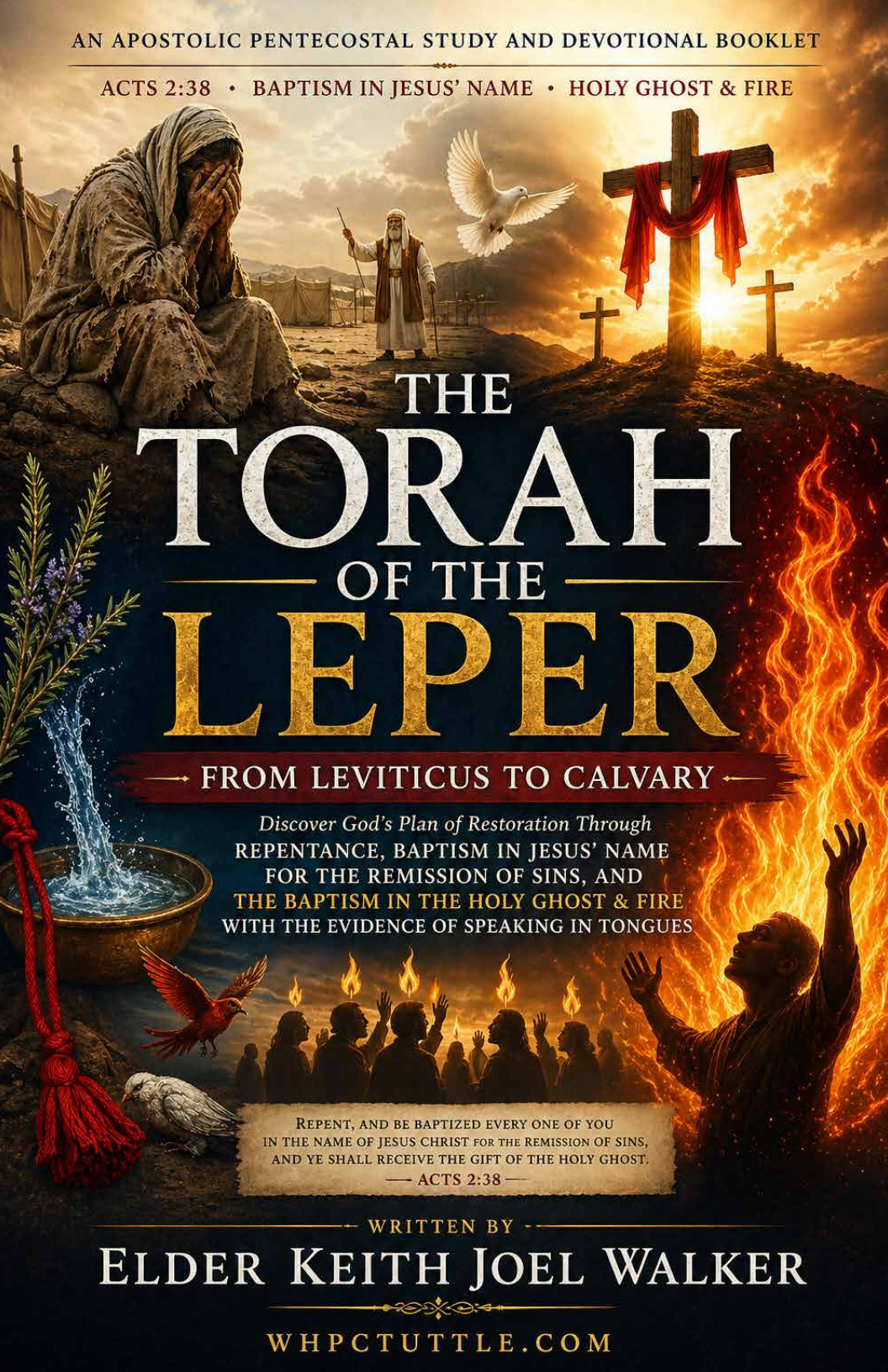


AN APOSTOLIC PENTECOSTAL STUDY AND DEVOTIONAL BOOKLET


ACTS 2:38 • BAPTISM IN JESUS' NAME • HOLY GHOST & FIRE



THE TORAH OF THE LEPER

— FROM LEVITICUS TO CALVARY —

Discover God's Plan of Restoration Through
REPENTANCE, BAPTISM IN JESUS' NAME
FOR THE REMISSION OF SINS, AND
THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY GHOST & FIRE
WITH THE EVIDENCE OF SPEAKING IN TONGUES



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.

— ACTS 2:38 —

— WRITTEN BY —

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An Apostolic Pentecostal Study and Devotional Booklet (With Emphasis on Acts 2:38, Baptism in Jesus' Name, and the Baptism in the Holy Ghost and Fire with the Evidence of Speaking in Tongues)

Purpose

To examine Leviticus 13–14 (“the Torah of the leper”), trace its spiritual meaning from the Old Testament into the New, and draw Apostolic Pentecostal applications emphasizing the plan of redemption: repentance, water baptism in Jesus’ name for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38), and the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire with the evidence of speaking in tongues.

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Key Additions and Integrations

Introduction

This study recognizes the Law's cleansing rites as pointing to Christ's atoning work and to the continuing ministry of the Holy Spirit. Central to Apostolic Pentecostal conviction is Acts 2:38: repentance, water baptism in Jesus' name for the remission of sins, and receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost. Jesus and the apostles also taught a baptism "with the Holy Ghost and fire" (Luke 3:16; Matthew

3:11). The Spirit's coming (Acts 2) brought tongues as an outward, initial evidence that the promised baptism had occurred. The "purifying fire" is the sanctifying and empowering ministry of the Spirit that cleanses the heart and empowers holy speech and godly living.

2.Spiritual Meaning: Sin, Speech, Separation—and the need for Spirit-fire cleansing

- Tzara'at teaches that spiritual impurity must be cleansed. The New Covenant remedy is Christ's blood plus the Holy Spirit's purifying fire. While the priest oversaw ceremonial restoration, God today restores through the gospel order: repentance, water baptism in Jesus' name (remission of sins), and the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire that cleanses, empowers, and often manifests by speaking in tongues (Acts 2:4; 10:44–46; 19:6).
- The isolation of the leper is remedied by restoration to community through the new birth, sanctification by the Spirit, and the baptism that equips believers to minister and witness.

The Ritual of Cleansing — Symbols, Significance, and Fulfillment in Spirit and Fire

- Two birds (life/death), cedar, hyssop, and scarlet now point not only to atonement but to the dynamic

work of the Spirit:

- Hyssop and cleansing point to the Holy Ghost's purifying work (John 3:5; Titus 3:5).
- Scarlet and blood point to Christ's sacrifice (Hebrews 9).
- The anointing of ear, thumb, and toe points to Spirit-applied holiness that changes hearing, acting, and walking—effects fulfilled by the Holy Ghost's sealing and sanctifying power.
- The “baptism with fire” is the Spirit's purifying flame (Luke 3:16; Matthew 3:11). The Spirit's coming both cleanses and empowers believers for witness and holy living (Acts 1:8).

Fulfillment in Christ and New Testament Teaching (Acts 2:38 as the plan)

- Acts 2:1–4: On Pentecost, the disciples received the Holy Ghost and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave utterance. This was the promised outpouring (Joel 2; Acts 2:16–21).
- Acts 2:38: Peter's response to repentance is the Apostolic model—repent, be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. This is presented as the plan of redemption to enter into the benefits of Christ's atonement and the Spirit's empowering presence.
- Acts 10:44–46 and Acts 19:1–6 demonstrate that

Gentiles and new believers received the Spirit and spoke with tongues—confirming the Spirit’s gift accompanies conversion/infilling.

- John the Baptist’s words (Luke 3:16; Matthew 3:11) anticipate the Spirit’s baptism “with fire”—not merely symbolic warmth but a purifying, empowering outpouring.
- Paul (1 Corinthians 12–14) addresses tongues within the church as both a spiritual gift and a sign; his teaching helps order the expression while affirming its presence and value.

Apostolic Pentecostal Applications

Core steps in the plan of redemption and practical application:

- Conviction and Repentance: An honest turning from sin is the first step (Acts 2:38). Like the metzora’s quarantine, repentance separates the sinner from sin.
- Water Baptism in Jesus’ Name for Remission of Sins: Obedience to Acts 2:38’s baptismal pattern is the doorway to forgiveness and public identification with Christ’s death, burial, and resurrection (Acts 2:38; Romans 6:3–4). This is restoration comparable to the priest’s pronouncement of cleanliness—only now accomplished by Christ and applied through baptism in His name.

- **Baptism in the Holy Ghost and Fire:** After baptism, believers are to seek the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire. This baptism purifies the inward person, empowers for witness and holy speech, and often is evidenced initially by speaking in tongues (Acts 2:4; Acts 10:44–46; Acts 19:1–6).
- **Speaking in Tongues as Initial Physical Evidence:** In Apostolic Pentecostal doctrine, the initial physical evidence of the baptism in the Holy Ghost is speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance. This is taught from the pattern in Acts (2, 10, 19) and affirmed in praxis and experience across Pentecostal churches.
- **Anointing, Laying on Hands, and Ongoing Sanctification:** James 5:14–16 and the apostolic laying on of hands (Acts 8:14–17; 19:6) continue the pattern of invoking the Spirit for healing and fuller sanctifying power.
- **Church Discipline, Restoration, and Environmental Cleansing:** Follow biblical discipline that aims for repentance and restoration; use the means God provides—water baptism, Spirit-baptism, prayer, reconciliation, and discipleship—to rebuild what was corrupted.

Model Service of Cleansing, Water Baptism, and Baptism in the Holy Ghost with Evidence

A suggested order for a church or small group seeking comprehensive restoration and the Spirit's infilling:

- Scripture reading: Leviticus 13–14; Acts 2:1–4; Acts 2:38; Luke 3:16.
- Brief sermon: Sin of the tongue, need for repentance, Acts 2:38 plan, and the promise of the Holy Ghost and fire.
- Invitation to repentance: Private time for confession, and public corporate confession led by the pastor.
- Baptismal service in the name of Jesus Christ: Candidates confess Christ, are baptized in Jesus' name for the remission of sins (Acts 2:38).
- Laying on of hands and prayer for the Holy Ghost: Leaders pray specifically for the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, asking God to fill, purify, and empower.
- Encouragement to expect tongues: Teach what tongues are, their biblical pattern, and expect the Spirit to give utterance. Provide a time of waiting and prayer; allow freedom for those who receive to express tongues in praise.
- Anointing and prayer for continued sanctification: Pray for the Spirit's ongoing work to sanctify hearing, hands, and feet (ear, thumb, toe symbolism).
- Testimony and praise: Invite those who have received to testify; build faith in the congregation.

- Follow-up: Discipleship and accountability groups to help integrate the cleansing, baptism, and Spirit-filled life.

Scripture Passages on the Holy Ghost,
Fire, and Tongues

(key references to study and read in service)

- Acts 2:1–4 — Pentecost: Spirit falls, they speak in tongues.
- Acts 2:38 — Repent, be baptized in Jesus’ name for remission, receive gift of Holy Ghost.
- Luke 3:16; Matthew 3:11 — John’s prophecy of baptism with the Holy Ghost and fire.
- Acts 10:44–46 — Gentiles receive the Spirit and speak in tongues.
- Acts 19:1–6 — Ephesians receive the Holy Ghost and speak in tongues.
- Acts 1:5, 8 — Promise of Spirit and power to witness.
- 1 Corinthians 12–14 — Spiritual gifts, order, and the place of tongues; 14:18 (Paul speaks in tongues).
- James 5:14–16; Acts 8:14–17; Romans 6:3–4; Hebrews 9 & 10 — cleansing and atonement themes.
- John 7:37–39; John 3:5 — Spirit implications for new birth and living water.

A Closing Prayer for Cleansing, Remission, and the Spirit-Fire Baptism

Heavenly Father, we thank You for Jesus—the Lamb who bore our sin. We repent of our sins and call on the name of Jesus. By Your grace we are baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of our sins. We ask now, Father, for the baptism of the Holy Ghost and fire. Fill us, purify us, empower us to speak holy words, to do holy works, and to walk in holiness. As the Spirit gives utterance, we receive the gift and speak with new tongues, praising You and testifying of Your power. Set us apart, sanctify our ears, hands, and feet, and send us forth with boldness. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Conclusion

The Torah of the leper shows God's care to diagnose impurity and provide a path to restoration. The New Covenant fulfills these types in Christ's atonement and the Spirit's purifying and empowering ministry. The Apostolic plan of redemption—repentance, water baptism in Jesus' name for remission of sins, and the baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire, with the initial evidence of speaking in tongues—brings people from isolation into restored relationship, holiness, and power for witness.

Written By Elder Keith Joel Walker