

A Life Filled With Power

Text: Acts 1:1-8

More than one quarter of all Christians are Pentecostal/Charismatic. And it represents the fastest growing segment of all Protestants. Why is that? Its because the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is power for witness. Not just witness though, Power for Life. One of my favorite stories of people changed by this pentecostal experience is the Story of Wayne and Faye Headrick. They currently pastor in Alexandria. I love thinking about the story of Pastor Wayne and Faye Headrick.

How many here have received the Baptism of the Holy Spirit? **Congregational Testimonies**

1. The Baptism with the Holy Spirit is the Spirit filled life. It is synonymous with being filled with the Spirit in Luke and Acts. Acts 1:5-8 is fulfilled in:

Acts 2:1-4 (NIV) 1 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.**

Acts 6:3-4 (NIV) 3 Brothers, choose seven men from among you who are **known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom.** We will turn this responsibility over to them 4 and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word."

Acts 9:17 (NIV) 17 Then Ananias went to the house and entered it. Placing his hands on Saul, he said, "Brother Saul, the Lord--Jesus, who appeared to you on the road as you were coming here--**has sent me so that you may see again and be filled with the Holy Spirit.**"

2. The initial physical evidence of the Baptism of the Holy Spirit is speaking in tongues.

Acts 2:4 (NIV) 4 All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Acts 10:44-46 (NIV) 44 While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. 45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles. 46 For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.

Acts 11:15-17 (NIV) 15 "As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit came on them as he had come on us at the beginning. 16 Then I remembered what the Lord had said: 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17 So if God gave them the same gift as he gave us, who believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I to think that I could oppose God?"

Acts 19:1-7 (NIV) 1 While Apollos was at Corinth, Paul took the road through the interior and

arrived at Ephesus. There he found some disciples 2 and asked them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" They answered, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." 3 So Paul asked, "Then what baptism did you receive?" "John's baptism," they replied. 4 Paul said, "John's baptism was a baptism of repentance. He told the people to believe in the one coming after him, that is, in Jesus." 5 On hearing this, they were baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. 6 When Paul placed his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. 7 There were about twelve men in all.

3. Its subsequent to Salvation.

Acts 1:15 (NIV) 15 In those days Peter stood up among the believers (a group numbering about a hundred and twenty) Those filled in Acts 2 were established as believers.

Acts 8:14-17 (NIV) 14 When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. 15 When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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4. It's a continuous work of the Holy Spirit and not a one time event.

Acts 3:19-20 (NIV) 19 Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that **times of refreshing may come from the Lord**, 20 and that he may send the Christ, who has been appointed for you--even Jesus.

Acts 4:7-10 (NIV) 7 They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: "By what power or what name did you do this?" 8 **Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit**, said to them: "Rulers and elders of the people! 9 If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a cripple and are asked how he was healed, 10 then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. Similar:

Acts 4:31 (NIV) 31 After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. **And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.**

5. Its purpose is power to do, say and be who God has called us to be.

Acts 1:8 (NIV) 8 But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

John 14:11-14 (NIV) 11 Believe me when I say that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; or at least believe on the evidence of the miracles themselves. 12 I tell you the truth, anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father. 13 And I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Son may bring glory to the Father. 14 You may ask me for anything in my name, and I will do it.

6. Its for all God's people!

Acts 2:38-39 (NIV) 38 Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off--for all whom the Lord our God will call."

Conclusion