

## Different Ways in which you can receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

(A sermon to help us realise that you receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit by faith and being open to Him empowering you and taking the reigns of your life.)

### A SERMON DELIVERED AT THE HAENERTSBURG CHRISTIAN CHURCH IN HAENERTSBURG, SOUTH AFRICA 26th March 2017

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#### Main Scripture:

Acts 2:1–4

<sup>1</sup> When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup> Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup> They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup> All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues<sup>a</sup> as the Spirit enabled them. <sup>1</sup>

Well good morning to you all and to all those viewers on YouTube and those that are listening on iTunes or podcast. It is such an honour and privilege to have you connecting and sharing this time with us.

#### Introduction:

Let me see who learned something last week and see the different responses for those that were not here. May I ask who of you like to receive something absolutely free? When you receive a gift there are no strings attached and it is yours forever! Here is a free gift for whoever wants it, but all you have to do is come and receive it for yourself!

Do you see the different responses?

Who of you would like to receive greater power in your life?

Who of you would like to basically never become discouraged again?

Well then I am pleased to announce that the Holy Spirit is here as a free gift for everyone who wants to receive Him into their lives, but you need to cry out and say I want you in my life!

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<sup>a</sup> Or *languages*; also in verse 11

<sup>1</sup> *The Holy Bible: New International Version*. (1984). (Ac 2:1–4). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

Often there is a lot of confusion and misunderstanding in the church when it comes to the Holy Spirit.

Just to clear something up at the outset is that the Holy Spirit is not an “it” or an “impersonal being” or a “divine force.” He is most certainly none of the above, but He is a person and is known as the third person of the Trinity. He is just as much God as God the Father and God the Son.

In actual fact the Holy Spirit is a gift to the church.

I want to introduce you to the Holy Spirit, for those of you who do not know Him and for the rest of us where there are many questions, doubts, confusion or maybe just a desire for more of Him in our lives; I would like to try and lessen the doubts, and overcome the confusion and hopefully leave you with a desire for even more of Him in your life.

Some of the old English translations use the phrase Holy Ghost, which I do not like because nowadays this word conjures up images of a ghost or a spook or even maybe Casper. Another word that could be used is guest or unseen guest.

So tell me is He a guest in your life or should I say a welcome unseen guest in your life?

I believe it is time for a fresh touch from the Holy Spirit in all of our lives because we certainly cannot live an effective Christian life without Him being part of every aspect and situation of our lives.

For this to happen we need to be willing to change. The problem is that we don't normally like or enjoy the process of change, but boy oh boy it is inevitable. So in that case my question to you is “Are you going to change for the better or for the worse?” You see it all comes to a choice. Are you and I willing to change or not? Do we want the Holy Spirit to be the dominant presence in our church and our lives?

**Everything continues in a state of rest unless it is compelled to change by forces impressed upon it.**

Isaac Newton's (First Law of Motion)

The **Hebrew** term **ruach**.

The **Greek** word for Spirit is **pneuma**.

They all are related to the terms **breath, breathing, breeze, or wind**.

Baptism comes from the Greek word - "Baptismo" which means to **immerse or dunk**.

**Baptismo is a word which was used to describe:**

- a) A sinking ship. As it sank the water would fill the whole inside of the ship.
- b) Another meaning is where a garment is being immersed into dye and the dye penetrates every fibre of the fabric.

**Last Sandy we had a look at how many baptisms there are in the Bible?**

We had some saying 2 and other 3, 4, 5 and no one was right. If you want to know I would like to encourage you to have a look at the YouTube video. I was told in the service that I must preach the same service today as there was so much to learn. I will not ever be doing something like that, because we are blessed with technology and are able to put the sermons onto YouTube. So if you would like to know the answer, please go to our YouTube channel and listen. Please also subscribe and like each video and consider contributing to help us so that we can keep serving you in this way.

### **Title: Different Ways in which you can receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.**

#### **1. Waiting on the Lord to be filled.**

Acts 1:4–5

<sup>4</sup>On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. <sup>5</sup>For John baptized with<sup>a</sup> water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”<sup>2</sup>

Here the early church was instructed to wait for this promise of the Holy Spirit. There is a baptism in water, or believers baptism, or baptism of repentance, or John’ baptism as we learned last week, but then there comes another baptism which is in the Holy Spirit.

Do you see that they were told to wait for this gift and normally when you wait there is great expectation and excitement? Who of you when you were small waited with great anticipation and excitement for a gift and you just could not wait to receive the gift.

Who has never been in that position?

Would you like a gift from me? Not from God, but from me. OK then wait a little and let’s see if you start waiting with great excitement and anticipation!

#### **Give a family communion tray.**

Acts 2:1–4

<sup>1</sup>When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. <sup>2</sup>Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. <sup>3</sup>They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. <sup>4</sup>All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues<sup>a</sup> as the Spirit enabled them. <sup>3</sup>

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<sup>a</sup> Or in

<sup>2</sup> *The Holy Bible: New International Version.* (1984). (Ac 1:4–5). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

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<sup>3</sup> *The Holy Bible: New International Version.* (1984). (Ac 2:1–4). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

We read that the disciples were just waiting on the Lord in the upper room and likewise we can just ask by faith and then wait for Him to fill us. So you can receive the Holy Spirit by just waiting on the Lord.

## 2. Laying on of hands to be filled.

Acts 8:12–17

<sup>12</sup> But when they believed Philip as he preached the good news of the Kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. <sup>13</sup> Simon himself believed and was baptized. And he followed Philip everywhere, astonished by the great signs and miracles he saw.

<sup>14</sup> When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. <sup>15</sup> When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, <sup>16</sup> because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into<sup>a</sup> the name of the Lord Jesus. <sup>17</sup> Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. <sup>4</sup>

So here we see there is another way to receive the Holy Spirit and that is through the laying on of hands. So you can just wait for the gift and then suddenly receive the gift from on high or someone can lay hands on you and you can receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit.

How amazing is that, that there is not just one way that you can receive this gift.

## 3. Breathing on believers to be filled.

John 20:21-22

<sup>21</sup> Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” <sup>22</sup> And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.

Here they received the Holy Spirit by Jesus breathing on them.

So we have seen different ways that people received the Holy Spirit.

- Waiting.
- Laying on of hands.
- Being breathed upon.

What do you learn from these passages of Scripture?

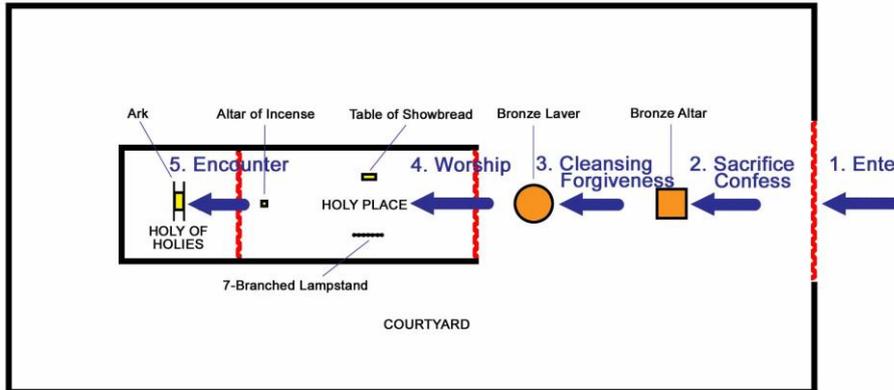
I don't believe that there is a formula however I do believe that we need to have open hearts that are expectant for God to touch us in a great way. What I am saying is that we must not concentrate on how we receive the Holy Spirit or are baptised in the Holy Spirit but rather that we are baptised and filled anew and fresh.

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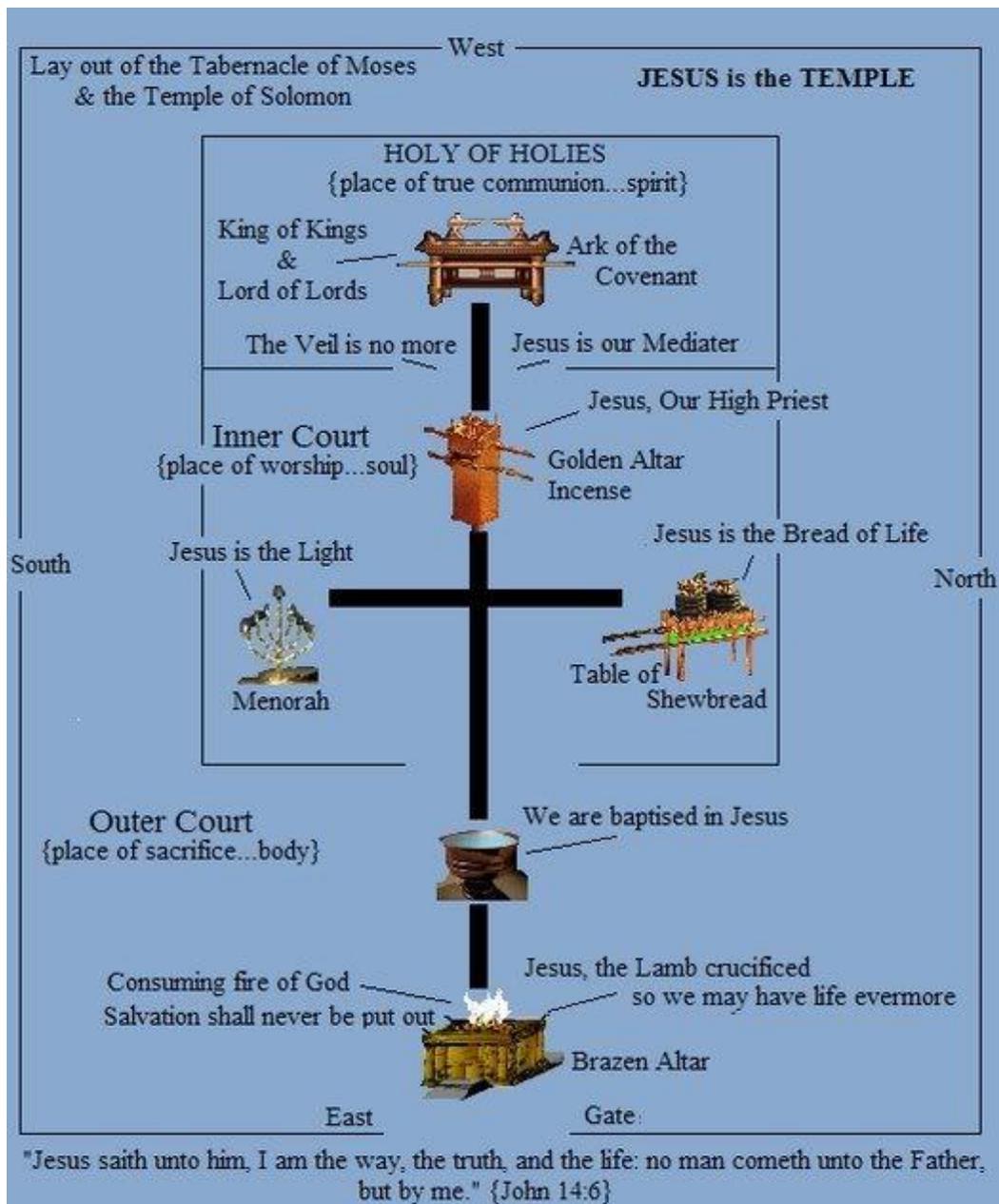
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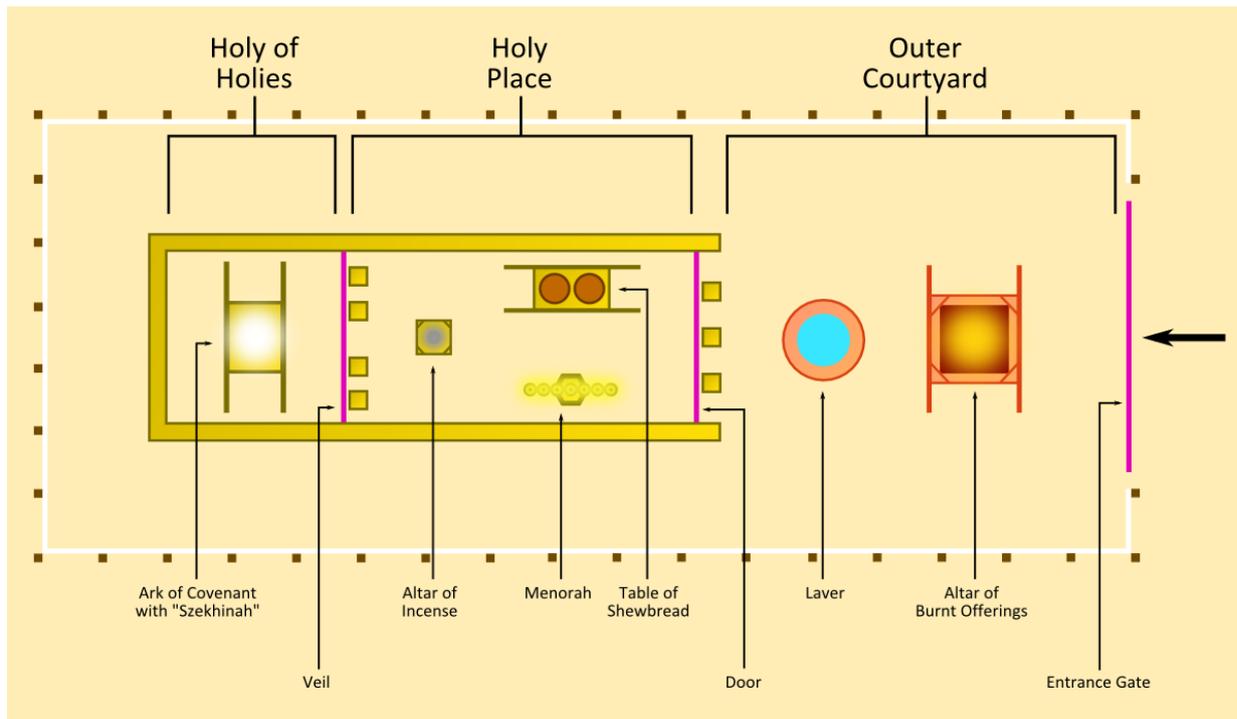
<sup>4</sup> *The Holy Bible: New International Version.* (1984). (Ac 8:12–17). Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan.

## Flow of Worship



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### Re-Cap:

### **Different Ways in which you can receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.**

1. **Waiting on the Lord to be filled.**
2. **Laying on of hands to be filled..**
3. **Breathing on believers to be filled.**

### CLOSING:

Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.

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