

BIBLE TRAINING INSTITUTE

To proactively accelerate the spiritual growth of Grace Bible Church for the purpose of knowing God more intimately and becoming more effective servants of God in the world

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Pneumatology, Part II

The Spirit in the New Testament

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Baptism of the Spirit

Presented in the New Testament

- ✓ Jesus (and John the Baptist)
 - ❖ Jesus is the baptizer (Matt 3:11)
 - ❖ Contrasted with John's water baptism (Mark 1:8)
 - ❖ Spirit descends on Jesus first (John 1:33)

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Baptism of the Spirit

Presented in the New Testament

- ✓ The apostles in Acts
 - ❖ After resurrection, baptism of Spirit still future (Acts 1:5; 11:16)
 - ❖ Spirit comes to Samaritans, Gentiles, John's disciples (see Acts 8, 10, 19 narratives)
- ✓ Paul in 1 Cor 12:13
- ✓ Other NT References: Romans 6:1–4; Galatians 3:27; Colossians 2:11–12

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Baptism of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:13

- ✓ All believers are baptized in the body of Christ
- ✓ It is past tense for all believers and therefore not a subsequent action after salvation

The baptism of the Spirit refers to the placing of the believer into the Body of Christ by means of the gift of the Spirit

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Baptism of the Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:13

- ✓ The epistles illuminate the more ambiguous references in Acts—a transitional period
- ✓ NT water baptism—a symbolic act: he has been buried and raised with Christ and become a member of the community of faith, the Body of Christ, and therefore shares in the gift of the Spirit of Christ.
- ✓ **Not** two classes of believers—those **with** Spirit-baptism and those without.

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Indwelling of the Spirit

Language of Indwelling (Rom 8:9–11)

- ✓ “Dwells” = *oikeo* (οἰκέω) from root word *oikos* (οἶκος) = “house”
- ✓ One is “in the Spirit” if the Spirit is “in him.”
- ✓ Having the Spirit contrasted with “in the flesh”
- ✓ No Spirit = No Jesus
- ✓ Key passage: Romans 8:9–17

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Indwelling of the Spirit

Language of Indwelling (1 Cor 3:16; 6:19)

- ✓ “Dwells” = *oikeo* (οἰκέω)
- ✓ Analogy is God’s “temple” = the place where God is uniquely present
- ✓ Corporate emphasis (“you” is plural)—warns against corruption
- ✓ But there is an undeniably individual element
- ✓ “Us” and “you” together (2 Tim 1:14)

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Indwelling of the Spirit

Conclusions

- ✓ Indwelling of Spirit distinguishes believer from nonbeliever (Jude 19)
- ✓ Indwelling basis for right living (1 Cor 6:19)
- ✓ Indwelling is not variable; it is a constant fact (e.g., Eph 4:30)
- ✓ Unique benefit of the New Covenant (2 Cor 3:7–8)
 - ❖ Spirit of God who indwells (Rom 8:9)
 - ❖ Comes with being “in Christ”
 - ❖ Temple imagery matters

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Filling of the Spirit

In Luke-Acts

- ✓ *Pimplēmi* (πίμπλημι)
 - ❖ Luke 1:15 of John the Baptist
 - ❖ Acts 2:4 of the apostles
 - ❖ **Meaning:** Similar to the Old Testament (i.e. special empowerment)
 - ❖ **Application:** Not for all New Testament believers—all instances are associated with transitional events

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Filling of the Spirit

In Luke-Acts

- ✓ *Pleres* (πλήρης) or *Pleroo* (πληρώω)
 - ❖ Men of good repute, full of the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:3; cf. Eph 5:18)
 - ❖ **Meaning:** Disposition characterized by the Spirit's control
 - ❖ **Application:** Indicative of the kind of filling taught later in the epistles

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Filling of the Spirit

In Paul

- ✓ Evidence of fullness (Eph 5:18)
 - ❖ Wise and righteous living (Eph 5:15–17)
 - ❖ Grateful corporate worship (Eph 5:19–20)
 - ❖ Sound relationships (Eph 5:21–6:9)
- ✓ Emphasis on the Word (Col 3:16–17)
 - ❖ Word-filled and Spirit-filled are inseparable
 - ❖ Corporate emphasis in ministry and worship

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Filling of the Spirit

Conclusions

- ✓ Being filled with the Spirit is an issue of control and yielding
- ✓ Therefore, there is **NO** emphasis on seeking after or asking for “the filling”
- ✓ Filling is evidenced in the obedient and maturing community of believers
- ✓ Being filled is variable; but indwelling and baptism are invariable, discrete salvation events

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Gifts of the Spirit

To empower the church to cooperate with God to serve one another and be light and salt in the world

Types of Spiritual Gifts

- ✓ Men—to equip the saints (Eph 4:7–12)
- ✓ Abilities—given to each member (Rom 12:5–8; 1 Cor 12:4–31; 1 Peter 4:10–11)

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Gifts of the Spirit

Types of Abilities in the Early Church

- ✓ Miraculous gifts of divine revelation and healing
 - ❖ To confirm the apostolic message (Heb 2:3–4; 2 Cor 12:12)
 - ❖ Scripture is now the sole test of authenticity
 - ❖ Miraculous gifts can be counterfeited (Rev 13:13–14)
 - ❖ Confirming gifts no longer necessary (1 Cor 13:8–10)

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Digression 1—"The Perfect"

Views

- ✓ Love is the perfect
- ✓ Completed canon of Scripture
- ✓ The mature church
- ✓ Believer's entrance into Christ's presence
- ✓ Return of Christ at the end of the age
- ✓ Eternal state

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Digression 1—"The Perfect"

Analysis

- ✓ The last three have a lot in common and have some support in the context of 1 Corinthians 13.
- ✓ If we can identify the "perfect" of this passage, it will determine the when of the cessation of the miraculous gifts of prophecy, tongues, and knowledge.
- ✓ View 2 has a lot of good support. See "1 Corinthians 13:8–13 and the Cessation of Miraculous Gifts" by R. Bruce Compton in *Detroit Baptist Seminary Journal*, 9 (2024): 97–144.

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Digression 2—What was the Purpose of the Miraculous Gifts?

- ✓ A sign by God to authenticate His messengers and signal another exile during a time of transition from Israel alone to the Church (which includes Gentiles).
 - ❖ Jesus (John 2:11, 23; 3:2; 4:54; 6:2, 14; 7:31; 10:37–38; 12:37; 20:30; Acts 2:22)
 - ❖ Disciples (Matt 10:1, 7; Mark 6:12ff)
 - ❖ Apostles in Acts (Acts 2, 4, 5, 6, 8, 14, 15)
 - ❖ Gift of tongues to unbelieving world (1 Cor 14:22)
 - ❖ See also 2 Corinthians 12:12 and Hebrews 2:3–4

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Digression 2—What was the Purpose of the Miraculous Gifts?

- ✓ A Means of Further Revelation to the Church which ceased to be necessary with the completed canon of Scripture.
- ❖ An extended argument with many facets and support from Scripture (2 Peter 1:20–21; Heb 1:1–2; John 14:23–26; John 16:12–15; 1 Thess 2:13; 2 Peter 3:15–16)

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Digression 2—What was the Purpose of the Miraculous Gifts?

- ✓ A Means of Further Revelation to the Church which ceased to be necessary with the completed canon of Scripture.
- ❖ Summary
 - New Testament prophecy had to be measured against apostolic teaching as false prophecy was a real danger in the first century church
 - Apostles are all gone so it is impossible to authenticate modern-day prophecies as actually being from God.
 - Experience is not the judge of Scripture. Scripture is the judge of experience (2 Pet 1:16–19), so “But I know God spoke to me” is unverifiable.

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Digression 2—What was the Purpose of the Miraculous Gifts?

- ✓ A Means to Edify others in the Church
- ❖ 1 Corinthians 12:7
- ❖ This encouragement continues today every time we read our Bibles and see the nature of the apostolic ministry.
- ❖ All the spiritual gifts, miraculous or not, serve(d) this purpose of building up the church.

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Digression 3—Cessation of Miraculous Gifts

- ✓ NT prophets/prophesy is foundational, not continual (Eph 2:19–22)
- ✓ Purpose of attesting to the message (Heb 2:3–4)
- ✓ Apostolic age phenomena (2 Cor 12:12)
- ✓ Today's practice bears no resemblance to the New Testament description

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Digression 4—What about James 5:14–15?

- ✓ Context is everything—clues:
 - ❖ Believer being forgiven of sin
 - ❖ Elders involved as witness to unrepentant sin
 - ❖ Anointing with oil an act of mercy
 - ❖ Example of Elijah as praying for restoration
- ✓ **Conclusion 1:** Context is confessing sin
- ✓ **Conclusion 2:** Gifts of healing not in operation but God hears and answers the prayer of faith in accordance with His will (Luke 18:1–6; John 5:7–9; 2 Cor 12:6–10; 1 John 5:14–15)

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Gifts of the Spirit

- ✓ Romans 12 List
 - ❖ Prophecy—non-revelatory proclamation of Scripture with an element of calling to obedience
 - ❖ Service—laboring in all aspects in the church
 - ❖ Teaching—convey truth with clarity
 - ❖ Exhortation—coming alongside one another
 - ❖ Giving—extra measure of desire and means
 - ❖ Leadership—lead and administer
 - ❖ Mercy—serving people-needs sensitively

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Gifts of the Spirit

- ✓ 1 Peter 4:10–11 Summary
 - ❖ Speaking gifts
 - ❖ Serving gifts

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Bonus: Ministry of the Holy Spirit to the New Covenant Believer

- ✓ Regenerates (1 Peter 1:23; John 3:3–5)
- ✓ Indwells (1 Cor 6:19)
- ✓ Baptizes (1 Cor 12:13)
- ✓ Guides (John 16:13)
- ✓ Sanctifies (2 Thess 2:13)
- ✓ Comforts (John 14:16–26)
- ✓ Gives Fruit (Gal 5:22)

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Bonus: Ministry of the Holy Spirit to the New Covenant Believer

- ✓ Helps Worship (John 4:23–24)
- ✓ Helps Pray (Rom 8:26–27)
- ✓ Directs us to Christ (John 15:26)
- ✓ Illumines Scripture (Eph 6:17; 1 Cor 2:12)
- ✓ Seals (Eph 1:13)
- ✓ Gives Spiritual Gifts (Eph 4:8; 1 Cor 12:3; Rom 12:6–8)
- ✓ Teaches (1 Cor 2:14)
- ✓ Breaks the power of sin (Rom 8:2)

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