

THE HOLY SPIRIT



PART 1 - THE HOLY SPIRIT

In this series of resources, we are going to unpack what it is to be born of God's Spirit. It is essential as His followers, that we are not only born of His Spirit, but we are born of His power, which comes through the Spirit and that we know how to live a life in and of the Spirit, while we are on earth.

It's important to note as a first based principle, that just because you have received John the Baptist's message for the repentance of iniquity and sin, doesn't mean you have received the Holy Spirit, or the power of the Spirit.

Acts 19:1-4 It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples. 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." And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" And they said, "Into John's baptism." 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."

Receiving John's message is the first step to receiving the kingdom message which Jesus brought.

Romans 10:9 that if you confess with your mouth Jesus as Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised Him from the dead, you will be saved.

Too many have been taught this is all there is, never realising that this is just the start of coming into the mystery of God's kingdom, to which we are called to be ambassadors. Without being born of the Spirit and the Spirit's power, we will fail to lay hold of all that Christ has laid hold of us for.

Philippians 3:12-14 Not that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus.

We know that the disciples were not born of the Spirit when they walked with Jesus physically, even though the Spirit was with them, so this is more evidence that one can be covered by love, while still needing to be born of love, being born of a brand new Spirit on the inside.

John 14:16-17 I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.

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John 16:7 But I tell you the truth, it is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I go, I will send Him to you.

Just because we have been baptised in water for the cleansing of our iniquity and sin, doesn't automatically mean we have been born again of His Spirit or been baptised in the fire and power of His Spirit. This dimension in God is something we must search for in Him, yielding ourselves before Him, asking, seeking and knocking, while all the more waiting for Him to perform His divine work in us.

QUESTIONS

1. Why is it that one can be justified through believing but not be born of His Spirit?
2. What are the positive and negative consequences of this reality?
3. What has been your personal experience of only being justified by His blood and possibly not yet being born again?

In the next resource we will look at how a person is born of God's Spirit, and how they start this journey of being led by His Spirit

Watch the accompanying YouTube video here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C2RLCDEdI5w>