

Holy Spirit, Batman! Part 3 - Phone Booth Time  
2/18/07 - CCFG

- I. What's a phone booth?
  - A. When there was trouble Clark Kent would run into a phone booth, take off his suit, emerge as Superman, and save the day. Like no one can see you in a glass box changing clothes.
  - B. He would go in the old man, come out the new, ready for action.
  - C. We are in part three of our "Holy Spirit, Batman!" series, studying the person, purpose, and power of the Spirit in the life of a believer.
  - D. Today we are going to talk about this thing called the baptism of the Holy Spirit. We are going to look at what the word says. We're going to look at the language used to see what all this means. The Bible is our final authority for everything, not our experiences. Our experiences can change, can vary. God's word never does.
  - E. The baptism with the HS is a lot like that phone booth experience. A change happens. And it isn't just a one time thing either.
- II. What does it mean? - Acts 1:5, 8
  - A. Acts 1:5 baptidzo - means to immerse, submerge.
    1. taking a bath, a sunken ship, being overwhelmed. "in it up to my neck" "had it up to here"
    2. Making Pickles
      - a) Nicander, 200BC, poet and physician.
      - b) Pickle recipe. First bapto the cucumber in hot water, then baptidzo the cucumber in the vinegar solution.
      - c) As the cucumber soaks in the vinegar it changes into a pickle. Doesn't look, smell, taste or feel like a cucumber anymore. A permanent change.
    3. Dying fabric - immersing, soaking white fabric in a colored dye results in the fabric being a new color. A permanent change.
    4. That's what the baptism of the Holy Spirit is for. Ritual/Real
  - B. Acts 1:8 come upon, Three prepositions. with, in, upon. Jn 14:16-17, Jn 20:22, Ac 1:8.
  - C. Filled with the Spirit, not a one time thing.
    1. Examples. Acts 2:4 (all), 4:8 (Peter), 4:31 (the group praying), 9:17 (Paul 1st time), 13:9 (Paul again).
    2. Commandment to keep on being filled. Eph. 5:18.
    3. What does that mean? Cup illustration.
  - D. Sum it up - The Baptism/Filling with/Coming upon of the HS is that experience at or anytime after salvation when you are soaked in the Holy Spirit in such a way that you are a different person from before. It isn't a one time thing. It needs to be an ongoing thing.
- III. What is it for? - tied up with another question; how do you know you have been baptized/filled with the Spirit?
  - A. Acts 1:8 What is the sign of being baptized with the Holy Spirit? Power to be a witness of Him.
    1. Not only tongues, not only prophecies, not only miracles.
    2. Supernatural power, boldness, wisdom, and sometimes supernatural acts like tongues, prophecies, miracles.
  - B. Power to do what? Witness to Jesus.

3. Holy Spirit school of evangelism.
    - a) What does it mean to witness? To simply testify as to what you know. Tell people what Jesus has done in and to your life. That's it. Simply deliver the message that you accepted/received to others and let the HS do the rest.
    - b) Church trend of the last 20 years; to draw people into the church by making the church an attractive place to be, to get people to plug into the church, to get people in and to keep them in.
    - c) The opposite of what Jesus told us to go. Go into the world and make disciples, not draw them into the church and make converts.
    - d) Allow me a tangent/rant. The church building/meeting time has become the place where many people play Christian. We want the prayer the way we like it, we want the teaching the way we like it, we want the worship the way we like it, because this is where we do our Christian thing. Compartmentalized lives.
    - e) That's backwards to what the church is supposed to be. My hope is that CCFG be a place where...
  4. When the Lord decides that your testimony needs that something extra, He will equip you with the right tools. Gifts.
    - a) Gifts is an incomplete term. Literally graces.
      - (1) Gift implies a present that belongs to you, you can use it whenever and however you want. What do you do if your healer is gone?
      - (2) When God uses you to heal, who really receives the gift? The one who was healed, not you.
    - b) More like tools from the shed to get the job done.
  - C. Power to live life free from the power of sin. Gal. 5:16-18. Lamp.
  - D. Sum it up - power to be a witness, power to live the new life.
- IV. How does it work? When does it happen?
- A. First of all, this baptism stuff and spiritual gifts stuff is still for today. Faked gifts doesn't mean no real gifts.
    1. Faked money doesn't mean no real money
    2. Don't let the weirdness you have been exposed to in the past put you off from the reality God has for you.
  - B. There is no formula. In Acts, a variety of circumstances. Sometimes hands laid on, other times not. Sometimes they asked for it, or not.
  - C. It can happen at the same time you enter into that relationship with Jesus (Acts 10). It can never happen much later (Acts 19).
  - D. You can get it just by asking for it. Like salvation it is received by faith. It's what God wants for you. That's the key; God is the one who does it, you don't make it happen or earn it. Bill Ritchie,
  - E. Sum it up - it is something that God does that you receive by faith.
- V. Closing
- A. What if Super never went in the booth? He'd never save the day.
  - B. We need to start everyday in the booth so we can be recharged, refilled, and used by God to show people Jesus. It's booth time.