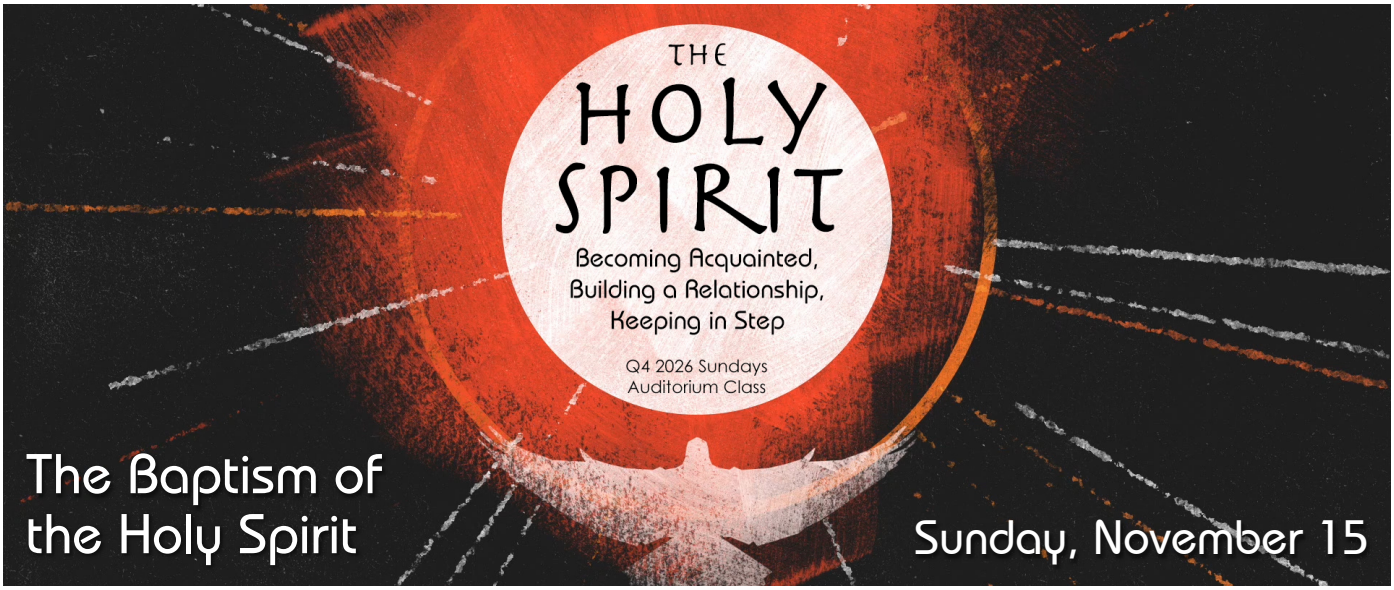


There are several "baptisms" (*burial, submersion, immersion, covering over*) in the Bible:

- The baptism of Moses (1 Cor 10:1-2; Exo 14:13-31) – the crossing of the Red Sea
- The baptism of suffering (Mark 10:35-40; Luke 12:50) – pain or persecution
- The baptism of John (Mark 1:4-5; Luke 7:29-30; Acts 19:1-7) – preparing for the Christ

But what about the baptism of the Holy Spirit? What role did it play in God's plan to heal what was broken and restore what was lost because of sin?

The baptism of the Holy Spirit was a promise, not a command

- The baptism of the Holy Spirit involved a specific group (Matt 3:11; Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-5, 8)
- The baptism of the Holy Spirit had a specific administrator (John 1:33)
- The baptism of the Holy Spirit accomplished a specific purpose (John 14:26; 15:26; 16:12-14)
  - "When the day of Pentecost arrived…" (Acts 2:1-4)
  - The message confirmed "by accompanying signs" (Mark 16:17-18, 20; Heb 2:3-4)
- Through the baptism of the Holy Spirit, everything the apostles needed to complete their work was provided—a fulfillment of the promise of Jesus. But no one was ever **commanded** to be baptized with the Holy Spirit.
  - "At Caesarea there was a man named Cornelius, a centurion…" (Acts 10:1-8)
  - Having seen a vision (Acts 10:9-23), Peter proclaims the gospel to Cornelius, his relatives, and his close friends (Acts 10:23-43)
  - "While Peter was still saying these things…" (Acts 10:44; 11:15-16; 10:45-46)

- The question is, **WHY?** Why did the Holy Spirit fall on Peter's audience?
  - Peter himself had proclaimed God's intended scope for the gospel (Acts 2:39)
  - But years later, Acts 11:1-3 gives us a glimpse into the ongoing mindset of many Jews
  - This single act was so pivotal and convincing… (Acts 10:47; 11:17-18; 15:7-11)

- But what role did the baptism of the Holy Spirit play in the salvation of Cornelius?
  - The Holy Spirit didn't fall on Cornelius to save him (Acts 11:13-14; Rom 10:14)
  - The Holy Spirit didn't fall on Cornelius to give him faith (Rom 10:17; Acts 15:7; 10:2)
  - The Holy Spirit didn't fall on Cornelius to purify his heart (1 Pet 1:22; Acts 15:8-9)
  - The Holy Spirit didn't fall to make Cornelius acceptable to God (Acts 10:34-35)
- The Holy Spirit fell to bear definitive witness to the fact that Gentiles could be reconciled to God (Gal 5:6; 3:26-29).

Baptism with water in the name of Jesus Christ is a command, not a promise

- The commands of Peter to Gentile and Jew (Acts 10:47-48; 2:38-39; 1 Pet 3:20-21)
- Ephesians 4:4-5 makes clear that the baptism of the Holy Spirit has fulfilled its purpose
- The "one baptism" for the present is that of the great commission (Mark 16:16; Acts 22:16)
- One baptism remains to be fulfilled in the future (Matt 3:11-12; 13:24-30, 36-43; 2 Thes 1:5-11)

Notes: