

## *Watch Me Burn*

# **Burning With the Spirit**

### **I. Introduction**

### **II. The Holy Spirit is God. He is a member of the trinity.**

A. Acts 5:1-4 <sup>1</sup>*But a man named Ananias, with his wife Sapphira, sold a piece of property, <sup>2</sup>and kept back some of the price for himself, with his wife's full knowledge, and bringing a portion of it, he laid it at the apostles' feet. <sup>3</sup>But Peter said, "Ananias, why has Satan filled your heart to lie to the Holy Spirit and to keep back some of the price of the land? <sup>4</sup>"While it remained unsold, did it not remain your own? And after it was sold, was it not under your control? Why is it that you have conceived this deed in your heart? You have not lied to men but to God."*

B. The Holy Spirit possesses Attributes that the Father and the Son also possess.

1. Life

a. Rom. 8:2 *For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death.*

2. Truth

a. John 16:13a *"But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth."*

3. Love

a. Rom 15:30 *Now I urge you, brethren, by our Lord Jesus Christ and by the love of the Spirit, to strive together with me in your prayers to God for me.*

4. Holiness

a. Eph. 4:30 *Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.*

5. Omnipresence

a. Ps. 139:7 *Where can I go from Your Spirit? Or where can I flee from Your presence?*

6. Omniscience

a. Rom. 8:26 *In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words.*

C. The Holy Spirit is a Person.

1. He is Distinct from the Father and the Son.

a. Matt. 3:16-17 <sup>16</sup>*After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove and lighting on Him, <sup>17</sup>and behold, a voice out of the heavens said, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."*

b. II Cor. 13:14 *The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.*

2. He has Intelligence.

a. John 14:26 *"But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you."*

3. He has a Will.

a. Acts 16:7 *And after they came to Mysia, they were trying to go into Bithynia, and the Spirit of Jesus did not permit them.*

4. He has Emotions.
- a. Is. 63:10 *But they rebelled And grieved His Holy Spirit; Therefore He turned Himself to become their enemy, He fought against them.*

D. We can each know the Holy Spirit personally, not just as an impersonal influence or a good feeling.

1. The Holy Spirit is a personal Friend of God's people (Christians).
- a. John 14:16-17 <sup>16</sup>*"I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; <sup>17</sup>that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you."*

**III. Of the members of the trinity, the Holy Spirit is actually the closest to us because He dwells in us (John 14:17b). Even so, it is difficult to understand the Holy Spirit's personality.**

A. This is because the Holy Spirit aims only to promote the glory of Jesus Christ and draws no attention to Himself.

1. John 16:14-15 <sup>14</sup>*"He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. <sup>15</sup>"All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you."*

**IV. How can I be filled with (or "baptized in") the Holy Spirit?**

**V. Being "baptized in the Holy Spirit" is a hotly debated topic in the church today. How did this concept originate?**

- A. Matt 3:11 *"As for me, I baptize you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."*
- B. Acts 1:4-5 <sup>4</sup>*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; <sup>5</sup>for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."*
- C. Acts 2:2-4 <sup>2</sup>*And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. <sup>4</sup>And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.*
- D. Acts 10:44-48 <sup>44</sup>*While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. <sup>45</sup>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. <sup>46</sup>For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God. Then Peter answered, <sup>47</sup>"Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?" <sup>48</sup>And he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they asked him to stay on for a few days.*
- E. Acts 11:15-18 <sup>15</sup>*"And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning. <sup>16</sup>"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.' <sup>17</sup>"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?" <sup>18</sup>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."*

**VI. The word “baptize” in Greek means “to dip” or “to immerse.” It conveys the sense of being overwhelmed.**

- A. John the Baptist, Jesus, and Peter all taught that we should expect to be immersed in (overwhelmed by) the Holy Spirit.
- B. This “overwhelming,” “immersion,” or “baptism” in the Holy Spirit is essential for true discipleship!

**VII. How do we experience the filling of the Holy Spirit?**

- A. We receive All of the Holy Spirit when we become Christians and are “born again.”
  - 1. Rom. 8:9 *However, you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.*
- B. What about an actual second experience with God where we are “baptized” in the Holy Spirit?
  - 1. Having the Holy Spirit in us does not guarantee that we will experience His power and gifts.
  - 2. More is required of us for that to happen.
  - 3. Paul commands us to be filled with the Spirit!
    - a. Eph. 5:18 *And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.*
  - 4. Luke emphasizes the sovereign and initiatory filling of the Holy Spirit.
    - a. Acts 2:4 *And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.*
    - b. Luke 1:15 *“For he will be great in the sight of the Lord; and he will drink no wine or liquor, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit while yet in his mother’s womb.”*
    - c. Luke 1:41 *When Elizabeth heard Mary’s greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit.*
    - d. Acts 4:8a, 31 <sup>31</sup>*Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit... And when they had prayed, the place where they had gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak the word of God with boldness.*
  - 5. These fillings are sudden and dramatic, yet they have no discernible pattern of results!
    - a. They might be accompanied by speaking in tongues, preaching, or even leaping in the womb!
  - 6. In Scripture, there is no discernible pattern or formula for how the Holy Spirit falls on us or fills us.
    - a. John 3:8 *“The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”*
- C. So how am I filled with the Holy Spirit?
  - 1. When you are born again you do receive all of the Holy Spirit. But, because of the lack of understanding and/or teaching, many Christians are not told to ask for and expect the fullness or the empowering of the Holy Spirit.
  - 2. That is why many Christians refer to having a “second experience” with God or being “baptized in the Holy Spirit.”

3. Scripturally and theologically we are supposed to ask for and receive the “filling” of the Holy Spirit at Conversion. It’s all one package! But many of us didn’t know that, so we haven’t actualized what we already have!

## VIII. Summary

- A. So what does “baptism” in the Holy Spirit mean?
  1. It means to be filled, immersed, overwhelmed, or empowered by the Holy Spirit.
- B. When does this occur?
  1. It occurs initially when you ask for it.
    - a. Luke 11:13 *“If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”*
  2. It occurs repeatedly.
    - a. Eph. 5:18 *And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit.*
- C. How does it occur?
  1. By you asking the Holy Spirit, by faith, to fill you personally. You must yield to Him and allow Him to do Anything He wants to with you and through you.
- D. What is the Evidence of the infilling of the Holy Spirit in my life?
  1. Acts 1:8 *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.”*
- E. Why do this?
  1. For the Power to walk with Jesus and minister like He did. Without it there is no way you can do that!
- F. God wants to fill you with His Spirit, but you have to ask!
  1. James 4:2c *You do not have because you do not ask.*

## VI. Conclusion

*(Unless otherwise indicated all Scripture verses are in the New American Standard Version.)*