

## HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM AND FILLING

### Acts 2:1-4

**Introduction:** No doubt man has created his own version, interpretation and doctrines of things in the Word of God, even the actual "Word" of God has many ideas and beliefs. What people need to do is let the Bible say what it says and let the Holy Spirit be the one who reveals what God's Word says and intends. Take for example the Holy Spirit's involvement in the believer's baptism and filling. There are many beliefs. Which one is right?

### I. THERE ARE INCORRECT INTERPRETATIONS OF SCRIPTURE

1. There are those who twist God's Word toward pre-conceived, self-chosen ends and thus vast confusion, spiritual helplessness abounds all around.
2. *1 Corinthians 12:13* - The Greek word "en" is misused by many. "...*in one spirit...*" says some mistranslations when it should be "...*by one spirit...*"
  - The word "en" can be translated 44 different ways, for example: in, upon, among, before, during, by, etc.
  - *Matthew 12:27-28; 21:23-24; 23:16-22; Acts 4:12, etc.*
    - "en" equals "by" as in *Revelation 13:10*; "en" is "by", not "in"
  - *1 Corinthians 12:13* properly translated uses the word "by", not "in." The Holy Spirit, alone, baptizes one into Christ's body.
3. Scripture emphasizes NOT the baptizing work of the Holy Spirit but the FILLING.
  - *Acts 2:4* - Filling, not baptized.
  - *Matthew 3:11; Acts 1:5* - speaks of baptism, but none are told to SEEK it.
  - *Ephesians 5:18* - Believers are commanded to be FILLED, not baptized again and again, to be FILLED, not baptized.

### II. THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE BAPTISM AND THE FILLING

1. There is NO command anywhere to be baptized with the Holy Spirit.
  - Every believer is commanded to be FILLED with the Holy Spirit.
  - *Ephesians 5:18* - The Greek word "plaroustha" is imperative, present tense, thus a continuous, repeated action. A constant being FILLED.
2. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a once for all happening at one's conversion, salvation.
  - *1 Corinthians 12:13* - The Greek word "ebaptisthamen" is in aorist tense, meaning a once for all action.
  - The FILLING is constantly repeated, not the Baptism.
  - There is only one Baptism, but many FILLINGS. One is not removed from the body of Christ and then reinstated by another Baptism. One cannot cut his/her hand off and then stick it back on.
  - *Ephesians 4:5* - Baptism by the Holy Spirit is never repeated, for a believer cannot unborn him/herself, nor can any power do that.

- No Christian will ever reach the point where God has nothing more for him/her, therefore the need for many FILLINGS.
3. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is POSITIONAL. Such as the writing of the believer's name in the Book of Life. It is something God does for the believer.
    - The Filling of the Holy Spirit is EXPERIENTIAL. A divine empowerment for one's life of service to the Lord. *Acts 2:4*
  4. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit places the believer into the Body of Christ, allowing one to be able to receive power from the Holy Spirit.
    - The Corinthian Church had members who had been baptized, yet were still carnal.
    - The Galatians had been baptized, but had drifted away.
    - The Baptism of the Holy Spirit does not give power, just Authority.
    - Filling is receiving the Holy Spirit's power. Victories, conquests, everything Christians need to serve Christ comes through the Filling.
    - The disciple, Peter, was confused, brave sometimes, a coward sometimes, but Pentecost made the difference. Stephen, Barnabas, Paul, all were filled with the Holy Spirit and they were given power.
      - *Matthew 26:69; Acts 2:14; 6:5; 7:55; 11:24; 9:27-22; 13:9*
  5. The Filling of the Holy Spirit demonstrated at Pentecost what every believer receives.
    - Discuss what happened at Pentecost.
      - Prophecy fulfilled, God's promise came to pass.
    - "Baptize" was never used at Pentecost, but FILLED was.
      - *Acts 2:4; 4:8, 31; 7:55; 8:17; 9:17; 10:44; 11:15; 19:6*

## CONCLUSION:

1. Jesus returned to heaven and then poured out the Holy Spirit.
2. The Holy Spirit unites the believer today to the body of Christ through baptism.
3. The Holy Spirit FILLS believers, empowering them for service. (Languages the disciples spoke at Pentecost).
4. Christian, pray for the FILLING of the Holy Spirit so you can be more able to serve the Lord.