

John 7:39, “(But this spake he of the **Spirit**, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified).”

Romans 5:5, “And hope maketh not ashamed; **because the love of God is shed aboard in our hearts by the Holy Ghost which is given unto us.**”

Acts 15:8, “And God, which knoweth the hearts, bare them witness, **giving them the Holy Ghost, even as he did unto us.**”

Acts 5:32, “And we are his witnesses of these things; **and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him.**”

These are just a few verses. but as you have just read, you cannot “walk in the Spirit,” “live in the Spirit,” and be “led of the Spirit,” without having the Spirit! Everyone that was a part of the New Testament Church was a “born again” believer, which meant they had received the Holy Ghost and had spoken in tongues. Without exception, this was the case. Accepting the Lord as a personal savior was never part of the gospel message and simply believing is not enough.

Obedience to Acts 2:38 is the New Testament plan of salvation! So let me ask you, **have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?**

Obey Acts 2:38!

Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.



THE CENTER OF PENTECOST

SERVICES

Sunday 10AM & 6PM
Monday Prayer 7PM
Wednesday 7PM
Friday Prayer 7PM

Pastor Keith and Donna Walker

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THE GIFT OF THE



HOLY GHOST

“I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire...”

Matthew 3:11

THE GIFT OF THE HOLY GHOST

In Acts chapter nineteen, the apostle Paul came to the city of Ephesus and found some disciples of John the Baptist. The first question he asked them was, “Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?” They responded by telling Paul that they had not heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

After Paul taught them about the Holy Ghost and the necessity of being baptized, he rebaptized them in the name of Jesus Christ. He then laid his hands upon them and they received the gift of the Holy Ghost with the evidence of speaking in other tongues.

This event points out quite clearly that simply believing is not enough to be saved; you also need to be baptized and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. The Bible says in Acts 8:12, “But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.” This verse reinforces the following:

1. True belief in Christ will lead people to get baptized, because “faith without works is dead.” (James 2:20)
2. Believing in Christ does not necessarily mean you have the Holy Ghost, as you’re about to see...

When the apostles at Jerusalem heard about all the good things that took place under Phillip, they sent Peter and John to Samaria. Acts 8:15-16, lets us know what happened when they arrived: “Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, **that they might receive the Holy Ghost**: (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus).” The key words here are: “that they might receive the Holy Ghost.” In other words, there was no guarantee **that they would receive the gift of the Holy Ghost**, because that was dependent upon whether or not they repented of their sins. Acts 2:38 says, “Then Peter said unto them, **Repent**, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost.”

So this event proves once again that: (1) simply believing is not enough and (2) believing does not necessarily mean the you have the gift of the Holy Ghost.

Why is the Holy Ghost so important? The Holy Ghost is essential to the Christian because without the Spirit of God: (1) you cannot be saved and (2) you cannot live an overcoming life. That is why the early church insisted that people have the Holy Ghost. Let’s look at what the Bible says about this:

Romans 8:9 “But ye are not in the flesh, but in the Spirit, **if so be that the Spirit of God dwell in you. Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his.**”

Romans 8:11, “But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, **he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also quicken your mortal bodies by his Spirit that dwelleth in you.**”

John 3:5, “Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of water **and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.**”

Romans 8:14, “**For as many as are led by the Spirit of God**, they are the sons of God.”

1 Corinthians 6:11, “And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, **and by the Spirit of our God.**”

Galatians 3:14, “That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; **that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.**”

Galatians 5:16, “This I say then, **Walk in the Spirit**, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.”

Galatians 5:25, “If we **live in the Spirit**, let us also walk in the **Spirit.**”

Acts 1:8, “**But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you**: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”