

HOW TO RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT ...AND HOW YOU KNOW YOU HAVE HIM

*"This only would I learn of you,
Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law,
or by the hearing of faith?"*

~ Galatians 3:2

1. A Big Problem

- a. The Galatians had a problem understanding the Spirit's work
- b. Paul asks a seemingly simple question of the Galatians, still asked today
- c. 1.2 billion Catholics, 290 million Pentecostals, millions more get this wrong
- d. The Twelve apostles did not have the Spirit - Matt 3:11, John 7:39, 16:7
- e. If you don't have the Spirit of Christ, you are not his - Rom 8:9
- f. The Spirit baptizes you into the body of Christ - 1 Cor 12:13
- g. Is there a second blessing? A second baptism? When do we receive the Spirit?
- h. How do we know? Is it a feeling? tongues? power? a more holy life? more money?

2. Why It Can Be Confusing

- a. Jesus gives the Spirit by breathing? - John 20:21-23
- b. Tarrying? - Luke 24:49, Acts 1:4,8
- c. Speaking in tongues? - Mark 16:17, Ac 2:4
- d. Water baptism? - Acts 2:38
- e. Prayer? - Acts 4:31
- f. Works? - James 2:26; John 14:14-17
- g. By laying on of hands? - Acts 8:14-17, 19:1-7

3. How to Receive the Spirit

- a. You are sealed with the Spirit after you hear and trust the gospel - Eph 1:13
- b. The central issue here is the gospel - what did they believe? Mark 16:16
- c. No one knew the gospel of grace until it was revealed to Paul - Ro 1:16
- d. Paul explains how the promise of the Spirit is received by faith - Gal 3:2-14
- e. A failure to see the revelation of the mystery leads to spiritual confusion

4. How You Know

- a. It is not Wesley's "heart warming", nor a move of the Spirit, "God bless you"
- b. Peter knew by signs, but he did not know the mystery - Act 10:44-5; 15:6-9
- c. Do all speak with tongues? No, 1 Cor 12:30. It can not be an initial evidence.
 - i. Rom 10:9-10, which is not the gospel, feeds this problem
- d. Do you trust the gospel? Rom 3:24-25, Eph 1:5-7, 13
- e. Do you know the love of God? - Rom 5:1,5-8
- f. Are you saved under the law or without it? - Gal 4:3-7; Rom 8:14-16
- g. Do you know the things freely given to you by God? - Rom 8:11, 32, 1 Cor 2:10-14
- h. Then you must know that the Spirit of God dwells in you - 1 Cor 3:9, 16