

Is the Church Still in Transition? Part 2

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I. Introduction.

- A. An essential part of the ministry involves rebuke. (II Timothy 4:2, Acts 20:29)
- B. One is to correct in love, but an open rebuke is better than secret love. (Ephesians 4:15, Proverbs 27:5)
- C. The best relationship is open love. The second best relationship is open rebuke. The truth must be spoken.

II. The issue of historical transition is important for understanding the teaching of the charismatic movement. (Acts 2:4)

- A. Charismatics teach that the Christian receives the Spirit at conversion in a limited way. "The Baptism of the Spirit" happens later and results in spiritual gifts. They teach that every Christian is baptized into Jesus, but not everyone is baptized into the Spirit.
- B. The Bible simply teaches that a believer is baptized into the Spirit at conversion. Evidence of a second Spirit Baptism is found nowhere. (I Corinthians 12, 14, Acts 8, 10, 18, 19)
- C. The book of Acts is a book of transition. (Ephesians 2)
 - 1. Peter addresses Israel as Israel distinct from the church. (Acts 2:12, Matthew 8)
 - 2. Peter re-offers the kingdom to Israel later. (Acts 3)
 - 3. This is however not normative because Israel is set aside. (Romans 11)
 - 4. Acts shows transition while the epistles teach what is normative. Hebrews explains the transition (10:24-25, 10:14). It is not normative today to offer the kingdom to Israel. (Deuteronomy 6:26)
 - 5. Paul took a Jewish vow because he was a man in transition. (Acts 18:18, Numbers 6, Acts 21)

Application questions:

1. Why is correction important to the life of the church?

2. What bearing does the fact that Acts is a book in transition have upon the claims that Baptism of the Spirit happens after conversion?

3. How would you respond to someone making a claim like this?
