



## Sermon Series Notes

### “The Baptism & Filling of the Holy Spirit” (Acts 1:1-2:41)

Danny Hodges – NT3619

Intro: The book of Acts is usually referred to as “The Acts of the Apostles,” but I’m gonna be real technical. It should be referred to as “The Acts of Jesus by the Holy Spirit through the apostles & disciples.” Read Acts 1:1-2. In John 14:12 Jesus said that his disciples would do greater things than him, because he was going to the Father. The book of Acts is a record of some of those greater things. Not only will we read accounts of the miraculous, but we will read about the multiplication of the ministry of Jesus through the increase of the number of disciples, & the power of the Holy Spirit.

1:3-5 This is an interesting command, and I think one that was not necessarily easy to obey. They have been with Jesus for three years, had been on at least two short term mission trips where they had seen miracle after miracle take place. They knew the gospel message. Matthew 28:16-20 & Mark 16:14-15 record a couple of things Jesus said to the apostles after the resurrection that I think would have made it hard to wait for the promise to be fulfilled regarding the baptism of the Holy Spirit. And there’s one more thing that I think made it difficult to follow Jesus’ instructions on waiting, and that is that the apostles were sometimes “one brick shy of a load.” Or to put it like Jesus did in Matthew 15:16 “Are you still do dull?” The word literally means “unintelligent, without understanding, stupid.”

1:6 Yep, they are still so “dull?”

1:7 See Matt.24:36-37

1:8 The Holy Spirit’s ministry is essential to Jesus’ disciples being the witnesses he intends them to be, otherwise Jesus would never have had them wait before going out to evangelize the world.

1:9-11 These are obviously angels, and what they say to these disciples seems a bit sarcastic.

1:12-26 It is my opinion that this was a mistake. Peter has always been impetuous (acting quickly without thought or care), and he shows that characteristic again here. I believe Paul was the one to replace Judas. My only doubt is in Peter’s saying that the replacement had to be someone who was with them from John’s baptism ‘til Jesus’ ascension. But in II.Cor.12:12 Paul says that the marks of a true apostle were signs, wonders & miracles, and he states that those were evident in his ministry as an apostle.

2:1-4 Pentecost was the Jewish feast of firstfruits. They would offer the firstfruits of their grain to the Lord, trusting him to bring in an abundant harvest. Romans 8:23 says that we have the firstfruits of the Spirit. Of course the message is clear: We by faith anticipate and expect an abundant harvest as a result of the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

2:5-11 Part of the miracle of this gift of tongues the disciples were given at Pentecost was in the hearing of the people, because each person heard in their own language. Don’t ask me to explain that because I cannot. There are several things God does that I cannot adequately explain.

2:12-41 The Holy Spirit has come upon Jesus’ disciples, and what Jesus prophesied in Acts 1:8 has now begun.

The first thing I'd like to deal with from our text is the gift of tongues. Early on in my Christian life I was taught that the gift of tongues at Pentecost was the supernatural enabling of the disciples to communicate the gospel to the various language groups gathered in Jerusalem at this time. But that is not what the text says (see 2:11b). If it was the gospel they were speaking, why did Peter have to share the gospel? One thing we are not told is how everyone understood Peter? Did they all speak Hebrew as well as the language of where they came from? I don't know.

Is the gift of tongues still available for the believer today? Some argue it is not based on I Cor.13:8-12. Read and explain.

The gift of tongues is one of the gifts of the Spirit listed in I Cor.12. Some believe it is the language of the angels (I Cor.13:1). I Cor.14:2 says that the person speaking in tongues speaks to God and not men. I Cor.14:4 says that the gift of tongues edifies the person exercising the gift. If tongues is to be exercised in a church meeting it must be limited to at most three people, & there must be interpretation (I Cor.14:27-28). In I Cor. 14:14-15 Paul says that one may pray in tongues as well as sing in tongues. And I Cor.14:20-22 says that tongues are a sign for unbelievers. Paul quotes Isa.28:11-12, which refers to God sending a foreign people against Israel as judgment for their sin and rebellion. In that same sense, the tongues at Pentecost was a sign of judgment upon Israel because of their rejection of Jesus as their Messiah. Should every Christian have the gift of tongues? See I Cor.12:29-30. I do not speak in tongues, but my wife does.

The more important question: Have I received the baptism of the Holy Spirit? Some teach that tongues is **the** sign of the baptism of the Holy Spirit, but I do not hold that position, nor does Calvary Chapel in its doctrinal position.

Didn't I receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit when I was saved?

- John 14:17 "with you"
- John 14:17 "in you" (John 20:22); Eph.1:13-14
- Acts 1:8 "upon you" (Matt.3:16)

Examples of Christians who received the baptism of the Holy Spirit separate from salvation: Oswald Chambers, D.L. Moody, R.A Torrey, Charles Spurgeon, Danny Hodges, Wendy Hodges.

Another very important question: Am I continuing to be filled with Holy Spirit?

If I have been filled with the Holy Spirit once, why do I need to be refilled? Because we leak! See Acts 4:31; Eph.5:18.

Go through Acts and show the importance of the Holy Spirit in the ministry of the church; Acts 6:3, qualification of first deacons "full of the Holy Spirit;" 6:10 Those who opposed Stephen could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke (See Matt.10:16-20); They ended up arresting and ultimately stoning Stephen to death, but he died "full of the Holy Spirit" (7:51-55); The revival in Samaria (8:14-17); 8:29; 9:17; 10:19-20, 43-47; 11:19-24; 13:2-4, 9-11; 15:28; 16:6-10; 18:24-26; 19:1-7 (note that Apollos had just been in Ephesus but at the time knew only the baptism of John).

#### CONCLUSION

- Invitation to pray for the baptism/filling of the Holy Spirit
- Luke 11:13
- You cannot expect God to fill you with the Holy Spirit if you are filled with something else
  - Luke 4:1, 14; Jesus resisted temptation and remained full of the Holy Spirit. Falling to temptation certainly causes us to lose the filling of the Holy Spirit.
  - Acts 13:10, Elymas/Bar-Jesus was full of deceit & trickery; Those who opposed Paul's ministry in Ephesus were filled with wrath (Acts 19:28, KJV); See Rom.1:29-31; Acts 2:36-39 (repentance was necessary prior to being filled with the Spirit).

- Read Storm, pp.78-79, then pp.71-72 (highlight copy for translators)
- The Holy Spirit can accomplish in 10 minutes what cannot be accomplished in 10 one hour counseling sessions.