

CSM

Doctrine of the Holy Spirit

Class Notes

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INTRODUCTION.

The Theological term for the study of the Holy Spirit is “Pneumatology”

The Greek word for Spirit is “**pneuma,**” which can be translated variously as “breath,” or “wind,” or “ghost.”

The Hebrew word for Spirit is “**ruach,**” which can also be translated variously as “breath,” or “wind,” or “ghost.”

Acts 2:1-2 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a **rushing mighty wind,** and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

“LIKE” a violent wind

John 3:8 The wind bloweth where it listeth, and thou hearest the sound thereof, but canst not tell whence it cometh, and whither it goeth: so is every one that is born of the Spirit.

Note: The Holy Spirit is not the wind but is a metaphor (like the wind).
See pages 80-81 in your textbook.

GOD IS A SPIRIT.

John 4:24 God is a Spirit:

- God is Spirit is speaking of God’s nature.
- The term “Holy Spirit” is speaking of God Himself.

GOD

Genesis 1:1 In the beginning GOD.

SPIRIT

John 4:24

GOD IS HOLY

Psalms 99:9 God is Holy

I Corinthians 3:17 God is Holy

HE IS THE HOLY SPIRIT

Psalms 51:11

Isaiah 63:10

THERE IS ONLY ONE GOD.

Mark 12:32

Romans 3:30

I Corinthians 8:6

Ephesians 4:6

James 2:19

ONE SPIRIT

I Corinthians 6:17

I Corinthians 12:13

Ephesians 4:4

THE HOLY SPIRIT.

THE ACTIVITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT THROUGH OUT THE BIBLE.

God is "SPIRIT" who is eternal, infinite outside time and space. The Spirit of God is not an impersonal universal force or energy. God's Spirit is ever present and is ACTIVE in the world and the affairs of men. In Scripture we see the Spirit of God active in creation:

Genesis 1:1-2 In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

And in the final book of the Bible.

Revelation 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come. And let him that heareth say, Come. And let him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

CSM students are advised to read the following sections in your textbook:

"Foundations of Christian Doctrine/ Kevin J. Conner Pages 76-83

- a. The Word of the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament
 - The Work of the Spirit in Creation
 - The Work of the Spirit in Redemption
 - The Work of the Spirit in Inspiration
 - The Work of the Spirit in Israel

- b. The Work of the Spirit in the New Testament
 - The Holy Spirit in the Life of the Lord Jesus
 - The Holy Spirit in the life of the Believer
 - The Holy Spirit in the Life of the Church
 - The Holy Spirit in the World.

- c. The Symbols of the Spirit
- d. The Titles of the Holy Spirit

THE BREATH OF GOD IN MAN.

Genesis 2:7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, **and breathed into** his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul.

God put His Spirit into man. When man transgressed and sinned against God, God withdrew His Spirit from man. Ever since the fall of Adam man has not the Spirit of God in him.

Ephesians 2:1 And you hath he quickened, (*made alive*) **who were dead in trespasses and sins;**

God put into motion a redemption plan of salvation (*See Genesis 3:15*). That plan was carried out in Jesus Christ and accomplished through His death at the cross, His resurrection and His ascension. It is now possible for man to be made alive again by the infilling of His spirit in us.

THE MISSION OF GOD.

The Mission of God was not only a redemptive mission. The cross was not the only mission of Christ. **The Church was His mission.**

The body of Christ or the church was in the mind of God before time began. It was a mystery hidden through the ages from the hearts of men. Promises were made in obscurity of the Garden of Eden when a Seed was promised. Abram was told that all nations would be blessed through his seed. Throughout the generations of men both Jew and Gentile future promises were made looking forward to a new day and a new time. Jesus referred to the coming kingdom in His ministry. Not until the death and resurrection of the Christ did the Father reveal the eternal plan for the church. Begun on Pentecost and spreading throughout the world, the church fulfilled the eternal plan of the Lord as the saved were added to the church daily.

Acts 20:28

Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed **the church of God**, which he hath purchased with his own blood.

Ephesians 1:4-7

1 According as **he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world**, that we should be holy and without blame before him in love:

5 Having predestinated us unto the adoption of children by Jesus Christ to himself, according to the good pleasure of his will,

6 To the praise of the glory of his grace, wherein he hath made us accepted in the beloved.

7 In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace;

When Adam sinned the Spirit of God withdrew from Him. Ever since man has been without the Spirit of God.

Ephesians 3:9-11

9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which **from the beginning of the world** hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

10 To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might **be known by the church** the manifold wisdom of God,

11 According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:

THE BIRTH OF THE CHURCH.

Acts Chapter Two

Acts 2:1 “ And when the Day of Pentecost was fully come...”

The word “Pentecost literally means the 50th. Day.

- The Day of Pentecost was a Feast Day for the Jewish people.
- The Day of Pentecost was never meant to be a denomination.
- The early church was not a denomination
- All denominations were started by man, not by Christ.
- According to a couple of sources there are over 41.000 Christian denominations and organizations in the world today.

There were 40 days of Christ’s post resurrection Ministry, then 10 days of waiting. Acts 1:3; 2:1 a total of 50 days. Pentecost being the 50th. Day.

There was a set time for the Holy Spirit to come, even as there was for Christ to die on Calvary. Galatians 4:4.

God appointed 3 Feasts in the Old Testament for the Nation of Israel. Leviticus 23. Deuteronomy 16:16-17.

1. The Feast of Passover. Exodus 12. Fulfilled in the Gospels.
2. The Feast of Pentecost. Fulfilled in Acts and Epistles.
3. The Feast of Tabernacles. Fulfilled in Hebrews and Revelation.

Israel as "The Church in the Wilderness" (Acts 7:38), kept the Feast of Pentecost at Mt. Sinai 50 days after the Passover Lamb had been slain and the deliverance from the Egyptians at the Red Sea.

The New Testament Church follows the same pattern, keeping the Feast of the Lord, in a spiritual reality, in Mt. Zion, Heavenly Jerusalem. Hebrews 12:22-24.

The Law Covenant

Under the Old Testament Pentecost, the Law was written on Tables of Stone, and the Tabernacle of Moses, the Aaronic Priesthood Order in given, and the Church in the Wilderness was established. Exodus 19: 1-6; Exodus chapters 20-40.

Under the New Testament Pentecost, the Law is written on Tables of the Heart, by the Spirit. Here the New Testament Order of the Church was established. II Corinthians 3.

While the Priest and the Jewish Nation kept the ceremonials of the Feast of Pentecost at the Temple, which Temple God had now finished with as demonstrated in the rent Veil, the Disciples of Jesus in the Upper Room kept the True and Spiritual Feast in the New Temple, even the Church.

The Jews had kept the letter, the shadow, the form, the type, the Promise and Prophecy.

The disciples kept the Spirit. The Substance, the Reality, the Antitype and the Fulfillment.

Supernatural Manifestations

At Pentecost there were Divine Signs. “ A sound came from heaven.” The Spirit was being poured out. The Spirit descending from God.

1. **The mighty rushing wind.** Filled the house.
2. **The cloven tongues like as fire.** Sat on each of them.
3. **The speaking with other tongues,** as the Spirit gave them utterance (the ability). They were **all** filled with the Spirit.

The WIND and the FIRE were both Old Testament symbols of the Holy Spirit.

Two points are important here:

1. They Saw.
2. They Heard.

There were similar manifestations in the Old Testament:

1. Moses and Israel, at Mt. Sinai, Feast of Pentecost. Exodus 19.
2. Elijah, at Mt. Horeb, as God Spoke to him in the still small voice after the earthquake, wind and fire. I Kings 19: 8-13
3. The Church, in the New Testament Pentecost experiences the rushing mighty wind, the fire, and the new tongues.

The Lord caused the earthquake, wind and fire. All were Divine manifestations of His power, yet He was not in them. But He was in the still small voice which followed. The still small voice of the Spirit. So it was on the Day of Pentecost.

THE WIND of the Spirit. John 3:8; 20:22; Ezekiel 37:9. The breath of God.

THE FIRE of the Spirit. Matthew 3:11-12. To burn up the chaff.

At Pentecost there was but **ON SOURCE** of Divine Fire, but it become cloven tongues of fire upon the head of each disciple. Many flames were lit from that fire.

All filled with the Spirit.

Acts 2:4. And they were **all filled** with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Jesus had previously spoken to His disciples of the necessity of His leaving them and returning to the Father, in order that the SPIRIT could come and **dwell in them** as He had been with them. John 14:17.

He had given them much teaching on the ministry, work and power of the Holy Spirit in John's Gospel. John, chapters 14,15, 16.

As long as He remained with them, He was limited by physical, and localized in one place. He could be with them, walking and talking with them, but the only way He could be IN them, “ His Spiritual Body,” was to return to the Father and then come again to His disciples in His Spirit.

For this reason He said to them, “I will not leave you comfortless: I will come to you.” John 14:17-18.

In Acts, Chapter 1, we see Him returning into Heaven, and in Acts, chapter 2, we see the Holy Spirit coming to them.

- In the Gospels it was “Christ with them.”
- In the Acts and Epistles, it is “Christ **in them.**”

THE HOLY SPIRIT IN US.

- **John 14:17** Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; **for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.**
- **John 14:20** At that day ye shall know that I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I **in you.**
- **Romans 8:9** But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, if so be that the Spirit of God dwell **in you.** Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.
- **Romans 8:11** But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by **his Spirit that dwelleth in you.**
- **1Corinthians 3:16** Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God **dwelleth in you?**
- **1Corinthians 6:19** What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the **Holy Ghost which is in you,** which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?
- **Ephesians 4:6** One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and **in you all.**
- **Colossians 1:27** To whom God would make known what is the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles; which is **Christ in you,** the hope of glory:

True Christianity is Christ re-living His life in His own, saying and doing in and through them exactly what He said and did while He was here with them. “ Christ IN YOU, the Hope of Glory.” Colossians 1:27.

JESUS AND THE HOLY SPIRIT.

The work of Christ may be divided into two main streams:

1. The Gospels (Before His ascension)
The Gospels concern that which Christ BEGAN to do and teach.
2. The Acts (After His ascension)
The Acts concerns His continued doing and teaching, by the Holy Spirit, through the Church, His body.

BOTH doing and teaching. Not one without the other.

It was the beginning and NOT the end of His Ministry. Christ is still doing and teaching today. It is by His Word and His Spirit.

There's an old saying that goes like this:

“ All Word and no Spirit with make one DRY up.

All Spirit and no Word with make one BLOW up.

Both Word and Spirit makes one GROW up.”

(Author unknown)

The difference between the Gospels and the Acts:

The Gospels – Christ comes from the Father, descends to earth, and earthly ministry begins.
Christ crucified and dying for us.
The finished work of the Cross.

The Acts- Christ returns to the Father, ascends to Heaven, and Heavenly ministry begins.
Christ living, and glorified for us.
The Continued Work from the Throne.

The “doing and teaching” of Jesus is what He said, and what He did.
He wants to continue to “do and to teach” in and through His Spirit.

Acts 1:2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

This is the last mention of the Holy Spirit unto the Apostles in relation to the earthly Ministry of the Lord Jesus.

Jesus was totally God and totally man. Jesus was God manifested in the flesh.

1Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, **the man** Christ Jesus;

1Timothy 3:16 And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: **God was manifest in the flesh**, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory.

John 1:14 And the Word was **made flesh**, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

In His humanity Christ He was utterly dependent on the Holy Spirit within Him. In His humanity He spoke as man. In His Deity He spoke as God.

Note the Holy Spirit in the life of Jesus:

1. He was born of the Spirit. Luke 1:35; Matthew 1:18-20
2. He was anointed of the Spirit. Matthew 3:16-17
3. He was filled with the fulness of the Spirit. John 3:34
4. He was led by the Spirit. Matthew 4:1
5. He spoke and talked by the Spirit. Luke 4:18
6. He cast out devils by the Spirit. Matthew 12:28
7. He healed the sick by the Spirit. Matthew 12: 28; 8:16
8. He was offered on Calvary by the Spirit. Hebrews 9:14
9. He was resurrected by the Spirit. Acts 1:2
10. He gave commandments by the Spirit. Acts 1:2
11. He baptized and empowered His Church by the Spirit. Acts 1:5; 8 Pouring out His Spirit.
12. Directs and governs His Church by the Spirit. Revelation 1:2-3 “ Hear what the Spirit saith to the churches.”

Jesus was utterly given over to and yielded to the Holy Spirit and all His life and ministry was by the power and ability of the Spirit.

This power and ability of the Spirit is what He intended His Church, His body, to have, in the Acts of the Apostles and in this dispensation of the Church Age.

Note: The totally mission of Christ was not just to be accomplished at the cross, but was to be accomplished in and through His Church by two means: 1) His Word 2) His Spirit.

The last words of the lord Jesus upon earth.

Acts 1:1 The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach,

2 Until the day in which he was taken up, after that he through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom he had chosen:

3 To whom also he shewed himself alive after his passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

4 And, being assembled together with them, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father, which, saith he, ye have heard of me.

The Promise of His Spirit.

Acts 2:17-18 And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

Luke 24:49 And, behold, I send **the promise** of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power from on high.

John 15:26 But when the Comforter is come, whom **I will send unto you** from the Father, even the Spirit of truth, which proceedeth from the Father, he shall testify of me:

Ephesians 1:13 In whom ye also trusted, after that ye heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation: in whom also after that ye believed, ye were sealed with that **holy Spirit of promise**,

We have this promise that we can be filled with His Spirit and will be preserved by His Spirit until the day of full redemption.

This was called the "Holy Spirit of Promise".

THE POWER OF THE HOLY GHOST.

Acts 1:8

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

a. “You shall receive POWER”

There are two Greek words for “Power”.

1. “Exousia,” meaning, “privilege, authority,” used in John 1:12; Matthew 10:1
2. “Dunamis,” meaning, “Power, ability,” used in Luke 4:14; Acts 1:8, (Dynamite).

“Ye shall receive ABILITY after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you.”

- The authority is our, through Christ.
- The Ability is His, by the Spirit.

Each chapter in Acts is a demonstration of the ability of the Holy Spirit. Not man’s ability. Often human ability is a hinderance to God. Moses, Peter, Paul and other Apostles and saints were stripped of their ability in order to depend upon the ability of the Holy Spirit.

Zechariah 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, **but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.**

b. “Witnesses unto me.”

The Greek word for “Witness” is “Martyr.”

Our English word “Martyr” is defined as a person who is killed because of their religious or other beliefs.

- It is estimated that 50 million Christians died for their faith during the church history period known as the Dark Ages.
- It is estimated that 1 million Christians died for their faith when the Communists seized China.
- Unnumbered thousands died as martyrs in the revolutions and civil wars on the continent of Africa.
- At Lyons, in A.D. 177, those who had been scourged, branded, and exposed to wild beasts humbly disowned the name “Martyrs”, preferring to confine that exalted title to Jesus Christ, and say to themselves: “We are but mean and lowly confessors.”

This is the definition that we have come to accept as the meaning of this word “Witness” or “Martyr. But actually, the word “Martyr” did not originally mean one who gave his life physically in death for Jesus Christ.

The Greek word for “**Witness**” in Acts 1:8 is the Greek word “*martus*” which means “**Record**”. It means one who goes on record for Christ.

The Apostle John was a “**Witness**” (“*Martus*”) for Christ, but he was not killed for that reason. John died at an old age. John was a LIVING TESTIMONY for Christ.

Revelation 1:9

“I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, was in the isle that is called Patmos, **for the word of God**, and for the **testimony** (“*Martus*”) of Jesus Christ.”

In Acts 1:8 Jesus was saying, that after they were filled with the Holy Ghost, they were not to stay in Jerusalem but they would go into the world of that day as a “**witness**” (“*Martus*” - going on record) for the Gospel of Jesus Christ. They would not go in their strength and with their skills but rather in His ability through His Spirit that would be in them.

Are we Martyrs for Christ today? Are we a living testimony (“*Marus*”) on record for the Gospel of Christ?

EXPRESSIONS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT IN THE BOOK OF ACTS.

Consider the following different expressions, describing the glory of the Baptism of the Spirit.

1. **Baptism with the Spirit.** Acts 1:5; 11:15-17; John1:33.
Symbolic of immersions into the Spirit.
2. **Filled with the Spirit.** Acts 2:4; 4:41; 6:5; Ephesians 5:18; Acts 9:17
 - Christ was “Full of the Spirit” Luke 4:1
 - Zacharias, Elisabeth and John, were “Filled with the Spirit” Luke 1:15,41, 67.
 - The Disciples and others were filled with the Spirit and again after their ministry had begun. Acts 2:4; 4:8; 31; 6:3; 7:55; 9:17; 11:24; 13:52.

3. **Receiving the Spirit.** Acts 2:38; 8:15-17; 10:47

Note: There was only ever one “tarrying meeting” in the Book of Acts, and this was before Pentecost had come. None could be baptized in or with the Spirit until the Day of Pentecost had fully come. God’s Spiritual calendar and Time was involved. All other records were “Receiving meetings.” There is no biblical support for “Tarrying for the Holy Spirit/ Ghost”.

4. **Falling upon them.** Acts 8: 15-19; 10:44-45; 11:15

Or, the Spirit came upon them. Acts 19:6

The thought here is of coming upon one from above, from the Lord in Heaven.

5. **The Holy Spirit Given.** Acts 2:38; *:18-19; 11:16-17.

The Holy Spirit was given as a GIFT. You don’t work for it. You don’t plead, cry, beg for this GIFT. It is a promise to all who repent, baptized and believe.

6. **Poured out upon them.** Acts 10:44-45

Poured out on the disciples, as Outpoured Rain, Early and Latter Rain, or as living Waters upon the thirsty ground. These are symbolic characteristics of the Holy Spirit as Rain, Waters, Rivers, Dew, and Oil.

7. **Endued with power.** Luke 24:47-49

Literally, to be “clothed with power from on high.” As with a Garment. In the Old Testament, the Spirit of the Lord came upon (or clothed Himself with, or upon) Gideon, or Samson or various of the Judges, and so believers receives a Garment of Priestly Ministry unto the Lord in the clothing from above.

SPEAKING WITH OTHER TONGUES.

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Mark16:16-17 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned. And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

The disciples were not preaching the Gospel to the heathen nations in these new tongues. The Greek word for “tongues” is LANGUAGES.

They began to speak in other (different foreign) languages as the Spirit kept giving them clear and loud expression in each tongue in appropriate words.

The disciples own native tongue would not be a “new tongue”. They spake with other tongues. Not their own Jewish or native tongues. The Spirit gave them utterance, expression and words to speak.

The hearers heard them speak in the various languages.

Acts 2:6 Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language.

7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galileans?

8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

What were the disciples declaring in these tongues?

Acts 2:11 "...we do hear them speak in our tongues **the wonderful works of God.**

They were speaking languages they had never learned, and languages they did not understand. The hearers in this record, were their own interpreters. The hearers heard and understood naturally by their own native birth what the disciples spoke supernaturally, by the Spirit.

It was a convincing and convicting sign to some, as they realized that these ignorant Galileans were speaking languages never learned by them.

The hearers were not Gentiles, but **JEWS OUT OF EVERY NATION** under heaven, who had gathered for the Feast of Passover and Pentecost, who had their own Jewish language, plus the language and tongue of the nation wherein they were born.

The 17 places named covered the 4 corners of the then-known earth.

SCRIPTURE REFERENCES OF TONGUES IN THE BOOK OF ACTS.

1. Acts 2:1-4.

On the Day of Pentecost when they were filled with the Holy Ghost.

2. Acts 8:5-13, 12-24.

The Samaritans receive the Holy Spirit through the Laying on of Hands. There must have been some distinct visible or audible sign that made Simon desire this power.

3. Acts 9: 17-19.

Paul the chosen Apostle, received the Holy Spirit through the Laying on of Hands. Though it is not recorded in Acts that he spoke in tongues, we have his testimony concerning the use of this Gift in I Corinthians 14:18, "I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all."

4. Acts 10:44-48; 11: 15-17.

The Gentiles, received the Holy Spirit as Peter ministered the Word of Salvation to them. Peter's testimony to the Council at Jerusalem was that the Holy Spirit "fell on them as on us at the beginning." This outpouring was a number of years later than Pentecost.

5. Acts 19:1-7

The Ephesians disciples received the Holy Spirit through the Laying on of Hands by Paul. When they did receive the Spirit, they spoke with tongues and prophesied.

6. Acts 18: 1-11; 1 Corinthians 14.

Although it is not recorded in Acts, it is evident the Corinthians received the Holy Spirit and the sign and gift of speaking in other tongues was manifested there in the believers in the local church.

It is worthy to note that the signs of the Rushing Wind and the Tongues of Fire are not repeated in any of these records, but the sign of Speaking in Tongues is.

It was and is the ability of the Holy Spirit, not man's. Not the flesh. It is not of the human mind, but it is of the Spirit.

A careful study of each record in Acts shows that THE SIGN of speaking in tongues accompanied believers according to Jesus in the following Scriptures.

a. Tongues on the day of Pentecost had a purpose.

Let's look at Ezekiel and Isaiah.

"I looked, and I saw a windstorm coming out of the north — an immense cloud with flashing lightning and surrounded by brilliant light... The appearance of the living creatures was like burning coals of fire or like torches. Fire moved back and forth among the creatures; it was bright, and lightning flashed out of it." (Ezekiel 1:4, 13)

Note: A great wind and fire that floats in the air.

We find a similar scene in Isaiah 6:6, where Isaiah sees a vision of angels worshiping God, and one angel brings a "coal" to his mouth to purify his lips. He is commissioned to take God's word to Israel.

Both Isaiah and Ezekiel experienced these visions for a purpose. God was appointing them to speak as prophets to Israel.

Very interestingly, God tells Ezekiel,

"Son of man, go now to the house of Israel and speak my words to them. You are not being sent to a people of obscure speech and difficult language, but to the house of Israel — not to many peoples of obscure speech and difficult language, whose words you cannot understand." (Ezekiel 3:4-5)

God was sending Ezekiel to Israel, who speaks his language. In Acts, the Spirit gives the believers the ability to speak in every language. They weren't just being sent to Israel, they were being sent out to the world.

God was publicly commissioning Jesus' disciples to take the Gospel to the world. The Holy Spirit filled them with the ability to proclaim God's praises in every language. And the very first thing that Peter does is to preach to the masses, and thousands of people become believers that day

b. Tongues was a manifestation of God's power and presence as a witness.

Manifestation Defined:

- To make something visible or clear.
- To make something known,
- To reveal something.
- To make something obvious, apparent, and plain for everyone to see.

Tongues originally served as a sign for unbelievers.

In each of the Scriptures where tongues are mentioned it was for a "sign" (*an indicator, manifestation, demonstration*) to the devout Jews gathered at Jerusalem and to those around, including Peter at the house of Cornelius in Acts 10.

We have come accustomed to using the word "evidence" with its "proof". As such today we have placed emphasis on tongues rather than the Holy Spirit itself.

Doing this places oneself as a judge, when we say if we don't hear them speak in tongues then they have not received the Holy Ghost and if we don't hear them speak with tongues, then we say they are not saved because they must speak in tongues. That makes us judges does it not?

The only place in the New Testament where the word "evidence" occurs is found in Hebrews 11:1 "Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the **evidence** of things not seen."

Scripture does speak about "Fruit". Fruit is something that is visible. The **evidence** or **proof** that a tree is an orange tree is by its fruit. **Verse 20** "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them."

We must seek the SPIRIT of God NOT the manifestations of the Spirit.

All the nations present on the Day of Pentecost heard and understand distinctly what was been said by those speaking in their own language.

Acts 2:7-11

7 And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans?

8 And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?

9 Parthians, and Medes, and Elamites, and the dwellers in Mesopotamia, and in Judaea, and Cappadocia, in Pontus, and Asia,

10 Phrygia, and Pamphylia, in Egypt, and in the parts of Libya about Cyrene, and strangers of Rome, Jews and proselytes,

11 Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in **our tongues the wonderful works of God.**

It was not some gibberish, unintelligible or meaningless speech. If one errs in their understanding of this then it can cause to err in other areas of Scripture as well.

THE GIFT OF TONGUES.

There are different manifestations of the SPIRIT. Manifestations of God's choice in operations and with whom He chooses to operate these gifts through.

In the Epistle to the Corinthians, in I Corinthians 12, Paul is dealing expressly with the Gifts of the Spirit.

1 Corinthians 12:4-10

4 Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit.

5 And there are differences of administrations, but the same Lord.

6 And there are diversities of operations, but it is the same God which worketh all in all.

7 But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

8 For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

9 To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit;

10 To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues.

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

1 Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not charity,(Love) I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal.

2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not charity, it profiteth me nothing.

Instructions on tongues in the church.

1 Corinthians 14:1-20

1 Follow after charity, and desire spiritual gifts, but rather that ye may prophesy.

2 For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue speaketh not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

3 But he that prophesieth speaketh unto men to edification, and exhortation, and comfort.

4 He that speaketh in an unknown tongue edifieth himself; but he that prophesieth edifieth the church.

5 I would that ye all spake with tongues, but rather that ye prophesied: for greater is he that prophesieth than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

6 Now, brethren, if I come unto you speaking with tongues, what shall I profit you, except I shall speak to you either by revelation, or by knowledge, or by prophesying, or by doctrine?

7 And even things without life giving sound, whether pipe or harp, except they give a distinction in the sounds, how shall it be known what is piped or harped?

8 For if the trumpet give an uncertain sound, who shall prepare himself to the battle?

9 So likewise ye, except ye utter by the tongue words easy to be understood, how shall it be known what is spoken? for ye shall speak into the air.

10 There are, it may be, so many kinds of voices in the world, and none of them is without signification.

11 Therefore if I know not the meaning of the voice, I shall be unto him that speaketh a barbarian, and he that speaketh shall be a barbarian unto me.

12 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual gifts, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.

13 Wherefore let him that speaketh in an unknown tongue pray that he may interpret.

14 For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful.

15 What is it then? I will pray with the spirit, and I will pray with the understanding also: I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding also.

16 Else when thou shalt bless with the spirit, how shall he that occupieth the room of the unlearned say Amen at thy giving of thanks, seeing he understandeth not what thou sayest?

17 For thou verily givest thanks well, but the other is not edified.

18 I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all:

19 Yet **in the church (*the assembly or gathering of the saints*)** I had rather speak five words with my understanding, that by my voice I might teach others also, **than ten thousand words in an unknown tongue.**

20 Brethren, be not children in understanding: howbeit in malice be ye children, but in understanding be men.

TRUE SPIRITUALITY.

a. True Spirituality is Being Filled with the Spirit.

Being filled with the Spirit is an ongoing sense of God's Spirit working in a person's life, not a one-time experience. As the believer lives out his or her faith in Christ, the Holy Spirit increasingly controls or fills his or her life.

The true **“evidence”** of one being filled with the Holy Ghost is not “Tongues” but rather...

1. The Power and demonstration of one's changed life and character. 2 Corinthians 5:17
2. In one's convictions and manner of living. 2 Corinthians 7:1; Ephesians 4:24
3. The testimony of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Acts 1:8
4. One change in nature. 2 Peter 4:1
5. The demonstration of the fruit of the spirit in one's life. Galatians 5: 22-26

Being “filled” with the Holy Spirit/Ghost means that **you are to be under the total influence of the Holy Spirit. It is God, dwelling in you, ordering your steps.**

Ephesians 5:18 “And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; **but be filled with the Spirit.**”

The verb used here is different from that which is connected with the other ministries of the Spirit. The Christian has been born, baptized, indwelt, and sealed by the Spirit. It is the purpose of God that the Christian must be kept by the Holy Spirit. That is he must be continually filled with the Spirit.

Note: Three times in the New Testament the effect of strong drink is put over against the Spirit-Filled life. Luke 1:15; Acts 2:12-21; Ephesians 5:18. As strong drink stimulates the physical forces and men are prone to turn to it for help over difficult places, so the child of God, facing an impossible responsibility in their heavenly walk and service must turn to the Spirit as the source of all sufficiency.

To be filled with the Spirit is to have the Spirit fulfilling in us all that God intended us to do when He placed us there.

To be filled is not the problem of getting more of the Spirit; it is rather, the problem of the Spirit getting more of us.

The spiritual person is one who experiences the divine purpose and plan in his daily life through the indwelling Spirit. The character of that life will be the out-lived Christ. The cause of that life will be the unhindered indwelling Spirit. Ephesians 3:16-21; II Corinthians 3:18.

True spirituality does not consist in what one DOES NOT DO, it is rather what ONE DOES. It is not suppression it is expression. It is not holding in self, it is living out Christ.

The unregenerate would not be saved if he ceased sinning. He would not be born of God. Likewise, the Christian would not be spiritual by abstaining from worldliness, he would possess none of manifestations of the Spirit.

b. The conditions of true spirituality.

1. By grieving not the Holy Spirit.

Ephesians 4:30 And **grieve not the holy Spirit** of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

The word "grieve" means "**to burden; to make sorrow; to make sad; to distress; be in heaviness**". What is it that grieves the Holy Spirit? Read Ephesians 4:17-32

What are some ways that we can grieve the Holy Spirit?

- Don't use foul or abusive language.
- Let everything you say be good and helpful, so that your words will be an encouragement to those who hear them.
- And do not *grieve* God's Holy Spirit by the way you live.
- Get rid of all bitterness, rage, anger, harsh words, and slander, as well as all types of malicious behavior.
- Instead, be kind to each other, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, just as God through Christ has forgiven you.

We are appointed to live every moment of our lives with the Holy Spirit. We don't turn the Holy Spirit on when we walk into our worship services and leave it there when we leave.

We either live with a grieved or an ungrieved Spirit.

2. To Quench not the Holy Spirit.

1Thessalonians 5:19 Quench not the Spirit.

The word "Quench" means the act of resisting the Spirit.

This is another explicit command to the believer concerning his relation to the Holy Spirit.

The Spirit is "quenched" by any unyieldedness to the revealed will of God. It is simply saying "no" to God especially to matters of the divine appointments for service.

His Spirit may also be "quenched" by any resistance of God's will in our lives. We are to "Yield" ourselves to God and His will for our lives.

Romans 6:13 Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God.

We are no longer our own but we have been bought with a price.

1Corinthians 7:23 Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men.

The same word is found in Romans 12:1

Romans 12:1 I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye **present** (*Yield*) your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service.

3. We are to “Walk in His Spirit”

The two previously mentioned conditions have been negative in character. They represent things the believer must not do. This third condition is positive in character. It is something the believer, must do.

There are several passages of Scripture in which this appears, but the key verse here is found in Galatians 5: 16.

Galatians 5:16-17 This I say then, **Walk in the Spirit**, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

The believer in his own strength cannot walk in the Spirit. The human responsibility is that of a whole dependence upon the Spirit. By this is meant a definite reliance upon the ability and power of the Holy Spirit that indwells us.

In verse 18 is reads “... be **led** of the Spirit...”

In no sense do we lead, or direct, the Spirit but rather we are to be dependent on the Spirit. It is an unbroken reliance upon the Spirit to do what He has come to do and what alone can do.

THE HOLY SPIRIT IS PROMISED FOR ALL.

Acts 2:1-4

And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were **all filled** with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Acts 2:16-18

But this is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, **I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh**: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams: And on my servants and on my handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

INSTRUCTIONS FOR RECEIVING THE HOLY SPIRIT/GHOST

- 1. Repentance.** Mark 1:15; Luke 13:5; Acts 2:38; 2 Corinthians 7:10
Repentance is a complete turnabout. It is a change in direction, from going away from God to coming towards God. A change of mind, heart, and attitude. A godly sorrow. A sincere and thorough changing of the mind and disposition in regard to sin.

Oh! By the way, there is NO SINNER'S PRAYER in the Bible.
- 2. Confession.** Romans 10:10
From the heart and with the mouth, one must confess that Jesus Christ is Lord and savior. That Christ died for our sin on the cross and was resurrected that we may live again. That there is no salvation in any other than In Jesus Christ. We must confess that we have sinned and renounce any sin in our life.
- 3. Ask for forgiveness.** Acts 26:18; Ephesians 1:7; Acts 10:43
- 4. Water Baptism** “ In the Name of Jesus” or “Lord Jesus Christ” for the remission of sins. Acts 2:38
- 5. Faith.** “Believe” what His Word has promised. Acts 2:38; Acts 2:17; Jeremiah29:13; Matthew 7:7-11

Faith is assurance and confidence in His Word. It is wholly trusting and relying on His Word.
- 6. Surrender yourself.** James 4:10; Psalms 51:17
Surrender is a term that is generally used to refer to losing or giving up. When we surrender to God, we are choosing to give up the fight between our selfish sinful man and God. We surrender our will to His will.
- 7. Ask.** John 16:23-24; Luke 11:9 Luke 11:13 “...how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?”
- 8. Worship.**
Open your mouth and lift your voice and worship and praise Him. Give Him glory. Worship is an outward expression of what's going on in the inward heart. Open your heart to Him and begin to glorify Him with your mouth.

The number 8 in Biblical numerology is the number for a “New beginning”.
“ A new start”.

Resources:

The Book of Acts
Early Church History and The Ministry of the Holy Spirit.
Kevin J. Conner

The Foundations of Christian Doctrine
Kevin J. Conner

Multiple of other resources

Notes and comments by Ron Denton