

GROW IN GRACE NEWSLETTER

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PLEASE USE the Grow in Grace Newsletter for your own spiritual growth; and **AS A RESOURCE** to help equip you to MINISTER to others! **Volume 47, No. 12, March 29, 2022** / Southside Baptist Church / P.O. Box 1594 / 1028 South Water Avenue, Gallatin, TN 37066 (615) 452-5951 / **The Grow in Grace Newsletter is a WEEKLY Bible Study**, plus local church news notes— designed first and foremost for members and those attending services at Southside Church; and is sent forth with the desire to aid

one and all, (including friends far and wide), in the experience of 2 Peter 3:18. **"But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our LORD JESUS CHRIST!**

FIVE FOLD MINISTRY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT: Birth! Baptism! Sealing! Indwelling! Filling— BY THE HOLY SPIRIT!

JESUS to His Disciples: ¹⁶ And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor—Counselor, Strengthenener, Standby), **to be with you forever—** ¹⁷ **the Spirit of Truth**, whom the world cannot receive [and take to its heart] because it does not see Him or know Him, *but* you know Him because **He (the Holy Spirit)** remains with you *continually* **and will be in you.** ¹⁸ "I will not leave you as orphans [comfortless, bereaved, and helpless]; I will come [back] to you. (John 14:16-18, Amplified Bible)

IN THE LIGHT of just these three verses— what could be more important in the Christian's life than to rightly understand, to be rightly related to, and to heed the Holy Spirit? **THUS,** rest assured that satanic forces have wasted no time in filling the world of Christendom with tragic error as to the Holy Spirit! **INDEED:**

1. A BILLION souls are enslaved under the deception of the Roman Catholic institution THAT their pope is the **vicar** of Christ on earth. (The term "**vicar**" comes from the Latin word *vicarius*, which means "instead of."... Taking the place of.) **NOW, as recorded in the Gospel of John,** JESUS DID INDEED promise a "vicar" in the sense of a "replacement" for His physical presence here on earth.

However, this “vicar” of Christ was not and is not a priest, high priest, bishop, or pope. **The only Biblical “Vicar” of Christ is the HOLY SPIRIT!**

2. FOR OTHER multitudes of professing Christians the Holy Spirit is primarily associated with feelings, emotions, and/or EXPERIENCES [Often created by professional manipulators who use music, lights, sounds, and words to create emotional moods. For most of these multitudes— they have an ‘experience’ to which they give more weight than to the Word of God]; **still other multitudes equate the Holy Spirit with speaking in tongues, and/or out of control behavior** as described in the following testimony.

3. Tony Miano, in an article titled, *Spiritual Heroin and Blasphemy of the Holy* wrote, “The pastor stepped behind his pulpit and told the congregation there would be no sermon this morning... Instead, he was going to turn his pulpit over to members of the congregation who spent the better part of the weekend at a conference at a church called "Anaheim Vineyard," pastored by a man, now deceased, named John Wimber...

One-by-one and couple-by-couple, elders and their wives and other leaders in the church stepped up to the pulpit to **share what they experienced** at the conference... They testified of what they called extraordinary moves of the Holy Spirit... **They described** uncontrollable laughter, the feeling of physical drunkenness, people barking like dogs and **quacking like ducks.** Yes, quacking like ducks. One man described being thrown up against the wall by an unseen entity and being pinned to the wall.

And as people shared their "testimonies," others in the congregation laughed. But they weren't laughing at what was being said. They were just laughing..." <http://www.crossencounters.us/2013/07/spiritual-heroin-and-blasphemy-of-holy.html>

As to such wholesale spiritual deception, there is little mystery— for multitudes get their Christian beliefs from preachers, religious television, radio, books, WEB SITES, etc. ... **And not from** a personal study of the Word of God! **HOW ABOUT YOU?**

Example: Many years ago I purchased and read, *Why Should I Speak in Tongues*, by Charles and Frances Hunter. The Hunters, prior to their death, travelled the world being promoted as great faith healers; and they had a strong focus in teaching others about being baptized with/by/in the Holy Spirit, with the evidence being... speaking in tongues. **In their book they wrote the following quotes, all from page 186):**

1. “We did not know how to receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, until someone TOLD US!” **2.** “We are going to ask you to join with us in a little prayer in just a moment, and in that second of time, in that instant THINK OF JESUS laying His hands upon you to impart to you the gift of the Holy Spirit.” **3.** “We want you to also remember that you can’t speak two languages at one time. You can’t speak English and in your prayer language, SO after we pray this prayer, **we are going to ask you NOT TO SPEAK IN ENGLISH ANY MORE.**” **4.** “And remember that all languages are made up of a bunch of MIXED UP LITTLE syllables, **so give the Spirit some syllables**, SO HE CAN GIVE YOU THE LANGUAGE.” **5.** “We have also discovered that if YOU WILL **PRAY RAPIDLY** AT FIRST it will help you considerably... because when you pray slowly YOU HAVE A TENDENCY TO THINK ABOUT what’s coming out of your mouth. **6. When you pray in the Spirit, IT HAS TO BYPASS YOUR MIND....** And you will find this easier if you will pray a little faster!”

NOTE: Another common method of ‘**getting**’ the baptism of the Holy Spirit as evidenced by tongues’ is to be in a large crowd that is being manipulated by religious performers— preachers, teachers, musicians, etc.

AGAIN: what could be more important in the Christian’s life than to rightly understand, to be rightly related to, and to heed the Holy Spirit? **BUT to whom shall we turn?**

WHAT DOES JESUS REVEAL ABOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT? *In John 13-17, Jesus gives MAJOR TEACHING about the Holy Spirit:* John 14:16-18; John 14:26; John 15:26; John 16:7-14. **IN THESE VERSES**, Jesus repeatedly speaks of the Holy Spirit as the SPIRIT OF TRUTH; and that the Holy Spirit will TEACH and remind the disciples what Jesus had said to them while with them; and that the Holy Spirit would glorify Jesus; and give revelation of

things to come. **WONDERFUL TRUTH: The Holy Spirit WILL NOT by-pass your mind!**

The Holy Spirit breathed out the entire Word of God to prophets and apostles. **He focuses of truth, instruction, doctrine**— all in the ultimate purpose of REVEALING THE TRUE and living TRIUNE GOD!

SAD REALITY: MANY in Christendom are loaded down with false teachings because they MAXIMIZE EMOTIONAL EXPERIENCES and MINIMIZE TRUTH. Nevertheless, the Holy Spirit is the Spirit of Truth. Where the Holy Spirit is at work there will always be an exposing of ERROR and a revealing and an embracing of the TRUTH of the Word of God.

THE HOLY SPIRIT— Birth! Baptism! Sealing! Indwelling! Filling!

These FIVE foundational works of the Holy Spirit are miracles from God to EVERY CHRISTIAN! (Not to ‘tares’ planted by the evil one to appear to be Christians; but to genuine ‘wheat’ planted by God Himself!)

I. Birth by the Holy Spirit! John 3:3- Jesus told Nicodemus “*You must be born again.*” “*Unless you are born of water and the Spirit, you cannot SEE nor enter the kingdom of heaven.*” (Ephesians 5:26; Titus 3:5; 1 Peter 1:23— As these verses demonstrate, the Regeneration/New Birth miracle from God is by means of the Word of God and the Holy Spirit; rooted in the convicting ministry of the Holy Spirit. **John 16:8-11**— Conviction of Sin; Righteousness; Conviction of COMING Judgment.

After conviction, the Holy Spirit gives/grants repentance and saving faith. (Acts 11:16-18) THUS, by this divine process of amazing grace, a person is born again by the Holy Spirit. **As Jesus told Nicodemus, the New Birth... is LIKE THE WIND**— (John 3:8) Eyes cannot see this miracle. **Yet the evidence is undeniable! 1. There is life! 2. There is grace-power and desire to walk with Jesus— without anyone having to beg or bribe! (Acts 2:42-47)**

Have you been born again by the Holy Spirit of God?

IF SO, you have ALSO experienced THREE other ministries of the Holy Spirit.

II. BAPTISM WITH/BY/IN THE HOLY SPIRIT IS SPECIFICALLY STATED SEVEN times in the New Testament—

*** **FIVE** of the references **POINT AHEAD** to the day of Pentecost: (1) Matt. 3:11; (2) Mark 1:8; (3) Luke 3:16; (4) John 1:33; (5) Acts 1:4-5.

*** **TWO** of the 7 references **POINT BACK** to the day of Pentecost: (6) Acts 11:15-17; (7) 1 Cor. 12:13.

NOTICE what the Word of God says and DOES NOT say in the 7 references:

1. In none of the Biblical references is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit an experience SOUGHT sometime after being saved. **It is never presented as** a 'second' work of grace, following salvation. Rather, it is equated with the miracle of BEING SAVED. (Acts 11:1-18)

2. Holy Spirit Baptism did not come in response to agonizing prayer; nor to a select group of believers while passing by others. Rather it is for all who come to faith in Christ. ALL are BAPTIZED into the Body of Christ. (1 Cor. 12:32)

3. Holy Spirit Baptism is the reality of the miracle of becoming a Christian. All who BORN OF THE HOLY SPIRIT are baptized into Christ, into His body, (1 Cor. 12:13); and the Holy Spirit FLOODS every redeemed heart with the love of God! (Rom.5:5)

4. When the gospel went to the Gentiles and Samaritans (in Acts 10-11 and 19) there was the manifestation of speaking in tongues, (as on the day of Pentecost when the N.T. church began) The reason is clearly stated— so that those from Jerusalem would know that the same gospel of grace that had been GIVEN to Jews was now also given to non-Jews. (Acts 11:14-18) **EVEN AS AT PENTECOST, the tongues were NOT SOUGHT and were of genuine, human language.**

5. Furthermore, a number of souls are revealed in the Acts as having come to faith in Christ— but they did not manifest any sort of speaking in tongues as on the day of Pentecost.

6. MOREOVER: TONGUES WAS NOT and IS NEVER STATED TO BE THE EVIDENCE OF THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT... NOR is 'tongues' THE PATH TO THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Fundamentally, the evidence of being saved, the evidence of being baptized by the Holy Spirit into Christ and into His body is the FRUIT of the Holy Spirit, as revealed in Gal. 5:22-25; Romans 5:5; Acts 2:42-47.

THESE TRUTHS BEING SO, IT IS NOT A SURPRISE THAT

NO NEW TESTAMENT BELIEVERS ARE EVER commanded to be baptized with, by or in the Holy Spirit.

No one is instructed to seek the baptism; and there is no Biblical instruction on HOW TO SEEK... or on how to be baptized with the Holy Spirit. Why? Because to be baptized with the Holy Spirit is the salvation miracle and gift of being placed by God into Christ and Christ in us!

[AGAIN, as to tongues— THERE IS ZERO INSTRUCTION AS TO HOW TO SPEAK IN TONGUES! And even IF one grants that the tongues spoken of in 1 Corinthians 12 and 14 are still valid gifts of the Holy Spirit for today— these gifts (1) are NOT for everyone in the church; (2) have zero to do with living the Christian life on a higher plain; and (3) in the use of this gift in the church, women are not to speak!]

BIBLICAL REALITY: Speaking in tongues is nowhere in Scripture said to be the evidence Holy Spirit Baptism, or Holy Spirit filling, or anointing, or the key to a higher level of Christian living. **Speaking in tongues** does not mean or prove that one is full of the Holy Spirit.

SPEAKING IN TONGUES is not even proof that a person is a Christian— Hindus and people of various religions speak in tongues.

In the New Testament, the most carnal church, Corinth, was big on speaking in tongues. **HOWEVER**, they were short on Holy Spirit FRUIT and FULNESS.

III. & IV. SEALED BY and INDWELT WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT!

When You Are (1) Born of the Holy Spirit; and **(2) Baptized** with the Holy Spirit; you are also **(3) Sealed** with the Holy Spirit (Eph. 1:13) — which has to do with Ownership and Likeness; And you are **(4) Indwelt by the Holy Spirit... Your body becomes the “home of the Holy Spirit!”** (I Cor. 6:19-20; Eph. 2:19-22)

Are you a Christian? THE HOLY SPIRIT indwells you! You are God’s property! And the sign says: **No trespassing!** Under new ownership and management! These are all “Salvation Miracles.” God does these miracles IN and UPON all whom HE SAVES!

V. THE FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!

The Holy Spirit Baptism is not to be confused with the COMMAND to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Whereas there is ONE Baptism in the Holy Spirit, there are, can be, should be MANY FILLINGS with the Holy Spirit.

Birth! Baptism! Sealing! Indwelling with/by/in the Holy Spirit = the miracle of your first moment IN CHRIST! **What AMAZING GRACE!** MOREOVER, it is reality that at that moment the new convert is also FILLED with the Holy Spirit, as they were on the day of Pentecost.

For after all, how could one be BAPTIZED into the Body of Christ, into Christ, and FLOODED with the love of God by the Holy Spirit (Romans 5:5) and NOT BE filled with the Holy Spirit! **HOWEVER, while HOLY SPIRIT Birth, Baptism, Sealing, and Indwelling are NEVER to be repeated and never lessen or change—** in contrast, the FULLNESS of the HOLY SPIRIT can ebb and flow. SADLY, we can grieve and/or quench the Holy Spirit.

MOREOVER, there are SPECIAL manifestations of Holy Spirit fullness which are given for SPECIFIC times of specific ministry. **As to being filled with the Holy Spirit,** CHRISTIANS are commanded and told how! Ephesians 5:18-6:18; Colossians 3:16-4:6

SOME NEW TESTAMENT EXAMPLES AS TO HOLY SPIRIT FULLNESS:

1. In Acts 2, the disciples were both baptized with the Holy Spirit and filled with the Holy Spirit. *They were filled with the Holy Spirit over and over again—but never baptized with the Holy Spirit again!*

2. Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit as he stood up to preach (Acts 4:8)

3. The disciples prayed and were filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 4:31)

- 4. To serve tables** men need to be filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 6:3-5)
- 5. Steven**, the martyr, was full of the Holy Spirit (Acts 7:55)
- 6. As a new Christian**, Paul was filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 9:17)
- 7. Paul** was filled with the Holy Spirit as he blinded the eyes of the sorcerer. (Acts 13:9)
- 8. After persecution** the disciples were filled with the Holy Spirit. (Acts 13:52)
- 9. We are ALL commanded** to being continually filled with the Holy Spirit!

SO, AT CONVERSION: WE ARE Born of the Holy Spirit; Baptized with the Holy Spirit; Sealed by the Holy Spirit; and Indwelt by the Holy Spirit— ONLY ONCE AT SALVATION. BUT we are to be Filled... Again and again; and the context of the command to be filled (Eph. 5:18) reveals that the fullness of the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential in every area of our daily lives.

How shall those who are born again, baptized, sealed and indwelt by the Holy Spirit respond to this divine command TODAY, RIGHT NOW?

- 1.** Let us acknowledge that we have often grieved and quenched the Holy SPIRIT!
- 2.** Let us confess the Holy Spirit's indwelling presence and rights!!
- 3.** Let us desire Him and heed His promptings.
- 4.** Let us remember that His passion is to glorify Jesus and to teach us all that Jesus said.

Grace to all in Christ! www.southsidegallatin.org James Bell

NEWS NOTES:

SUNDAY SERVICES, APRIL 3, 10, 17, 24 ... / 2022

- 1. *** Sunday School at 9:30am:** Nursery, Children's classes, Youth, and Adult classes.
- 2. *** WORSHIP SERVICE at 10:45am!**

ADDITIONAL SUNDAY SERVICES:

- 1. 4/3/22 ... NOON Fellowship Meal**
- 2. 4/10/22 ... 5pm Training Faithful Men**

3. 4/17/22 ... The climax of the service: THE LORD'S TABLE

4. 4/24/22 ... FOURTH SUNDAY EVENING WORSHIP SERVICE at 5PM. (Adam, Bradley, and others give specific preparation for this Service.... and, this month, James Poteete scheduled to preach.)

EVERY SATURDAY*** 8:00 AM, — Men's Bible Study! (*Doors open by 7:30am... coffee, juice, donuts, and Hardee's Biscuits are available!*)

***** NEXT Ladies Bible Study, April 5, @ 11:00 AM**

TUESDAYS: WEEKLY Youth Group Meeting, ages 12 and up ... Tuesdays a 7:15pm... at Jaden and Rhi's home...

WEDNESDAY NIGHTS @ SOUTHSIDE:

6:30pm— come in back 'double doors' under the Drive Thru awning!

**** Adult Prayer Service, BACK AT CHURCH BUILDING**

**** Young FAMILIES Prayer Service [ADAM or Jaden weekly communicate as to LOCATION]**

***** LOVE OFFERINGS UNTO THE LORD BY MAIL or by ONLINE GIVING:**

SUCH funds, (if checks), make out to Southside Baptist) — MAIL TO: Southside Baptist Church, P.O. Box 1594, Gallatin, TN 37066/ OR...

TO GIVE via ONLINE GIVING:

<https://southsidebaptist.breezechms.com/give/online>

HEALTH REMINDERS as to CHURCH SERVICES AND as to Responding with WISDOM and NOT fear IN SEEKING TO KEEP AS HEALTHY AS WE CAN— SO AS TO BE ACTIVE IN THE KINGDOM BUSINESS OF THE LORD!

1. IF YOU ARE SICK... [OR if you are in a state of high immune deficiency or if (at home or work) you are caring for one who is sick; or if you have • Fever; • Coughing; • Chills; • Headache; • Sore throat; etc.], Please stay home!]

2. IF YOU ARE HEALTHY and well... you may or may not choose to wear a mask... WE CONTINUE to encourage FREEDOM as to 'social distancing'... masks ... vaccine choices, etc. — PLEASE HONOR THE LORD, by continuing to give sensitivity and respect one to another.

3. In addition to carefulness, good hydration, good nutrition, and sleep— ALSO: SEEK TO BUILD UP A STRONG IMMUNE SYSTEM! | PERSONALLY TAKE ELDERBERRY, VITAMIN C, ZINC, GINGER, VITAMIN D, Quercetin, and a good multi-vitamin that includes fiber... And Ivermectin. DO YOUR OWN RESEARCH! BE PROACTIVE! BE PREVENTIVE! LET each of us DO OUR PART IN personal hygiene — **please wash your hands with SOAP; and use nearby SANITIZER.**

4. HERE IS AN EDUCATIONAL resource from ... FROM Doctors who successfully treat covid-19 patients! => <https://breggin.com/covid-19-home-treatment/> //// Peter McCullough, MD, BRIEF. EXCELLENT: → <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QAHi3lX3oGM>

The PDF booklet: A Guide to Home-Based COVID Treatment can be downloaded ... **focus is on PREVENTION and early treatment:** COVID Treatment - Truth for Health Foundation <https://www.truthforhealth.org/patientguide/patient-treatment-guide/>