

## The Promises of God - Lesson 19

### Introduction:

1. In 2 Peter 1:4, God's promises are described as "*exceeding great and precious.*"
2. Because God's promises are so special, they deserve our careful attention.
3. We are presently studying "God's promise to send the Holy Spirit."
4. Previously,:
  - a. we showed how God has kept this promise
    - 1) The coming of the Spirit was prophesied (Joel 2:28-32).
    - 2) Jesus said that the Spirit would come after He left the earth (John 16:7).
    - 3) Peter stated that Joel's prophecy was fulfilled on Pentecost after Jesus ascended to heaven (Acts 2).
  - b. we covered passages that reveal the Spirit's identity -- He is a member of the eternal Godhead
  - c. we showed how God has blessed His people by sending the Spirit.
5. The Bible teaches that God has given people various measures of the Spirit, including:
  - a. the baptism of the Holy Spirit
  - b. the miraculous indwelling of the Holy Spirit, accompanied by spiritual gifts
  - c. the non-miraculous indwelling of the Holy Spirit.
6. In this lesson we are concentrating on "the baptism of the Holy Spirit."

### Discussion:

- I. LET US DEFINE "THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"
  - A. Two important terms are:
    1. "*baptism*": immersion; an overwhelming
    2. "*Holy Spirit*": a member of the eternal Godhead.
  - B. "The baptism of the Holy Spirit" refers to an overwhelming of the Holy Spirit.
- II. SEVERAL KEY PROPHECIES REVEAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT "THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT"
  - A. Joel prophesied about the outpouring of God's Spirit (Joel 2:28-32).
  - B. John stated that Christ would administer this baptism (Mark 1:6-8).
  - C. Jesus said that the apostles would receive this baptism in Jerusalem (Acts 1:1-8).
- III. "THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY SPIRIT" OCCURRED ON 2 OCCASIONS
  - A. The apostles were baptized in the Holy Spirit on Pentecost (Acts 2:1-4).
    1. Their baptism in the Spirit was demonstrated by their speaking in tongues (vs.5-6).
    2. Joel's prophecy was fulfilled (vs.16-21).
    3. Why was the baptism in the Holy Spirit necessary for the apostles?
      - a. Before He ascended to heaven, Jesus gave the Great Commission to the apostles (Matthew 28:19-20).
      - b. Earlier, Jesus had told the apostles that He would send the Holy Spirit to assist them (John 14:26; 16:13).
      - c. The Holy Spirit would guide and assist the apostles as they carried out their mission.
  - B. The household of Cornelius was baptized in the Holy Spirit (Acts 10:44-48).
    1. These Gentiles also spoke in tongues.
    2. Why was the baptism in the Holy Spirit necessary for these Gentiles?
      - a. Joel's prophecy was fulfilled [God's Spirit was poured out on "*all flesh*"].
      - b. Their baptism in the Holy Spirit proved to Jewish Christians that salvation was also for the Gentiles (Acts 11:1-4, 15-18; 15:5-11).

### Conclusion:

1. The Lord administered Holy Spirit baptism on 2 occasions.
2. He never commanded everyone to receive Holy Spirit baptism.
3. "The baptism of the Holy Spirit" was a promise that has been fulfilled.
4. There is "*one baptism*" in effect today (Ephesians 4:5), the baptism of the Great Commission that Christ wants everyone to receive.