

Lesson 8. The Holy Spirit at the Moment of Salvation

Regeneration, Baptism, Indwelling, Sealing



<u>At the moment of Salvation:</u>	<u>In your Daily Life:</u>
Regeneration	Sanctifies, Teaches
Baptism	Gives gifts for service to others
Indwelling	Comforts, Guides, Fills, Produces Fruit
Sealing	Gives Assurance of Salvation, Intercedes

- Regeneration is God’s giving of spiritual life to those who have believed in Jesus Christ as their Savior. (Born Again)
- By the baptism of the Holy Spirit all believers are identified as one body. The Holy Spirit places the believer into the body of Christ at the point of salvation.
- The Holy Spirit dwells permanently in every believer the moment they trust Jesus as Savior.
- All believers have been sealed by and with the Holy Spirit.  
The Holy Spirit is given to each believer as a guarantee of the permanence of salvation.

# Regeneration by the Holy Spirit: Born Again

## I. Definition: Regeneration is God's giving of spiritual life to those who have believed in Jesus Christ as their Savior.

- 📖 Titus 3:5 *"He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we have done in righteousness, but according to His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Spirit."*
- 📖 Ephesians 2:1, 4-5 *"And you were dead in your trespasses and sins," "But God, being rich in mercy, because of His great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead in our transgressions, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved),"*

## II. Biblical phrases:

### A. "born again"

- 📖 1 Peter 1:3 *"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His great mercy has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,"*
- 📖 1 Peter 1:23 *"for you have been born again not of seed which is perishable but imperishable, that is, through the living and abiding word of God."*

### B. "born again," literally – "born from above"

- 📖 John 3:3 *"Jesus answered and said to him, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God.'"*
- 📖 John 3:7 *"Do not be amazed that I said to you, 'You must be born again.'"*

### C. "born of the Spirit"

- 📖 John 3:5 *"Jesus answered, 'Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, He cannot enter into the kingdom of God.'"*
- 📖 John 3:6 *"That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is Spirit."*
- 📖 John 3:8 *"The wind blows where it wishes and you hear the sound of it, but do not know where it comes from and where it is going; so is everyone who is born of the Spirit."*

### D. "born of God"

- John 1:12-13 *"But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, even to those who believe in His name, who were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God."*
- 1 John 2:29; 3:9; 4:7; 5:1, 4, 18

## III. Observations:

- A. Regeneration is a supernatural act of God.  
John 1:12-13; John 3:5, 6, 8; 1 Peter 1:3

- B. Regeneration has its basis in God’s mercy.  
1 Peter 1:3; Titus 3:5
  
- C. Regeneration is implemented by the Holy Spirit.  
John 3:8; Titus 3:5
  
- D. Regeneration is facilitated through the Word of God.  
1 Peter 1:23
  
- E. Regeneration enables individuals to have a new character.
  - 1. They believe in Jesus Christ.  
1 John 5:1 *“Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God; and whoever loves the Father loves the child born of Him.”*
  - 2. They love one another.  
1 John 4:7 *“Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God and everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.”*
  - 3. They practice righteousness rather than sin.  
1 John 2:29 *“you know that everyone also who practices righteousness is born of Him.”*  
1 John 3:9 *“No one who is born of God practices sin, because His seed abides in him; and he cannot sin, because he is born of God.”*  
1 John 5:18 *“We know that no one who is born of God sins; but He who was born of God keeps him and the evil one does not touch him.”*
  - 4. They have victory over the world through faith.  
1 John 5:4 *“For whatever is born of God overcomes the world; and this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith.”*

Summary:

The moment persons receive Jesus as their Savior they are regenerated or born again by the Holy Spirit. They are spiritually reborn and given eternal life.



# Baptism of the Holy Spirit

- **By the baptism of the Holy Spirit all believers are identified as one body. The Holy Spirit places the believer into the body of Christ at the point of salvation.**

## I. The baptism of the Holy Spirit was anticipated during Christ's earthly ministry.

📖 Matthew 3:11 *"As for me, I baptized you with water for repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire."* (compare Mark 1:8; Luke 3:16; John 1:33)

## II. The baptism of the Holy Spirit did not occur until after the ascension of Jesus.

📖 Acts 1:4-5 *"And gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, 'Which,' He said, 'you heard from Me; for John baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'"*

## III. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is recorded in the book of Acts.

Acts 11:15, 16; cf. Acts 2:1-4

## IV. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is defined in 1 Corinthians 12:13.

📖 1 Corinthians 12:12-13 *"For even as the body is one and yet has many members, and all the members of the body, though they are many, are one body, so also is Christ. For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit."*

📖 Galatians 3:26-28 *"For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. For all of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free man, there is neither male or female; for you are all one in Christ Jesus."*

- **Believers are identified with or identified with the body of Christ by the Holy Spirit.**

## V. All believers are baptized by the Holy Spirit.

📖 1 Corinthians 12:13 *"we were all baptized"* All members of the body of Christ have been baptized by the Holy Spirit.

📖 Galatians 3:26-28 *"all of you"* Those who are sons of God have been baptized into Christ.

📖 Matthew 3:11-12; Luke 3:16-17 Only two classes of persons are recognized in these verses. Those who are baptized with the Spirit are gathered into the barn while those who are baptized with fire are judged.

**VI. The baptism of the Holy Spirit occurs only once.**

📖 Galatians 3:27; 1 Corinthians 12:13 *“were baptized”*

The Greek for “were baptized” is an aorist passive indicative form of “baptizo.”

Aorist = it occurs at one point of time.

Passive = It is done to individuals. They do not contribute to the action of being baptized.

Indicative = It is a reality, not merely a wish or desire

Note: Since all believers have been baptized by the Holy Spirit and the baptism only occurs once, it must take place at the moment of salvation.

**VII. The baptism of the Holy Spirit is a basis for Christian unity and newness of life.**

📖 Ephesians 4:4, 5 *“There is one body and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; one Lord, one faith, one baptism.”*

📖 Romans 6:3, 4 *“Or do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus have been baptized into His death? Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, in order that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life.”*

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## Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

📖 *“Guard, through the Holy Spirit who dwells in us, the treasure which has been entrusted to you.”* 2 Timothy 1:14

➤ The Holy Spirit dwells permanently in every believer the moment they trust Jesus as Savior.

### I. Jesus proclaimed that the indwelling Holy Spirit would be coming.

John 14:16, 17; cf. 14:26; 15:26; 16:7-15

*“And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not behold Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you, and will be in you.”*

### II. The indwelling ministry of the Holy Spirit did not begin until after the death of Jesus.

This leads to some confusion on the application of verses which speak of the Spirit before His death.

A. Before the death of Jesus, believers could be empowered by the Holy Spirit for special service to God (Exodus 31:3; 35:31; Judges 3:10; 6:34; 11:29; 13:25; 1 Samuel 10:9-10; 16:13).

1. The empowering of the Holy Spirit was not given to every believer.
2. The empowering ministry was sometimes temporary. This ministry of the Holy Spirit could be removed from an individual (1 Samuel 16:14; Psalm 51:10-11)

NOTE: David’s prayer that the Holy Spirit not be taken from him would not be necessary for today. All believers are now permanently indwelt by the Spirit.

B. Prior to the cross, the Holy Spirit is not said to be “in” those who believed and obeyed God. See John 14:16-17.

Note the following exceptions:

1. Some verses reflect a heathen explanation for the ability to interpret dreams given to Joseph and Daniel.

Genesis 41:38 “in whom is a divine spirit”

Daniel 4:8 “in whom is a spirit of the living gods”

Daniel 5:11-14 “in whom is a spirit of the holy gods’

2. Numbers 27:18 Joshua is said to be “a man in whom is the Spirit.”

The Hebrew preposition used in this passage can mean “in” or “with.” To be consistent with the rest of Scripture, “a man with whom is the Spirit” would be the expected translation. Again see John 14:16,17.

C. Christians today do not need to ask for the Holy Spirit.

Luke 11:13 *“how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him?”*

This passage was for certain individual believers before the cross, before the Holy Spirit was given to every believer.

- D. Christians today do not need the Holy Spirit “breathed” upon them.  
John 22:22 *“He breathed on them, and said to them, ‘Receive the Holy Spirit.’”*  
This bestowal of the Holy Spirit upon the disciples was to empower them until the day of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit was permanently given to them.  
Breathing the Holy Spirit upon someone or “slaying” in the Spirit would not be a legitimate practice today.

**III. The outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all believers took place in stages.**

- A. Acts 2. The Holy Spirit was given to disciples of Jesus.
- B. Acts 8. The Holy Spirit was given to Samaritans.
- C. Acts 10. The Holy Spirit was given to Gentiles.
- D. Acts 19. The Holy Spirit was given to disciples of John the Baptist.

**IV. The Holy Spirit indwells all Christians today.**

- A. The church body is the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.  
1 Corinthians 3:16 *“Do you not know that you are a temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you?”*  
Also Ephesians 2:19-22
- B. Each individual is the dwelling place of the Holy Spirit.  
1 Corinthians 6:19 *“Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and that you are not your own?”*  
Also John 14:17
- C. All who belong to Christ are indwelled by the Holy Spirit.  
Romans 8:9-11 *“But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.”*
- D. The indwelling Holy Spirit gives assurance that God abides in us and we in Him.  
1 John 3:24; 4:13 *“By this we know that we abide in Him and He in us, because He has given us His Spirit.”*



# Sealed by the Holy Spirit

As part of my new identity in Christ I have been sealed by and with the Holy Spirit.

➤ **The Holy Spirit is given to each believer as a guarantee of the permanence of salvation.**

📖 Ephesians 4:30 *“Do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”*

📖 Ephesians 1:13-14 *“In Him, you also, after listening to the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation – having also believed, you were sealed in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise, who is given as a pledge of our inheritance, with a view to the redemption of God’s own possession, to the praise of His glory.”*

📖 2 Corinthians 1:21-22 *“Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and anointed us is God, who also sealed us and gave us the Spirit in our hearts as a pledge.”*

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## I. Historical background

- A. A seal was usually made from hot wax which was placed on a document and then impressed with a signet ring. It was “a portable instrument used to stamp a document or other article... The impression made therewith has the same legal validity as an actual signature,... Indeed, the importance attached to this method is so great that, without a seal, no document is considered authentic. In a similar manner, coffers, doors of houses and tombs were sealed.” (Unger’s bible Dictionary)
- B. See Daniel 6:17 The king’s seal on the lion’s den  
Matthew 27:62-66 A seal on the tomb of Jesus
- C. The seal represented ownership, authority, and security.

## II. Observations

- A. Every believer is sealed at the moment of salvation. (Ephesians 1:13)
- B. The Spirit Himself is the seal. (2 Corinthians 1:22)
- C. The duration of sealing is “unto the day of redemption,” the final redemption of the believer. (Ephesians 4:30)
- D. The result of sealing is eternal security. The salvation of a believer is guaranteed. (Ephesians 1:14 “pledge’)  
The pledge is a guarantee or a down payment for our heavenly inheritance.  
As one means of guaranteeing His promises to those who have received Jesus Christ, God has **sealed them in Him with the Holy Spirit of promise.**

**III. The significance of the seal.**

**A. The seal signifies ownership.**

The Holy Spirit marks believers as God’s possession. We are the “document” sealed. From the moment of sealing on, we fully and eternally belong to Him.

**B. The seal signifies authority.**

1. Only the sender and recipient could open a seal. God is both the one who seals the one to whom those sealed are destined. Only He can remove the seal.
2. Believers are identified as being under the authority of God, delegated to carry out His directions to proclaim, teach, minister, and defend God’s Word and His gospel.

**C. The seal signifies security.**

The sealing ministry of the Holy Spirit gives the believer assurance of salvation.



**Application:**

**How does living out my identity in Christ as one who has been regenerated, indwelt, baptized, and sealed by the Holy Spirit impact my life in the following areas?**

1. My personal well-being (my heart’s desire for security, significance, and acceptance; my thinking; my will, my emotions)
2. My relationship with God
3. My interaction with others
  - a. My relationships with others (spouse, family, friends, co-workers)
  - b. My service to the body of Christ (make disciples; how I view others who are “in Christ”)
  - c. My interaction with the world around me (my testimony / witness for Jesus Christ)

