

Biblical Study on Baptism of the Holy Spirit by Richard D'Andrea Dover

This lesson is posted in my personal blog at <http://administrator.christianblogsites.com/blog>. Before each lesson there is a link to the specific lesson post. If you would like to make comments regarding a lesson, just click on the lesson link. All we request is that there would not be any personal attacks and if you are challenging a specific point, that you use Scripture to defend your position.

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[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Introduction](#)

Introduction

Before I get started I want to say my goal is not to bash those who disagree with me, so I ask the same from those who disagree with me. I believe there are sincere Bible believing Christians who have a different perspective. So at times, we as believers need to agree to disagree.

As I explore this subject I will be looking at the concept of what many call the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the concept of speaking in tongues. I will be stating what I believe the Bible says on this subject and what it does not say.

I will be looking at some of the positions of those who are against the speaking of tongues and who believe Baptism of the Holy Spirit is not a separate experience. I will also be looking at the position of those who I believe go beyond what scripture teaches about tongues and Baptism of the Holy Spirit-those who overemphasize tongues.

I believe sincere followers of Jesus Christ will be able to say this is a balanced study of this topic, even if they are disagreement in our conclusions. Too many times those on either position become emotionally involved and then become out of balance in their study. I believe we should let scripture interpret itself.

When looking at this subject there are extremes in both positions.

Speaking in tongues is of the devil

Some say the speaking of tongues is of the devil. If taken literally, then what they are saying is that sincere Bible believing, Christ following believers, are being deceived and controlled by the devil when they are speaking in tongues. That would mean that when they speak in tongues the devil is controlling their lips and mouth. Or that they are at least being led by the devil to speak in tongues.

This is a very dangerous position to take. What if the speaking in tongues is of God? Then people are calling a gift from God as a counterfeit gift from the devil-they are callings things of God as of the devil. That actually comes close to blasphemy.

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It is also dangerous because it is saying that any gifts that come from a person being Baptism of the Holy Spirit is of the devil.

Those with this position would then have to assume that any good works that come from Baptism of the Holy Spirit are false because they are initiated by the devil. That would mean that sincere Bible believing Christ following believers are walking in deception and tools of the devil.

Every Christian must speak in tongues

Those who are on the extreme in the belief of Baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues, make statements like: "you have to speak in tongues if you are a Christian". So what they are saying if taken literally, is that those who do not speak in tongues are not saved. That would mean those who have walked out of sin into the light of the Gospel and do not speak in tongues are doing it without the help of the Spirit of God. So, a drug addict gets the victory over drugs through Christ and does not speak in tongues, is getting the victory actually through self effort or through the power of the devil.

Those who believe a person must speak in tongues to be saved are teaching that Christianity is then based upon works. I must do something beyond confessing my sin, repenting, and turning towards Christ.

Both extremes are in error

Both positions when taken to their logical conclusion are in error. Both ultimately glorify the devil. Both are ultimately divisive and question the sincere walk of many Christians. Both positions are contrary to Scripture. Both question the salvation of a believer based upon if they speak in tongues or not-salvation is not based upon the speaking in tongues.

If the reader of this article strongly holds to either position, they will not care what Scripture teaches because their positions are not based upon Scripture. I will not take the time to respond to those who hold either position because the debate would not be based upon scripture, but on opinions.

What do others believe?

In our first lesson I will be looking at the various opinions regarding Baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues. I will then start looking at what the Bible says about these subjects.

[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 1](#)**Various opinions regarding-Is Speaking in Tongues for Today?**

In our introduction I stated there are those who have extreme views on this subject. I am not listing or discussing these extreme views. The following is what most believe that are in the two camps. There are of course variations of belief within each camp.

Those who believe tongues are for today

1. Every believer has the ability to speak in tongues
2. There are tongues with interpretation and tongues as a prayer language
3. Tongues are the evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit
4. Tongues can be one of the evidences of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit
5. Tongues are a sign for the unbeliever, but also are for the edifying of the believer
6. Tongues can be a known or unknown language

Those against tongues being for today

1. Tongues no longer exist-they have been done away with by God
2. Tongues are only for sharing the Gospel in a different language
3. Tongues are not the evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
4. Tongues are a sign for the unbeliever, and there is no benefit for the believer
5. Tongues must be of a known language-there is no such thing as a prayer language
6. Tongues were used to preach the Gospel-not for any other purpose.

Various opinions regarding the Baptism of the Holy Spirit**Those for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit**

1. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a separate experience than salvation
2. Baptism of the Holy Spirit can occur at the same time as salvation or at a later date
3. A person must be born again to be Baptism of the Holy Spirit
4. The sign of Baptism of the Holy Spirit is tongues
5. The sign of Baptism of the Holy Spirit may be tongues
6. A person does not have to be Baptism of the Holy Spirit to be born again.

Those against or who have a different opinion of Baptism of the Holy Spirit

1. Baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs at conversion
2. Baptism of the Holy Spirit does not occur any other time than conversion
3. A person is born again when Baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs or there is no such thing as Baptism of the Holy Spirit
4. Tongues have nothing to do with Baptism of the Holy Spirit
5. The sign of Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a person being born again, not tongues
6. Baptism of the Holy Spirit, tongues, the gifts of the Spirit no longer exist

What churches believe or disbelieve in tongue and Baptism of the Holy Spirit?

I should first state that there are some in Christian churches of all denominations that believe in tongues and Baptism of the Holy Spirit. What this means is that just because a person is a Baptist or Methodist does not mean they do not believe in tongues or Baptism of the Holy Spirit. So, there are Baptists and Methodists that speak in tongues and believe the gifts of the Spirit are for today. It should be noted that even though there are many more denominations that do not

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believe in the speaking in tongues, there are many more members in pentecostal/charismatic churches.

Churches that support tongues and Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Assembly of God

Charismatic

Church of God

Holiness Pentecostal (some err in believing you have to speak in tongues)

Pentecostal

Churches that do not support tongues and Baptism of the Holy Spirit

(These denominations do have individuals and congregations that do believe in tongues and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit)

Anabaptists

Anglican

Baptist

Catholic (lean towards being a cult)

Church of Christ (some lean towards being a cult)

Episcopal

Lutheran

Methodist

Nazarene

Presbyterian

Reformed

Seventh-Day Adventists

In Lesson 2, I will discuss the phrase Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Many are confused by this phrase because they do not understand that there are different terms used in Scripture regarding Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Many get stuck on the word baptism and have not seen other phrases used to describe the same experience.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 2a**Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Other Phrases Associated with the Speaking in Tongues**

Many who do a Bible Study on the Baptism of the Holy Spirit with the concept of tongues are only looking for verses that have the word baptism in them. They then focus on the meaning of baptism. The problem is that there are other phrases in Scripture that are associated with the concept of Baptism of the Holy Spirit and tongues. In this study I will be looking at these other phrases and see how context and Scripture itself defines these terms. I will be dividing this lesson into subcategories so that each section is not too large.

Unless noted otherwise the verses are New American Standard.

Baptized in/with the Spirit

Acts 1:4-5

⁴ *Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me;*

⁵ *for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."*

These verses are obviously talking about an experience that occurs after salvation or being born again. It is talking about the upper room experience in Acts 1. The disciples had already been born again before Acts 1. How do we know this? Look at John 20:22-23

²¹ *So Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you; as the Father has sent Me, I also send you."*

²² *And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said* to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.*

²³ *"If you forgive the sins of any, their sins have been forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they have been retained."*

Until this time when the disciples were doing miracles they were doing by the Holy Spirit coming upon them at various times (as in the Old Testament when the prophets would do miracles). They now were receiving the Holy Spirit and being born again just before Jesus leaves earth and they are baptized with the Holy Spirit. They must have needed to be born again before they were baptized with the Holy Spirit. So this would show that at least at times baptism with the Holy Spirit occurs subsequently after salvation. This is critical because there are those who say that Baptism of the Holy Spirit is always at the time of salvation.

The next occurrence of the phrase baptism with the Holy Spirit is when the gentiles were born again and baptized with the Holy Spirit. Apostle Peter is defending the position that salvation had come to the gentiles.

Acts 11:15-18

¹⁵ *"And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning.*

¹⁶ *"And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'"*

¹⁷ *"Therefore if God gave to them the same gift as He gave to us also after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?"*

¹⁸ *When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, "Well then, God has granted to the Gentiles also the repentance that leads to life."*

If you read all of Acts 10 and Acts 11 you will find that the term baptized with the Holy Spirit is

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being used the same way as in Acts 2:4 when the 120 spoke in tongues. Acts 10:46 says *For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God...*

So it is very clear that in Scripture when the phrase baptism in/with the Holy Spirit is specifically talking about the experience that occurs associated with speaking in tongues.

Some argue that baptism of the Holy Spirit comes when a person is baptized. This contradicts Scripture. It is clear from the verses above that Jesus and Peter sees them as two separate events. In Acts 10 it is very clear because the gentiles are baptized with the Holy Spirit and then water baptized. This also proves a person does not have to be water baptized to be born again. If the gentiles were baptized with the Holy Spirit they would need to be born again. Thus they were born again before they were water baptized.

Some argue that baptism with the Holy Spirit only occurs at the time of salvation. This contradicts Scripture. The disciples had already received the Spirit when they were baptized with the Holy Spirit. Later on we will look at other verses that show that these are two separate experiences.

In Lesson 2b we will explore the phrase the 'Spirit coming or falling upon'.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 2b**Spirit Coming On or Falling Upon**

If one does a study on the baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues, by only looking in the Bible for the phrase baptism in/with Holy Spirit they will come up with some wrong conclusions. What one must do is look at other various phrases that are associated with the experience of speaking in tongues. Again, allowing Scripture to define the experience.

In this study we will look at the phrase Spirit Coming on or Falling Upon.

Acts 1:8

⁵ *for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."*

⁶ *So when they had come together, they were asking Him, saying, "Lord, is it at this time You are restoring the kingdom to Israel?"*

⁷ *He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or epochs which the Father has fixed by His own authority;*

⁸ *but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."*

It is obvious by the context that Jesus is speaking of the upcoming upper room experience where 120 are baptized with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues. Notice that *come upon you* and *baptized with the Holy Spirit* are synonymous.

Acts 8:12-19

¹² *But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike.*

¹³ *Even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip, and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was constantly amazed.*

¹⁴ *Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John,*

¹⁵ *who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.*

¹⁶ *For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

¹⁷ *Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.*

¹⁸ *Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, ¹⁹ saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."*

The Samaritans were obviously born again for they were being baptized. And if they were born again, then they had to have the Holy Spirit, because you cannot be born again without having the Holy Spirit. So why did the disciples come down and pray for them? So that they might receive the Holy Spirit because He had not yet fallen upon any of them. So there must be some experience that is subsequent to being born again. Something important enough that the disciples went to Samaria. It is clear that experience is what is called being baptized with the Holy Spirit.

In this passage it does not say they were speaking in tongues, but something amazing was

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happening when hands were laid on them to receive the Holy Spirit-Simon was willing to pay for the sign to follow him. Based upon all the other Scriptures regarding Baptism of the Holy Spirit, it would make sense that the evidence of them being Baptism of the Holy Spirit was speaking in other tongues. In this passage we see that receive the Holy Spirit is another phrase associated with Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 10:44-47

⁴⁴ *While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message.*

⁴⁵ *All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.*

⁴⁶ *For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered,*

⁴⁷ *"Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?"*

The Holy Spirit fell upon them and poured out on them, and they spoke in tongues. It is obvious that fell upon them and poured out on them is associated with Baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues. Notice they had not been water baptized, so Baptism of the Holy Spirit is not simultaneous with water baptism. Notice that received the Holy Spirit once again is associated with Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 11:15-17

¹⁵ *"And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning.*

¹⁶ *"And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'*

¹⁷ *"Therefore if God gave to them the same gift as He gave to us also after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?"*

In this passage Peter is explaining to the disciples what occurred at Cornelius' home. Notice the phrases Holy Spirit fell upon them, baptized with the Holy Spirit, and same gift are all synonymous. We now have the word gift used to describe being Baptism of the Holy Spirit. You will also notice that more than one time there is a reference to 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' Later on in our study you will see why these combination of words are important.

Acts 19:1-6

¹ *It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples.*

² *He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said to him, "No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."*

³ *And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" And they said, "Into John's baptism."*

⁴ *Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus."*

⁵ *When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

⁶ *And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.*

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These disciples that Paul found were obviously born again because Paul says they believed. They say they never heard of the Holy Spirit. Again they must have the Holy Spirit because they are born again. So to receive the Holy Spirit has to be a separate experience from salvation. Paul has them water baptized (this supports being water baptized more than once at times), lays hands on them and the Holy Spirit came on them and they speak in tongues. This is obvious a reference again to Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion regarding *Spirit coming or falling upon*

Scripture itself has defined that the phrases *Spirit Coming, falling upon*, and even the phrases *receiving Holy Spirit, poured out on them*, and *the gift* are all synonymous with the phrase baptized in/with the Holy Spirit. We also see that tongues are associated with Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

In our next lesson we will study the phrase Spirit poured out. I hope it is becoming obvious to our readers that if one only studies the phrase baptized in/with the Holy Spirit, they will come up with limited conclusions. A person can write tons of information of what the word baptism is suppose to mean and miss the whole concept of being baptized in the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues. This is why it is so critical to let Scripture define Scripture instead of coming up with all kinds of theories and opinions that are not Scripture based.

[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 2c](#)**Baptism and the Holy Spirit and Poured Out**Acts 2:33 (NIV)

³³ *Exalted to the right hand of God, he has received from the Father the promised Holy Spirit and has poured out what you now see and hear.*

The context for this verse is Peter explaining what took place in the upper room. This is obviously talking about the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the speaking in tongues. Note that Peter compares the promised Holy Spirit with the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. This is subsequent to salvation because the disciples had already received the Holy Spirit when Jesus breathed upon them before He ascended.

Acts 10:44-46 (KJV)

⁴⁴ *While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.*

⁴⁵ *And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.*

⁴⁶ *For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God...*

It is significant that the phrase used is poured out. *We will be discussing this fuller in a later study. But for now, we will mention that the gift of the Holy Spirit or baptism of the Holy Spirit when associated with tongues gives the impression that it is something more than just having the Holy Spirit living in you as a Christian-there is the pouring out of the Holy Spirit. Note that Peter knew the Gentiles had the Holy Spirit poured out on them because they spoke with tongues. Tongues was an evidence that they had received the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

Gift of the Holy Spirit

The phrase gift of the Holy Spirit is used at times associated with the concept of being Baptized in/with the Holy Spirit and tongues. At other times it appears it could be used in association with the gift of the Holy Spirit regarding being born again. So we must look at the context and let Scripture define Scripture.

Acts 2:38-39

³⁸ *Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*

³⁹ *"For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself."*

There is controversy over what this phrase is referring to. If looked at in the context of verses 38, 39 it could be taken as in regards to the Holy Spirit being received during salvation. If taken in the context of what previously occurred it would seem more likely that the audience would see it as them receiving what the 120 had just received which included the baptism with the Holy Spirit. If you see how the phrase is used in other parts of Acts it is obvious in those verses it is associated with the baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues.

Remember it is best to let Scripture define Scripture and context-not our perception of what Scripture is saying. Many have taken vs 38 as saying a person must be baptized in order to be forgiven and to be born again. However if all of Scripture is considered, this cannot be true.

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Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.

⁴⁶ *For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God...*

It is clear when reading contextually that the promise of the Father is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, not salvation alone. The gift of the Holy Spirit is Baptism of the Holy Spirit, not just salvation.

Acts 8:18-20

¹⁸ *Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money,*

¹⁹ *saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."*

²⁰ *But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money!"*

Simon sees hands laid on people and they receive the Holy Spirit and he wants to pay to have the ability to do the same. What was he seeing that he would want to pay to get the same results? It had to be something special besides the people just being born again because they were already born again. It makes sense base upon the context of Scripture that they were either speaking in tongues and/or prophesying. The key point is that they were receiving the Holy Spirit and it is called the gift of God. So, Baptism of the Holy Spirit and gift of God in this passage is synonymous.

It is clear in this passage that gift of the Holy Spirit here is synonymous with Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

The following is an interesting verse (John 3:34-25) regarding the gift of the Holy Spirit. It is saying that Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit. And that filling of the Holy Spirit what considered a gift of the Holy Spirit. So once again the gift of the Holy Spirit is associated with Baptism of the Holy Spirit, not just having the Holy Spirit because you are born again. Some have said, "If the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is needed for power and tongues is the evidence of being Baptism of the Holy Spirit, why didn't Jesus speak in tongues. First, we do not know that Jesus did not speak in tongues. Scripture states that He did many things that are not recorded. Second, Jesus did not need to have the evidence or need of tongues because it appears the Father committed everything into His hand-He was already Baptism of the Holy Spirit-He had ALL of the Spirit.

John 3:34-35 (AMP)

³⁴ *For since He Whom God has sent speaks the words of God [proclaims God's own message], God does not give Him His Spirit sparingly or by measure, but boundless is the gift God makes of His Spirit!*

³⁵ *The Father loves the Son and has given (entrusted, committed) everything into His hand.*

Conclusion regarding the gift of the Spirit

It becomes clear when looking at the context of Scripture and letting Scripture define Scripture that almost all of the time, or all the time in the Book of Acts, the gift of the Spirit is synonymous with the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

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In our next lesson we will look at the phrase *receive the Spirit* in association with Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 2d**Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Receiving the Spirit**

It is going to become clear that in the Book of Acts that *receiving the Spirit* is synonymous with Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 8:14-19

¹⁴ *Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John,*

¹⁵ *who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.*

¹⁶ *For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

¹⁷ *Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.*

¹⁸ *Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money, ¹⁹ saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."*

²⁰ *But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money!"*

The Samaritans had to be receiving something else besides salvation. They were already baptized so they had been born again and already had the Holy Spirit living in them. Besides Simon would not be willing to pay for people to be born again. Some kind of sign occurred-it was something unique. They were receiving the Holy Spirit and it is called the gift of God. So, Baptism of the Holy Spirit, gift of God, receiving the Holy Spirit in this passage are synonymous.

Acts 10:44-47

⁴⁴ *While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message.*

⁴⁵ *All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.*

⁴⁶ *For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered,*

⁴⁷ *"Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?"*

This is a loaded passage Holy Spirit fell upon, gift of the Holy Spirit, poured out, speaking with tongues, received the Holy Spirit. There can be no doubt from this verse alone, not counting all the other verses in Scripture, that receiving the Holy Spirit in the context of the Spirit being poured out is the experience of Baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. It should be noted that Peter says the Gentiles received the Holy Spirit the same way as he/they did. This is obviously talking about the Day of Pentecost/upper room experience, not when Jesus breathed on them and said receive the Spirit.

Acts 19:1-6

¹ *It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples.*

² *He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said to him,*

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"No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

³ *And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" And they said, "Into John's baptism."*

⁴ *Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus."*

⁵ *When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

⁶ *And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.*

These disciples from Ephesus obviously were born again based upon verse 2. They were born again but had not received the Holy Spirit. So that means the phrase receive the Holy Spirit in this passage does not mean receiving the Holy Spirit when born again. So it must mean they had the Holy Spirit within from being born again, but there was an additional experience to come after being born again. Verse 6 says the Holy Spirit came on them and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. This is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Filled with the Spirit

Acts 2:1-4

¹ *When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.*

² *And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.*

³ *And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.*

⁴ *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.*

This is obviously talking about the promised baptism of the Holy Spirit

Acts 9:17-19

¹⁷ *So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."*

¹⁸ *And immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales, and he regained his sight, and he got up and was baptized;*

¹⁹ *and he took food and was strengthened. Saul Begins to Preach Christ Now for several days he was with the disciples who were at Damascus,*

This verse is not clear that filled with the Holy Spirit is the baptism of the Holy Spirit. However, we do know that Paul spoke in tongues, and we will see in later studies that tongues normally comes with baptism of the Holy Spirit. So, since Paul spoke in tongues, it would be safe to say that he most likely had to have been baptized in the Holy Spirit, and thus it most likely occurred when he was filled with the Holy Spirit.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Promise of the Father or Spirit

Acts 1:4-5

⁴ *Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me;*

⁵ *for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."*

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What did the Father promise? The baptism with the Holy Spirit. This obviously was something more than salvation.

Acts 2:33

³³ *"Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.*

It is obvious that Peter is calling the promise of the Holy Spirit as what just occurred, which was the tongues of fire coming down and the people speaking in tongues and prophesying-the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Acts 2:38-39

³⁸ *Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

³⁹ *"For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself."*

If read in context with all of the Book of Acts, the promise, the gift of the Holy Spirit is in regards to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Luke 3:16

¹⁶ *John answered and said to them all, "As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.*

Based upon Scripture interpreting Scripture, look at each of the verses regarding the promise and the above verse. You will see that the promise that John the Baptist is speaking of, that Jesus is speaking of, and that Peter is speaking of are all the same promise. It is the promise of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and there are tongues associated with it. Not John the Baptist gives a promise that Jesus and Peter make it clear that it is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost:

Acts 2:1-4

¹ *When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.*

² *And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.*

³ *And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.*

⁴ *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.*

No sincere person can say that what John gave as a promise, and what Jesus gave as a promise was not what occurred on the Day of Pentecost. So what does this mean? That the baptize you with fire that spoke of occurred on the Day of Pentecost and Jesus called this experience baptized with the Holy Spirit. To call baptize with fire anything else is contrary to the context of Scripture. I repeat over and over again-allow Scripture to interpret or explain Scripture.

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In the next lesson we will summarize all the phrases used to describe the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We will then see if Scripture has to say about tongues and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 2e](#)

Summary of phrases that are synonymous with Baptism of the Holy Spirit

Baptized in/with Holy Spirit

Acts 1:4-5, Acts 1:8, Acts 11:15-18, Luke 3:16

Spirit Coming On or Falling Upon

Acts 1:5-8, Acts 8:12-19, Acts 10:44-47, Acts 11:15-17, Acts 19:1-6

Spirit Poured Out

Acts 2:17-18, Acts 10:44,-47

Receiving the Spirit

Acts 8:14-19, Acts 10:44-47, Acts 19:1-6

Gift of God or Gift of the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:38-39, Acts 8:14-19, Acts 8:18-20, Acts 10:44-47, John 3:34-35 (AMP)

Filled with the Spirit

Acts 2:4, Acts 9:17

Promise of the Father or the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:4-5, Acts 2:33, Acts 2:38-39, Acts 2:1-4

In Lesson 3 we will be seeing how Baptism of the Holy Spirit and tongues are related.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 3

Baptism in the Holy Spirit and Tongues

In lesson 2 we looked at the various terms that are synonymous with the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. We found that Scripture defines the baptism of the Holy Spirit as:

- Baptized in/with the Spirit
- Spirit coming or falling upon
- Spirit poured out
- Gift of God or of the Spirit
- Receiving the Spirit
- Filled with the Spirit
- Promise of the Father or Spirit

(Note-Scripture defines these terms, not mine or other people's opinion. What I shared was verses in context.)

We also have found so far in our study that all of these phrases are talking about an experience separate than conversion and having the Holy Spirit living in you as a born again person. Every Christian has the Holy Spirit living in them. But according to Scripture, only those who have an additional experience are baptized in/with the Holy Spirit. In a latter study we will study the significance of being baptized in the Holy Spirit.

So as we do our study now on tongues and the baptism of the Holy Spirit, we will look in Scripture alone to see where the speaking in tongues is associated with the baptism of the Holy Spirit. This is easy to do. Just search for any of the phrases listed above and the word tongues. Here are the results.

Acts 2:1-4

¹ *When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.*

² *And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.*

³ *And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.*

⁴ *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.*

All were filled with the Holy Spirit and all spoke in other tongues.

Acts 10:44-47

⁴⁴ *While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message.*

⁴⁵ *All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.*

⁴⁶ *For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered,*

⁴⁷ *"Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?"*

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Holy Spirit fell upon all, the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on all, they received the Holy Spirit, and spoke with tongues.

Acts 19:1-6

¹ *It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples.*

² *He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said to him, "No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."*

³ *And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" And they said, "Into John's baptism."*

⁴ *Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus."*

⁵ *When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

⁶ *And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.*

The Holy Spirit came on them and they spoke in tongues and prophesied.

There are five instances in the Book of Acts of people being baptized in the Holy Spirit. Of those five instances, three times they spoke in tongues. We are now going to look at the other two instances to see what occurred.

Acts 8:14-20

¹⁴ *Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John,*

¹⁵ *who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit.*

¹⁶ *For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

¹⁷ *Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.*

¹⁸ *Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was bestowed through the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money,*

¹⁹ *saying, "Give this authority to me as well, so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."*

²⁰ *But Peter said to him, "May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money!"*

This does not say that the people spoke in tongues. But what it does say is that Simon saw something occur that was very amazing. So amazing he wanted to buy the ability to lay hands on people for them to receive the Holy Spirit. What was he seeing? Scripture does not say, but it would make sense that he saw people speaking in tongues, since in 3 other instances they spoke in tongues. It should be noted that Simon was a magician so it was something beyond what he had seen through his trickery. You will have to decide yourself what he saw that caused him to want to buy the ability to lay hands on others and see something amazing. Regardless of what it was, something amazing happens when people are baptized in the Holy Spirit.

Acts 9:17

¹⁷ *So Ananias departed and entered the house, and after laying his hands on him said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road by which you were coming, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."*

In this passage it does not say that Paul spoke in tongues after being filled with the Holy Spirit.

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Here is what we do know. Paul did speak in tongues according to Corinthians. When did he start speaking in tongues? We do not know. This is what we do know though. Scripture states 3 out of 5 times people who were baptized in the Holy Spirit spoke in tongues. Another time some kind of amazing event took place when they were baptized in the Holy Spirit. So, it would only make sense that Paul had some kind of experience when he was baptized in the Holy Spirit. Would it not be safe to say he spoke in tongues, since we know that he did speak at tongues at some point in his life.

Conclusion

Three out of five times people spoke in tongues when baptized in the Holy Spirit. One time an amazing event took place when they were Baptism of the Holy Spirit. The other occurrence was Paul. We don't know what happened to him when he was Baptism of the Holy Spirit, but we do know that he was a person who spoke in tongues.

What About Jesus?

Invariably when doing a study like this, people say, "But Jesus did not speak in tongues". First off, we do not know if Jesus spoke in tongues or not. Scripture states there are many things that Jesus did that are not written in Scripture. Since Scripture does not say if Jesus spoke in tongues- we cannot conclude one way or the other.

Here is something else to consider regarding Jesus speaking in tongues. Let's look at a verse:

John 3:34-35 (AMP)

³⁴ *For since He Whom God has sent speaks the words of God [proclaims God's own message], God does not give Him His Spirit sparingly or by measure, but boundless is the gift God makes of His Spirit!*

³⁵ *The Father loves the Son and has given (entrusted, committed) everything into His hand.*

This verse states that God gave Jesus the Holy Spirit without measure. This would mean that Jesus had all of the Holy Spirit he needed. When did God give this to Jesus? Was Jesus baptized in the Holy Spirit at one point of time and then received tongues. We do not know. But what we do know is that Jesus had all of the Holy Spirit he needed. So maybe there was no need for tongues, or He had tongues. It is actually irrelevant. What matters is what we have, not what Jesus had. Jesus said the disciples needed more than what they had and to wait for the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. We then see five times in the Book of Acts that the people were Baptism of the Holy Spirit. So, we need the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

In our next study we will see why the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is given/needed.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 4

Why Do We Need the Baptism in the Holy Spirit?

In our previous lessons it has become clear what the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is:

- It is not the same as receiving of the Holy Spirit when you are born again
- It is not associated with water baptism-a person may be water baptized before being baptized in the Holy Spirit, or they may be baptized in water after being baptized in the Holy Spirit
- It is an experience after being born again
- It is described as being filled, poured out on, baptized with, or a unique receiving of the Holy Spirit
- It is described as a gift of God or the Spirit
- It is described as promise of the Father or the Holy Spirit
- Tongues is normally manifested when there is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

So, the baptism of the Holy Spirit is obviously a gift from God for believers. Let's see what Scripture says about this.

Luke 24:45-49

⁴⁵ *Then He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures,*

⁴⁶ *and He said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ would suffer and rise again from the dead the third day,*

⁴⁷ *and that repentance for forgiveness of sins would be proclaimed in His name to all the nations, beginning from Jerusalem.*

⁴⁸ *"You are witnesses of these things.*

⁴⁹ *"And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."*

The disciples (ultimately 120) were to stay in the city until you are clothed with power on high. So, this would mean that they needed more of the Holy Spirit they had received when He had breathed on them in John 20:22 when they had been born again.

The promise of My Father was the baptism of the Holy Spirit that occurred on the Day of Pentecost. How do we know this? Peter says this is what happened.

Acts 2:33

³³ *"Therefore having been exalted to the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He has poured forth this which you both see and hear.*

So the baptism of the Holy Spirit is a gift from God. This should be a good enough reason to have it, why would we reject a gift from God? Also if you look at what Jesus said to the disciples, it was a command-*stay in the city until*.

Besides being a gift and a command, there are things we receive with this gift.

What benefits do we receive from being baptized in the Holy Spirit?

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Luke 24:49

⁴⁹ "And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."

When Baptism of the Holy Spirit, clothed with power from God.

Acts 4:8, 13 (AMP)

⁸ Then Peter, [because he was] filled with [and controlled by] the Holy Spirit, said to them, Rulers of the people and members of the council (the Sanhedrin),

¹³ Now when they saw the boldness and unfettered eloquence of Peter and John and perceived that they were unlearned and untrained in the schools [common men with no educational advantages], they marveled; and they recognized that they had been with Jesus.

In this example Peter was filled with the Holy Spirit (obviously from Pentecost experience) and spoke with boldness and unfettered eloquence (vs 13 includes John).

Acts 4:29-31 (AMP)

²⁹ And now, Lord, observe their threats and grant to Your bond servants [full freedom] to declare Your message fearlessly,

³⁰ While You stretch out Your hand to cure and to perform signs *and* wonders through the authority *and* by the power of the name of Your holy Child *and* Servant Jesus.

³¹ And when they had prayed, the place in which they were assembled was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they continued to speak the Word of God with freedom *and* boldness *and* courage.

This is an example of being refilled with the Holy Spirit because they obviously were baptized in the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost. Boldness, courage, and freely speaking the Word of God. So boldness comes with Baptism of the Holy Spirit. There were signs and wonders that followed the disciples who were baptized with the Holy Spirit.

Conclusion

- It is a gift from the Father and the Holy Spirit
- It was a command from Jesus
- It gives you boldness and courage
- It obviously equips you to be a better witness for Jesus

So, why wouldn't a person want the Baptism of the Holy Spirit? The reason is that some say it is not for Christians today. In our next lesson we will see if that is what Scripture teaches. Again, we will let Scripture define Scripture and let Scripture speak for itself.

[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 5](#)**Do We Need the Baptism of the Holy Spirit Today?**

There are those who will agree that the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the various phrases in the Book of Acts are synonymous. They will acknowledge that Scripture makes it clear that the purpose of Baptism of the Holy Spirit is for more effective witnessing. Some will even go as far to acknowledge that one of the main evidences of Baptism of the Holy Spirit is the speaking in tongues. Maybe, not every time, but they cannot deny it is the evidence in at least three situations. But after acknowledging all these things, they will say, "however, we do not need the baptism of the Holy Spirit today, and/or do not believe we need tongues today. They will say such things as, "since we now have the Bible, we do not need Baptism of the Holy Spirit or tongues". Or "tongues was done away with". Or that "the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and/or tongues was just for the disciples".

I will only be using a few verses in this lesson because the Bible does not have much to say about this subject. However, there are some verses that do address this issue. We will share them in a moment.

In this lesson I will not address the tongue issue, only the question, "do we need the baptism of the Holy Spirit today?". To answer this question, I will first ask a question. Is there anywhere in the Bible that it says we (those since the early church) will not need the baptism of the Holy Spirit. If it does, then our question will be answered. There is nothing in Scripture that would remotely come close to saying that we will not need the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

So what about, "we now have the Bible"? If this statement is taken literally, it would mean that since we have the Bible we do not need the baptism of the Holy Spirit. This would mean the Bible has more power than the Holy Spirit. I would say that the Bible and Holy Spirit are not in competition with each other.

Let's look at this for a moment in a very logical, rational way. There are multitudes of Christians in America who have more than one Bible, yet they do not witness. What was the purpose of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, to witness with boldness and power. Is that not needed today in our society? With all the Bibles, radio stations proclaiming the Word of God, Christian magazines with the Word of God, Bible on tape, Bible on CD, Bible on ipods, America has some of the lowest conversion rate than many other countries. Isn't it obvious we need more than the Bible when it comes to witnessing? We need the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

OK. We have seen no verses saying that Baptism of the Holy Spirit has been done away with or is no longer needed. However, there some verses (only a couple) that show the baptism of the Holy Spirit is for our generation.

Acts 2:38-39

³⁸ *Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

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³⁹ "For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself."

Acts 2:38-39 (AMP)

³⁸ *And Peter answered them, Repent (change your views and purpose to accept the will of God in your inner selves instead of rejecting it) and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of and release from your sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

³⁹ *For the promise [of the Holy Spirit] is to and for you and your children, and to and for all that are far away, [even] to and for as many as the Lord our God invites and bids to come to Himself.*

We have looked at this passage in the context of Scripture. In other lessons we have allowed Scripture to define Scripture. Some would say that the gift of the Holy Spirit is salvation or receiving the Holy Spirit when you are born again. It can appear that is what this means. But we must allow Scripture to define Scripture. We must look at context. What just took place? The Baptism of the Holy Spirit in the upper room. People were asking what it was all about. Peter tells them what is all about. He actually quotes Joel (we will look at it in a moment). Vs 39 (For the promise of the Holy Spirit) defines verse 38 (the gift of the Holy Spirit). We have seen in previous lessons that the promise of the Holy Spirit is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Both John the Baptist, Joel, and Jesus predicted this event. It was more than salvation. It was the empowering of the Holy Spirit through Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

What does verse 39 say? It says the promise (the Baptism of the Holy Spirit) "is to and for you and your children, and to and for all that are far away." That must mean more than just the first century. Don't agree? OK, look at the rest of Scripture. The promise is "for as many as the Lord our God invites and bids to come to Himself". That has to mean more than those in the first century. It must mean every person who comes to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ.

So, the baptism of the Holy Spirit is for every believer from the Book of Acts church history to now. Still not convinced?

What about Peter's reference to Joel?

Acts 2:15-21

¹⁵ *"For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day;*

¹⁶ *but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel:*

¹⁷ *'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says, 'THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND; AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS;*

¹⁸ *EVEN ON MY BONDSLAVES, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, I WILL IN THOSE DAYS POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT And they shall prophesy.*

¹⁹ *'AND I WILL GRANT WONDERS IN THE SKY ABOVE AND SIGNS ON THE EARTH BELOW, BLOOD, AND FIRE, AND VAPOR OF SMOKE.*

²⁰ *THE SUN WILL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD SHALL COME.*

²¹ *'AND IT SHALL BE THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.'*

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First off notice the phrase "pour forth of my Spirit". This is the same phrase used in reference to Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

Now what time frame is this prophecy from Joel talking about? Again, lets let Scripture interpret Scripture. Based upon Peter's statement, it was obviously during the Day of Pentecost in the upper room. However, it must be applicable also to the very last days because in verses 19-20 it is describing the last days. So, does it apply to today? Is there anything in the verse to suggest that pouring forth of the the Spirit stops on the Day of Pentecost and starts up in the end times? No. Also, are we not in the end times?

Some will say that the verse is talking about the pouring of the Holy Spirit at the time of salvation. However, no where in Scripture does it describe the receiving of the Holy Spirit at salvation as the "pouring out of the Spirit". Also, when reading Acts 2:15-21 in context, it is obvious that Peter sees it being in reference to the upper room experience, not the salvation experience-those in the upper room where already born again.

Conclusion

There are no verses saying that the baptism of the Holy Spirit will end at some point of time. It is obvious that there needs to be more than exposure to the Word of God in our age for powerful witnessing. Most Christians lack boldness. We have looked at two passages of Scripture that make it clear that the baptism of the Holy Spirit will be to the end of the age. For what purpose? To empower believers to bold in their witnessing. For there to be signs and wonders to follow Christ's disciples of today as they followed the preaching of the early disciples.

In our next lesson we will summarize regarding the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and then we will start looking at the subject of tongues in the Bible.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 6

In this lesson we are going to summarize what the Bible has to say regarding the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. In the next lesson we will start looking at the topic of tongues and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. As we summarize, I encourage readers to go back to any of the lessons to see the Scriptural support.

Baptism in/with Holy Spirit

1. A person must be born again to be Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
2. A person does not have to be water baptized to be Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
3. A person can be born again (thus have the Holy Spirit dwelling in them) and not be Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
4. According to the Book of Acts, being Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a separate experience from salvation.
5. Every Christian has the ability to be Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
6. Being baptized in/with the Holy Spirit is also described as being filled, poured out on, or a unique receiving of the Holy Spirit.
7. It is described as a gift of God or the Spirit or as promise of the Father or the Holy Spirit.
8. Tongues is normally manifested when there is the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
9. The main purpose of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is to give the Christian more power and boldness to witness.
10. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is for today. Nowhere in Scripture does it say it has been done away with, in fact looking at Scripture it is to be a part of the end times.
11. Those who are not Baptism of the Holy Spirit are not second class Christians-they are just missing out on the gift of God, the promise of the Father.

There is one more point I want to make before going to the next lesson. I realize that I missed an important concept regarding being baptism in/with the Holy Spirit compared to being anointed/eloquent in preaching/ferveat for the Lord and not having the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Yes, a person can be anointed but not have Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Look at the following passages of Scripture and see what they say.

Acts 18:24-26 (KJV)

²⁴ *And a certain Jew named Apollos, born at Alexandria, an eloquent man, and mighty in the scriptures, came to Ephesus.*

²⁵ *This man was instructed in the way of the Lord; and being fervent in the spirit, he spake and taught diligently the things of the Lord, knowing only the baptism of John.*

²⁶ *And he began to speak boldly in the synagogue: whom when Aquila and Priscilla had heard, they took him unto them, and expounded unto him the way of God more perfectly.*

Apollos was eloquent, mighty in the scriptures, instructed in the way of the Lord, fervent in the spirit, spoke and taught diligently the things of the Lord. It would be fair to say he was anointed and even full of the Spirit. But notice he also had limited knowledge and Aquila and Priscilla expounded unto him more things. But it did not stop there. As eloquent and fervent as he was for the Lord, he needed more-the baptism in/with the Holy Spirit. Look at the following verses:

Acts 19:1-6 (KJV)

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¹ *And it came to pass, that, while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and finding certain disciples,*

² *He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.*

³ *And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized? And they said, Unto John's baptism.*

⁴ *Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.*

⁵ *When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

⁶ *And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.*

Apollos became baptized in/with the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues and prophesied.

Summary: Being Baptism of the Holy Spirit obviously (as we have looked at the Scriptures) does not automatically come with being born again, it is a separate experience. There are pastors, ministers, preachers, godly Christians who are gifted in preaching and teaching and are not baptized in/with the Holy Spirit.

Before we go to the concept of tongues and Baptism of the Holy Spirit, I want to say that at times Pentecostals overemphasize tongues. Being baptized in/with the Holy Spirit should be the emphasis, not tongues. Also, too many times non-Pentecostals over emphasize tongues. They are so concerned about the speaking in tongues (like it is a bad thing), they also totally forget the emphasis of being baptized in/with the Holy Spirit.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 7

Tongues in the New Testament

In this lesson we are going to list every verse in the New Testament that specifically has the word tongues in it. There are some verses that appear to be dealing with tongues, but we will not these time in this lesson.

I want to mention something again. Before we go to the concept of tongues and Baptism of the Holy Spirit, I want to say that at times Pentecostals overemphasize the importance tongues. Being baptized in/with the Holy Spirit should be the emphasis, not tongues. Also, too many times non-Pentecostals over emphasize taking a stand against the speaking of tongues. They also forget the emphasis of being baptized in/with the Holy Spirit because of their antagonism towards tongues.

In future lessons we will take a look at such questions as:

- What are tongues?
- Is there more than one type of tongues?
- Is the purpose for tongues so you can preach in other languages?
- Why speak in tongues?
- Is tongues for today?
- Why are some Christians against the speaking of tongues?
- Is tongues from the devil?

Bible verses regarding tongues:

As you look at each of these verses, you will notice not one single verse says that tongues are evil, bad, wrong, or to be condemned. There are some verses on how tongues should be handled. There is also no verse that says tongues will pass away except one verse that says tongues and prophecy will be done away with when the perfect comes (which obviously is talking about at the end of time on this earth-because nothing is perfect yet). There is not one single verse that says the purpose of tongues is to preach the gospel in a foreign language.

Mark 16:15-18

¹⁵ *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.*

¹⁶ *"He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.*

¹⁷ *"These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues;*

¹⁸ *they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."*

Acts 2:1-8

¹ *When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.*

² *And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.*

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³ *And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.*

⁴ *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.*

⁵ *Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven.*

⁶ *And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language.*

⁷ *They were amazed and astonished, saying, "Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans?"*

⁸ *"And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born?"*

Acts 10:44-47

⁴⁴ *While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message.*

⁴⁵ *All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.*

⁴⁶ *For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered,*

⁴⁷ *"Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?"*

Acts 19:1-6

¹ *It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples.*

² *He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said to him, "No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."*

³ *And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" And they said, "Into John's baptism."*

⁴ *Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus."*

⁵ *When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

⁶ *And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.*

Romans 3:9-13

⁹ *What then? Are we better than they? Not at all; for we have already charged that both Jews and Greeks are all under sin; ¹⁰ as it is written, "THERE IS NONE RIGHTEOUS, NOT EVEN ONE;*

¹¹ *THERE IS NONE WHO UNDERSTANDS, THERE IS NONE WHO SEEKS FOR GOD;*

¹² *ALL HAVE TURNED ASIDE, TOGETHER THEY HAVE BECOME USELESS; THERE IS NONE WHO DOES GOOD, THERE IS NOT EVEN ONE."*

¹³ *"THEIR THROAT IS AN OPEN GRAVE, WITH THEIR TONGUES THEY KEEP DECEIVING," "THE POISON OF ASPS IS UNDER THEIR LIPS";*

This is obviously not regarding the speaking in tongues, but in regards to no one being righteous and all speak evil words.

1 Corinthians 12:10

¹⁰ *and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.*

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1 Corinthians 12:28-31

²⁸ *And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues.*

²⁹ *All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? All are not teachers, are they? All are not workers of miracles, are they?*

³⁰ *All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they?*

³¹ *But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way.*

1 Corinthians 13:1

¹ *If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.*

1 Corinthians 13:8-10

⁸ *Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away.*

⁹ *For we know in part and we prophesy in part;*

¹⁰ *but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.*

1 Corinthians 14:4-7

⁴ *One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but one who prophesies edifies the church.*

⁵ *Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater is one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying.*

⁶ *But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what will I profit you unless I speak to you either by way of revelation or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching?*

⁷ *Yet even lifeless things, either flute or harp, in producing a sound, if they do not produce a distinction in the tones, how will it be known what is played on the flute or on the harp?*

1 Corinthians 14:18-19

¹⁸ *I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all;*

¹⁹ *however, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue.*

1 Corinthians 14:20-25

²⁰ *Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be infants, but in your thinking be mature.*

²¹ *In the Law it is written, "BY MEN OF STRANGE TONGUES AND BY THE LIPS OF STRANGERS I WILL SPEAK TO THIS PEOPLE, AND EVEN SO THEY WILL NOT LISTEN TO ME," says the Lord.*

²² *So then tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophecy is for a sign, not to unbelievers but to those who believe.*

²³ *Therefore if the whole church assembles together and all speak in tongues, and ungifted men or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are mad?*

²⁴ *But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an ungifted man enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all;*

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²⁵ *the secrets of his heart are disclosed; and so he will fall on his face and worship God, declaring that God is certainly among you.*

There are some verses in Revelations that have the word tongues, but it is obvious that tongues is associated with people groups, not the speaking in tongues.

I encourage you to go back and look at these verses again. Is there any verse that says speaking in tongues is wrong or evil? Is there any verse that says tongues will cease (other than at the end of the age when all things become perfect)? Is there any verse that says the purpose of tongues is to preach the Gospel? Is there any verse that says we should be afraid of speaking in tongues?

Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 8

What are Tongues?

Well we are finally getting to the topic of tongues. It was important to first clearly understand what the Bible has to say about the baptism of the Holy Spirit, since tongues in the Book of Acts is associated with the baptism of the Holy Spirit. If a person does not have a clear understanding of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, they will not have a clear understanding of tongues.

There are 3 main definitions of the tongues/languages/dialect spoken of in the New Testament:

Glossa-the tongue or a language

the tongue; by implication a language (specially one naturally unacquired) :- tongue.

Vine's, Strong's Greek & Hebrew Dictionary

The following verses that have the word tongues/languages use this definition.

Mark 16:18; Acts 2:3, 4; Acts 2:46; Acts 10:46; Acts 19:6; 1 Cor. 12:10; 1 Cor. 14:4-6; 1 Cor. 14:13; Acts 14:19; 1 Cor 14:28

Dialektos-dialect, language, tongue

a (mode of) discourse, i.e. "dialect" :- language, tongue

Vine's, Strong's Greek & Hebrew Dictionary

The following verses that have the word tongues/languages use this definition

Acts 1:19; Acts 2:8; Acts 21:40; Acts 22:2; Acts 26:14

Heteroglossos- unknown foreign, other, different, strange

Vine's

Found in 1 Cor 14:21

Strange, Unknown, Other

When studying on the subject of tongues, you must look at the context and the words associated with tongues or languages. The most common words being 'strange', 'other', or 'unknown'.

These words are found in the following verses when associated with tongues:

Acts 2:4; 1 Cor 14:2,4; 1 Cor 14:13, 14; 1 Cor 14:19; 1 Cor 14:21, 1 Cor 14:27

Summary

In regards to tongues being associated with the baptism of the Holy Spirit and in regards to the gift of tongues, the word for tongues or languages is always glossa, except for two instances:

1. On the Day of Pentecost they spoke in other languages (glossa) and the people heard their own dialect (dialektos).
2. In 1 Cor 14:21 "by other tongues" is heteroglossos and is a reference to Isaiah 28:11.

So, out of the 17 verses with the words tongues or languages, 15 of them use the word glossos, which means the tongue; by implication a language (specially one naturally unacquired).

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Out of these 17 verses, 8 times the words strange, other, or unknown is associated with tongues and languages.

It can be summarized that when considering the words, tongues and languages, associated with the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the gift of tongues, many times the tongue is not naturally acquired, not known, or is an 'other' language or tongue.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 9**Are Tongues for the Purpose of Preaching the Gospel?**

There are those who believe that the main purpose for tongues is to preach the Gospel. They base this mainly on one passage of Scripture. We are going to look at this passage in context and then in our next lesson we will look at many other passages that have the word tongues or languages to see what the Bible says is the purpose of tongues.

Acts 2:1-21

¹ *When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.*

² *And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.*

³ *And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them.*

⁴ *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.*

⁵ *Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven.*

⁶ *And when this sound occurred, the crowd came together, and were bewildered because each one of them was hearing them speak in his own language.*

⁷ *They were amazed and astonished, saying, "Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans?"*

⁸ *"And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born?"*

⁹ *"Parthians and Medes and Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,*

¹⁰ *Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,*

¹¹ *Cretans and Arabs—we hear them in our own tongues speaking of the mighty deeds of God."*

¹² *And they all continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"*

¹³ *But others were mocking and saying, "They are full of sweet wine."*

¹⁴ *But Peter, taking his stand with the eleven, raised his voice and declared to them: "Men of Judea and all you who live in Jerusalem, let this be known to you and give heed to my words.*

¹⁵ *"For these men are not drunk, as you suppose, for it is only the third hour of the day;*

¹⁶ *but this is what was spoken of through the prophet Joel:*

¹⁷ *'AND IT SHALL BE IN THE LAST DAYS,' God says, 'THAT I WILL POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT ON ALL MANKIND; AND YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, AND YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS, AND YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS;*

¹⁸ *EVEN ON MY BONDSLAVES, BOTH MEN AND WOMEN, I WILL IN THOSE DAYS POUR FORTH OF MY SPIRIT And they shall prophesy.*

¹⁹ *'AND I WILL GRANT WONDERS IN THE SKY ABOVE AND SIGNS ON THE EARTH BELOW, BLOOD, AND FIRE, AND VAPOR OF SMOKE.*

²⁰ *'THE SUN WILL BE TURNED INTO DARKNESS AND THE MOON INTO BLOOD, BEFORE THE GREAT AND GLORIOUS DAY OF THE LORD SHALL COME.*

²¹ *'AND IT SHALL BE THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.'*

Acts 2:37-38

³⁷ *Now when they heard this, they were pierced to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brethren, what shall we do?"*

³⁸ *Peter said to them, "Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.*

Peter says that the event that took place is a fulfillment of the prophecy of Joel. So, it would make sense that we should take a look at what the prophecy of Joel says. In summation Joel says in the last days God will pour out His Spirit on all mankind and that they will prophesy and that all who call on the name of the Lord will be saved.

So what took place was the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy-that there would be the pouring out of God's Spirit. What does this have to do with tongues? We will see later, but first let's continue to look at the concept that tongues is for the purpose of preaching the Gospel.

Who were the people that heard their own language (dialect) being spoken?

⁵ *Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men from every nation under heaven.*

¹⁰ *Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the districts of Libya around Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes,*

Vs 5 says they were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men. This would mean they are devout Jews. Devout Jews would speak Hebrew.

Vs 10 says there were visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes (those converted to a new faith).

We don't know why they were in Jerusalem, but it would be safe to say that at least some were there for the Passover Feast and for the day of Pentecost. They would also be able to speak Hebrew since the services would be in Hebrew.

What was the common language in Jerusalem?

Along with Hebrew it was Aramaic, and the common Greek. Those living in Jerusalem, regardless of their heritage, would know one of these languages. It would be the same as those from other countries that live in or visit the U.S. They have their own language or dialects. But they also speak English. When Jesus preached in the various regions, some mentioned in the verses, He obviously did not need interpreters. Neither did Paul, Peter, Philip (He spoke to the Ethiopian without an interpreter) need interpreters even though they went to the various regions.

What did those who spoke other languages saying?

They were speaking of the mighty deeds of God (one of the mighty deeds would be of them speaking in languages they did not know). They were not specifically sharing the Gospel. Who shared the Gospel? It was Peter. Over 3,000 people got saved. There is no reference at all of others interpreting for Peter. Since Peter said Joel was being fulfilled, it would make sense that they were probably prophesying.

Acts 2:41-43

⁴¹ *So then, those who had received his word were baptized; and that day there were added about three thousand souls.*

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⁴² *They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer.*

⁴³ *Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles.*

The above verses state they were continually devoting themselves to teaching and fellowship. It would be safe to assume that many of the 3,000 were part of this group because Jesus commanded the disciple to make disciples. They would not have been born again and not be disciplined. What language was the teaching in? What language were they speaking when in fellowship? Their own dialects, or the common languages spoken in Jerusalem.

When the apostles went to other countries to share the Gospel what language were they speaking? There is not one single instance of there being interpreters. History states that common Greek was spoken in many of the countries.

1Cor 14:2

For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries.

We will be doing a study on 1 Cor 14, but notice this verse. It says that one who speaks in tongues is speaking to God, not man, because no one understands the tongues spoken. So, that would mean tongues is not for the purpose of preaching the Gospel.

Conclusion

- Peter says the fulfillment of Joel's prophecy was taking place on the day of Pentecost
- Joel states there would be the pouring out of the Holy Spirit
- There was the pouring out of the Holy Spirit and tongues were spoken
- Those who were speaking in other languages were speaking on the mighty deeds of God- one of those deeds would be that those who were baptized in the Holy Spirit were speaking in unknown tongues
- Peter shared the Gospel and 3,000 were born again
- Those living in Jerusalem or coming to Jerusalem for the feast of Passover and the day of Pentecost would understand Hebrew, Aramaic, and/or common Greek-no need to hear the Gospel in another language
- Many of those who were saved were also being taught and having fellowship-they would be taught in a common language, not in various dialects

From the passages of the Bible we have looked at so far, there was no need for the Gospel to be preached in various dialects, thus tongues was not given to preach the Gospel. It would appear that tongues was given as a sign of wonders and miracles and as proof that something happened miraculously when the 120 were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

In our next lesson we will look at other instances of tongues and unknown languages to see why they were given by God. We will see if there are any other passages that would give credence to the belief that tongues were given for the preaching of the Gospel.

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Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 10**The Purpose for Tongues in the Book of Acts**

In the previous lesson we looked at Acts 2:1-21. We seen in this passage that there is no direct evidence that the purpose for tongues was to preach the Gospel. Before we look at other passages in Acts where tongues is spoken of, let's look at what Jesus had to say about tongues in Mark 16:15-18.

Mark 16:15-18

¹⁵ *And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation.*

¹⁶ *"He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.*

¹⁷ *"These signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, they will speak with new tongues;*

¹⁸ *they will pick up serpents, and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover."*

¹⁹ *So then, when the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God.*

²⁰ *And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed.*

Notice that the phrase 'new tongues' is associated with miracles. So, this we do know that to speak in tongues is a miracle. So, it is not something a person can learn.

Acts 10:44-47

⁴⁴ *While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message.*

⁴⁵ *All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.*

⁴⁶ *For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered,*

⁴⁷ *"Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?"*

In Acts 2, it was Jews who spoke in tongues. In this passage it was gentiles who spoke in tongues. Notice that in both instances the tongues came when they were baptized with the Holy Spirit. In both instances they were exalting God. In neither instance does it say they were preaching the Gospel when speaking in tongues.

Here is a question? Why would the gentiles need to speak in tongues to preach the Gospel? They would not be preaching to other gentiles in tongues. At this time they would not be preaching to Jews.

Acts 19:1-6

¹ *It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples.*

² *He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said to him,*

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"No, we have not even heard whether there is a Holy Spirit."

³ *And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" And they said, "Into John's baptism."*

⁴ *Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in Him who was coming after him, that is, in Jesus."*

⁵ *When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.*

⁶ *And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.*

⁷ *There were in all about twelve men.*

⁸ *And he entered the synagogue and continued speaking out boldly for three months, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God.*

⁹ *But when some were becoming hardened and disobedient, speaking evil of the Way before the people, he withdrew from them and took away the disciples, reasoning daily in the school of Tyrannus.*

¹⁰ *This took place for two years, so that all who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.*

They started speaking in tongues and prophesying after being baptized in the Holy Spirit. Nothing saying they then spoke in tongues later to preach the Gospel, but, maybe they did and it is not stated. However, look at the context. Paul was in Ephesus for two years, taught in the school of Tyrannus, and all who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks. There must have been a common language that both the Jews and Greeks knew. If Paul did not need tongues to teach, he and the twelve did not need tongues to preach.

Conclusion

In the Book of Acts there is no evidence of tongues being used to preach the Gospel. There is evidence that the purpose of tongues is evidence of being baptized in the Holy Spirit. There is evidence that the Gospel was preached and taught to those of various dialects, Jews, and Gentiles, but not by individuals speaking unknown tongues.

In our next lesson we will explore the topic of tongues in 1 Corinthians.

[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 11](#)**Tongues in 1 Corinthians 12 & 13**

Before we take a look at tongues in 1 Corinthians, let's recap what we learned about tongues in the Book of Acts.

- There was no need for tongues to be used to preach the Gospel. There were common languages spoken during the time of Acts. There is no mention of tongues being used to preach the Gospel.
- When tongues/unknown or other languages is mentioned in the Book of Acts, the people were either speaking of the mighty works of God or prophesying.
- There were times when tongues were spoken and the Bible does not say if the tongues were understood.
- Each time tongues are mentioned, they are associated with the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

It would appear that in the Book of Acts that tongues were the evidence that the baptism of the Holy Spirit had occurred.

Now let's look at tongues in 1 Corinthians

1 Corinthians 12:4-7, 10-11

⁴ *Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit.*

⁵ *And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord.*

⁶ *There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons.*

⁷ *But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.*

¹⁰ *and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues.*

¹¹ *But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.*

1 Corinthians 12:10 (AMP)

¹⁰ *To another the working of miracles, to another prophetic insight (the gift of interpreting the divine will and purpose); to another the ability to discern and distinguish between [the utterances of true] spirits [and false ones], to another various kinds of [unknown] tongues, to another the ability to interpret [such] tongues.*

According to 1 Cor 12, the speaking in tongues is a gift and there is the gift to have the ability to interpret tongues. The tongues are described as various kinds or unknown tongues. It would appear that the gift of tongues is different than the tongues associated with the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The reason why is that 1 Cor 12:11 says God will give the gifts to whom He wills. In the Book of Acts, it appears that all received the ability to speak in tongues when they were baptized in the Holy Spirit.

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1 Corinthians 12:28-31

²⁸ *And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues.*

²⁹ *All are not apostles, are they? All are not prophets, are they? All are not teachers, are they? All are not workers of miracles, are they?*

³⁰ *All do not have gifts of healings, do they? All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they?*

³¹ *But earnestly desire the greater gifts. And I show you a still more excellent way.*

Here is another example of tongues as a gift and that not everyone will have the gift of tongues or to interpret. The context is tongues associated with other gifts. Notice it is not associated with the baptism of the Holy Spirit. So again, it would appear there are two types of tongues. Or maybe same type of tongues but used differently.

Looking at the context, tongues were to be a sign/wonder just like the other gifts. They may be associated with the preaching for the Gospel, just like the other gifts, but nothing hints at tongues being used to preach the Gospel. It would appear that there is tongues and then the interpretation of those tongues.

1 Corinthians 13:1-2

¹ *If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.*

² *If I have the gift of prophecy, and know all mysteries and all knowledge; and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing.*

Note: vs 1 is not saying that tongues is bad. It does say tongues without love is bad. Just like the gift of prophecy, knowledge, and faith are not bad in themselves, but without love they are bad.

1 Corinthians 13:8-12

⁸ *Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away.*

⁹ *For we know in part and we prophesy in part;*

¹⁰ *but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.*

¹¹ *When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things.*

¹² *For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known.*

When will the gifts of prophecy, tongues, and knowledge be done away? When the perfect comes. What is the perfect? When we see God face to face, when we fully know when we are known. This is obviously not talking about today's generation or past generations because we do not fully know, we have seen God, and the perfect has not come. These events will not take place until we have our glorified body. So the gifts, including, tongues do not cease until the end of the age. If tongues were for the preaching of the Gospel (nowhere in Scripture does it say or insinuate such), then they would still be needed today for preaching since the end has not come, thus tongues would still be for today.

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Conclusion

It appears from Acts and 1 Corinthians 12 and 13 that there may be two different types of tongues or the same tongues for different purposes. Nowhere does it appear that tongues are for the preaching of the Gospel. It does appear that tongues are evidence for the baptism of the Holy Spirit and to be used as a gift like the other gifts-for signs and wonders. Nothing in the Bible says that the signs and wonders have been done away with or are not needed. If anything they are needed more than ever, because there is much less faith today in our society than in the past. However, there is also at the same time more hunger for the miraculous today than in the past. So people are open to even false miracles, thus more of a need for true miracles to reveal God is more powerful than Satan and psychics.

1 Cor 13 does not come against tongues, only the use of tongues without love.

In our next study we will see what 1 Corinthians 14 says about tongues.

[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 12](#)**Tongues and 1 Corinthians 14**1 Corinthians 14:1-5

¹ *Pursue love, yet desire earnestly spiritual gifts, but especially that you may prophesy.*

² *For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries.*

³ *But one who prophesies speaks to men for edification and exhortation and consolation.*

⁴ *One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but one who prophesies edifies the church.*

⁵ *Now I wish that you all spoke in tongues, but even more that you would prophesy; and greater is one who prophesies than one who speaks in tongues, unless he interprets, so that the church may receive edifying.*

Before we study out these and all the verses in 1 Cor 14 it should be noted by the context of Chapter 12, 13, and 14 that when Paul is speaking about tongues, he is talking about true tongues, not false tongues. The tongues he is talking about is the tongues that come from God, not the devil or man. How do we know? Because if you read the context, he compares the gift of tongues with the *gift* of prophecy and other gifts. Not once in all three chapters does he ever say anything about a false tongues.

vs 1 What does verse 1 say and not say? It says desire earnestly spiritual gifts-this would mean ALL the gifts. It also says strongly desire the gift of prophecy. It does not say don't desire the gift of tongues.

vs 2 What does verse 2 say? It says that when someone speaks in tongues that they are not speaking to men, but to God. So, they obviously are not preaching the Gospel. Also, the tongues must be an unknown tongue since no one can understand it.

vs 3 and 4. Verse 4 makes it clear that one of the purposes for tongues is for one to edify themselves. Edify means to build up in a positive sense, not a prideful sense. So, by speaking in tongues a person is built up-this is a good thing, not a bad thing. So obviously one of the purposes of tongues is to be built up spiritually.

vs 5. Paul states he wishes all spoke in tongues. So, he is not against tongues. He thinks tongues are so good, that he wishes all spoke in tongues. That would mean he thinks all can have the ability to speak in tongues. He then says prophecy is better than tongues unless there is interpretation. Why, because then the entire church is edified. It does not mean that prophecy in itself is better than tongues-just that it is better than tongues in a church setting if there is no interpretation for tongues. Whenever interpreting Scripture, stay within the context.

In the previous lessons we have not taken the time to look at what the culture was like during the writing of the Bible. Since the Book of Acts was mainly documentation of what was taking place there was no need to study out the culture. In Corinthians we need to at least understand that Paul was addressing false doctrine, carnal Christians, living by feelings, etc. He was trying to bring balance. So, in Chapter 14 he is trying to bring structure within the church.

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1 Corinthians 14:6-12

⁶ *But now, brethren, if I come to you speaking in tongues, what will I profit you unless I speak to you either by way of revelation or of knowledge or of prophecy or of teaching?*

⁷ *Yet even lifeless things, either flute or harp, in producing a sound, if they do not produce a distinction in the tones, how will it be known what is played on the flute or on the harp?*

⁸ *For if the bugle produces an indistinct sound, who will prepare himself for battle?*

⁹ *So also you, unless you utter by the tongue speech that is clear, how will it be known what is spoken? For you will be speaking into the air.*

¹⁰ *There are, perhaps, a great many kinds of languages in the world, and no kind is without meaning.*

¹¹ *If then I do not know the meaning of the language, I will be to the one who speaks a barbarian, and the one who speaks will be a barbarian to me.* ¹² *So also you, since you are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek to abound for the edification of the church.*

In this passage of scripture Paul is saying that it is more important to seek spiritual gifts to edify the church, than just to seek them to edify yourself. He was not saying it is wrong to be edified (again edify is a good word, not a bad word). He just saying we should not focus on just building ourself up. So, it would again appear that unless there is tongues with an interpretation, that one of the main purposes of tongues is for edification-not for preaching the Gospel.

1 Corinthians 14:13-15

¹³ *Therefore let one who speaks in a tongue pray that he may interpret.*

¹⁴ *For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.*

¹⁵ *What is the outcome then? I will pray with the spirit and I will pray with the mind also; I will sing with the spirit and I will sing with the mind also.*

vs 13 The context of this verse is regarding tongues in a public place. If tongues is spoken out loud intentionally in front of everyone, there should be an interpretation so others are edified.
vs 14 and 15. Praying in tongues is called praying with the spirit. Singing in tongues is called singing with the spirit. So, praying and singing in tongues in itself is not bad.

1 Corinthians 14:18-19

¹⁸ *I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all;*

¹⁹ *however, in the church I desire to speak five words with my mind so that I may instruct others also, rather than ten thousand words in a tongue.*

vs 18 Paul obviously did not stop speaking tongues at some point. In fact he says he is thankful that he speaks so much tongues.

vs 19 But in a church setting Paul rather instruct than speak in tongues. That does not mean he never spoke in tongues in church, but that his emphasis was to teach, than to be edified by praying in tongues.

In our next lesson we will cover the last 20 verses in 1 Cor 14.

Summary

So far, not once does Paul condemn the use of tongues. Instead he is giving some instruction on

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the use of tongues. He includes tongues as a spiritual gift, he says tongues is good for edification, it is best for tongues to be combined with an interpretation when spoken in a public setting. He says tongues are for edification of the believer, thus, not for preaching the Gospel.

[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 13](#)**Instructions on the Use of Tongues****1 Cor 14: 20-40**

So far, in all the verses we have looked at (we have looked at all of them in the New Testament, except these last few verses) in the last 12 lessons, tongues is never spoken of as a bad thing. We have seen in 1 Cor 14:1-19, they can be used in a wrong manner.

In this lesson we will take a look at this passage of Scripture and see what Paul is and is not saying. As we read through these passages we are going to see if Paul at any time says that tongues are evil, bad, done away with, condemned, or for the purpose of preaching the Gospel.

We will first list all of 1 Cor 14:20-40 and then take a look at each verse.

1 Corinthians 14:20-40

²⁰ *Brethren, do not be children in your thinking; yet in evil be infants, but in your thinking be mature.*

²¹ *In the Law it is written, "BY MEN OF STRANGE TONGUES AND BY THE LIPS OF STRANGERS I WILL SPEAK TO THIS PEOPLE, AND EVEN SO THEY WILL NOT LISTEN TO ME," says the Lord.*

²² *So then tongues are for a sign, not to those who believe but to unbelievers; but prophecy is for a sign, not to unbelievers but to those who believe.*

²³ *Therefore if the whole church assembles together and all speak in tongues, and ungifted men or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are mad?*

²⁴ *But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or an ungifted man enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all;*

²⁵ *the secrets of his heart are disclosed; and so he will fall on his face and worship God, declaring that God is certainly among you.*

²⁶ *What is the outcome then, brethren? When you assemble, each one has a psalm, has a teaching, has a revelation, has a tongue, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.*

²⁷ *If anyone speaks in a tongue, it should be by two or at the most three, and each in turn, and one must interpret;*

²⁸ *but if there is no interpreter, he must keep silent in the church; and let him speak to himself and to God.*

²⁹ *Let two or three prophets speak, and let the others pass judgment.*

³⁰ *But if a revelation is made to another who is seated, the first one must keep silent.*

³¹ *For you can all prophesy one by one, so that all may learn and all may be exhorted;*

³² *and the spirits of prophets are subject to prophets;*

³³ *for God is not a God of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.*

³⁴ *The women are to keep silent in the churches; for they are not permitted to speak, but are to subject themselves, just as the Law also says.*

³⁵ *If they desire to learn anything, let them ask their own husbands at home; for it is improper for a woman to speak in church.*

³⁶ *Was it from you that the word of God first went forth? Or has it come to you only?*

³⁷ *If anyone thinks he is a prophet or spiritual, let him recognize that the things which I write to you are the Lord's commandment.*

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³⁸ *But if anyone does not recognize this, he is not recognized.*

³⁹ *Therefore, my brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak in tongues.*

⁴⁰ *But all things must be done properly and in an orderly manner.*

vs 21-25 This passage of Scripture can be very confusing. It looks like Paul is contradicting himself.

In vs 22 Paul says tongues is a sign for unbelievers and prophesy is a sign to believers. But in vs 23-25 he says if a unbeliever hears tongues he will think you are mad. But if he hears prophecy he will fall on his face and worship God. So, it would sound like prophesy is more for an unbeliever than tongues. This seems like a contradiction.

Vs 21 is a quote from Isaiah 28:11. This look at this verse in context to see if it gives any more understanding.

Isaiah 28:10-13

¹⁰ *"For He says, 'Order on order, order on order, Line on line, line on line, A little here, a little there.' "*

¹¹ *Indeed, He will speak to this people Through stammering lips and a foreign tongue,*

¹² *He who said to them, "Here is rest, give rest to the weary," And, "Here is repose," but they would not listen.*

¹³ *So the word of the LORD to them will be, "Order on order, order on order, Line on line, line on line, A little here, a little there," That they may go and stumble backward, be broken, snared and taken captive.*

It appears that God is saying I gave your precept after precept (line on line) and you did not listen. So, I spoke to you through other nations (foreign tongue) and you still did not listen. So I will again give you precept upon precept (line upon line) and you will stumble and be taken captive. So, it would appear that looking at the context, Paul is saying that tongues in a church service could actually be condemnation on those, who, like in Israel's day, rejected God. Instead of seeing God speak through someone, they reject the message. Looking at the context and Paul's instructions on the use of tongues within the congregation it would appear that the tongues would be given with an interpretation. To be honest I am not sure why Paul inserted Isaiah. Others see it differently. The dangerous is get so caught up on vs 21, we ignore everything else Paul is saying regarding tongues.

vs 23 Paul is talking about ALL speaking in tongues, not some speaking in tongues. Later on we will see he never condemns tongues, but gives instruction in the use of tongues.

vs 26 This is instruction regarding a church service. There should edification for all in a church service.

vs 27-29 Paul gives the same instructions for tongues with interpretation and prophecy-two to three speak.

vs 28 A person who speaks in tongues without interpretation is speaking to God, not man. Thus tongues is not for preaching.

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Looking at these verses, notice Paul is speaking in the context of someone giving a message in tongues or prophecy. There is a difference between someone giving a message in tongues directed towards the congregation, than someone praying in tongues to themselves. During a worship service people at times pray/praise under their breath in the common language. In a time of worship, we are singing/worshipping/praising God. We are not doing it before men, but before God. So would there be anything wrong with singing/worshipping/praising God in an unknown tongue, if it is done before God, not man?

vs 33 Whatever is done, rather in English or unknown tongue, there should not be confusion. We need to be careful what we call confusion. Cultures are different. If an American was to go to some churches in other countries they would call it confusion because it is different to them.

vs 39 states that we are not to condemn speaking in tongues.

Summary

After looking at all of Acts, 1 Cor 12-14, there are no verses that condemn tongues, that say tongues are for the purpose of preaching the Gospel, or that tongues will be done away with before we receive our glorified bodies. It appears that there are various types of tongues or diverse purposes for the same tongues. There are tongues as evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the praising of God and prophecies. There are also tongues that are for praying and singing in the spirit, and there is tongues with interpretation.

In our next lesson we will summarize the purpose of tongues. We will then cover some of the objections of tongues and see if they line up with the Bible.

[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 14](#)

What is the Purpose of Tongues?

In the previous studies we took a look at every verse in the New Testament related to tongues/languages. We have also taken a look at every verse related to the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the terms related to this phrase (based upon Scripture defining Scripture). So what is the purpose of tongues? We will summarize with each purpose and the verses that show this is the purpose for tongues. If anyone reading this study believes there are different or other purposes, go ahead and post a comment with Scriptures to defend your position.

Evidence of being Baptized in/with the Holy Spirit

Acts 2:4-6; Acts 10:44-46, Acts 19:6

As a sign to the unbeliever that they might believe

1 Cor 14:22

As a gift to edify the Church when the gift of tongues are interpreted

1 Cor 14:5

To praise/worship/magnify God, to speak to God, to prophesy

Acts 2:11; Acts 10:46; Acts 19:6; 1 Cor 14:2; 1 Cor 14:17; 1 Cor 14:28

To be edified

1 Cor 14:4; Jude 1:20

To pray in the spirit

1 Cor 14:2; 1 Cor 14:14-15; Eph 6:18; Jude 1:20

To give a message in tongues with an interpretation

1 Cor 12:10; 1 Cor 14:5; 1 Cor 14:13; 1 Cor 14:26

Supernatural can accompany tongues

Mark 16:17

To give our tongue over to God

Isaiah 6:5-7 says we all are people of unclean lips

James 3:1-8 says the tongue cannot be tamed and talks about the damage that can be done with the tongues.

So, is it not interesting that God takes unclean lips and an unruly tongue and brings forth praises, worship, and praying in the spirit with the same tongue when a person receives tongues through the baptism of the Holy Spirit. When we are praising, singing, or praying with tongues and have a pure heart, we have given over the part of our body that the Bible describes is one of the most unruly parts of the body. He turns evil into good.

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Summary

As can be seen, there are a multitude of reasons why as Christians we should speak in tongues. We can edify the church, edify ourselves (again edify is not a bad word), and lift up God through our praises. Miracles can accompany tongues (tongues itself is a miracle). We can submit our unruly tongue to God.

In our next lesson we will look at various objections against speaking in tongues.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 15

Objections to Speaking in Tongues

There are a variety of objections to the speaking in tongues. Almost all of these objections are not based upon Scripture. Instead they are based upon man's opinions, negative experiences, and religious upbringing. How do we know this? Because in the Bible there are only a couple of 'objections to tongues'. We will first look at the 'negative statements' about tongues in the Bible and then discuss the other objections to tongues.

When are Tongues Wrong in the Bible?

The first thing we should state is that there are no passages that are against tongues. There are only passages that are against the mishandling of tongues.

- When speaking to a person in tongues.
(Not when praying for a person in tongues. The Bible teaches that praying in tongues is praying in the spirit and speaking to God. There are certainly times when we are praying for somebody and we when to speak to God for insight and intervention.)
1 Cor 14:6-11 clearly forbids speaking to someone in tongues. It is saying that this would be of no value.
- In a church setting when a message in tongues is given and there is no interpretation.
If a person is speaking in tongues during church and the tongues are directed to the church, there must be an interpretation.
1 Cor 14:5; 1 Cor 14:13; 1 Cor 14:27, 28
- When tongues is used in a haughty, prideful way.
There is no specific verse that says this, but it only makes sense that this is wrong.

Other Objections to Tongues, but not Biblically based

- Tongues have been done away with
There is absolutely no Bible verse that says tongues have been done away with. Some say there is no need for tongues since we have the Bible. Again there are no verses in the Bible to defend this position. Some will argue that 1 Cor 13:8 say that tongues have been done away with. Let's look at this verse in context.
1 Corinthians 13:8-12
⁸ *Love never fails; but if there are gifts of prophecy, they will be done away; if there are tongues, they will cease; if there is knowledge, it will be done away.*
⁹ *For we know in part and we prophesy in part;*
¹⁰ *but when the perfect comes, the partial will be done away.*
¹¹ *When I was a child, I used to speak like a child, think like a child, reason like a child; when I became a man, I did away with childish things.*
¹² *For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face; now I know in part, but then I will know fully just as I also have been fully known.*
It becomes obvious when looking at the entire passage, that when it is speaking about prophecy and tongues, it is saying they will be done away with when the perfect comes- the perfect has not come. They will be done away when we know fully and are fully known-that does not happen until our glorified bodies.

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- The last time tongues was talked about in the Bible was in 1 Corinthians. One must understand that 1 Corinthians was written to the church in Corinth because of the mishandling of tongues. There are other topics in 1 Corinthians and other books of the Bible that are not covered in other passages of Scripture.

- Some who speak in tongues walk in sin, teach false doctrine, or are prideful
There certainly some who speak in tongues, walk in sin, teach false doctrines and have pride, but there are also those who do not speak in tongues that do the same. The tongues or lack of tongues are not the cause of sin, false doctrine, and pride.

- Churches that allow tongues are not in order-there is chaos
This is certainly true of some churches, but again, not all-so cannot judge all because of some. There also is a danger of judging what is chaos by ones own upbringing, culture, preferences, etc. There are non tongue speaking churches in various parts of the world that would appear to be out of order and chaotic because of their culture, traditions, and style of worship compared to the U.S.A. There are things in the physical/natural realm that may seem chaotic if you do not understand how they operate-don't have experience in the field of study.

- Tongues are for preaching the Gospel only-no other purpose
Not biblical, not a single example in the Bible of tongues being used for this purpose. Some use Acts 2 as an example. But it does not say they were sharing the Gospel, only that they were magnifying God. There was no need for tongues to preach the Gospel, because all the people there would understand Aramaic or common Greek. They were there for the Passover Feast and day of Pentecost. How would they have been able to participate in these ceremonies for years before there were tongues?

- Tongues are for the purpose of judgment-not for any other purpose other than maybe to preach the Gospel.

Those who hold this position based it upon two passages of Scripture: 1 Cor 14:21 which is referencing Isaiah 28:11. They are basing an entire doctrine off of two passages of Scripture when there are many more passages that show tongues are for the evidence of being baptized in the Holy Spirit, to pray in the spirit, to be edified or to edify the church, to praise God.

- Jesus did not speak in tongues.

How do we know this? John states that they are many things that Jesus did that are not written down in Scripture. Also, the Bible teaches that Jesus received the fullness of God while on earth so there may not have been the need for Him to have tongues.

- Tongues is of the devil.

There is not a single reference of tongues every being from the devil. That is not to say that tongues can never be of the devil. The devil loves to counterfeit so there certainly can be counterfeit tongues. But if a born again, sold out for Jesus, Christian who is not walking in willful sin seeks God for the baptism of the Holy Spirit, gets tongues, it would not be from the devil. That would be saying that God is purposely letting them be deceived. Also, Jesus said the following in regards to asking for the Holy Spirit.

Luke 11:9-13 (KJV)

⁹ *And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.*

¹⁰ *For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.*

¹¹ *If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a*

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fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?

¹² *Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?*

¹³ *If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?*

- I have asked for tongues and God has not given it to me, so it cannot be for today. There could be a variety of reasons why a person has not received tongues. There are plenty of things that each of us may ask God for, but not receive it.
- If God wanted me to have it, He would give it to me and every believer. Not if there is willful sin, unbelief, critical of those who have it, etc. Also, all of God's gifts are according to His timing, not ours.
- Only some can have tongues.

This belief is based upon 1 Cor 12:11

1 Corinthians 12:11 (KJV)

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

It needs to be noted that this verse is in the context of a specifically type of tongues. Tongues as a supernatural gift which would normally be used with the gift of interpretation.

If tongues is an evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit and if tongues is for the purpose to pray in the spirit, to worship God, and edify the one with tongues, would God want only certain Christians to have tongues. That would be an unjust God.

Summary

There is no biblical reason to take a stand against the proper use of tongues.

In the next study we will take a look at common questions about the baptism of the Holy Spirit and tongues. We will end our study soon with how to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and to receive tongues.

[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 16](#)**Common Questions Regarding the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and Tongues**

In this lesson we will be looking at various questions individuals have about this subject. In the previous lessons we gave Scriptural answers to the questions. In this lesson we will give a summary.

Do Christians receive the Holy Spirit when they are saved?

Yes, when you are born again (repent of your sins and ask Jesus to be your Lord and Savior) you receive the Holy Spirit.

John 3:1-6; Rom 8:9-11; 1 Cor 6:19; John 20:22

Do you have to be saved to receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit?

Yes. Each time there is an example of individuals being Baptized in the Holy Spirit, it is obvious that they are born again. One of the obvious examples is the disciples. They are born again in John 20:22 and are Baptism of the Holy Spirit in Acts 1:4-5, 8.

Acts 8:14-19; Acts 10:34-48; Acts 19:1-6

Is the Baptism in the Holy Spirit different than the experience of Salvation?

Yes, it is subsequent to salvation. There are examples of those who were born again and then were Baptism of the Holy Spirit.

John 20:22; Acts 1:4-5, 8; Acts 8:14-19; Acts 19:1-6

Can a person be saved without the Baptism in the Holy Spirit?

Yes. Receiving eternal life does not depend on being Baptism of the Holy Spirit; salvation is by grace through faith alone.

John 6:28-29; Galatians 3:6, 5:6; Ephesians 2:8, Romans 10:9-10

Does a person have to be water baptized to be Baptized in the Holy Spirit?

No. In the Bible there were individuals that were Baptism of the Holy Spirit before or after being water baptized.

Acts 1:4-5, 8; Acts 8:14-19; Acts 9:17; Acts 10:34-38, Acts 19:1-6

Are there phrases synonymous with the phrase Baptism in/with the Holy Spirit?

Spirit coming or falling upon, Spirit poured out, Promise of the Father or Spirit, Gift of the Spirit, Gift of God, Filled with the Spirit, Receiving the Spirit.

Acts 1:5; Acts 11:16; Acts 1:8, Acts 8:15-16, Acts 10:44-47, Acts 11:15-17, Acts 19:6; Acts 2:17-18; Acts 2:38; Acts 9:17; Acts 8:20

How will a believer know he or she has been Baptized in the Holy Spirit?

In Scripture there are five examples of people being Baptized in the Holy Spirit. In three examples they spoke in tongues. In one example something miraculous happened. The last example is Apostle Paul and he says in 1 Corinthians that he spoke in tongues. So, based upon Scripture it would appear that a person will know they are Baptism of the Holy Spirit by

speaking in tongues.

Acts 1:4-5, 8; Acts 8:14-19; Acts 9:17; Acts 10:34-38, Acts 19:1-6

What is tongues?

Tongues is the initial evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit, a sign to the unbeliever that they might believe, as a gift to edify the Church when tongues is accompanied with interpretation, to edify the believer, as a provision for prayer and praise.

Acts 2:4; Acts 10:46; Acts 19:6; 1 Cor 14:22; 1 Cor 12:10; 1 Cor 14:2, 4; 1 Cor 14:18

Are tongues for today?

Yes. There is no passage of Scripture that says tongues has been down away with. In 1 Cor 13 it states that tongues will cease when the perfect comes and when know and are fully known-when we receive our glorified bodies.

1 Cor 13:8-12

When someone receives the Baptism in the Holy Spirit are they coherent or in semiconscious state? Are they aware of what is going on?

Everyone's experience is different, but in the examples found in the Bible, all of those that were Baptism of the Holy Spirit were coherent and conscious of what is going on. At the same time there are examples of individuals appearing drunk and of something supernatural taking place that was out of the 'ordinary'.

Acts 2:1-13; Acts 8:14-19

In our next lesson we will share how a person can be Baptized with the Holy Spirit and receive the gift of tongues.

[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 17](#)**How Can I Receive the Baptism of the Holy Spirit?**

The following are comments based upon the Bible itself, principles found in the Bible, and years of seeing individuals being baptized in the Holy Spirit and receiving the gift of tongues.

- Receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior. He wants to be more than your Savior, he wants to be your Lord.
- Remove all barriers: sin, unforgiveness, doctrinal hang-ups, pride, or any unclean thing that may block you from receiving from God. Don't believe the lie that tongues is from the devil.
- Ask to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit. Be specific. Tell the Lord you want the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. If you do not receive the first time you ask, ask again.

Luke 11:9-13 (KJV)

⁹ *And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.*

¹⁰ *For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.*

¹¹ *If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?*

¹² *Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?*

¹³ *If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?*

As a believer, you are not asking for the Holy Spirit, you already have the Holy Spirit. You are asking to be baptized with the Holy Spirit.

More than asking, seeking and knocking, you must believe and receive.

- Believe and Receive: Reach out by faith and receive this gift that is given to all believers. Every thing we receive from God and the promises in His Word is done by faith. This is not a time to analyze in your mind what is going to happen. Instead it is a time to believe that the baptism of the Holy Spirit is a good gift from God that He wants to give to all His children so that they can walk more boldly, be anointed to share the Gospel, to see signs and wonders in the midst of witnessing, and to be built up spiritually. Don't believe the lies of the devil that your request is selfish or foolish. Remember, the devil will not want you to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, but he is a defeated foe.
- Release. You must release your body, soul, spirit, and mind to God. Do not operate in fear, but in faith. Let God know you want to receive the Promise of the Holy Spirit and that you are turning your entire being over to Him to fill you up with His Holy Spirit. Start worshiping the Lord. The Bible says, "As the Spirit gave them utterance." As you worship the Lord, the Holy Spirit will put words in your mind-speak them out by faith. Many people say, "I just want it to be God and not me." That is good. But remember, God uses your mind, your mouth, your tongue. The Holy Spirit will put the words you speak in your mind and God will use your voice to speak them out. By faith stop praising and praying in your native tongue and speak the syllables God has given you. At first it

may just be a few syllables or words, but use them. Do not try to logically figure out what is happening or you will start walking in doubt instead of faith.

- Speak. Many do not speak in tongues, because they are waiting for God to move their mouth and lips. The Holy Spirit will give the utterance, but you must cooperate by doing the speaking yourself-be an active participant. Asking God to fill you with His Holy Spirit with the the evidence of tongues and keeping your mouth closed is contradictory.

For many the baptism with the Holy Spirit and receiving the gift of tongues occurs most often in a church service but can occur any place at any time. Individuals have been baptized with the Holy Spirit while driving down the road, while laying in bed, doing housework, while praising the Lord at home, and many other ways.

Here are some reasons why receiving tongues occurs more often in a church service:

- There is the combining of faith of the recipient and those around them
- Others are praying with the recipient for them to receive the gift of tongues
- The recipient is normally more receptive in a church service
- The recipient is willfully moving their mouth by actively worshiping the Lord
- The recipient can more easily sense the presence of the Lord, thus has more faith
- When there is a special anointing in the church service there are more of the miraculous occurring.

Summary

To receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of tongues, remove all barriers, ask to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit, believe and receive, release your entire being to the Lord, and begin speaking in an unknown language.

In our next lesson we will address some false teachings on how to receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues. Because of some of these teachings individuals have fear and doubt about receiving the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 18](#)

False Teachings on Receiving the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and Speaking in Tongues

There are those in the pentecostal camp that are so determined to see individuals speak in tongues they teach or encourage behavior that is manipulation. In this study we will address some of these teachings.

Repeat phrases repeatedly

Some encourage individuals to repeat phrases repeatedly over and over again until they receive tongues. So they will have people say tongue twisters, etc. like saying 'coca cola' 'untie my bow tie' over and over again. This is foolishness and even if the people are sincere, it is manipulation. That is not speaking as the Spirit gives utterance.

Try to copy tongues

In this scenario the person is told "Listen to my tongues, and try to repeat it. You will not be able to repeat it, but will get your own tongues". The motive behind this is sincere (to get the person to open their mouth to speak-a mouth closed will not speak a native language or an unknown tongue), but like the other tactic mentioned, it opens up a person for deception.

Tarry at the altar until you get tongues

Again there may be sincerity in this tactic but it is close to manipulation. This is the concept that you go to the altar to receive tongues until you get tongues. The problem with this is that what if a person is at the altar for 3 hours and never receives tongues? This can bring guilt, condemnation, and sadly someone speaking gibberish just so they can say they received tongues. This ignores the fact that God is sovereign and He will give tongues in His timing, not ours. That does not mean that at times we need to be at the altar calling out to God for answer on a variety of things. I actually believe there needs to be much more staying at the altar in prayer and seeking God for not only tongues, but for healing, for guidance, for deliverance. More of a "God, I am not leaving until you set me free of". A seriousness about receiving from God. At the same time, we must acknowledge that God is sovereign and has His own timetable-thus He may not respond to our request (at least it may not appear He is responding-if our heart is pure and we are asking the will of God, He is responding even if we do not see the manifestation at the moment).

Laying on of hands by many people

The laying on of hands in itself is not wrong-there are examples in the Bible of the laying on of hands to receive tongues, to receive gifts and callings, and to be healed. But what becomes wrong with this concept is to think that God will have to come through if there are man people laying on of hands. God does not have to 'perform'. This can be very intimidating to a person and they will fake tongues to get people away from them. There certainly is power in unity and can be helpful if others are praying, but there needs to be balanced. There certainly are people who I would never allow to lay hands or to pray with me.

Formulas

Any other types of 'formulas'. Yes, there may be things that can be helpful to create an

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environment for people to speak in tongue, but it has to be Spirit led, not man led, tradition led, etc. Otherwise there is the potential for false tongues, made up tongues, manipulation, etc. When it is God's time for a person to be baptized in the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, there is no need for formulas. Baptism of the Holy Spirit is to be a work of the Holy Spirit not man.

I believe most of those who have applied the practices above are sincere, but they are sincerely wrong. They want to see someone receive the gift of tongues, but they are trying to get it to happen by fleshly means. This is wrong, can be classified as sinful, and opens the door to the devil to bring false manifestations.

However, just as there are those who support tongues and the baptism of the Holy Spirit can go to the extreme, those against tongues can also go to the extreme in their accusations. That is what we are going to look at in our next lesson. Only two more lessons and this study will have been completed.

[Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 19](#)**False Accusations and False Assumptions Against Tongues**

There are those who out of sincerity come against the baptism of the Holy Spirit and tongues because of the false teachings of some who support tongues. Just as those who support tongues can be extreme to defend tongues, those who are against tongues can become extreme against those who support tongues. They accuse those who support tongues to be too emotional, but those who are against tongues can also allow emotions to get in the way of the biblical support of the baptism of the Holy Spirit and the speaking in tongues.

Tongues are the result of hypnosis

This accusation is that all tongues are a result of a person being hypnotized. As seen by our previous study there certainly could be in some pentecostal circles the possibility of techniques used to get someone to speak in tongues to be close to hypnosis. However, because of the errors of some does not mean there are errors with all. Here is what can happen in the anti-tongue camp. They can say over and over again it is all hypnosis, deception, etc. so many times that it does not matter if they have proof or not-they say it enough that listeners believe what is being said must be true. They will repeat the same stories over and over again of proof of hypnosis, totally ignoring the many instances of no potential of hypnosis being used. There are multitudes of cases where there is no suggestion of hypnosis or manipulation. To deny that is error and willfully ignoring of facts-that is just as wrong as manipulating people to speak in tongues. Those who were baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues in the New Testament were not hypnotized. Tongues were never done away with, so there must be those who speak in tongues now that are hypnotized. Otherwise it would mean that there is no true example of tongues today-thus tongues was done away with.

Those who speak in tongues are more submissive, suggestible, emotionally unstable, anxious than non-tongues speakers

Yes, there is certainly some truth in this regarding some who speak in tongues. But to make a general statement like this is judgmental and again totally ignores the facts. There are many tongues speakers who are highly stable emotionally, are not foolishly submissive to authority figures around them, not walking in anxiousness, etc. There are certainly non-tongue speakers who have the same qualities that tongue speakers are accused of being like. What these accusations are saying is that those who speak in tongues are emotionally unstable, suggestible, deceived sincere Christians who asked God for a gift-the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues, and God allowed them to be deceived by the devil and allowed them to have false tongues. Those are strong accusations. Taken to its logical conclusion, this argument would then suggest that those in the Book of Acts had the same negative qualities.

Those who speak in tongues are deceived

This accusation is that anyone who speaks in tongues are deceived-the tongues are never real. How can this accusation ever be proved? Yes, it can be proved if a person claims to be speaking Hebrew and they are not speaking Hebrew. But the Bible at times describes tongues as a heavenly language, unknown language, or strange language. So, that means there is no way to prove if this type of tongue is false or not. If it is an unknown tongue-it is unknown. Because it is not known, to go and say it is not real-a deception from the devil, is an extreme accusation. **Copyright Statement** © 2009. Please note that this study is copyrighted. You may not reproduce, edit or distribute this study in whole or part without prior written permission. This prevents individuals from falsely representing our position on this subject matter and prevents taking our comments out of context.

those who received tongues in the Book of Acts deceived? I do acknowledge that there are those who are deceived that speak in tongues, just as there are those who are deceived that do not speak in tongues. However, if a person has pure motives, a sincere, obedient follower of Christ and they ask for the promise of the Holy Spirit, God is not going to allow them to be deceived.

Luke 11:9-13 (KJV)

⁹ *And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you.*

¹⁰ *For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened.*

¹¹ *If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent?*

¹² *Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion?*

¹³ *If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?*

There is no biblical basis for tongues

We have more than proved this accusation as false. If a person takes a look at bible studies that are against tongues, you will find that most bible studies will totally ignore many verses found in the Bible. Or the context of the verses are ignored. Or there will be verses quoted out of context. Almost all bible studies against tongues, will have much more commentary than allowing scripture to define scripture. There are statements made like, 'tongues were done away with', tongues have to be understood, those who speak in tongues are easily deceived, tongues are for the preaching of the Gospel, yet there is no biblical basis for these statements. Thus many will continuously make these comments, but will never quote the Bible to defend these arguments. Instead stories of false teachings are told. Notice that in this study I did not give stories to defend the baptism of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues.

Those who speak in tongues have been programmed to speak in tongues

This argument against tongues is no stronger than the argument that those who do not speak in tongues are programmed against tongues. Of course there are people who have been 'programmed' either way. These kind of statements are just that, statements. These type of statements should have no bearing on a person seeing what the Bible has to say about this subject.

Those who desire baptism and the Holy Spirit are just seeking a feeling

Some who are against speaking in tongues make the accusation that there has been a greater interest in tongues because Christians are becoming less interested in truth and more in feelings, thus more open to spiritual manifestation including false tongues. Yes, there is certainly a number of pentecostal Christians that are not theologically sound. But to say that this is mostly those who are pentecostal is not accurate. There is a very large movement within evangelical churches that is more concerned about being seeker sensitive than to be doctrinally sound. They are more interested in people feeling good, than confronting sin. So, the problem is among both camps. If tongues has not been done away with, thus a gift from God, then of course there is an interest for the supernatural.

Tongues are not mentioned other than once in Mark, three times in Acts, and 1 Corinthians 12,13, 14, so they must not have occurred any other time

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The fact that they are not mentioned does not mean they did not occur. There are many things in the Bible that are not mentioned more than a couple of times. That does not mean they do not apply for today. To base doctrine on what the Bible does not say is not wise. There are verses that say decisions can be made based upon 2-3 witnesses. There are three Scriptures showing tongues occur during baptism of the Holy Spirit.

2 Corinthians 13:1 (KJV)

¹This is the third time I am coming to you. In the mouth of two or three witnesses shall every word be established.

Matthew 18:16 (KJV)

*¹⁶But if he will not hear *thee*, *then* take with thee one or two more, that in the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.*

Summary

There are many accusations that those against the speaking in tongues use to come against tongues, but several of these accusations have no biblical basis whatsoever. They are based upon the opinions of men, not on Scripture. They are based upon an overemphasis on the errors of some in the pentecostal camp. T

In our last lesson we will have a challenge for each reader of these lessons. The challenge will be for those who are for and those against tongues.

Baptism of the Holy Spirit-Lesson 20

Challenge to 'Tongue Speakers' and Non-Tongue Speakers

I am ending this study with a direct challenge to those who are in 'both camps'. This challenge will be direct, but with a heart of love. It is not to condemn, but to confront the wrong thinking and prejudices of both sides. It is obvious in this study that I believe the Bible teaches that the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the evidence of speaking in tongues is for today. That does not mean I support 'wacky pentecostals' or that I dislike non-tongues individuals. My challenge to each camp is based upon the failings that can occur in both camps. These are generalities and we acknowledge that not everyone in these camps are practicing these errors.

Challenge to Tongue Speakers

- Stop defending tongues are for today based only upon your experience or others experiences-use Scripture, and don't make the Bible say more than it says.
- Acknowledge there is wackiness at times in the pentecostal camp, stop pretending it is not there or denying it is there.
- Don't fall prey to manipulation, coercion, unique techniques, formulas, etc. to see people baptized in the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues.
- Stop assuming that those who do not speak in tongues have less of God, are not as spiritual, etc.
- Stop emphasizing tongues and ignoring all other Bible doctrine. If tongue speakers emphasized holiness as much as they emphasize tongues, there would be less sin in the pentecostal camp and less wackiness.
- Do more at winning souls instead of trying to win converts to tongues. The main emphasis of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is to proclaim the Gospel with boldness and signs following, not to get people to speak in tongues.
- The purpose of tongues to be edified that so I will grow in Christ to be a more effective witness. It is to help be more intimate with the Lord so that my character will change, not so that I can be more of a 'character'.

Challenge to Non-Tongue Speakers

- Stop coming against tongues on the basis of your experience with 'wacky pentecostals'. Use Scripture to defend your position, not multitudes of commentary by those who are against tongues because of false teaching by some tongue speakers.
- When studying out this topic, look at every verse on this subject and read them in context. Let Scripture define Scripture instead of the commentaries of others to defend Scripture.
- Don't fall prey to prejudice against tongues. Make a decision regarding the baptism of the Holy Spirit and tongues based upon your own personal Bible study instead of just listening to those who are against tongues or those who are for tongues.
- If based upon your own sincere Bible study you still do not believe in tongues, be gracious and accepting of those who believe in tongues. Do not be a part of the 'those who speak in tongues are deceived, tongues are of the devil', etc. Give the same grace that you want others to give to you.

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- Make a conscious effort to do more soul winning than taking a stand against tongues. Statistics show that there is much more soul winning and growth going on in the 'tongue speaking camp' than the 'non-tongue speaking' camp. Especially in third world countries. In both camps there needs to be more soul winning than seeker friendly, make you fill good 'evangelism'.
- Even if you do not believe in tongues, be open to God to work miraculously through you. One of the reasons for many coming to Christ in the third world countries is because of the miracles occurring with the preaching of the Gospel.

Conclusion

If both sides would become more balanced there would be much more unity in the Church. When there is unity among brethren, God's Spirit has more reign and thus He is able to accomplish much more through the Church than when there is disunity.

As Augustine is quoted to have said:

"In Essentials, unity. In non-essentials, liberty. In all things, love."

I do not take this statement to justify willful sin, to accept false teachings, to ignore biblical principles, etc. I do take it to mean in regards to the subject matter of this Bible study, that it is essential for a person to speak or not to speak in tongues. Instead, it is essential for them to be born again. It is essential for them to win people to Christ. It is essential for them to love those of a different viewpoint.

I really hope individuals will go through this entire study and make comments on my blog if they see anything taught that is contrary to Scripture.