

PLEASANT VIEW PROCLAIMER

May 5, 2024

Welcome!

God
IS OUR
Refuge
AND
Strength
PSALM 46:1

*"Therefore I will give thanks to
You, O Lord, among the
Gentiles, and sing praises to
Your name."*

Join us at 6:00pm today
as we begin our series on
Apologetics called:

"Why Should I Believe?"

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Prayer List

Lowell Gregory is at home with pneumonia, and **Martha** is home with an ear infection

Mamie Hamilton is still in pain, but was scheduled to come home Wednesday.

Ronnie Mayo is continuing to recover from hip replacement.

Levi Bearden will be having surgery for severe intestinal issues

Continue to pray for: **Darinda Paul, Rebecca Brown, Hunter Crouch, Burt Wilkerson, Donnie Garrett, Keith Walker** and family, **Forshia Pennington, Carol Saling, Camille Brosky**, those in **Ukraine; John Hayes, and Bill Gillock**

AS THE WORLD AWAKES, THIS IS
MY PRAYER

THAT WHAT I SAY AND DO
WILL HONOR JESUS, GOD THE SON
THE ONE WHOSE WAY IS TRUE
THAT MY WORDS AND DEEDS
REFLECT HIS LIGHT
AND SHINE HIS WAY ANEW
TO A WAITING WORLD, WHO'S
WATCHING ME
AS I AM REPRESENTING YOU

*We invite everyone to join
us Wednesday night at 7pm
as we study the Life of
Abraham*

Serving Today

Song Leader:
Jeff Baker

SUNDAY SCHOOL (9:30 am)

Scripture Reading:
Sam Baker

Prayer:
Johnny Walker

WORSHIP (10:30 am)

Scripture Reading:
Mike Reed
Titus 3:3-7; Acts 2:37-38

Wait On Table:
Eddie Walker

Serve:
Doug Demonbreun
David Billingsley

Prayer:
Jeramie Gupton

Service Times

Sunday Bible Study	9:30 am
Sunday AM Worship	10:30 am
Sunday PM Worship	6:00 pm
Wednesday Bible Study	7:00 pm

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This morning, we continue our series on Baptism by considering the role of God's Holy Spirit in our regeneration. There are some in the larger evangelical Christian world who hold to the belief that water Baptism is wholly separate from being Baptized by God's Holy Spirit. As always, to consider this perspective let's look through the lens of scripture in considering three questions:

How Are We Cleansed? - As we have already studied, our Baptism in water marks the beginning of a new life, a new union, a new covenant, and a submission to a new master. According to scripture, this beginning is marked by the washing of God's Holy Spirit who regenerates us with the saving blood of Christ. It is clearly not the water itself of Baptism that cleanses us. Consider that when Jesus was talking to Nicodemus in **John 3**, He stated "*unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God...*" (v. 5). To this He added "That which is born of flesh is flesh, and that which is born of Spirit is spirit..." (v. 6). Earlier in John's gospel, John the Baptist recounted how God Himself had told John that the one on whom the Spirit descended like a dove would be the One "who baptizes with the Holy Spirit." Paul echoes this sentiment in Titus:

Titus 3:5-6 "...he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior..."

Again, this text is emphasizing that our "renewal" comes by God's Holy Spirit through the saving power of Jesus Christ. So, if our regeneration comes from God's Holy Spirit, how do we receive God's Spirit? Is this connected with our water Baptism, or is another *spiritual* Baptism required?

How Do We Receive God's Spirit? - On the day of Pentecost Acts 2, Peter instructs those who were "cut to the heart" (v. 37) to "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...**" (v. 38) What is this "gift of the Holy Spirit" that is promised with our Baptism? The phrase "gift of the Holy Spirit" is in the genitive case in the Greek. This grammatical construction permits many potential translations based on the phrase by itself. Of these possibilities, there are only two which could possibly apply based on the context:

Subjective Genitive: "The gift from the Holy Spirit" / If this is the correct interpretation, then what is the "gift" which would have been received from the Holy Spirit? Some possibilities that have been proposed include:

- (1) **Salvation** - Is the Spirit our source for Salvation? (**John 14:1-6; 16:7-15**)
- (2) **Miraculous Gifts** - Is there any evidence from scripture that *all Christians* received miraculous gifts (**1 Cor 12**)
- (3) **The Word** - Some have argued that the Spirit is *only* manifested through the Word, and this is His gift.

Appositional Genitive: "the gift which is the Holy Spirit" / Is there additional evidence from scripture that the Spirit Himself is given to Christians? (**Acts 5:29-32; Rom 5:1-5; 8:9-11; 1 Cor 6:18-20; Gal 4:4-7**).

What About the Samaritans? - Many who believe that the receiving of the Spirit is separate from our water Baptism will point to the conversion of the Samaritans in Acts 8. What does it mean that "the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptized into the name of the Lord Jesus?" (v. 16) Did they receive the gift of the indwelling Spirit before the Apostles laid their hands on them or after? If before, then what did they receive from the Apostles? If after, then how can we reconcile this with **Acts 2:38**?