

CLASS THREE: HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM

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There are two experiences of the Holy Spirit in a believer's life. The first one is at the new birth. If someone is born again, he is born of the Holy Spirit [John 3:6]. When a person becomes bornagain, the Holy Spirit comes to live in him/her. His work is to conform the believer to the image of Christ. Spiritual growth and sanctification are the works of the Holy Spirit in a believer [2 Corinthians 3:18].

There awaits yet another experience for the believer after he is born-again. This experience is the Holy Spirit baptism. In **Acts 1:4-8**, Jesus admonished the disciples to wait for the Holy Spirit baptism. In **Acts 2:1**, as the disciples waited in the upper room, they had the experience that the Lord asked them to wait for. Jesus gave the ultimate goal for the baptism of the Holy Spirit; which is for a believer to become a true witness. The word witness in **Acts 1:8** comes from the word martyr. A martyr is someone who is willing to die and does so for what he/she believes.

Reason for Holy Ghost baptism

- 1. For ministry: Ministry is service. We are saved to serve. We cannot serve God with our strength unless the Lord equips us (by strength shall no man prevail). The Holy Spirit empowers us supernaturally to be able to render services of love to the body of Christ.
- 2. Supernatural power to witness [Acts 1:8]
- 3. Supernatural ability to pray [Romans 8:26]
- 4. Supernatural anointing [Acts 10:38]