

Five Main Reasons Why Many Believers Are Not Baptised in the Holy Spirit

by Zac Poonen

Many believers are not baptized in the Holy Spirit due to intellectual conviction, feeling unworthy, not believing God's goodness, lack of thirst, and waiting for an experience.

Scripture: John 7:37, Acts 1:8

Topics: "Baptism in the Holy Spirit", "Faith and Assurance"

Description

Zac Poonen addresses the five main reasons many believers are not baptized in the Holy Spirit, emphasizing that intellectual beliefs, feelings of unworthiness, misconceptions about God's goodness, lack of desperation, and waiting for specific experiences hinder their reception of the Spirit. He encourages believers to recognize that God's gifts are freely given and that faith should be as simple as drinking. Poonen stresses the importance of thirsting for the Spirit, believing in God's promises, and receiving the power that comes from the Holy Spirit. He reminds listeners that assurance of the Spirit's presence is available to all who ask in faith. Ultimately, he calls for immediate action, stating that today is the day of salvation.

Transcript

There are FIVE main reasons why many believers are NOT baptized in the Holy Spirit:

(1) They have been **INTELLECTUALLY CONVINCED** by some theological argument that they were baptized in the Spirit when they were born again. And even though they are defeated, powerless, empty and fruitless, they continue to believe this theological deception.

(2) They feel that they are **NOT WORTHY ENOUGH** to receive the baptism in the Holy Spirit. The fact of the matter is that the more unworthy you feel and the greater the sinner you consider yourself to be, the more fit you are to receive the Holy Spirit - because God's gifts are given only to those who feel themselves most unworthy to receive them. If you have repented of your sins, it doesn't matter how unworthy or unfit or useless you are. Hallelujah!

(3) They **DON'T BELIEVE** that God is a good God - who gives His gifts freely to all who ask Him. They feel that they have to pay a price - do some good deeds, like fasting and praying, before they can receive.

But God's gifts are all freely given - whether it be the forgiveness of sins or the baptism in the Spirit. None of God's gifts can be purchased. Many believers feel that to have faith itself, is a difficult thing. But Jesus likened faith to drinking (See John 7:37,38, "...DRINK.... BELIEVE"). To receive the Holy Spirit is as easy as drinking. Even babies know how to drink - and those who are newly born again can be baptized with the Holy Spirit. That is how it was in the early days - as we read in the "Acts of the Apostles".

(4) They DON'T THIRST. They are not desperate enough. Jesus spoke a parable of a man who kept on knocking at his neighbour's door, UNTIL HE RECEIVED what he wanted. Then Jesus went on to say that our Heavenly Father would also give the Holy Spirit to those who asked, sought and knocked like that man (Read Luke 11:13 in the context of the previous verses, beginning at v.5).

(5) They WAIT FOR SOME EXPERIENCE (tongues or thrills etc.,) similar to the one they heard someone else testify to. They are not willing to leave it to God to decide what gift or manifestation is best for them to have. The Holy Spirit is received by simple faith.

Ask and ye shall receive (Gal.3:2; Luke 11:9-13). Don't wait for feelings. But ask God to give you an assurance. Leave it to Him as to how He gives you that assurance. Didn't He give you an assurance that your sins are forgiven and that you are His child? In the same way, He can also assure you that He has filled you with the Holy Spirit. What you need is not an experience, but POWER (Acts 1:8).

SO: THIRST - BELIEVE - AND RECEIVE. Now is the accepted time. Today is the day of salvation.

"The Spirit of the Lord WILL come upon you and you shall be CHANGED INTO ANOTHER MAN" (1 Sam.10:6).

Source:

<https://sermonindex.net/speakers/zac-poonen/five-main-reasons-why-many-believers-are-not-baptised-in-the-holy-spirit/>

Grow in Your Walk with Christ

Listen and read messages that will stir your heart for Christ and point you to deeper repentance and devotion.

- 50,000+ Sermons from speakers past and present
- 3,900+ Classic Christian Books freely readable online
- 1,200+ Bible Translations and Commentaries
- Over 450k forum posts — Join our vibrant online Christian forum

www.sermonindex.net