

FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT SPEAKING WITH TONGUES

*"for John baptized
with water, but you
shall be baptized with
the Holy Spirit"*

*"and you shall
receive power after
the Holy Spirit
has come upon you"*

MARK SLAY



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CHAPTER ONE

Receiving The Holy Spirit And Speaking In Tongues

The most important first step a person can take to receive the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues is *to examine the Bible* and see what the Word of God has to say concerning this subject.

The thing that made it so easy for me to receive this gift was simply this: I had been *reading God's Word daily* for several years before I was introduced to this experience. All God's gifts, including receiving the Holy Spirit Himself, are received *by faith*, and faith can only begin where the *will* of God is known with certainty.

You could not have faith for something you weren't sure God wanted you to have. Real faith is *believing* with *certainty* in your heart.

¹ Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Hebrews 11:1 NASB

So anyone serious about receiving this gift would naturally have to know what the Word of God has to say on the subject. Therefore, before one should just blindly attempt to receive, I suggest first examining God's Word on this (or any) promise you are attempting to receive.

¹⁷ So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God

Romans 10:17 NKJV

CHAPTER TWO

Tongues Prophesied About Prior To Its Arrival

Some people make such foolish statements regarding being filled with the Holy Spirit and speaking with tongues. Somebody once said that Jesus never spoke in tongues, so it can't be very important.

How crazy some comments can be coming from those who never took time to examine the Word of God carefully. I don't want to be unkind, but only an unknowledgeable fool would make such a statement. Jesus *couldn't* speak in tongues, for the Holy Spirit could not be poured out in this new dimension until *after* Jesus died, rose again, and ascended into Heaven and took His seat at the right hand of the Father. Then the Holy Spirit could be poured out as Acts 2 states.

During His earthly ministry Jesus gave repeated instruction about the Holy Spirit and said clearly that there would be coming a day, after He was glorified, where the Holy Spirit would come in a *new* way for all believers to receive. Consider the following verse:

³⁷ On that last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink. ³⁸ He who believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.'" ³⁹ But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing in Him would receive, for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

John 7:37-39 NKJV

Notice it says (1) "The Spirit was not yet given for Jesus was not yet glorified". (2)"Those who believed in Him were to receive".

These two things indicate that at the time Jesus said this during his earthly ministry, the Holy Spirit was working in people in a *different* way than He would be in the future.

The Holy Spirit has always been working in the earth since creation:

¹ In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.

²And he earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep; and THE SPIRIT OF GOD was moving over the surface of the waters.

Genesis 1:1-2 NASB

From the beginning of man the Holy Spirit has been working with and thru men. Even Jesus himself was dependent on the Holy Spirit in His earthly ministry, for God designed it this way.

³⁸ "how GOD ANOINTED JESUS of Nazareth WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him."

Acts 10:38 NKJV

¹ And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was LED ABOUT BY THE SPIRIT in the wilderness

Luke 4:1 NASB

¹⁴ And Jesus returned to Galilee IN THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT; and news about him spread through all the surrounding district.

Luke 4:14 NASB

You see, just like all the prophets and leaders of the Old

Testament, Jesus Himself was dependent upon the Holy Spirit. Even though He was the Son of God, He laid aside His mighty power and glory and became like men. So He ministered as a man anointed of the Holy Spirit as Acts 10:38 declares. However, Jesus spoke of a time *when things would be different*. The *same* Holy Spirit would be working *with* man but would also *now*, after the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, be *in* man, not merely *upon man*.

15 "If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it. If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. 16 I And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, 17 that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be *IN YOU*." ...²³ Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him, and make Our abode with him."

John 14:15-17, 23 NASB

26 "*WHEN THE HELPER COMES*, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness of Me"

John 15:26 NASB

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 SHALL NOT COME TO YOU*; but if I go, I will send Him to you. 13 But when He, the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. 14 He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you."

John 16:7, 13-14 NASB

Any reasonably intelligent person can see that Jesus clearly stated during His ministry that a time *yet future* would come, when the Holy Spirit would be working in and thru men in a different way and dimension.

Right before Jesus ascended to take His seat at the right hand of God the Father, He appeared to His disciples numerous times and gave them instructions each time. In fact, Paul stated in I Corinthians 15:5-6 that Jesus appeared to over 500 people at one time *after* He had died and was raised from the dead.

...⁵ He appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. ⁶After that He appeared to more than five hundred brethren at one time

I Corinthians 15:5-6 NASB

In Acts the first chapter, He told His disciples in His final appearance to them before He was ascended into Heaven, that the *same Holy Spirit* who had been working with them during their ministries with Jesus *would now come in a new dimension*.

“...⁵ for John baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now. ...⁸but you shall 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.”

Acts 1:5, 8 NASB

Well, somebody might ask, "Wasn't the Holy Spirit operating thru the disciples as they went out to minister *prior to* Jesus' death?" Yes we know He was. Look at Luke 9 and 10:

¹ And He called the twelve together, and gave them power and authority over all the demons, and to heal diseases. ²

And He sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God, and to perform healing. ⁶And departing, they began going about among the villages, preaching the gospel, and healing everywhere.

Luke 9:1-2, 6 NASB

¹ Now after this the Lord appointed seventy others, and sent them two and two ahead of Him to every city and place where He Himself was going to come. ² And He was saying to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore beseech the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into His harvest. ³ Go your ways; behold, I send you out as lambs in the midst of wolves. And whatever city you enter and they receive you, eat what is set before you; and heal those in it who are sick, and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’” ... ¹⁷ And the seventy returned with joy, saying, “Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name.’ ¹⁸ And He said to them, “I was watching Satan fall from heaven like lightning. ¹⁹ Behold, I have given you authority to tread upon serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall injure you. ²⁰ Nevertheless do not rejoice in this, that the spirits are subject to you, but rejoice that your names are recorded in heaven.” ²¹ At that very time He rejoiced greatly in the Holy Spirit, and said, “I praise Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that Thou didst hide these things from the wise and intelligent and didst reveal them to babes. Yes, Father, for thus it was well-pleasing in Thy sight.”

Luke 10:1-3, 17-21 NASB

Notice the Scripture says they went out doing acts of ministry: teaching, preaching, casting out evil spirits, and healing, acts only someone who had the Holy Spirit working with them could do.

When they returned to Jesus and reported to Him that demons had bowed to them and people were set free, Jesus responded by rejoicing greatly in the works of the Holy Spirit thru these men.

So you see, though the disciples had a taste of ministering by the Holy Spirit and seeing His power during the earth walk of Jesus, they *were clearly told more than once* as we have already seen in the Scriptures in John 14:15-17, 23; 15:26; 16:7, 13-14 and Acts 1:5, 8 that a time was still coming yet in the future where the Holy Spirit would be poured out *in a new way*.

Mark records something Jesus said to the disciples in an appearance *after* He was raised from the dead but *before* being taken up into heaven. Here Mark tells us Jesus said certain signs were going to follow “those who would believe” in the days ahead.

15 And He said to them, “Go into the entire world and preach the gospel to all creation. 16 He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned.” 17 “And these signs will accompany those who have believed: in My name they will cast out demons, 18 *THEY WILL SPEAK WITH NEW TONGUES*; they will pick up serpents and if they drink any deadly poison, it shall not hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover.

Mark 16:15-18 NASB

Notice carefully the signs Jesus said would be manifested thru believers *in the future from where they stood*.

He said, “Go and he who has believed and is baptized would be saved”. If you couple that with what Luke records Jesus saying in *Acts 1:5*, the baptism He described was not merely water, but an “immersion” in the Holy Spirit (the Greek word translated “baptize” in English is the word “baptizo” and means “immersion in”). Read Acts 1:5 again.

”...⁵ for John baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

Acts 1:5 NASB

Jesus said another sign would be “they’ll speak with new tongues”. Notice once again, He’s speaking *of a day in the near future*, and these signs are *all* supernatural. None are “natural” abilities, but those given *by the Holy Spirit*.

Luke records something else Jesus said just before being taken up into Heaven about the power the Holy Spirit would bring with Him for believers. Jesus had spoken to them many times regarding the coming of the “Helper”, “the Spirit of Truth” as He put it in John 14:15-17, 15:26, 16:7-14. As Luke records in Luke 24:49, the promise of the Holy Spirit’s coming, when made available in a matter of days from when He spoke these final words, would bring something very powerful for those who would receive Him.

49 "And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are *CLOTHED WITH POWER* from on high.”

Luke 24:49 NASB

So once again you can see that Jesus talked about a day yet future from His earthly ministry wherein the Holy Spirit would bring *supernatural power, abilities, gifts, and really, the very strength of God Himself* to willing men and women.

CHAPTER THREE

The Promise Of The Spirit Is For Everyone Who Will Believe

No, Jesus *didn't* speak in tongues as only some foolish one would try to suggest in an attempt to diminish its value. The plan of God was for Jesus to *first* complete His work on earth, take His seat at God's right hand, and *then* the promise of the Holy Spirit's new work would come. The Holy Spirit would now take up where the Son of God left off in the earth.

The Holy Spirit could, after this outpouring of the Spirit, then come to each and every believer, live in them (John 14:17) and empower them (Acts 1:8, Mark 16:15-18) for God's work in the earth.

This "speaking with new tongues" Jesus spoke of, is an evidence and gift from the Holy Spirit to empower them for worship and service. It's for "those who believe".

"...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."

Acts 1:8 NASB

¹⁷ "These signs will accompany those who believed: in My name they will speak with new tongues;"

Mark 16:17 NASB

Read Acts chapter 2 thoroughly and you'll see this outpouring is for *all* believers.

38 Peter said to them, “Repent, and each of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off, as many as the Lord our God will call to Himself.”

Acts 2:38-39 NASB

Jesus said it was for all believers; so did *Peter*; and so, of course it *is*. Jesus never made any gift so complicated to receive that only a few “educated” human beings could get it. God’s gifts are for *all* to receive, the educated and uneducated alike. However, He put *the responsibility for the receiving* of His offers and promises in the *hands of the people*, and the basis for receiving is not education, it is *believing* (faith). All God’s promises are received *by faith*. Don’t let the word “faith” fool you, it simply means *believing*.

35 Jesus said to them, “I am the bread of life; he who comes to Me will not hunger, and he who believes in Me will never thirst. 36 But I said to you that you have seen Me, and yet do not believe. 37 All that the Father gives Me will come to Me, and the one who comes to Me I will certainly not cast out. 38 For I have come down from heaven, not to do My own will, but the will of Him who sent me.”

John 6:35-38 NASB

Jesus came to do God’s will and made it available to any of us who will simply believe. Look again at this verse:

37 Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. 38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From HIS INNERMOST BEING will flow rivers of living water.’ 39 But THIS HE SPOKE OF THE

SPIRIT, WHOM WHOSE WHO BELIEVED IN HIM WERE TO RECEIVE; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified”

John 7:37-39 NASB

If you're thirsty for more of God, He'll fill you if you will believe. It is the Holy Spirit that He gives to do the work in us.

9 "So I say to you, ask, and it will be given to you; seek and you will find, knock, and it will be opened to you. 10 For everyone who asks, receives; and he who seeks, finds; and to him who knocks, it will be opened. 11 Now suppose one of you fathers is asked by his son for a fish; he will not give him a snake instead of a fish, will he? 12 Or if he is asked for an egg, he will not give him a scorpion, will he? 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?"

Luke 11:9-13 NASB

Notice the Father will give you the Holy Spirit if you will but receive His Son Jesus and expect to receive. It comes only thru receiving Jesus His Son and then the Holy Spirit is yours, because He loves you.

So then the Scriptures clearly state that God says it is for "who so ever will come" to Him. Refuse to entertain any doubts the devil may bring regarding your unworthiness, or inabilities. God is bigger than your mistakes. If you're a "human", you qualify for His promises, mistakes and all. That's why God sent His Son to die for each of us. He knows we have all failed in some measure, but He has forgiven us completely if we will simply believe Him.

CHAPTER FOUR

Scriptural Methods Of Receiving

The Scriptures tell us *how* to receive the Holy Spirit just as much as they tell us *that* we can receive Him. There are 5 recorded instances in the New Testament showing how people received, or were “baptized” (Acts 1:8), in the Holy Spirit. There are various phrases used to describe this experience of receiving the Holy Spirit; they include “receiving” the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:17), being “baptized” in the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:8), and being “filled” with the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:4). We use all of them, but we are referring to the same thing.

In the 5 recorded instances of those receiving the Holy Spirit in this new way (not “new” to God just “New Testament”), 3 of the 5 times believing ones had hands laid upon them by those ministering to them. Only 2 times did the ones receiving not have hands laid upon them but simply started speaking out on their own. Let’s look at those 2 instances first, then we’ll get to the other 3.

Only twice do we see people receiving the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues without the laying on of hands by another. The first time is at the initial outpouring on the Jewish believers there in Jerusalem on the Day of Pentecost as recorded in Acts chapter 2.

¹ When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. ⁴ And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

Acts 2:1-4 NASB

In this place, at the first ever outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the believers were filled and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them the utterance. One literal translation tells you it was “as the Spirit gave them *to speak out*”. The Holy Spirit “gave” them what to speak, but *they* (the believers) had to **have faith** to speak out a language in phrase and syllables they had never ever learned. Imagine speaking in a language and framing the syllables that you never intellectually learned, but they were coming up by the Holy Spirit out of *their spirit* where He had come to dwell.

These languages that the Holy Spirit gave each one to speak out were human languages that foreigners present that day would understand.

7 They were amazed and astonished, saying, “Why, are not all these who are speaking Galileans? 8 And how is it that we each hear them in our own language to which we were born?”...¹¹ we hear them in our own tongues speaking of mighty deeds of God.

Acts 2:7-8, 11 NASB

This was done as a sign to all around that God was working there. Not all tongues that a person speaks will be a *human* language.

1 If I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but do not have love, I have become a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

I Corinthians 13:1 NASB

In this case, at the initial outpouring, God *wanted* the foreigners standing there to hear what was said *by those who they knew* could not possibly have known the language.

Without going into much detail here, let me say this. You could

speak in a language of angels not known to men, and the angels listening would understand, but we humans would not.

That means neither the one speaking would know what *they* are saying, *nor* the other humans who may be standing by listening would understand what is said. Did you get that? Not even the one speaking nor the listener will know what they're saying.

Back to Acts 2:4, the Jews received the initial outpouring of the Spirit spontaneously, without the laying on of hands by others.

The only other instance in Scripture of those receiving the Holy Spirit spontaneously without hands involved is in Acts 10 at the initial outpouring of the Holy Spirit *upon the Gentiles*. In that Scripture, Peter was preaching to a group of Roman Gentiles and he was stunned to see that God gave the Holy Spirit to these Gentiles just like He did Peter and the Jews in Acts 2 at the initial outpouring.

27 And as he talked with him, he went in and found many who had come together. 28 Then he said to them, "You know how unlawful it is for a Jewish man to keep company with or go to one of another nation. But God has shown me that I should not call any man common or unclean. 29 Therefore I came without objection as soon as I was sent for. So I ask, then, for what reason have you sent for me?" 30 So Cornelius said, "Four days ago I was fasting until this hour; and at the ninth hour I prayed in my house, and behold, a man stood before me in bright clothing 31 and said, 'Cornelius your prayer has been heard and your alms are remembered in the sight of God. 32 Send therefore to Joppa and call Simon here, whose surname is Peter. He is lodging in the house of Simon, a tanner, by the sea. When he comes, he will speak to you' 33 So I sent to you immediately, and you have done well to come. Now therefore, we are all present before God, to hear all the things commanded you by God." 34 Then Peter

opened his mouth and said: "In truth I perceive that God shows no partiality.³⁵ But in every nation whoever fears Him and works righteousness is accepted by Him.³⁶ The word which God sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ - He is Lord of all-³⁷ that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached:³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.³⁹ And we are witnesses of all things which He did both in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem, whom they killed by hanging on a tree.⁴⁰ Him God raised up on the third day, and showed Him openly,⁴¹ not to all the people, but to witnesses chosen before by God, even to us who ate and drank with Him after He arose from the dead.⁴² And He commanded us to preach to the people, and to testify that it is He who was ordained by God to be Judge of the living and the dead.⁴³ To Him all the prophets witness that, through His name, whoever believes in Him will receive remission (forgiveness) of sins."⁴⁴ While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word.⁴⁵ And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also.⁴⁶ For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered,⁴⁷ "Can anyone forbid the water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?"

Acts 10:27-47 NKJV

You see, the Holy Spirit fell upon these Gentiles spontaneously as Peter preached (Acts 10:44-46).

These are the only 2 recorded instances (Acts 2:4, Acts 10:44) in the New Testament where believers (first Jews then 10 years later the Gentiles) received the Holy Spirit in this way. The Holy Spirit “fell upon” them (v.44 – that is, came down upon them like a cloud) and the believers had faith to speak out in unknown languages.

Although God chose to do it this way on the *initial* outpourings upon the Jews and then the Gentiles, this is not the only Scriptural way to be filled with the Holy Spirit. There are 3 other recorded instances in Scripture where believers received, and it was by a different method. Still the same Holy Spirit, just a different method God used to get believers filled with the Holy Spirit. Let’s look at each of them briefly.

CHAPTER FIVE

Receiving Thru The Laying On Of Hands

The other scriptural method for receiving the Holy Spirit is thru the laying on of hands by another person who is already Spirit filled.

The first place this is seen is in Acts chapter 8. In Acts 8 we see those who believed the preaching of Philip and received healings and miracles. Shortly after they believed the preaching of Philip, they were filled with the Holy Spirit thru the laying on of the apostles' hands. This leads us to another thought that I will discuss later, and that is that a person can and does receive the Holy Spirit *in a measure* once they accept Jesus Christ as their personal savior, but they can *be filled* with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues later. That is what happened in my own case which I'll discuss in more detail later.

⁵ Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. ⁶ And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did. ⁷ For unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed. ⁸ And there was great joy in that city. ¹² But when they believed Philip as he preached the things concerning the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, both men and women were baptized. ¹³ Then Simon himself also believed; and when he was baptized he continued with Philip, and was amazed, seeing the miracles and signs which were done. ¹⁴ Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, ¹⁵ who when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. ¹⁶ For as yet He had fallen upon none of

them, They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then they laid hands on them, and they (the Samaritans) received the Holy Spirit.

Acts 8:5-8, 12-17 NKJV

Notice Philip preached (v.5), ministered healings and miracles (v.6) and the Samaritans believed (v.12-13). So these people were *people who received and believed in Jesus Christ* but were not yet filled with the Holy Spirit speaking in tongues.

Verse 14 tells us that when word reached Jerusalem about what Philip had done in his ministry by bringing the Samaritans to Christ, they sent Peter and John down to get them to “receive the Holy Spirit” (v.15-16).

The Apostles *laid their hands upon* the believers and the believers received the Holy Spirit. Simon who was formerly a magician “*saw*” something that made him know for sure that those believers were receiving the Holy Spirit. What do you suppose he “*saw*”, since no one can *physically* see the Holy Spirit?

Well no doubt he saw what everyone else saw when believers were filled with the Holy Spirit. We see them speak in languages they don’t know.

The next recorded instance is with the Apostle Paul himself in Acts Chapter 9. Paul was not a Christian yet, but a Jewish Pharisee. He was persecuting Christians. Jesus appeared to him and Paul fell off of his donkey (in more ways than one!).

¹⁰ Now there was a certain disciple at Damascus named Ananias; and to him the Lord said in a vision, “Ananias.” And he said, “Here I am, Lord.” ¹¹ So the Lord said to him, “Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying, ¹² and in a vision he has seen a

man named Ananias coming in and putting his hands on him, so that he might receive his sight.”¹³ Then Ananias answered, “Lord, I have heard from many about this man, how much harm he has done to Your saints in Jerusalem;¹⁴ And here he has authority from the chief priests to bind all who call on Your name.”¹⁵ But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine, to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel;¹⁶ For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name’s sake.”¹⁷ And Ananias went his way and entered the house; and laying his hands on him he said, “Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit.”¹⁸ Immediately there fell from his eyes something like scales and he received his sight at once; and arose and was baptized;

Acts 9:10-18 NASB

Here is another case, another person, the Apostle Paul himself, who *first* came to believe in Jesus as the Son of God out there on the road to Damascus and then 3 days later *was filled* with the Holy Spirit. He believed the moment he saw & heard Jesus, but notice he was not *filled* until Ananias came and laid his hands on Paul (vs.12, 17).

By the way, Acts 9 does not *say* that Paul spoke with tongues here, but it doesn’t have to. Paul himself said in I Corinthians 14:18, “I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all”, so we know he had to have spoken in tongues (like every other instance) when he was *filled with the Holy Spirit*.

The third instance recorded in Scripture where believers were filled with the Holy Spirit thru the laying on of hands is Acts Chapter 19.

The Apostle Paul was out ministering in Ephesus and found

some disciples of John the Baptist. He invited them to receive Jesus and the Holy Spirit.

¹ It happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the upper country and came to Ephesus, and found some disciples. ² 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.” ³ And he said, “Into what then were you baptized?” And they said, “Into John’s baptism.” ⁴ 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.” ⁵ When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶ And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying. ⁷ There were in all about twelve men.

Acts 19:1-7 NASB

First, notice in these Scriptures that these 12 men were baptized in water *twice* and *still* had not received the Holy Spirit. First they were water baptized by John (v.3), then by Paul in the name of Jesus (v.5) (to now identify themselves with Jesus Christ the Messiah).

These people were excellent “Baptist” people. They had been water baptized twice, but still had not received the Holy Spirit. I was not raised Baptist, but they firmly believe in water baptism, but will not look kindly upon you for wanting to be filled with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues like they did here in Acts 19.

So verses 3 and 5 tell us of their water baptisms, but still no Holy Spirit. Not until Paul laid his hands upon them (v.6)!

In fact if you read it carefully, you’ll see that the baptism that Paul knew to be the most important was the baptism by the Holy Spirit.

“Did you *receive the Holy Spirit* when you believed? **No...**” (v.2).
“**Well then into what were you baptized**” if not the Holy Spirit (v.3).

You see Paul saw the most important baptism is the one the Holy Spirit does in the spirit realm, in the unseen realm where the physical eye can't see. Even though it can not be physically seen, the person can experience and know it just the same.

Go back to Acts 1:5. Jesus said, “John *baptized* with water, **but** you shall be **baptized** with the Holy Spirit not many days from now” (10 days later they were. Acts 2:4). The most important baptism is the one the Holy Spirit does, not the one man does. Jesus said so in that verse. Can you see it?

Notice water won't do it; for these men in Acts 19 in Ephesus had been water baptized *twice*, but it was only after *hands were laid upon them in faith* that the Holy Spirit came upon them and they spoke in tongues.

Also, remember in Acts 8 when Philip preached to the Samaritans and water baptized them that it wasn't until sometime *later*, after the Apostles got there from Jerusalem, that they received the Holy Spirit when hands were laid on them.

12 But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike. 13 Even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip. . . 14 Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they began laying their hands on them, and they (the Samaritans) were receiving the Holy Spirit.

Acts 8:12-17 NASB

It takes more than mere ceremonial water baptism to be saved *or* to be filled with the Holy Spirit, as you can see all these Scriptures clearly illustrate.

Did you ever stop to think about it, the thief that died next to Jesus on the cross and repented of his wrongs *went to Heaven* without *ever* being water baptized? Jesus *said* he did.

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there was hurling abuse at Him, saying “are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other answered, and rebuking him said, “Do you not even fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed are suffering justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² And he was saying, “Jesus, remember me when You come in Your kingdom!” ⁴³ And He said to him, “Truly *I say to you today you shall be with Me in Paradise.*”

Luke 23:39-43 NASB

What an amazing thing for the water baptizers to explain, those who say you must be dipped in or sprinkled with water to be saved and go to heaven. Here’s a man who was never water baptized and still got to go to Heaven. I thought a person had to be baptized with water to be saved. No, they don’t; you better rethink your position.

Now back to Acts 19. Verse 6 says Paul laid his hands upon them and they (the Ephesians) began speaking with tongues and prophesying by the Holy Spirit (notice who did the speaking out—the Ephesians, not the Holy Spirit. We’ll come back to this point).

So you see, that although the Ephesians had been water baptized and believed, they did not become filled with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues until after Paul had laid his hands upon them. The

same was true with the Samaritans.

So you can clearly see that this is a Scriptural way you can receive the Holy Spirit—thru the laying on of hands.

One of the fundamental teachings of Christianity is the laying on of hands. It is a basic doctrine of *real* Christianity.

¹ Therefore leaving the elementary teaching about the Christ, let us press on to maturity, not laying again a foundation of repentance from dead works and of faith toward God, ² of instruction about washings (“baptisms” as the Greek and King James Version state), and *laying on of hands*, and the resurrection of the dead, and eternal judgment.

Hebrews 6:1-2 NASB

CHAPTER SIX

The Difference Of Being Born Of The Holy Spirit And Being Filled With The Holy Spirit

In the first experience I had with the Holy Spirit, I was born into the Kingdom of God (born again) but I did not immediately speak in tongues.

I started reading the Bible in high school once in a while, but eventually began to read it every single day. I mean I read it every day.

I wasn't saved. I wasn't born again. I'm just a boy reading Scripture first out of curiosity, then out of deep interest & commitment.

Well, I'd been reading every day for about 3 years when one day I came to Isaiah Chapters 52 & 53. I finally "saw" what God was saying in the Holy Scriptures. Not with my physical eyes or with my intellect, for I had "saw" that for over 3 years.

I "saw" it with the eyes of my spirit. Paul talked in Ephesians Chapter 1 about "seeing" with your spiritual eyes on the inside, in your "heart".

...¹⁷ that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation in the knowledge of Him. ¹⁸ I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened, so that you will know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints...

Ephesians 1:17-18 NASB

Well, I saw by revelation, not by education, that God had planned long ago to send His Son (Isaiah was writing the prophecy of Jesus in about 750 BC), and He came to pay the price for our failing before God. I saw I was free and forgiven, that He died in my stead.

I remember that day, at this writing 27 years ago, like it was last week. Every time I think of it, I'm deeply moved with gratitude for the Holy Spirit allowing me to see it.

As soon as I "saw" that prophecy of Jesus, written some 700+ years before He came, my mouth dropped open and I said out loud stunned, "Oh—my—God !"

The moment I said that, the Holy Spirit "fell" upon me. Remember these scriptures?

Fallen upon Acts 8:16

Fell upon Acts 10:44

Came on Acts 19:6

I know exactly what those people experienced. Somebody asked, "What does it feel like when the Holy Spirit comes upon you?" I'll get to that, but notice "as Peter yet spoke these words the Holy Spirit *fell upon...*". Well, you have to be able to consciously **know** when the Holy Spirit falls and when He doesn't fall on you, or else how would you know He "fell" or didn't "fell".

Well, I knew He came upon me. Actually, I was so new at *real* Bible experiences and had no one to teach me, that I didn't realize at that moment what it was that was happening to me, just **that** it was happening to me.

It felt like someone had dropped a soft blanket over me from the four corners and it dropped over the top of me and went down on the inside of me, and I found myself sitting there in the most

indescribable peace I had ever known. It was as if heaven had come down where I was and enveloped me. I was so amazed, not knowing what was happening to me, that I actually looked around the room in astonishment saying aloud “What in the world is happening to me?” You see, I didn’t even know what was happening to me. I had no teacher.

Instantly I knew the plan of God, Jesus as the real, living Son of God, my sins forgiven, the peace of God, and a startling realization that this entire earth walk is about Jesus. Just at that moment I didn’t know what was happening to me, but I realized later that I had experienced and received what Jesus called being “born again” or “born from above” (heaven)(John 3:3-7).

Wow, the Holy Spirit had fallen upon me and came to abide in me forever. But I didn’t speak with tongues because I didn’t know about that part yet. I only had the limited light I had at that point in my spiritual life, and hadn’t yet “seen” tongues like I had just “seen” Jesus as Savior.

CHAPTER SEVEN

My Experience Of Being Filled

You see, being raised Catholic, I had never once in my life ever heard the term “born again”, not even one time. But thank God as I read God’s Word for myself and thoroughly believed what I saw about God’s salvation thru Jesus, I was “born again”, without ever hearing the term.

I continued reading the Scriptures every day with even more joy & diligence than before. I became familiar with the Scriptures about speaking with tongues. I came back from college and went to church with a friend, who after I got saved, went back to St. Louis over the summer and gave *his* life to Jesus Christ.

Well when we both graduated and came back to St. Louis, he invited me to his Presbyterian church where I met some youth leaders who were filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues. Well, I was all for it and I wasn’t afraid to receive it!

I could see it was all Scriptural. After all, I had been reading for over 4 years by this time. I’m born again. I’ve got the Holy Spirit in a measure at that point, but I need to “see” tongues in the Scriptures as fully as I saw “salvation” in the Scriptures back when I was still in college.

Well, I had reached that point of absolute certainty about receiving this experience of *being filled* with the Holy Spirit and speaking with other tongues. You see, you can be *born* of the Holy Spirit, but *not* be *filled* with the Holy Spirit and speak in tongues. That’s how I was.

No one could tell me the Holy Spirit did not come that day in college reading Isaiah 52 & 53 at the kitchen table. I knew He did. But I needed to have *faith* for being filled with the Holy Spirit and

speaking in tongues just like I did a few years before for salvation. And faith to receive only comes by reading or hearing the Word of God and letting the light of it come.

17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.

Romans 10:17 NKJV

Do you see what happened in my case? I only at first had light and faith from the Scriptures I read *for salvation*. That's all the light I had at that time and consequently that's all I received. I needed time to grow in my knowledge of the Scriptures, for Christian life & growth is a process. If I had seen and understood tongues sooner I would have received sooner, but I didn't yet see it. Unfortunately I had no one to teach me, and had to learn on my own for so many years.

Well, that time came when I "saw" the Scriptures on tongues, and the gifts, and power of the Holy Spirit; and I had genuine faith, I knew for certain and wasn't afraid to act.

So one day these two youth ministers and I went into a prayer room by ourselves for me to be filled with the Spirit.

They both laid their hands upon me. I sensed the Holy Spirit upon me again as we all prayed, and something from the inside of me, in my spirit man where the Holy Spirit had come to dwell, started to rise up.

This impression from within me by the Holy Spirit began to well up in me. It was like a gusher within me wanting to spring forth.

"...¹⁴ but whoever drinks of the water that I shall give him shall never thirst; but the water that I shall give him shall become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

John 4:14 NASB

This impression from my spirit man inside, by the Holy Spirit, came up within me and it rose up it seemed to my throat. I waited for something to happen, but no tongues yet.

I could “feel” something rise up by the Holy Spirit and stop at my throat. That happened a few times. It eventually dawned on me that I had to give voice to what the Spirit was welling up within me. I had to frame the words that were foreign to me and articulate the syllables just like I did when I first tried to speak English. The ones praying with me gave me no instruction on how to receive or that I had to speak out (I don’t know that they even knew what to instruct, even though they were filled themselves), but thank God the Holy Spirit did!

You see, just like when you’re learning English and you have to frame the syllables yourself with your mouth & tongue, so it is with the unction of the Spirit that rises up in you. **You** have to give voice to it; **you** have to do the speaking and framing of the syllables.

The Holy Spirit does not speak with tongues. Men & women do. He merely prompts you from within. Notice the following scriptures.

4 And *THEY* were all filled with the Holy Spirit and *BEGAN TO SPEAK* with other tongues as the Spirit was giving them utterance.

Acts 2:4 NASB

...¹⁷ and *THEY* (the Samaritans) were receiving the Holy Spirit.

Acts 8:17 NASB

...⁶ the Holy Spirit came upon them and *THEY* (the Ephesians) *BEGAN SPEAKING*...

Acts 19:6 NASB

Notice who does the receiving and the speaking. Men do, not the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit merely comes to be received and gives utterance. Men must do the actual speaking out.

In fact as I mentioned prior, the Greek word in Acts 2:4 translated “gave the utterance” is also translated “gave them to speak out”. He merely comes and gives for *you* to speak out. So that’s what I did. It finally dawned on me that I must frame the words & syllables, as foreign as they sounded. I began to speak out those foreign sounds, and as I did, that gusher that I had been ignorantly holding back, came forth as I expressed the foreign words.

I was filled and didn’t want to stop. I drove home speaking in other tongues as the Holy Spirit within me gave the utterance.

Let me emphasize something. Just like you teach a baby to frame words, “ma-ma”, “da-da”, they begin simple and the child must do the speaking and the framing of those syllables, so it is with speaking in tongues. Only in receiving the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues, it is the Holy Spirit giving you the promptings from within you, in your spirit man. It’s not something you’re hearing spoken out in the natural and trying to repeat.

The foreign syllables do not come from your head (your intellect), they come from *your spirit*, where the Holy Spirit will dwell. Remember Jesus’ words? “Out of **your innermost being** shall flow rivers of Living Water...This He spoke of the Spirit... (John 7:37-39)”. **You** must have faith to speak them out, as foreign as they may seem to be. We’ll discuss this further later.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Watch Out For The Doubters And The Uninformed

After I was already filled and spoke with tongues, having examined the Bible carefully, someone I knew who was a believer, tried to steer me away from it. They told me tongues had “been done away with, that it wasn’t for us today”. It just made me chuckle inside when I heard them say it.

It would be like someone coming up to you after you had found some gold and telling you “there isn’t any more gold left today”. How ludicrous. I had already received the Holy Spirit and spoke with tongues and here somebody comes along to inform me that it’s not available today. I just shook my head in amazement.

They went on to say, “I tried to receive it one time. I went into a room by myself, and told God that if it’s for us, give it to me. So I opened my mouth and nothing came out.” That was their supposed evidence that it’s not for us today.

I thought to myself, “That doesn’t prove that it’s not for us today. All that proves is that you didn’t receive.”

I’ve already stated that you have to be *certain* of whatever you’re trying to receive from God, you must have *faith* for it. You must know it will be yours *for sure*. Not only that, but they didn’t evidently realize that hands might need to be laid upon them to assist them to receive as we’ve seen in 3 of the 5 instances in Scripture.

Further, they obviously didn’t realize, from what they told me, that **they** would have to speak out & frame the foreign words just like they do in English, not wait for the Holy Spirit to speak, because He won’t.

I could see this poor soul was still Scripturally “in the dark”, and had swallowed the lies of some uninformed ministers, and had played into the hands of the enemy. I could see they didn’t get it yet; they don’t see it, so I just left it alone with them. Soon, they didn’t want anymore to do with me. That was okay though, I had found a treasure of great price and fellowship with those who knew what they were talking about.

CHAPTER NINE

Your Head vs. Your Heart

The Word of God makes a distinction between your head (intellect) and your heart (spirit). In discussing certain features between speaking in tongues and speaking by prophecy thru the Holy Spirit, Paul makes a distinction between our intellect and our spirit (I Corinthians 14:14).

In I Thessalonians 5:23, Paul says man is spirit, soul, and body.

23 Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be preserved complete, without blame at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I Thessalonians 5:23 NASB

Your body is obvious, it is the physical, material parts: the legs, arms, liver, lungs, brain, skull etc. Your soul is the intellect part of you that operates thru your mind up in your head. Your spirit part of you is the real you.

We say it like this: you *are* a spirit, you *have* a soul (mind) and you *live in* a physical body. The spirit man inside your body will go on to be with Jesus after your body quits working and is laid in the grave, and it will bring your intellect (soul) with it.

We receive initially from God through our spirit man on the inside. In fact, if you really believe God the way He says to, it is with your heart (spirit) you believe.

...¹⁰ for it is with the heart man believes, resulting in righteousness, and with the mouth he confesses, resulting in salvation.

Romans 10:10 NASB

The Holy Spirit comes to dwell in your spirit. That's where His utterances will initiate from. They will rise up from your spirit (John 4:14). It does not initiate from your head (mind), but from your spirit (your "heart" - not the physical organ heart, the Bible refers to your spirit as your heart because it is the *core* of man's being).

In discussing this in I Corinthians Chapter 14, Paul says some things that may help you see the difference between your heart and your head. For if you're ever going to speak in other tongues, you will have to yield your tongue to speak from your spirit man and not your head.

14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.

I Corinthians 14:14 NASB

Paul is simply saying that you will have to yield your tongue to your spirit where the Holy Spirit is dwelling and not to your head. The simple reason is that since it is a *foreign* language to you, you won't be able to know what it is you're saying (unless God would give you the interpretation as well).

Since it is "another" tongue to you, other than the one you were taught in school, you wouldn't know what it is you're speaking, so your "mind will be unfruitful", that is, "without understanding of the words you're speaking".

Somebody said, "But I don't know what I'm saying." No kidding! It's a *foreign* tongue to you, or it wouldn't be "other tongues" now would it?

Someone said regarding having to speak out what the Holy Spirit was giving them, "It seems like it is just me doing the speaking." I replied, "No kidding! Who else would it be?" **When it comes to**

speaking out the promptings of the Holy Spirit, *it is you*, and it is all you!

The Holy Spirit does His part in merely giving the promptings, unction, or utterance, and YOU have YOUR part to play IN SPEAKING THEM out.

The two biggest hinderances I have seen after many years of laying hands on people to be filled with the Holy Spirit are these.

First, they try to receive or speak from their head; thinking, “I don’t know what I am going to say”, not knowing the prompting comes from their spirit man. Second, they erroneously believe the Holy Spirit is going to grab their lips and vocal chords, and do the speaking out with out their having to do anything.

You must *hook* your tongue up to, *yield* your tongue to, your *spirit* and *not* your *head*. That will be hard for some at first because their head controls them. Their head has controlled their tongue for all those years, and they don’t even know how to yield it to *their spirit* by the Holy Spirit.

But you can do it or Paul would be wrong in saying, “If I pray in an *unknown tongue*, my *spirit* prays, but my *mind* is unfruitful.” He’s not wrong, that’s how it happens.

According to v.15 of I Corinthians 14, you could even sing in other tongues just like you could sing a song from memory using your mind.

15 What is the outcome then? I shall pray with the spirit and I shall pray with the mind also; I shall sing with the spirit and I shall sing with the mind also.

I Corinthians 14:15 NASB

Can you see from these scriptures that Paul is telling us that you can *pray* from your *intellect* things you know to pray, but you can

also *pray* from your *spirit* man in other tongues things you do not know about? (Your mind remains unfruitful about it unless God gives you the interpretation.)

Can you also see that Paul is saying that we could sing by the spirit, or we can sing by our mind (memory and understanding) too. Forget what the so-called experts tell you, go with what Paul, God, and the Holy Spirit says in the Word.

CHAPTER TEN

Some Scriptural Benefits Of Tongues

We've already seen that you could *pray* in other tongues (I Corinthians 14:14) but did you know tongues is a way to *speak* to God with no one knowing what you've said; you will be speaking mysteries with God.

² For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men, but to God; for no one understands, but in his spirit he speaks mysteries. ⁴ One who speaks in a tongue edifies himself; but one who prophesies edifies the church.

I Corinthians 14:2,4 NASB

Also, did you notice in verse 4 that one who speaks in an unknown tongue edifies himself? The Greek word translated “edify” means to “build up”. We call *a building* an “*edifice*” because it is built up from ground level to something big and strong. Speaking in tongues provides a way to build yourself up *spiritually*.

Notice it is spiritual edification and not mental (my mind is unfruitful v.14). It is not physical edification either (remember you are spirit, soul, and body), it is spirit edification with the help of the Holy Spirit.

Notice this is not something the Holy Spirit just does apart from your cooperation. *You* must still do the *yielding and the praying*. Jude uses about the same terminology as Paul.

²⁰ But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith; praying in the Holy Spirit...

Jude 1:20 NASB

Jude also tells us to pray in the Holy Spirit (“praying in the spirit” is praying in tongues - I Corinthians 14:14) and that by so doing we will be “building ourselves up” spiritually. Any honest person has to admit these things are so and that they are Scriptural. As I said, some people have been brain washed against these things by certain religious & so-called teachers.

I was raised Catholic. I was never taught about tongues, but I could see it is thoroughly Scriptural; and God still holds out the same promise of receiving the Holy Spirit and His gifts today. The full gospel denominations have enjoyed the outpouring of the Holy Spirit for years, my denomination just hadn’t seen it yet. I have friends that were raised Baptist, their denomination taught them *against* what the full gospel denominations have. At least mine didn’t say anything against it, they just don’t know much about it.

Thank God though for the Catholics, and the Baptists, and anybody else teaching that Jesus is the Son of God, and that He is God’s only Way of salvation. At least when I did start looking for myself, I knew to look in *the Bible*. They had always taught us to go to Jesus. Thank God they were right on that!

We don’t come to Mohammed or Confucius, they’re dead and can’t help you; but Jesus is alive, God raised Him from the dead, and He is waiting to pour out His Holy Spirit on anyone who will truly come to Him. Jesus said, “If anyone comes to *me*, I will give him to drink.” (John 7:37)

There will be many things you will need to pray about that you’re not even aware of yet, things that can catch us by surprise. But God wants to spare us and give us the victory in prayer, with the Holy Spirit’s help.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

Personal Experiences Praying In The Spirit

After being filled with the Holy Spirit, the gifts of the Holy Spirit mentioned in I Corinthians 12:4-11 became active in my life.

4 Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. 6 And there are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. 7 But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healings by the one Spirit, 10 and to another the effecting of miracles and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.

I Corinthians 12:4-11 NASB

There have been many times over the past 24 years that the Holy Spirit alerted me to pray. Numerous times the Holy Spirit would just well up in me all of a sudden and I would just “go to town” praying in other tongues. It would happen for various purposes, but always to get victory over the enemy and give God the glory.

For instance, one time several years ago, I was driving in my car down Interstate 270 in St. Louis and turned onto Interstate 55 headed north. The Holy Spirit had come upon me heavily, and I began to speak in other tongues. It was just flowing out of me. I guess I had

been praying about 10 minutes or so, I didn't time it, but as I was exiting the highway at Reavis Barracks Road the interpretation of what I had been praying about in other tongues came.

As I prayed the words flipped back to English and I heard these words coming out of my mouth: "split, split, split, split". As I prayed further, the Lord showed me what He was talking about. This is what it was:

There was a married couple having trouble. I knew the couple he was talking about, but I did not know they were having any trouble; I don't guess anyone else did either.

He said concerning them, "Split." I spoke out to the person who was in the car with me listening to all of this, what the Lord was showing me, who it was and what would happen. This was on a Tuesday. That very next Friday, just 3 days later, I got a call from one of the mates telling me that the other mate just up and left that day and moved out.

Bless God, the Holy Spirit had alerted me to pray ahead of time and was already interceding on their behalf. Notice what Jesus said in John's Gospel.

13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. 14 He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you."

John 16:13-14 NASB

That means He will show us things that *haven't happened yet*. In Ephesians, Paul talked about watching, and being alert to pray for all saints. Well you don't know all saints and you don't know what they may be going through, and you *sure* don't know what they're *about to go through*, that hasn't manifested yet.

18 "With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints..."

Ephesians 6:18 NASB

Thank God, though, the Holy Spirit does know. He knew ahead of time what that mate was gonna do, and alerted me to intercede on their behalf. By the way, 18 years later today, they are still married. God worked it out. The Holy Spirit helped us pray through to victory. He will show us things to come.

In February 1993, I was at work and the Holy Spirit fell on me heavily, and I began to speak in other tongues. I fell to my knees and prayed in tongues as fast & hard as it was rolling out of me. I knew my sister Nancy was having difficulty delivering her third child, Jenny. The pregnancy seemed to drag on and on past what it should have. She had just talked to me from the hospital the day before and we went over the situation.

But here at work the Holy Spirit came upon me and I prayed in other tongues for about 10 minutes. I had no idea at first what in the world the Holy Spirit wanted, but as I prayed I got the message.

It was about my sister Nancy's delivery. These words began to come out of my mouth in English all of a sudden: "11, 11, by 11". After the time of prayer was over, I got up and immediately called my sister. I told her what the Holy Spirit was saying.

I said, "Sis, I don't know if this means 11 o'clock tonight or on the 11th or what, (you only know as much as He shows you— no more) but the Holy Spirit kept saying regarding this pregnancy 11, 11, by 11." Well to make a long story longer, Jenny was born February 11th, just as the Lord was telling us.

Incidentally, the thing that was holding it up was a "hyper-spiritual" Christian who kept hanging around day after day trying to

“get the victory” for their selfish ego and their own “prayer glory”, not God’s. The very day the person left for good, the pregnancy came through, Jenny was born, and God got the glory, not some Christian looking for a badge of honor.

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; 27 and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. 28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

Romans 8:26-28 NASB

A number of years ago, I was invited to some friend’s house for dinner and a time of fellowship. After dinner, this couple was opening their wedding gifts for they had recently been married and just returned from their honeymoon.

They asked if I wanted to come over and be with them during this joyous time. I agreed to, but as I was sitting and watching them open their gifts, the Holy Spirit came upon me and I could feel an almost overwhelming impression to pray coming up in me. I whispered to the man of the house, “I must pray, and I’ve got to pray right now. Is that okay if I go downstairs?” He quietly acknowledged it was, without disturbing anyone or letting anyone know where I was going.

I went downstairs and prayed for about 20-25 minutes in other tongues. Towards the end of my praying, I heard the Holy Spirit saying on the inside of me, “Adultery, adultery, adultery.”

I had no idea what in the world that could mean. When I returned upstairs the man of the house, who was a Spirit-filled businessman himself, asked me what it was all about. I told him, “I don’t know,

but I kept hearing the Holy Spirit say ‘adultery, adultery’.” I said, “I don’t know *what* it means. I don’t know if the Holy Spirit is telling me the devil is gonna try to set something up or what. I just don’t know.”

People who are unfaithful to their mates will go to hell if they don’t repent and change. But nevertheless, knowing the stinking devil, I was alert for anything and didn’t want to dismiss anything as a possibility with some married woman.

Shortly after this, I was just doing my normal daily Bible reading (I thought!) when I came to I Thessalonians 4:18.

1 Finally then, brethren, we urge and exhort in the Lord Jesus that you should abound more and more, just as you received from us how you ought to walk and to please God; 2 for you know what commandments we gave you through of the Lord Jesus. 3 for this is the will of God, your sanctification: that you should abstain from sexual immorality; 4 that each of you know how to possess his own vessel in sanctification and honor, 5 not in passion of lust, like the Gentiles who do not know God; 6 that no one should take advantage of and defraud his brother in this matter, because the Lord is the avenger of all such, as we also forewarned you and testified. 7 For God did not call us to uncleanness, but in holiness. 8 therefore he who rejects this does not reject man, but God, who has also given us His Holy Spirit.

I Thessalonians 4:1-8 NKJK

I said to the Lord, “Lord, you must be trying to talk to me about this, but I know I have done nothing wrong with adultery nor will I ever.” I meant it with all sincerity. I said, “Lord, if there is anything in my heart or if you know something, please protect me.” I was a bit distressed about this because I knew the Lord was

speaking about adultery to me, but I didn't know why. This was on a Sunday night.

The very next day, a person I had grown to love so dearly, a person I had grown to be a friend of, was shot and killed by someone. This person I had counseled and knew was being approached by other women, was suddenly shot and killed. I came to find out the whole story; this person had been committing adultery with someone other than their mate. The Lord had been speaking to me the last few days about adultery, and He was letting me know ahead of time that it would cost this person their life. The Scripture said, "He is the avenger in all these things (v.16)."

The Lord had turned this person over to the Devil for the destruction of their flesh (I Corinthians 5:3-5). The good news is they went to Heaven. This person was at one time a Christian, walking with the Lord, but they got away from God slowly and wound up in deep sin.

I had been talking to them about the Lord without knowing any of their background as Christian, and they decided to get back with the Lord again. Six weeks before they were killed, they had been coming faithfully to church with me. It was too late however to spare their physical life, but they still had their eternal life. Thank God!

13 "But when He, the Spirit of truth comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come."

John 16:13 NASB

The Lord knew this person I had grown to love so much and had led back to Jesus Christ was going to die shortly, and He was trying to let me know through tongues and interpretation and Scripture so it would not take me by total surprise and crush me. There is much more to this story than time will allow me to share, but praise God,

they're in Heaven today because they truly repented asking Jesus to accept them back; and He did.

I could give example after example of things the Holy Spirit has done through speaking in tongues. Many, many times the Lord will warn us by His Spirit of impending dangers or needs, and if we will yield to the Holy Spirit and pray in tongues, we can be blessed *and* be a blessing to others.

These are merely a few of many instances to show what God wants to do for all of His people who will receive and yield to the Holy Spirit. It is for us today. It can be received. He will not refuse you.

God offers us many great and precious promises that by believing and receiving them, we can become partakers of and enjoy His kingdom now in this life.

4 For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust.

II Peter 1:4 NASB

About the Author



Rev. Mark Slay is founder of Mark Slay Ministries, and founding pastor of [Miracle Revival Center](#) in St. Louis, MO. Since receiving the call to full-time ministry from the Lord, he has sought to do what the Lord said when He spoke to him..."Go". Now more than 15 years later, the ministry continues to bring the Good News through books and audio teachings.



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