Renewing of The Holy Spirit.”**

**Isn’t That A Beautiful Plan? We Now Know, That Without The Work Of The Holy Spirit, we believers, would still be in Abraham’s bosom, separated from God, without any hope of ever being made Alive again. Although our sins have been washed away by the blood of Christ, without the work of the Holy Spirit, what we would have would be a clean dead body, with no Spiritual Life in it.**

**This would be a good time, to discuss one of the most misunderstood verses in the Bible, on the Salvation of mankind, and that is John 3:3-5.**

John 3:3-5, Jesus said to Nicodemus.

John 3:3, *“Verily, verily, I say unto thee, except a man be Born of Water, And of The Spirit, he cannot enter into The Kingdom of God.”*

Verse 4, *“Nicodemus saith unto Him, How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter the second time into his mother’s womb, And be born”?*

Verse 5, *Jesus answered, “Verily, verily, I say unto thee, EXCEPT a man be Born of Water, And of The Spirit, he cannot enter into The Kingdom of God.”*

Now, for our discussion, Lets notice some of The Words that Jesus uses in these Three Verses. First lets notice, These Words that Jesus says.

“EXCEPT, A man be born again.”

Question - Now what do These Words mean?

Answer - They are saying that man is Separated from God, which means, he is Spiritually Dead. We read in John 4:24.

John 4:24, *“God is Spirit: and they that Worship Him must Worship Him in Spirit and in Truth.”*

So this means, that the spiritually dead, must be made live again, as we have just studied.

Question - Now, what is there about this, that is so hard to understand?

We need to read Isaiah 59:2, *“But your Iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid His face from you, that He will not hear.”*

This just simply means that because of man’s own sins, he is spiritually dead. And if man is ever going to be reconciled back to God ( Like he was before he sinned, and lost The Eternal Life that God gave him when he was born ), **Man must be made alive again.**

Question - In The Plan of God, who did God say had this responsibility of making man alive again?

Answer - We have already read the answer to this question from God Himself. **It Is The Holy Spirit.**

**Now, lets discuss two special words that Jesus uses. They are the words water and Holy Spirit.**

**Jesus uses the word “WATER” first, so we will to. As we have already said, this word “WATER” in John 3:5, is the most controversial word in The Bible.**

**Millions of religious people believe that John is talking about “ the WATER” That “breaks before the birth of a child” in This Verse.**

**The best way to settle this argument is to use God’s Word, and if that fails, go to a Greek Word Study. So, lets use God’s Word first. We read in Mark 1:8 where John *the* Baptist is speaking to a multitude of people. Here is what he says. ( We must read with an Open Mind ).**

**Mark 1:8, “*I indeed have baptized you with Water: but He shall baptize you “ with” The Holy Spirit.*”**

**Did we Notice how “WATER” is being used here in This Verse, because it is very important. It is used in baptism. Now, lets use The Greek Word Study. This word “WATER” here in Mark 1:8 in The Greek is exactly the same word “WATER” that is Used in John 3:5. So we can easily see that:**

**The Word of God, And The Greek Word Study Completely Agree With Each Other.**

**So the word “WATER” in John 3:5, is referring to water baptism. There are many Verses in The Bible that agrees with this conclusion. Here are some of those, if we would like to read them.**

**Mark 1:10, “*And straightway coming up out of the water, he saw The heavens opened, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him.*”**

**John 3:23, “*And John also was baptizing in Aenon near to Salim, because there was much water there: And they came and were baptized.*”**

**Acts 8:35, “*Then Philip opened his mouth, and began at the same Scripture, and preached unto him Jesus.*”**

**Verse 36, “*And as they went on their way, they came unto a certain water: and the eunuch said, See, here is water; What doth Hinder me to be baptized*”**

**Verse 37, “And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he Answered and said, I Believe that Jesus Christ is The Son of God.”**

**Verse 38, “And he commanded the chariot to stand still: and they went down Both into The water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him.”**

**Verse 39, “And when they were Come Up out of The Water, The Spirit of The Lord caught away Philip, that the eunuch saw him No more: and he went on his way rejoicing.”**

**The Greek Word Study even gives us a clearer meaning of this word “WATER” as it is used in John 3:5. Here is what it says. “WATER” in This Verse means - “Water that falls from clouds in a rain storm.”**

**In All sincerity, This word does not need any interpretation from man. God has made it plain enough for any open minded person to understand. Not only has God Commanded Water Baptism ( Acts 10:48 ), He also provides the “WATER” for it.**

**Acts 10:48, “And he ( Peter ) commanded them to be baptized in The name of the Lord. Then prayed they him to tarry certain days.”**

**If we will keep our minds open as we study God’s word, we will continually be amazed at how complete God is in all of His doings.**

**There is a statement that is being made among a lot of religious preachers and teachers, that we must know whether it is True or False. Here is the statement. “There Is Only One Baptism “WITH” The Holy Spirit.”**

**Question - IS THIS TRUE?**

**If we really want the true answer, we will let the word of God answer it and not man.**

**First, lets notice in The scriptures, they do not say ( Baptism “OF” The Holy Spirit ), they say baptism “ with” The Holy Spirit.**

**Matthew 3:11, “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you “ with”the Holy Spirit.”**

**Mark 1:8, “I indeed have baptized you with water: but He shall baptize you**

**“with” the Holy Spirit.”**

**Luke 3:16, John answered, saying unto them all, “*I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: He shall baptize you “with” the Holy Spirit.*”**

**John 1:33, “*And I knew Him not: but He that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, the same is He which baptizeth “with” the Holy Spirit.*”**

All say the same thing, and that is, Jesus is the only one who baptizes “with” the Holy Spirit.

**Question - There is one thing that we must know. In these four verses, who does John the Baptist say, that Jesus is going to baptize “with” the Holy Spirit?**

**Answer - I will not be using The Phrase, “I believe this or that.” We will only use The Words of God to Answer our Questions.**

**Matthew 3:1, “In those days came John the Baptist, preaching in the wilderness of Judea.”**

**Verse 3, “*For this is he that was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah, saying, prepare the way of the LORD, make his paths straight .*”**

**Verse 5, “*Then went out to him Jerusalem, and all Judea, and all the region round about Jordan.*”**

**Verse 6, “*And were baptized of him in Jordan, confessing their sins.*”**

**Question - Who was John preaching to?**

**Answer - Those from Jerusalem, those from Judea, those round about Jordan. ( see Verse 5 above )**

**Question - Who had John Baptized in water?**

**Answer - Those from Jerusalem, those from Judea, those round about Jordan.**

In Verse 11, We must hear what John says in this verse, because he will give us the answer to our question.

**Matthew 3:11, “*I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you “with” the Holy Spirit,*”**

**Question - Who is the “YOU” that John is speaking to in this verse?**

**Question - If we were taking a history test on our final semester at school, and we had this same question on our test papers, who would the “you” be, that John was referring to when he said, Jesus will baptize you “with” The Holy Spirit?**

**Question - What answer would you write in the blank space for this question?**

**Question - Would you say this was a very easy question to answer?**

**Question - Doesn't The word of God make these kinds of questions easy to answer?**

I said earlier in this lesson that a lot of religious preachers and teachers are making this statement. “ **There is only one baptism with the Holy Spirit.**” One baptism with the Holy Spirit ,at that point I left off the rest of the statement. We will now add the rest of the words to this statement. “**That John was referring, only to the twelve apostles.**”

**Question - How many of the students that were filling out the blanks on their test papers wrote down the 12 Apostles?**

**Answer - Not a single person would have.**

**Question - Why wouldn't they?**

**Answer - The 12 Apostles were never mentioned in the list of the names that John was preaching to in Matthew 3:5.**

So, what would have caused them to write down the 12 Apostles, when Jesus had not even chosen them yet? The first time, in the book of Matthew, that we find the words, The 12 Apostles is in Matthew 10:2. Now, lets read Acts 1:5. “*For John truly baptized with water, but ye shall be baptized “with” the Holy Spirit not many days hence.*”

**Question - Who is Jesus talking to in this verse?**

Answer - Acts 1:4 says, ***“And Jesus being assembled together with them.”***

Acts 1:26, tells us Who the Them is. ***“The eleven apostles.”***

**There is a great difference between Matthew 3:11, And Acts 1:5.**

Question - When John the Baptist baptized this multitude of people in Water, What condition did this leave their Souls in?

Answer - They had their sins forgiven, according to Mark 1:4, Luke 1:77, and Luke 3:3. but they were still separated from God, because the Holy Spirit had not yet been given, according to John 7:39.

Mark 1:4, ***“John did aptize in the wilderness, and preach the Baptism of Repentance, for the Remission of Sins.”***

Luke 1:77, ***“To give knowledge of salvation unto His people by the Remission of their Sins.”***

Luke 3:3, ***“And he came into all the country about Jordan, preaching the Baptism of Repentance, for The Remission of Sins.”***

John 7:39, ***“The Holy Spirit Had Not Yet Been Given; BECAUSE Jesus Was Not Yet Glorified.”***

Lets remember what John the Baptist said in Matthew 3:11, to The Ones he had baptized in water.

Matthew 3:11, He said, ***“Jesus shall baptize you “with” the Holy Spirit.”***  
this word “shall”, “means at a latter date.

God was now fulfilling His plan for His coming spiritual kingdom. We read in Jeremiah 3:8, what happened to God’s chosen people or family, that were dwelling on this earth.

Jeremiah 3:8, ***“And I saw, when for all the causes whereby backsliding Israel committed adultery I had put her away, and given her a “BILL OF DIVORCE“; yet her treacherous sister Judah feared not, but went and played the harlot also.”***

So, now He has no family on the Earth, but He has plans for one in the near future. We must know that God's FIRST family on this earth, was a flesh and blood family. The only help they had to keep God's Laws, was by their own manpower. So God's New family on this earth will be a Spiritual family.

God is going to make a major change in this family. This major change is called the Holy Spirit. God has placed so much importance on the purpose and the work of the Holy Spirit in our generation.

We read in John 7:39, "*The Holy Spirit was not yet given; BECAUSE Jesus was not yet Glorified.*"

**Question - When was Jesus glorified?**

**Answer -** In the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter of John and the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter of Hebrews we find our answer. Jesus has been preparing the Apostles for His death. We read in John 12:23.

John 12:23, Jesus said, "*The Hour Is Come, that the Son of man should be Glorified.*"

Hebrews 9:15, "Jesus is "THE MEDIATOR" of the New Testament, that by means of Death, for the redemption of the transgressions that were under the First Testament, they which are called might receive the Promise of Eternal Inheritance."

**We Learn in These Verses that Jesus was Glorified, in His Death.**

Now the next part of God's plan is ready to be fulfilled. Let's bring back to our minds some of the responsibilities of the Holy Spirit. He is to make the spiritually dead souls alive again. Remember what Jesus told Nicodemus in John 3:3-5, "*You Must Be Born Again*" ( New Birth ). This time a Spiritual Birth, Born of The "Water" and "The Holy Spirit." We have already learned what " water" means in John 3:5. ( baptism )

We read in Acts 2:37-38, where we have obedient believers crying out to Peter, WHAT MUST WE DO? Now let's pay close attention to what the apostle Peter tells this multitude of people, How to get into this New Spiritual Kingdom which had its beginning at that time. We read in Acts 2:38.

Acts 2:38, "*Peter said unto them, Repent, and be Baptized ( In Water )*"

***Every One of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, ( Now notice ) and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”***

**Read Romans 6: 1-12.**

**Romans 6: 1, “*What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that Grace may abound*”?**

**Verse 2, “*God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin, live any longer therein*”?**

**Verse 3, “*Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death*”?**

**Verse 4, “*Therefore we are buried with Him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the Glory of The Father, even so we also should walk in Newness of Life.*”**

**Verse 5, “*For if we have been planted together in the likeness of His Death, we shall be also in the likeness of His Resurrection.*”**

**Verse 6, “*Knowing this, that our old man is crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin.*”**

**Verse 7, “*For he that is dead is freed from sin.*”**

**Verse 8, “*Now if we be dead with Christ, we believe that we shall also live with Him.*”**

**Verse 9, “*Knowing that Christ being raised from the dead dieth no more; Death hath no more dominion over Him.*”**

**Verse 10, “*For in that He died, He died unto sin Once: but in that He liveth, He liveth unto God.*”**

**Verse 11, “*Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.*”**

**Verse 12. “*Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof.*”**

**We must let what the Apostle Paul says in these verses get into our hearts.  
In Water Baptism We Are Baptized Into Jesus’ Death.**

We read in Colossians 2:13 where Paul again is telling us about the importance of baptism. Now lets listen to the words of Paul in this verse.

Colossians 2:13, *“And you being dead in your sins and the uncircumcision of your flesh hath He ( The Holy Spirit ) quickened ( Made Alive Again ) together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses.”*

We must with an open mind fully understand what Paul has just said. He said that our sins have caused us to be dead ( Spiritually Dead ), and now who is going to give life to our dead body?

Question - What have we already learned about WHO it is, that gives life?

Answer - 2 Corinthians 3:6, *“IT IS THE HOLY SPIRIT.”*

Question - When does the Holy Spirit give life to our dead bodies?

Answer - Colossians 2:12, *“When we are buried with Christ in water baptism. At the moment that our sins are washed away by the blood of Jesus, the Holy Spirit gives Spiritual Life to our dead bodies.”*

This is exactly what the Apostle Paul has just said. DO WE BELIEVE IT? Lets read 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.”*

Question - Does the Word of God, plainly say how we get into Christ?

Answer - Galatians 3:27, *“For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”*

Paul leaves No doubt about How we get into Christ. **We Are Baptized Into Christ.** We have learned that when we are baptized:

1. We are Baptized into Christ.
2. When we are Baptized, Our sins are Washed Away by The Blood of Christ.
3. When we are Baptized, The Holy Spirit makes us alive Again.
4. When we are Baptized, we are then Born Again ( Made Alive Again ).
5. When we are Baptized, we receive The Gift ( INDWELLING ) of The Holy Spirit.
6. When we are Baptized, we become a New Creature in Christ Jesus. And The Lord adds us to His New Spiritual Kingdom that is upon this Earth.

**Jesus says in Matthew 16:18, “*I will build My Church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.*”**

**We Have Just Read Where This Happened, Just Like Jesus Said It Would.**

**Question - Now, lets go back to our test papers that we have already talked about, and on these test papers there is another question that Asks: **IS WATER BAPTISM ESSENTIAL FOR THE SALVATION OF FALLEN MAN?** And it gives all of these Scriptures to go to and read for the answer. Truthfully now, how many students do you believe would answer YES on their test papers?**

**Answer - EVERY ONE OF THEM.**

**Question - How can 99.9% of All religious people believe that **Baptism In Water Is Not Essential For Salvation**, when Jesus says in John 3:5, “*That we cannot enter The Kingdom of God without it*”?**

**And yet Most of us are setting idly by, and not teaching the truth on this subject, and yet God tells us to be bold in teaching the truth. May God help Each of us who know the Truth to pray for boldness, and love in this matter.**

**We must take a close look, at The facts that we have learned, from these verses that we have studied. And that is, **If Water Baptism Is Not Essential For Salvation, Then We Can Be Saved:****

- 1. Without being in Christ.**
- 2. We can be saved Without having Our sins Washed Away by The Blood of Christ.**
- 3. We can be saved Without Jesus Baptizing us with The Holy Spirit.**
- 4. We can be saved Without being Born Again.**
- 5. We can be saved Without receiving the Gift of The Holy Spirit.**
- 6. We can be saved Without becoming a New Creature.**

**Can't we see what deception can do to The minds of religious people, when we refuse to study God's word, and find out for ourselves is What is Truth.**

**Question - What will happen to us, when we trust what man teaches us, rather than to learn from God what He teaches?**

**Answer - Jesus gives us the answer in Matthew 15:13-14. Jesus' answer will awaken the open minded person. Here is what Jesus says.**

**Matthew 15:13, “Every plant, which my Heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.”**

**Verse 14, “Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And If the blind lead the blind, Both shall fall into the ditch.”**

**This sounds like what the Holy Spirit says in Revelation 22:18-19.**

**Revelation 22:18, “For I testify unto every man that heareth The words of the Prophecy of this Book, If any man shall add unto these things, God shall add unto him the plagues that are written in this book.”**

**Verse 19, “And If any man shall take away from the words of the book of this Prophecy, God shall take away his part out of the Book of Life, and out of the holy city, and from the things which are written in this Book.”**

**This sure sounds like a very serious matter to me. God has left the final decision totally up to us. Will we follow man’s teachings, or will we follow God’s teachings? The destination of our souls will depend upon our choice.**

**Most religious people today, do not believe there are two different Baptisms “with” the Holy Spirit. So, let us go to the word of God, and let him answer this question, and then we will have the True answer.**

**We read in Matthew 3:11, where John the Baptist says to the Jews.**

**Matthew 3:11, “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but Jesus shall baptize you “with” the Holy Spirit.”**

**Now, lets read Acts 1:5, where Jesus says to His Apostles.**

**Acts 1:5, “For John truly baptized with water, but ye shall be baptized “with” the Holy Spirit not many days hence.”**

**Question - How many baptisms with the Holy Spirit, did God talk about in these two verses?**

**Answer - TWO.**

**Question - Does God say that these two verses, are talking about just ONE baptism with the Holy Spirit?**

**Answer - NO, HE DOES NOT.**

**Question - Where then does this teaching come from?**

**Answer - There Is Only One Other Source: MAN.**

**Please listen carefully. God's word is impossible to misunderstand, if we will read it with an open mind. Jesus makes it very plain in John 8:43, How and why man can misunderstand God's Word.**

**John 8:43, "*Why do ye not understand My Speech? even because ye cannot hear My Word.*"**

**Question - WHO is John the Baptist talking to in Matthew 3:11?**

**Answer - Matthew 3:5 "*To those Who He Had Just Baptized In Water. Those in Jerusalem, Those In Judea, And All Those Around About Jordan.*"**

**Question - Does John say one single word about the Apostles in these verses?**

**Answer - NO, HE DOES NOT.**

**Question - Who is Jesus talking to in Acts 1:5?**

**Answer - Acts 1:2, "*His Apostles.*"**

**Question - How can man miss something that is so plain in the word of God?**

**Answer - We just read it from Jesus own Words in John 8:43, "*They Just Cannot Hear The Words Of God.*"**

**Now, lets discuss these Two Baptisms with the Holy Spirit.**

**The Apostles were the First ones to be baptized "with" the Holy Spirit, so we will start our discussion with their baptism first.**

**Jesus tells His Apostles in Acts 1:8, "*But Ye shall Receive power AFTER that The Holy Spirit is Come Upon you.*"**

**This Verse tells us exactly when the Apostles were baptized "with" the Holy**

**Spirit.**

**Question - WHEN WAS IT?**

**Answer -** When they had received power after the Holy Spirit had come upon them. We find this verse being Fulfilled in Acts 2:1-4.

**Acts 2:1, “*And when the Day of Pentecost was Fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.*”**

**Verse 2, “*And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.*”**

**Verse 3, “*And there appeared unto them Cloven Tongues like as of Fire, and it sat upon each of them.*”**

**Verse 4, “*And they were all filled “with” the Holy Spirit, and began to speak with other Tongues, as the Spirit gave them Utterance.*”**

**Question -** What power did the Apostles receive when they were baptized “with” the Holy Spirit?

**Answer -** They received the Power to speak the languages of other nations without ever having to study them.

**Acts 2:4, “*They began to Speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.*”**

**Verse 6, “*Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own Language.*”**

**We read in John 14:26, about another power that Jesus said the Apostles would receive.**

**John 14: 26, “*But the Comforter, which is the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My Name, He shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your Remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you.*”**

**We read in Acts 8:17, about another power that the Apostles received from the Holy Spirit.**

**Acts 8:17, “*They could lay their hands upon people, and the Holy Spirit would impart, miraculous spiritual gifts to the obedient believers.*”**

**We read in 1 Corinthians 12:8-11, What these Spiritual Gifts**

were.

**1 Corinthians 12:8, “For to one is given by the Spirit the Word of Wisdom; to another the Word of Knowledge by the same Spirit.”**

**Verse 9, “To another Faith by the same Spirit; to another the Gifts of Healing by the same Spirit.”**

**Verse 10, “To another the working of miracles; to another Prophecy; to another divers Kinds of Tongues; to another the Interpretation of Tongues.”**

**Verse 11, “But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as He will.”**

**At this time, the Apostles had already been given many powers. We read this in Matthew 10:1, where the Apostles had certain powers before they were ever baptized “with” the Holy Spirit.**

**Matthew 10:1, “And Jesus gave them Power against Unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.”**

**When The 12 Apostles were baptized “with” the Holy Spirit, they were given the promise by Jesus, that the Holy Spirit would teach them all things, and that He would bring to their remembrance all things that Jesus had said to them.**

**Question - Why was this so important to them?**

**Answer - Because of what Jesus said to them in Acts 1:8.**

**Acts 1:8, “But ye shall receive power, after that The Holy Spirit is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”**

**So we learn, when they were baptized “with” the Holy Spirit, they were fully equipped with everything they needed to preach the Gospel to the whole world. We can read in Colossians 1:23, where they completed this task during their lifetime.**

Colossians 1:23, Paul says, "*The Gospel was preached to every creature which is under heaven.*"

The 12 Apostles were the only ones who received the baptism "with" the Holy Spirit in Acts 1:5.

Acts 1:5, "*For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized "with" the Holy Spirit not many days hence.*"

There are a lot of religious people, who believe that all obedient believers, receive these miraculous spiritual gifts, that the Apostles received.

**Question - IS THAT TRUE?**

**Answer - NO, IT IS NOT TRUE.**

Now, lets go to the Bible, and get our Answer from God. Lets read from Acts 8. Lets start in Verse 5, "*Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.*"

Now, lets read Verse 12, "*But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the Kingdom of God, and the Name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.*"

**Please Don't Miss The Valuable Lesson That Is Taught In These Verses On How To Get Into The Kingdom Of God. NOTICE:**

1. Preaching took place.
2. Hearing took place.
3. Believing took place.
4. Baptizing took place.

**Surely We Can See, That This Is God's Plan, For Entering Into The Kingdom Of God.**

**Question - Why would we want to try to get in some other way?**

**Answer - Because Man Tells Us We Can.**

**Listen to what Jesus says in John 10:1.**

John 10:1, He says, "*Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that entereth not by the door into the Sheepfold, but climbed up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber.*"

## **Doesn't This Put An End To All Of Man's Think So's, On How To Enter Into The Kingdom Of God?**

Now, lets go back to our other question. We have read where many of the people, who heard Philip's preaching concerning the entrance into the Kingdom of God, became obedient believers, and obeyed Philip's preaching.

**Question - Did they receive the miraculous spiritual gifts that were given to The Apostles?**

**Answer - NO, THEY DID NOT.**

**Question - HOW DO WE KNOW THAT?**

**Answer - We read in Acts 8:14-17.**

**Acts 8:14, "*Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John.*"**

**Verse 15, "*Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, That they might receive the Holy Spirit.*"**

**Verse 16, "*For as yet He was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*"**

**Verse 17, "*Then they laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.*"**

These verses tell us, that the Apostles Peter and John, came down from Jerusalem to Samaria, and laid their hands upon these obedient believers, and they received miraculous gifts.

**Question - HOW CAN WE BE SURE OF THIS?**

**Answer - We read in Acts 8:18-19.**

**Verse 18, "*And when Simon saw that through laying on of the Apostles hands the Holy Spirit was given he offered them money.*"**

**Verse 19, "*Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Spirit.*"**

These Verses show beyond any shadow of a doubt, that this power was given to the Apostles only, and the only way the obedient believer was

going to receive any miraculous gifts, would only come by the laying on of the Apostles hands.

We must now read Acts 8:15-16.

Verse 15, *“Who, when they ( Apostles ) were come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.”*

Verse 16, *“For as yet He was fallen upon none of them: Only they were baptized in the Name of the Lord Jesus.”*

## **THESE VERSES TEACH US THAT THE MIRACULOUS GIFTS, ARE NOT GIVEN TO THE OBEDIENT BELIEVER.**

Question - Then what is the gift of the Holy Spirit that is given to the baptized believers, that we read about in Acts 2:38?

*Acts 2:38, “Then Peter said unto them, repent, and be baptized Every one of you in the Name of Jesus Christ for the Remission of Sins, and ye shall receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

Answer - It is found in Acts 5:32. Lets read it together, and listen, and believe it.

*Acts 5:32, “And we are His witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Spirit ( Now listen closely ), Whom God hath given to them that obey Him.”*

Question - Now, what have we learned from Acts 5:32, that will really help us in understanding Acts 8:15-16?

Answer - We have learned, when the people of Samaria, heard, believed, and were baptized, they received the gift of the Holy Spirit, just like Acts 2:38 said they would.

Here is how a lot of people get Confused. They do not read Bible verses carefully. When we read carefully, we will notice that this verse says, that the obedient Believer, WILL RECEIVE The Gift “ **Of** ” The Holy Spirit.

**NOTICE:** IT DOES NOT SAY, the obedient believer will receive Gifts, “**FROM**” The Holy Spirit.

Question - Then what is The Gift of The Holy Spirit, that we receive, when we become obedient baptized Believers?

Answer - We read in 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 have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His.”*

I hope we are all beginning to understand that, **GOD DOES NOT GIVE US, ALL the ANSWERS TO THE PURPOSE, AND OF THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT, IN JUST 2 OR 3 VERSES.** If our faith does not move us to spend the time that is needed, to fully understand The words of God, then **WE WILL NOT STAND APPROVED BEFORE GOD ON JUDGMENT DAY.**

If we do not believe that, then we need to read 2 Timothy 2:15, where it says.

2 Timothy 2:15, *“STUDY to show thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, RIGHTLY DIVIDING the Word of Truth.”*

Now, lets read Romans 8:11, because it is loaded with good information about the work “of” The Holy Spirit.

Romans 8:11, *“But if The Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, He that raised up Christ from the dead shall also Quicken your mortal bodies by His Spirit that dwelleth in you.”*

Question - Who gave Life to Jesus’ dead body?

Answer - **THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

Question - WHO gave life to our spiritually dead bodies?

Answer - **THE HOLY SPIRIT.**

Question - After The Holy Spirit made us alive again, what did He then do?

Answer - **HE TOOK UP HIS DWELLING PLACE WITHIN US.**

Question - WHY was it SO IMPORTANT for us TO HAVE The Holy Spirit DWELLING WITHIN US?

Answer - Ephesians 3:16, and 1John 4:4 give us The Answer.

Ephesians 3:16 says, *“That He ( God ) would grant you according*

*to the riches of His glory, to be strengthened with might by His Spirit in the inner man.”*

**1 John 4:4, “Ye are of God, little children, and have *OVERCOME them: because greater is He ( The Holy Spirit ) that is in you, than he that is in the World.*”**

Something that we have done through out this entire lesson, is not to use our think so’s to answer any of our questions, but go to the word of God for all of our answers. We read in Romans 7:18 where Paul says.

**Romans 7:18, “*For I know that in me ( that is, in my flesh ), dwelleth No Good thing: for to will is present with me; but how to perform that which is good I find not.*”**

Paul is telling us in several verses here of his spiritual feelings, while he was trying his best to keep “The Law.” Lets notice what he is saying, and it will help us a lot, in understanding what it was like, trying to keep”The Law.” Paul says that “The Law”, was a “Law of The Flesh.”

**Question - What does that mean?**

**Answer - That the Power of the flesh was All the Power that he had, to fight the Devil with. This power of the flesh can be called Man Power.**

Paul says, that he is using all of his will power, and he cannot perform that which is good ( or “The Divine Laws of God” ), which is a simpler way of saying - Human nature cannot keep “Divine Laws” .

**Lets read it in Romans 8:3. “*For what “The Law” could not Do, in that It was weak through the flesh, God sending His own Son in the Likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh.*”**

**So, Paul says in Romans 7:24, “*O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death*”?**

Paul is saying here, I find myself falling short of God’s Word, although I am trying with all of my willpower to do The Will of God. He gives The answer to his problem in Verse 25.

**Romans 7: 25, “*I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord. so then with the mind I myself serve “The Law” of God; but with the flesh “The Law of Sin.*”**

**Question - Does Paul tell us how Jesus accomplishes This?**

**Answer - YES, HE DOES.** It is found in Romans 8:1.

**Romans 8:1, “*There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who Walk not after the flesh, But after The Spirit.*”**

**Now, we must read 1 John 4:4, “*Ye are of GOD, little children, And have Overcome them: because greater is HE that is in you, than he that is in the world.*”**

**PRAISE GOD, For The Work Of The Holy Spirit, Who Dwells In Our Body.**

**My hope is, that we are all beginning to see, that if we will not listen to man’s teaching for our learning, But study God’s word with an open mind, we will have no problem with understanding what God is saying.**

**Question - Why would God love us so much that, He would give His Own Son to save us, and then write a book of instruction on how to be saved, so that we could be with Him in heaven when this life is over, and then those instructions would be so hard to understand, that only a highly educated person could understand it?**

**Answer - But in reality, God has written Those Instructions so Simple that Isaiah 35:8 says, “*A wayfaring man shall not err therein.*”**

**The ones who have All those titles before their names have a real problem with understanding “**The Simplicity Of The Word of God.**”**

**There is another teaching on the Holy Spirit that we need to discuss, and that is, we have two Churches of Christ within 15 miles of our house, that teach that the Holy Spirit’s work on earth was finished, when The 12 Apostles had died, and those who they had laid their hands upon.**

**Now, lets go to The word of God and see if that is a true teaching. Lets start this discussion, by reading what the Apostle Paul says in Ephesians 3:20.**

**Ephesians 3:20, “*Now to Him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the Power that Worketh in us.*”**

**Paul uses the word US in this verse, and he is not referring to The 12**

Apostles.

Question - How do we Know that?

Answer - **Because He Is Writing To The Church In Ephesus.**

Question - What Power is he referring to here?

Answer - **THE HOLY SPIRIT.** Lets read it in Ephesians 3:16.

*Ephesians 3:16, "That He ( God ) would grant you, according to the riches of His Glory, to be strengthened with might by His Holy Spirit ( now notice ) in the inner man."*

Now, isn't that easy to understand. Here are some of the things that the Holy Spirit will do for us, if we will believe and let Him do it.

1. Romans 5:5, "*He will shed abroad the Love of God in our hearts.*"
2. Ephesians 3:16, "*He strengthens us with Power, in our inner man.*"
3. Ephesians 3:17, "*He enables Christ to dwell in our hearts by Faith.*"
4. Romans 8:26, "*He helps us In our Infirmities.*"
5. Romans 8:26-27, "*He maketh intercessions for the Saints.*"
6. Romans 8:13, "*He helps us to put away sin in our lives.*"
7. Romans 14:17, "*He enables us to live in an atmosphere of Holiness.*"
8. Galatians 5:18, "*He makes us Free from "The Law of Sin and Death", and from legalism.*"
9. Galatians 5:22-23, "*He enables us to bear fruit.*"
10. 2 Corinthians 3:17-18, "*He transforms our character into God's likeness.*"
11. Romans 15:13, "*He fill us with all joy, and peace. He also causes us to Abound in hope, through the Holy Spirit's power.*"
12. Romans 8:14, "*We are led by the Holy Spirit.*"

If we believe These scriptures that we have just read, we will have No problem with this saying.

**"WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT LIVING IN OUR INNER MAN , THE OBEDIENT, BAPTIZED, BELIEVER CAN LIVE A SUPERNATURAL LIFE EVERY DAY."**

This KIND OF LIFE was never available to man before Jesus died on the cross. The Holy Spirit dwells in every one who has obeyed God.

Acts 5:32, "*And we are His witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Spirit, whom God hath given to them that obey Him.*"

But, until we learn and believe the word of God, concerning His work in our lives, He cannot help us to live the Super Natural Life, because we can quench the Holy Spirit's work, in our life according to 1 Thessalonians 5:19.

1 Thessalonians 5:19, "***Quench Not The Spirit.***"

James 4:2 says, "***Ye have not, BECAUSE ye Ask not.***"

Question - How do we quench the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives?

Answer - When we believe that the Holy Spirit's work was done on this earth when the 12 Apostles died and those who the Apostles had laid their hands upon.

We read in Ephesians 4:30, that when we believe that, we also cause The Holy Spirit to grieve, because He wants to do His Work that God has Assigned unto Him, but He cannot, Because we won't let Him. **HOW SAD.**

God has provided to every obedient believer, everything that we need to live a life of victory, in every walk of living the Christian life, and His name is the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:30, "***And Grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are Sealed unto the Day of Redemption.***"

We cannot truthfully blame any one, but ourselves for trying to Live a Spiritual life, and are finding out that is Impossible to do When we are trying to do that by our own Will power. Here is the results of such a life. We will be trying to live a Spiritual life with nothing to help us, but our own Human Nature.

Please listen carefully. It is Impossible for human nature to rise above human nature. So, for the obedient believers, he must have a Super Natural Power living within him, before he can overcome his human nature. There is no way we can live, as God wants us to, without the Holy Spirit dwelling with in us. Lets read it in Romans 8:9.

Romans 8:9, "***But you are Not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that The Spirit of God DWELL in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His.***"

Question - Did we really hear what the word of God just said?

Answer - God is saying, the obedient believer, does not Live by his human

nature ( flesh ) any more. ***“But the obedient believer now lives his New Life in The Power of the Holy Spirit, if so be, that the Holy Spirit of God dwells, in you.”***

**Question - Are we still reading with an open mind?**

**Answer - Because if we are not studying with an open mind, we will miss heaven. Here is what the rest of the verse says. *“if any man have not the Holy Spirit of Christ dwelling in him, he is none of His.”***

**Question - What does this verse do to the doctrine, that is being taught by many members of the Church today? The doctrine that says, when The 12 Apostles, and all those who they had laid their hands upon had died, that at that time, the Holy Spirit’s work was finished upon the earth.**

**HERE IS A FACT. Today, we are living in a time, when the Church is being taught, do not teach anything that is offensive to others, because you may cause them to quit the Church.**

**Question - Does the word of God tell us to teach His word in all boldness?**

**Answer - Lets read Acts 4:13, and see for ourselves, that when The Word of God is taught in all Boldness, what the results are.**

***Acts 4:13, “Now when they saw The Boldness of Peter and John, and Perceived that they were Unlearned and Ignorant men, they Marveled; and they took Knowledge of them, THAT THEY HAD BEEN WITH JESUS.”***

**Some will say, that was talking about the work of the Apostles, and does not apply to the obedient believers. Now, lets read Acts 4:29. These are the words of Peter and John in a prayer to God.**

***Acts 4:29, “And now, Lord, behold their threatening: And grant unto thy servants, that with all Boldness they may speak thy Word.”***

***Verse 31, “And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spake the Word of God with Boldness.”***

**Question - Do we practice this verse in our Christian walk today?**

If we are not practicing this verse in our daily walk with the Lord, then we are quenching the work of The Holy Spirit, and causing Him to Grieve.

Read 2 Corinthinans 1:21, "*Now He which Established us with you in Christ, and hath Anointed us, is God.*"

Verse 22, "*Who hath also sealed us, and given the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.*"

2 Corinthians 5:5, "*Now He that hath wrought us for the selfsame thing is God, who also hath given unto us the earnest of the Spirit.*"

There is so much in These Two Verses about the purpose and the work of the Holy Spirit, that we could spend hours in studying their Meanings. One of the most important things that we must establish in this study of these two verses is to answer this question.

Question - WHO is The Apostle Paul addressing these words to?

Answer - **TO THE OBEDIENT BAPTIZED BELIEVERS IN THE CHURCH AT CORINTH.**

**NOTICE:** In these two verses, Paul uses the word "US" 5 times. Someone might be saying, Paul is referring to the 12 Apostles, when he uses the word "US". Now, lets use A little of our common sense here. "US" means more than One.

Question - Why would Paul use the word "US" here in these two verses, when he is the only Apostle present?

Answer - It just would not make any sense at all. That leaves only one sensible conclusion. "US" means the members of the Church at Corinth.

Someone is now saying, What is The Point of this discussion on this word "US"?

**THE POINT IS:** If Paul is writing These Two Verses to the obedient baptized believers in Corinth, then this word "US", **WOULD COMPLETELY DESTROY THE DOCTRINE** which says, The Holy Spirit's Work on The earth was finished, when The Apostles, and the one's that they had laid their hands upon had died, **WOULD IT NOT?**

Because, these two verses are really telling “Us” that the purpose, and the work of The Holy Spirit is now Just beginning in the lives, of the obedient baptized believers.

## **HERE IS SOMETHING FOR Us TO THINK ABOUT.**

**Question -** If God had chosen, to bring the purpose, and the work of the Holy Spirit to an end upon This earth when The Apostles, and those Whom The Apostles had laid their hands upon had died, what condition Spiritually would that leave every obedient baptized believer in?

**Answer -** That would leave them without The INDWELLING of the Holy Spirit in their Inner man, Which means that they would Not have Any power to fight the Devil with, but manpower only.

This would Leave the baptized believers in the same condition as the baptized believers of John the Baptist were in. Think about this. After Acts 2:38 The Kingdom that The Apostle Peter UNLOCKED the Door to, was a Spiritual Kingdom. This means that it was impossible for a baptized believer to get into without being baptized with the Holy Spirit.

*Acts 2:38, “Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be Baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the Remission of Sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.”*

Now, lets read John 3:5, “*EXCEPT a man be born of water and of the Spirit he cannot enter into the Kingdom of God.*”

## **This Means That A Man Cannot Get Into God’s Spiritual Family Without Being A Spiritual Person.**

We have already read in Matthew 3:11, where John the Baptist said that Jesus, at a later date would baptize them with the Holy Spirit.

*Matthew 3:11, “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you ‘with’ the Holy Spirit.”*

There is Something that we must further discuss in these two Verses ( 1 Corinthians 1:21-22, and 1Corinthians 5:5 ), and that is, some will say That when these two verses were written, that the Apostles had not all died, and All those Whom The Apostles had laid their hands upon, had not all died. **THAT IS A GOOD QUESTION.**

We need to read Verses like 2 Timothy 3:16-17, where Paul says.

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.”*

Verse 17, *“That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.”*

Question - How long were These Verses to be in Effect?

Answer - Until the End of Time.

So, this would mean that God’s inspired word, will make a man perfect, at any time in life that he obeys it, and lives faithfully to it. Please notice, that the Word of God does not say, that the earnest of the Holy Spirit WILL CEASE when the Apostles, and those on whom they had laid their hands upon, had died.

Question - Then Where Did This Teaching Come From?

Answer - IT CAME FROM MAN.

Question - What does it mean in 2 Corinthians 1:22 when it says.

1 Corinthians 1:22, *“God hath also Sealed us, and Given the Earnest of the Spirit in our hearts.”*

The word “Sealed” in The Greek means: To put a mark on an object to show possession, authority, identity, or security, to set a seal upon an object

Question - What was The Seal that God sealed Every obedient baptized Believer with?

Answer - We shall let God Answer this Question. We read in Ephesians 1:13-14.

Ephesians 1:13, *“In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the Word of Truth, the Gospel of your Salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of Promise.”*

Verse 14, *“Which is the Earnest of our Inheritance until*

***the Redemption of the purchased Possession, unto the Praise of His Glory.”***

read Ephesians 4:30, ***“And Grieve not The Holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are Sealed unto The Day of Redemption.”***

So, we can easily see that the Holy Spirit is given to every obedient baptized believer, to confirm them as belonging to God.

Question - How does The Holy Spirit confirm in us that we belong to God?

We have already studied this earlier in this lesson, But right now we need to notice them again. The Holy Spirit produces in the heart of every baptized believer:

1. Romans 5:5, ***“He will shed abroad the Love of God in our hearts,”***
2. Ephesians 3:16, ***“He strengthens us with power in our inner man.”***
3. Romans 8:26, ***“He helps us in our infirmities.”***
4. Romans 8:26-27, ***“He maketh intercession for the Saints.”***
5. Romans 8:13, ***“He helps us to put away sin in our lives.”***
6. Romans 14:17, ***“He enables us to live in an atmosphere of holiness.”***
7. Galatians 5:18, ***“He makes us free from “The Law of Sin and Death”, and from legalism.”***
8. Galatians 5:22-23, ***“He enables us to bear fruit.”***
9. Romans 15:13, ***“He fills us with all joy and peace. He also causes us to Abound in hope, through the Holy Spirit’s power.”***
10. Romans 8:14, ***“We are led by the Holy Spirit.”***

And on, and on we could go talking about The purpose, and the work of the Holy Spirit in the Christians life.

Question - Does this sound like to “Us”, that the Holy Spirit’s work on this earth came to an end, when The Apostles, and those who they had laid their hands on had died?

Answer - It sure doesn’t to me.

Question - Does this sound like The Holy Spirit’s DISPENSATION OF TIME to you?

Answer - It sure does to me.

Question - How long does The Work of The Holy Spirit last in an obedient baptized Believers life?

Answer - Ephesians 4:30, ***“Until The Day of Redemption.”***

All these things that we have just mentioned about The work of the Holy Spirit in the christian's life should make our hope, and our redemption and our salvation a sure Thing. These things are The evidence of what the Holy Spirit does for the obedient baptized believers. God doesn't leave out anything that we need, to go to heaven when this life is over, and our greatest need is The indwelling of the Holy Spirit in our Inner man.

**In closing I would like to ask us a very serious Question.**

**Question - Why would anyone want to try to keep "The Divine Laws of God" with his own willpower, when that was all the Israelites had to keep "The Divine Laws of God" with, and Romans 3:23 says none of them could?**

**Romans 3:23, "*For all have sinned, and come short of the Glory of God.*"**

Here is what is so sad about those who do not believe in the **INDWELLING** of The Holy Spirit, in the obedient baptized believers. They are refusing The greatest Gift, that God could Ever give, to those who are trying to live the Christian life. They have made The choice themselves to reject the help from the Holy Spirit, that He so much wants to give us. We should never open up our Bibles to read God's Word, without asking God to help us to read with an open mind.

**In Christian Love**

**Herb Trout**





