

SOME THOUGHTS ON THE BAPTISM AND FILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
by Mark Blair

THE TWO-FOLD WORK OF JESUS CHRIST:

CLEANSER OF SIN - The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said
"Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." Jn. 1.29

BAPTIZER WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT - "The man on whom you see the Spirit come
down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit." Jn. 1.33

THIS TWO-FOLD WORK OF GOD WAS PROMISED BY THE PROPHETS - "Then I will sprinkle
clean water on you, and you will be clean; I will cleanse you from all
your filthiness and from all your idols. Moreover, I will give you a new
heart and put a new spirit within you; and I will remove the heart of
stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put My
Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will be
careful to observe my ordinances." Ezekiel 36.25-27
See also Jeremiah 31.31 ff.

...AND PREACHED BY PETER - "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in
the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven. And you
will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit." Acts 2.38

THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS AND THE BAPTISM ARE THE MARKS OF THE NEW COVENANT
"For I will pour out my Spirit on your offspring, and my blessing on
your descendents." Isaiah 44.3b

THE BAPTISM WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT IS FOR ALL GOD'S PEOPLE - JEW AND GENTILE
"And it will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit
on all mankind." Joel 2.28

THE BIBLE TEACHES THAT ALL WHO RECEIVE GOD'S FORGIVENESS ALSO RECEIVE HIS SPIRIT,
LIKE TWO SIDES OF THE COIN OF SALVATION. IT IS FOR ALL BELIEVERS.

"The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far
off - for all whom the Lord our God will call." Acts 2.38

"For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body--whether Jews
or Greeks, slave or free-- and we were all given the one Spirit
to drink." 1 Corinthians 12.13

THE BAPTISM COMES TO ALL BELIEVERS THE MOMENT THEY PUT THEIR TRUST IN CHRIST
FOR SALVATION, IT SIGNIFIES OUR ENTRANCE INTO THE NEW COVENANT.

"And if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not
belong to Christ...those who are led by the Spirit of God are
the sons of God...The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit
that we are God's children.." Romans 8.9b,14a,16

"..no one can say, 'Jesus is Lord,' except by the Holy Spirit."
1 Corinthians 12.3b

"He redeemed us in order that the blessing given to Abraham might come to the Gentiles through Jesus Christ, so that through faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit." Galatians 3,14

"But grace was given to each of us according to the measure of Christ's gift." Ephesians 4.7

THE FILLING WITH THE SPIRIT IS A CONTINUOUS MARK OF THE NEW COVENANT AS THE BAPTISM IS THE INITIAL MARK. THE FILLING IS A COMMAND TO ALL CHRISTIANS.

"Do not get drunk with wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit." Ephesians 5.18

"Since we live by the Spirit, let us keep in step with the Spirit." Galatians 5.25

IT IS THE CHARACTERISTIC OF THE HOLY SPIRIT TO EXALT THE LORD JESUS

"He (the Holy Spirit) will bring glory to me by taking what is mine and making it known to you." John 16.14

THE BIBLE TEACHES THAT THE MARKS OF THE SPIRIT'S FILLING ARE NOT NECESSARILY MIRACULOUS AND SPECTACULAR SIGNS BUT GODLINESS, COMPASSION FOR THE LOST, AND A HUMBLE ATTITUDE; IN SHORT, TO BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT IS TO BE LIKE THE LORD JESUS.

See Luke 13.34, Acts 4.29-31, Ephesians 5.18-21, James 4.8-10 Galatians 6.14, Ephesians 4.1-3.