

what we believe

Dr. Rich Wilkerson | September 17, 2023 | Part 6

EXPERIENCING THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 2:1-4 - When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place.

² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

How can I KNOW that I have been baptized in the Holy Spirit?

1st The experience must be a Biblical SIGN.

2nd The sign must be evident to the one receiving the Baptism in the Spirit, and others near them.

Tongues are a sign that the Holy Spirit has BEEN received.

The Holy Spirit is God. He is known as the third MEMBER of the Holy Spirit.

The Greek call Him YOUR Paraclete, the one who walks beside you!

700 years before the DAY of Pentecost, Isaiah prophesied tongues would come.

Isaiah 28:11 - Very well then, with foreign lips and strange tongues God will speak to this people.

St. Paul refers to this prophecy from Isaiah in:

1 Corinthians 14:20-22 - Brothers and sisters, stop thinking like children. In regard to evil be infants, but in your thinking be adults.

²¹ In the Law it is written: "With other tongues and through the lips of foreigners I will speak to this people, but even then they will not listen to me, says the Lord."

²² Tongues, then, are a sign, not for believers but for unbelievers; prophecy, however, is not for unbelievers but for believers.

The Prophet Joel prophesied this mighty Holy Spirit Revival was coming.

On the Day of Pentecost while the 120 were speaking in other languages in the upper room, thousands of people on the streets thought they were drunk, and Peter stood up and said in:

Acts 2:15-17 - These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning!

¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

¹⁷ "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.

Jesus himself SAID in Mark 16:17 — They shall speak with new tongues!

This was said by him before Acts 2:1-4 happened.

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Where in the Bible do we look for the evidence of **SPEAKING** with other tongues, or the baptism in the Holy Spirit?

There are **3** instances in the **BOOK** of Acts where Tongues are recorded.

- Acts 2:1-4 **The Day of Pentecost — “Birth of the Church”**
- Acts 10:42-47 **Cornelius House — “1st Gentiles Saved”**
- Acts 19:6 **Ephesus Revival — 23 Years After Day of Pentecost**

God used **THIS** gift to launch the church.

He used this gift when the first gentiles were saved.

He used the Baptism in the Holy Spirit for a sign that an entire city could be saved at Ephesus.

God wants to help you gain control of **YOUR** tongue.

James 3:5-8 - Likewise, the tongue is a small part of the body, but it makes great boasts. Consider what a great forest is set on fire by a small spark.

⁶ The tongue also is a fire, a world of evil among the parts of the body. It corrupts the whole body, sets the whole course of one's life on fire, and is itself set on fire by hell.

⁷ All kinds of animals, birds, reptiles and sea creatures are being tamed and have been tamed by mankind,

⁸ but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.

Last week we **TALKED** about the church as the body of Christ, and that every member of the body is important, but the tongue is the evil member.

Out of the same mouth comes praise and cursing. (James 3:10a)

God uses tongues **BECAUSE** He wants to pray His perfect will through you when you don't know what to pray for.

Romans 8:26-27 - In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.

²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.

The Bible says that the Holy Spirit searches **OUR** hearts. The Father knows the mind of the Spirit, who intercedes for us, because His mind is exactly that of the Father. So the Spirit is praying the perfect will of God through us as we pray in our Holy Spirit language.

The Holy Spirit brings us...

- Power to witness to others who **need** Jesus. (Romans 1:8)
- He brings us control **over** our tongue which is the most evil member of our body. (James 3:8)
- The Holy Spirit helps us pray the perfect will of **God**. (Romans 8:26-27)

We, at Trinity Church, believe in the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.