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JESUS CHRIST OUR BAPTIZER IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 1:8 *But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem, and in Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.* (Genesis 1:1-2; Zech. 4:6)

The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Godhead and is omnipotent and omnipresent; He convicts of sin and righteousness and draws sinners to the Savior; He searches the hearts, comforts, guides, teaches, and empowers. The Holy Spirit is a promise from Jesus, gives inspiration, and power to win souls. (Adapted from Aimee Semple McPherson)

Much of what we know of the Holy Spirit has to do with personal experiences which are never safe guides to arrive at doctrine. We must use the Word of God as a guide. The Bible clearly states that the baptism (immersed and filled) and living in the power of the Holy Spirit, including all that comes with that, IS FOR US TODAY. (Acts 2:38-39)

AN INTRODUCTION TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. **The Holy Spirit is a member of the Godhead** (The Trinity: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit).
 - Matthew 3:16-17 *As soon as Jesus was baptized, He went up out of the water. At that moment heaven was opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting on Him. And a voice from heaven said, "This is My Son, whom I love; with Him I am well pleased."* (Genesis 1:26, 3:22)
2. **The Holy Spirit is our Helper** (Comforter, Advocate, Intercessor). This is the word, "parakletos," and means "one called alongside to help." (John 16:5-11)
3. **The Holy Spirit is our teacher** and brings revelation and understanding to God's Word.

- John 16:12-15 *...when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come...*

4. The Holy Spirit is a continual fountain and river.

- John 4:13-14 *But the water that I give him will become in him a spring of water, satisfying his thirst for God, welling up and continually flowing from within to eternal life.* (AMP)
- John 7:37-39 *...He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his innermost being will flow continual rivers of living water.*

5. A few other qualities and activities of the Holy Spirit...

- He is God's power for the believer's life. (Acts 1:8)
- He is the catalyst in the New Birth. (John 3:5; Titus 3:5-6)
- The Holy Spirit affirms the sonship of the believer and places the seal of ownership upon us. (Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30)
- The Holy Spirit bears fruit of God's character in the believer's life. (Galatians 5:22-23)
- He baptizes us into Christ's Body. (1 Corinthians 12:13)
- The Holy Spirit convicts of sin, transforms the believer, and gives power over our sinful nature. (John 16:8; 2 Corinthians 3:18; Galatians 5:16-17)
- The Holy Spirit gives power to accomplish God-given tasks with God-given ability. (Acts 5:12-16)

6. Jesus is One who baptizes us in (or with) the Holy Spirit.

- Here are a few evidences of the baptism from the book of Acts.
- They spoke with other tongues. (Acts 2:1-4, 10:44-46, 14:8-10)
 - They continued in prayer, fellowship and the Apostles' teaching. (Acts 2:42-47)
 - They boldly preached with prophetic insight. (Acts 4:8, 13)
 - God's love became evident in their lives. (Acts 7:60)
 - Miracles accompanied their faith. (Acts 5:12-16, 6:8)

Next week — JESUS OUR HEALER