

Receive the Holy Spirit

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I. Introduction.

- A. We deal with difficult passages by looking at it in the passage, dealing with it in light of other passages dealing with similar topics and working with the passages in the original languages.
- B. The reception of the Spirit happens at conversion.
- C. The people that Paul encountered in Ephesus never had heard about the giving of the Spirit.

II. Two kinds of people in the world: those in the flesh and those in the Spirit. (Romans 8:9)

- A. The one without the Spirit of Christ is no Christian.
- B. God puts the Holy Spirit as a stamp of God's ownership on the person who believes. (Ephesians 1:11-12)
- C. People do not need to receive the Holy Spirit after conversion.

III. The people were only baptized into John's baptism, which was one of repentance because of the kingdom of heaven.

- A. John's ministry was preparative.
- B. Paul filled in the rest of the story.
- C. It is imperative to believe that Jesus died for us personally and that he came to live in us and rule over us.

Application questions:

1. What is the relationship between the baptism of John and the baptism of the Spirit?

2. How would you respond to someone who says that we are baptized by the Spirit sometime after belief in Christ?

3. How should we deal with difficult passages in Scripture? Explain.
