



Foundation Principles of our faith that cannot be overlooked

You will find reference to these foundation Principles mentioned in the letter to the Hebrews Chapter 1, verses 1 and 2. [Heb 6:1-2](#). It was these principles that I found were the mainstay in my walk with the Lord from the day I asked the Lord into my life and form a firm foundation as they all point to the Person of Jesus Christ and what He has accomplished for us.

1. Principle 1: Repentance from ACTS that lead to death (dead works) and FAITH in God

We are **justified** by faith alone in Jesus Christ - the central truth of the gospel. Justification is a legal status we attain before the Court of Heaven after Jesus paid for all our sins for eternity and the Father pronounced that we were “acquitted” from all guilt. (**Grk: *dikaioo***: justified: to be declared or pronounced righteous or just by God, to be acquitted from wrong-doing) – [Gal 3:1-29](#)

RELEVANT SCRIPTURES

- [Heb 5:11-6:3](#)
- [Luke 6:46-49](#)
- [Matt 16:15-19](#)
- [1 Cor 3:11](#)
- [1 Pet 2:1-5](#)
- [Gal 1:6-8](#)
- [Gal 2:15-16](#)
- [Rom 3:20-28](#)
- [Rom 5:1.2](#)

From the above we can conclude:

- Repentance means a deliberate, intelligent and knowing change of mind. Owning up to our error, sin or the lie we believed and asking His for forgiveness (Implies a reversal of decision, 180° change of direction) [2 Cor 7.9-11](#)
- Repentance comes **before** forgiveness and is the initial experience of conversion.
- Man is **justified by faith in Jesus Christ** not by “works” (anything we do to “save ourselves or look good” in God’s eyes rooted in fear or pride). It is judicial state we stand in after acquittal before the Judge of all the earth for all wrong-doing because of our faith and trust in Jesus Christ and His sacrificial payment for our sin on our behalf. No-one can pay for their own sin as we are guilty just as any court would declare! A sinner cannot be acquitted through sacrificing themselves, they remain guilty but in coming in humility before God the Father and acknowledging our sin and His Son’s work on the Cross for us, asking His forgiveness, we stand acquitted by His Grace and Mercy.
- Man's salvation does not depend on the things he does (e.g. helping others, going to church, paying tithes, prayers, keeping laws) – it starts with surrender before God and keeps an eye on our MOTIVES! God is more interested in our character than our activities.
- Dead works are deeds done to self-justify - works which earn God's favour and thus tries to discharge us from the guilt of sin. This can never be sufficient nor acceptable to a Just and Holy God.

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- Jesus Christ is the **only** man who completely fulfilled God's laws, was totally obedient to the Father and was pure (Holy) and without sin. So, it pleased the Father to ask His sinless Son to take our place on that Cross and die with our sin in Him, so that **we could be free and forgiven – justified**. Although it took all His strength to face it, as we read in the Garden, in obedience to His Father He surrendered to the most barbaric and painful torture ever devised by man for you and me! It was **our sin** in Jesus on the cross that caused the Father to turn away from His Son and caused Jesus to cry out "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" (**Grk: forsaken – egkatalaipo**: to leave, abandon, desert). [Matt 27:46](#); echoing [Ps 22:1-31](#).
- If you want to see the prophesy that Jesus Himself read and realised it was His Father's purpose, read [Isaiah 53: 1-12](#). Have some tissues nearby. This is our wonderful Saviour. Such love.

So by now you will realise that Salvation is purely through faith and trust in Jesus Christ as the only way. To continue as a believe, you must have the same attitude of faith - **I accept the truth (His Word) because God says so! God says it, I believe it, that seals it!**

- [Col 1:21-23](#)
- [Gal 2:16](#)
- [Col 2:6-8](#)
- [Acts 20:17-21](#)
- [Luke 24:36-47](#)
- [Acts 3:13-19](#)
- [Rom 10:1-13](#)
- [Titus 3:5-7](#)
- [Romans 3:9-20](#)
- [Gal 2:20-21](#)
- [James 4:1-3](#)
- [James 2:18-26](#)
- [Rom 3:23-24](#)
- [Rom 5:8-11](#)
- [Eph 2:8-10](#)

Faith in God is distinct from hope in God. (e.g. Abraham's faith) - [Heb 11:1-19](#); [1 Thess 5:4-11](#). Hope says "I hope that God will let me into Heaven", Faith says "I know Jesus has promised those who believe in Him and trust His Word will enter heaven, and I believe Him." The difference is the **assurance** in the heart (**Grk: assurance - hypostasis** – trust, confidence, being sure). It's a state of calm waiting for what you know is His truth or deciding to obey what He is saying, although you have nothing to prove it will happen – that's what Abraham did – he acted on just His Word although he did not know where that would lead him.

PRACTICAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Can you explain with confidence the difference between dead works and true faith?
2. Is there any thought or belief you still hold that seeks to justify your salvation by what you are doing for God or in His name?
3. Do you realise that your ongoing effective Christian walk depends on a continued willingness to repent of any act that is sinful or selfish and remain in a state of surrender to the Lord? It does not



matter how many times you ask His forgiveness, the Cross has covered it, but in order to walk on you need to acknowledge your wrong-doing (thought, word or deed) before Him and ask His forgiveness. That art of contrition affects you more than you can say and eventually you realise how the repetition of the wrong-doing hurts you and pains the Father. He always forgives and cleanses you from its defilement at that moment so you can spend a few moments thanking Him ([Is. 30:15](#); [1 John 1: 8-10](#)).

“If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us”

4. Would you like to invite the Holy Spirit to examine the real **motives** – the state of your heart in effect? Ask Him to point anything out that is not right. He is always true and responds immediately if there is something – He will bring it to your mind one way or another. If He does not show you anything – thank Him and rejoice! [Psa 139:23-24](#).
5. Take a few moments to examine your life, ask the Lord to help you identify any things you do which are really “**dead works**”? (by definition something that relies on our own ability, intelligence, skills alone and is motivated by fear, ambition or greed, the love of money or religiosity and so is motivated by the flesh – that which we need to “put to death” – [Romans 6:1-14](#) – those are dead works!)

So basically, baptism in water is not only a public testimony of our faith in Jesus Christ as Lord and Saviour but also our acknowledgement that we will no longer allow our sinful nature to be the motivation for our actions, to master us again. In other words, we must no longer be motivated by selfishness and the desires of our flesh. Instead, in following Jesus we must seek the Father and seek to do what pleases Him, just as Jesus did. Choosing His life by putting to death our carnal nature. This you cannot do by “trying harder” you need to surrender yourself to the work of the Holy Spirit in you and respond to Him when He points anything out that needs attention.

Impossible? No, not at all, but difficult, yes! Thankfully the Lord gave us the Holy Spirit to teach us, remind us, and direct us to His ways of doing things (the path of righteousness). It’s like when you come and surrender to the Lord your conscience is on steroids! You know when you are going down the wrong path – you feel guilty, shame and annoyed with yourself all at once!! Sometimes it feels like you can’t stop yourself falling into that old pattern of sinful behaviour – if you can turn to the Lord immediately and ask for His help and proclaim the truth – you are justified by the Blood of the Lamb. If however, you fall, pick yourself up again and go the Lord and tell Him about it. I have found sometimes He shows you the underlying reason you are driven back to those things that used to captivate you. That knowledge helps to keep your conscience pure and strengthens your resolve for when you get tempted again. Our enemy, Satan, and his demons will keep on at you until you stand firm and say **no**. [1 Pet 5:5-11](#).

The solution is fairly straight forward – take it to the Lord and ask His forgiveness and ask Him to clean you and thank Him. Ask Him to strengthen you to say “No” next time and turn away from the temptation. [1 John 1:8-10](#); [James 1:1-27](#).

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“If we say that we have no sin, we are deceiving ourselves and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, He is faithful and righteous to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. If we say that we have not sinned, we make Him a liar and His word is not in us.”

FAITH IS THE ASSURANCE OF THINGS HOPED FOR, THE CONVICTION OF THINGS NOT SEEN – [Heb 11:1](#); [Romans 8:1-39](#).

NOTES

- Faith does not depend on the 5 senses alone. What appears to be true is sometimes not. This world is both spiritual and physical. What you and I cannot see is what is going on, the motives, of another person's heart or their thoughts. Things of the spirit are only known through the Spirit, so beware of judging things based on what they appear. It is true as you get to know someone well you find you can read what they are thinking from their facial and body expression but always check **with them** before coming to a conclusion. [John 7:24](#); [5:19-30](#)
- Faith is the conviction, the absolute trust, the assurance of things we do not see - Faith perceiving as real fact what is not yet revealed to the senses, because God says so.
- Any "work" done in faith is then directed by the Holy Spirit and based on His leading. As it says in this scripture “10 For we *are His workmanship*, created in Christ Jesus *for good works, which God prepared beforehand so that we would walk in them*” [Eph 2:4-10](#).
- Walking in the Spirit fulfils all righteousness. Walking in the Spirit means setting our minds on the things of the Spirit. Keeping "in step" with being "in the Spirit" and being willing to obey Him when He speaks or reveals what work He wants you to be involved in.
- The life of a believer depends on faith and through faith we have peace, forgiveness, are delivered from the wrath of God, are heirs of eternal life, enter into Spirit-led good works and can rejoice in God. Its an exciting and amazing walk!

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Read the following scriptures for homework and see how they relate to practical faith:

- [2 Cor 5:1-10](#)
 - [John 11:1-46](#)
 - [Rom 7:1-25](#)
 - [Prov 3:5-6](#)
 - [Luke 18:18-30](#)
 - [Luke 6:41-45](#)
 - [Col 1: 9-12](#)
 - [Rom 8:1-17](#)
 - [Gal 5.16-26](#)
 - [Romans 1:16-32](#)
1. Is your belief in God or is your faith dependant on how you "see" or "feel"? How do you know the difference? As you know emotions are notoriously changeable so one of the things God tries to do is wean us off our reliance on emotions or what we “see” (judge by our eyes) as the basis for making decisions. He provides us with His Word on a matter – take “*I will never leave you nor forsake you*” on a day when you are feeling down and He seems “far away”, it is very tempting to feel deserted and forsaken by Him. But if you turn to His word on the matter and choose to

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believe it, that is faith – you can't see it, you don't feel it, but it is true nonetheless!! Jesus knows we are often tempted by fear and anxiety, so He wants us to turn to Him for His Word to believe Him not our feelings. ([John 14:27-29](#); [Heb 13:5-6](#); [John 14:1-6](#); [Deut 31:6](#); [Is 41:17](#); [1 Chron 28:20](#))

2. When you read what God says in His Word do you believe with assurance that it is true for your life, and if so, are you willing to change your life to agree with the truth even though you don't understand it fully? ([1 Cor 2:1-11](#))
3. Am you willing to risk the life of faith - trusting only in God's Word on the matter? ([Rom 5:1-11](#); [Acts 13:38-39](#))

FAITH WORKS BY LOVE - LOVE IS FAITH IN ACTION - [1 Tim 1:2-6](#); [Gal 5:1-6](#); [1 John 4:20-21](#); [1 Pet1:10-23](#)

NOTES

Faith in Action

1. Asking God ([Luke 11:1-13](#))
2. Listening to Him
3. Knowing what God is saying or showing
4. Getting confirmation
5. Being confident it is true
6. Proclaiming it before the Throne
7. Acting on it
8. Living in it until you receive what you perceived by faith



2. Principle 2: The Teaching on Baptisms (or Washings)

One Baptism yet 4 elements (For ease of teaching and understanding)

In some translations the word used is “washings”, but the Greek word used is Baptizo - Baptisms.

Baptism Definition: Baptizo: derived from bapto: to cover fully with liquid. (e.g. dyeing a cloth) By Baptism into His death and being raised to walk in newness of life we have been baptised into His Body, are able to "witness" to this by Baptism in water, are able to receive the promised gift of the Holy Spirit through the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and, by being His followers become partakers in the baptism of suffering.

2.1 Baptism into the Body of Christ -

When you come to faith in Christ Jesus you are effectively submerged into the universal Body of Christ. ([Eph 4:4-7](#); [1 Cor 10:16-17](#))

- The local body is the functional home or fellowship that allows you gather with other believers but wherever you are fellowshipping you are by implication part of the universal body of Christ. It's important that you look for a “spiritual home” among the Fellowships around you if at all possible. (The whole Body of Christ is trans-denominational). Ask the Lord to lead you to the right one. Warning: no fellowship is perfect because it is made up of flawed people like you and me!
- Each believer is under the oversight of that Fellowship. You should be able to approach the leaders to get help and guidance if you are unsure of anything and you should be receiving teaching to help you grow in your relationship with your heavenly Father. That said it is Jesus' church and everything that happens in that fellowship should reflect His heart for you.
- Christians should come together often for encouragement and teaching. ([Acts 2:42](#); [Heb 10:23-25](#))
- Believers must be willing to be taught and corrected if necessary.
- Commitment to full participation is DEVOTION.

RELEVANT SCRIPTURES

- [Eph 4:4-7](#)
- [Rom 6:1-14](#)
- [1 Cor 12:13-14](#)
- [Eph 4:1-32](#)
- [Eph 5:15-21](#)
- [Col 3:1-17](#)
- [Heb 13:17](#)
- [Heb 10:19-25](#)
- [2 Cor 8:1-7](#)
- [2 Cor 9:6-15](#)

PRACTICAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Do you see yourself as part of the local Body and the trans-denominational Body?
2. Are you willing to submit (acknowledge the spiritual maturity and responsibility for your spiritual good, guidance and growth) to the leaders in your fellowship?

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3. Do you actively look for opportunity to gather informally and formally with other believers?
4. Are you a "FIT" Christian? (Flexible, Involved, Teachable)
5. Do you leave all responsibility to do things to the leaders or others, or do you move to help those with needs you can give generously to? [Eph 4:14-16](#)
6. Are you willing to work together with someone of a different temperament? (Who thinks and acts differently to you!)

NOTES

2.2 Baptism in Water - [Matt 28:19-20](#)

From the definition of baptism above we believe that Water Baptism is by full immersion and is a natural step following the believer's coming to faith. Thus, although we do "dedicate" our children to Christ, calling on their parents to bring them up in Christ's ways, and the fellowship to support the parents in doing this, we do not see "Christening" as anything more than providing an occasion to name a child and bless them. It does not in effect *make them* a Christian because as at that age they are not able to make any meaningful commitment to Christ. So what does Water Baptism really mean?

- Confession before men the sealing of salvation. [Rom 10:8-9](#); [Mark 8:38](#)
- Stating belief by lips, by life and by baptism. [2 Cor 5:14-17](#)
- Baptism comes after believing in Christ. [Mark 16:15-16](#); [Acts 2:38-39](#); [Acts 10:47-48](#)
- Water Baptism does not save in itself [1 Pet 3:17-22](#)
- Salvation is only by our faith, but it is our willing obedience to His Word that brings reward [Luke 7:28-30](#); [John 14:15](#)
- The 'inquiring' of a good conscience towards God. An act of obedience and faith. [1 Pet 3:21](#); [Acts 8:25-40](#)
- Baptism is our public identification with Christ's death, burial and resurrection and our death to our selfish life. It is declaring ourselves to be dead to sin and the "old life" in front of witnesses. [Rom 6:1-14](#)

2.3 Baptism of Suffering: hardship or pain undergone affecting or influencing our emotions.

You may at first think this strange that part of God's loving plan is to put us through trials and tribulation, pain and suffering. Every parent knows that discipline is a means used to get your child's attention and to teach them that they cannot have their own way because they do not know enough to make good and safe decisions, and that Mum and Dad usually know best. We are teaching them to come to us and learn from us before they decide to blindly go their own way and also to respect authority, for all authority is put in place by God. ([Rom 13:1-5](#)) So our heavenly Father wants to help us learn to listen to Him and draw close to Him and recognise His Sovereign authority over the Universe. Nothing escapes His notice and ultimately, His justice. Jesus had to go through suffering and the worst kind of injustice to keep focused on the Father's will, which ended at the Cross! Nevertheless, that obedience got us salvation God's way and the promise of eternal life with Him where there will be no pain, sorrow nor injustice! [Heb 5:7-10](#); [Rev 21:1-8](#).

"Suffering" in a child of God can accomplish much: [1 Pet 1:1-9](#); [Phil 1:27-30](#)

- A more intimate knowledge of Jesus Christ if you turn to Him.

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- Clarity on what's right and wrong. The lessons of obedience in being led by the Spirit, if you listen and obey His Word. [Heb 12:1-15](#)
- The testing of the "quality" of our faith, which brings a change inside to be more like Him – this is called the "sanctification" and God always rewards faithfulness under trial – [James 1:2-7](#).

PRACTICAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- Are you willing to be a "follower of Christ"? Do your family and friends know of your love for Jesus? Ask the Lord for an opportunity to do so. For those who are likely to bring a strong rejection of your new-found faith always ask the Lord how best to do this.
- Is your life showing your love for Jesus by being obedient to His Word? [John 14:21](#); [Acts 22:15-16](#)
- Have you fully identified with His death in your life – essentially saying "NO" to ungodly thoughts and actions? As I said above, when you mess up come back to Him, confess it, ask forgiveness and thank Him. [Titus 2:11-15](#); [Gal 2:20](#)

HOMEWORK:

- [Mark 10:38-39](#)
- [Matt 3:11-12](#)
- [2 Cor 1:5-7](#)
- [1 Pet 4:12-19](#)
- [Phil 3:7-16](#)
- [1 Pet 2:21-25](#)
- [Heb 2:9-18](#)

PRACTICAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Is your trust in God deep enough to weather knocks, ridicule, injustices, embarrassments? [1 Pet 4:1-3](#); [Heb 13:12-14](#)
2. Can you see it as a perfection of the power of God in your life? [2 Cor 4:7-18](#); [2 Cor 12:9-10](#)
3. Let the suffering we suffer be for doing good (or just being present) not for us doing wrong. [1 Peter 4:12-19](#)
4. It is a privilege, for by it we are truly identified with Christ. [Phil 1:29-30](#); [Acts 5:41-42](#)
5. Are you willing to identify with Christ in suffering as well? It is often where we are accused falsely, or excluded unjustly, embarrassed or taken advantage of wrongly. [1 Pet 3: 14-15](#); [Heb 11:32-40](#); [1 Pet 5:6-11](#); [1 Cor 10:13](#); [Luke 24:46-49](#)

2.4 Baptism in the Holy Spirit: The power or strength to do what God wants of us.

The coming of the promised Holy Spirit at Pentecost truly transformed the believers from a group of fearful hopefuls into a bold group through whom God transformed their generation and impacted the world since. Jesus when He was with them had given them the **authority** (Grk: exousia) to act in His Name and while He was there they could carry out miracles in His name but once He left they were lacking the **power** (Grk: dunamis) from heaven to bring Kingdom power onto this earth. Jesus knew that the Father's plan was to pour out His Holy Spirit on all flesh ([Joel 2: 28-29](#); [Acts 2:14--21](#)) and he



told them to wait until the Spirit came – and this was just the beginning. Read about it in [Acts chapters 1 and 2](#).

- The "promised" outpouring on all flesh was eagerly awaited in Joel's prophesy happened at Pentecost – Pentecost is an annual harvest festival that occurs seven weeks after Passover, which is the **feast of first fruits** after the harvest – perfect timing as always with God's acts.
- The Holy Spirit is mentioned many times in the Old Testament, some examples are:
 - During Creation – [Gen 1:1-3](#)
 - On or in special people during the Old Testament to accomplish God's will – [Exodus 31:1-3](#); [35:31](#); [Numbers 11:17-26](#); [27:18](#)
 - Temporarily "falling on" some people to carry out God's will – [Judges 3:10](#); [6:34](#); [14:6](#); [1 Sam 10:6-10](#); [16:13](#); [2 Sam 23:2](#)
 - Even on those who did not end up following God – [1 Sam 10:6-11](#)
 - Linked to the Messiah, our Lord Jesus – [Isaiah 11:2](#); [42:1-9](#); [61: 1-3](#)
 - Prophecies about the Promised outpouring of the Spirit – [Isaiah 32:15-17](#); [44:2-8](#); [59:21](#); [Ezek 11: 5-19](#); [36:26-27](#); [39:29](#); [Joel 2:28-29](#) (quoted by Simon Peter on the day of Pentecost); and [Zech 4:6-7](#).
- It was clear from the scriptures that the Disciples (also called Apostles) could exercise the same authority and had power to heal and to work miracles as Jesus had demonstrated when He sent them out two by two, as we read in [Matthew 10:1-42](#) – Here Jesus gave His **authority** to the disciples (Greek for **Authority: Exousia**: the authority to command, the royal right to act). This was His *delegated authority* over the demons and in order to heal those that were sick. He makes it clear about the source of that power by saying "Spirit of your Father speaks in you" – and later Jesus says that He cast demons out by the Spirit of God in [Matthew 12:28](#).
- While Jesus was with them this could happen through the anointing and authority He had and delegated to the Disciples. But what would happen when He returned to Heaven? In bodily form He could only be in one place at once, even when in His resurrected body, so how did the Lord deal with this issue? Read on to see His answer.
- It was clear that Jesus acted under the authority of His Heavenly Father and with the power of the Holy Spirit while He was ministering on earth. In [John 7:37-39](#) Jesus Christ spoke of "rivers of living water" that would "flow from the innermost beings" of those who came to Him. He was speaking of the Holy Spirit who would be given after He was glorified, on the third day after the crucifixion ([John 20:19-23](#)).
- The initial touch of the Holy Spirit brings about the "born again" experience, but Jesus was talking about "rivers of living waters" and we see the true significance of this when we look at what happened on the day of Pentecost. ([Acts 2:1-4](#)). So, it is possible for a child of God to be alive spiritually but not filled with the Spirit's power, lacking the power to carry out the works Jesus did. ([John 5:20-21](#); [14:12](#); [Acts 1: 1-8](#)).
- The Holy Spirit came upon those who were waiting in the Upper Room and "filled" them so that they began to "*speak with other tongues*". Now Jesus spoke of this experience as being coincidental to the "baptism in the Holy Spirit" ([Acts 1:5](#)). It was also that which had been mentioned by John the Baptist ([John 1:33](#)).
- It is therefore this joyous overflowing of the "rivers" that bring about the manifestation of speaking in tongues, and the "baptism" (to overwhelm or be covered) of the believer in the



"rivers of the Holy Spirit pouring from within". [John 7:38-39](#).

- It is this baptism that gives the believer power to "witness" of Jesus in their lives (Greek for **power: dunamis**: to have the strength and ability to act – where the word dynamite comes from! See [Acts 1:7, 8](#)). We see, however, that the initial "filling" must be a continual experience which the believer must seek regularly ([Eph 5:15-21](#); [Acts 13:48-52](#)) and the measure of the "filling" depends on the believer's surrender to God. Once the believer is filled, he can then experience the "overflowing from within" described as the Baptism of the Holy Spirit.
- In James' epistle we read that *control of the tongue controls the body* as well ([James 3:1-6](#)) and so we see that as the believer is filled with the Holy Spirit it is essential that his tongue is surrendered to the Spirit. Don't worry, when this happens it happens easily and peacefully. When this "happens", it is sometimes seen outwardly as the "speaking in tongues" or a "prophesying" under the anointing - [Acts 10:45-47](#) - it follows that the Spirit of God can begin to influence our thinking in a deeper way, and as we submit to this, we are surrendered to the Holy Spirit in a new way.
- Jesus had said to His Disciples "Ask and you shall receive" – read [Matthew 7:7-11](#) and [Luke 11: 1-13](#) – see how Luke ends his recollection of what Jesus said! So we are invited to do the same... ask!
- We see now why the experience that follows is the baptism of the Holy Spirit where the body is "overwhelmed" by the rivers of the Spirit from within. The scriptures show that this experience often followed the Apostles and Elders laying hands on the recipient. [Acts 19:6](#).
- Sometimes fear of being "out of control" may stop the experience to start with. The control to start and stop remains with you. So, total surrender, in particular of the tongue, to the Lord Jesus, will lead to the experience of the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
- Read also [Acts 8:5-24](#). Note the warning that the Holy Spirit can never be "bought" in any way, but that He (the Holy Spirit) is a gift from the Father. A gift is never earned either! It is our Heavenly Father's good pleasure to give good gifts to his children. All His promises are however dependent on the believer's trust and surrender to Him. ([Matt 7:11](#))
- The following scriptures give weight to the teaching that one of the "signs" of being filled with the Holy Spirit is the ability to speak in other tongues.
 - [Luke 4:1](#): Jesus was filled with the Spirit after the temptation in the wilderness and was led by the Holy Spirit.
 - [Acts 2:4](#): The initial experience at Pentecost with 120 followers being filled with the Holy Spirit, so much so that the listeners were able to hear the good news in their own language from these believers as they spoke in tongues they had not learned.
 - [Acts 10:44-48](#): Here the Spirit fell on those listening to Peter and they knew it because they began speaking in tongues. As they were new believers Peter suggested that it was a good time for them to be baptised in water as well!
 - [Acts 19:1-8](#): In this situation Paul laid his hands on those who had been baptised in water and they spoke in tongues and prophesied. (Prophesying happened briefly when OT people had the Spirit fall on them but it never remained! [Num 11:25-26](#); [1 Sam 10:10](#))
 - [Acts 4:31](#): Here there was evidence they had received the Holy Spirit because they spoke the Word of God with boldness, suggesting again a special anointing on what they spoke to others – which is in essence a prophetic utterance.
 - [John 3:22-36](#): John the Baptist prophesies the promises that those who respond to God's call will receive the Spirit without measure. (John was steeped in the OT prophesies and

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- had the same anointing as Elijah). [Luke 7:24-30](#).
- [Acts 6:3-5](#): The first deacons were selected because they were men of good reputation, full of the Spirit and wisdom.
 - [Acts 7:51-59](#): Stephen a man full of the Spirit was able to see into the heavenlies and saw Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

NOTES (write down any questions you have)

PRACTICAL APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. Is this Baptism in the Holy Spirit an experience you have already? If not, do you want to allow God's Holy Spirit to fill you with His power?
 - [Acts 2:37-39](#); [Acts 1:4-5](#)
 - [Eph 2:10](#)
 - [Is 44:2-8](#); [Is 32:15](#)
 - [Ezek 39:29](#)
 - [Joel 2:28-32](#)
 - [Exodus 28:3](#); [31:3-5](#)
 - [Judges 6:34](#)
 - [Numbers 11:25-29](#)
1. It was eagerly sought by OT prophets, the Spirit coming on one of them helped ordinary people like them to "walk before God with righteousness." But that tended to be for a season ([Rom 8:13-14](#)). All OT cases were to do with something important to be done for God.
2. The Baptism in the Holy Spirit was that which was "promised".
3. As the Spirit of God fills us, He energises us Body, Soul and Spirit to worship God in Spirit and truth. [John 4:24](#).
4. This Baptism was a definite experience during or subsequent to salvation. This Baptism can take place at conversion because there are no barriers to our faith to "receive" on believing the Word of God. Jesus is the Baptiser as promised by John the Baptist
5. **What's the use of speaking in tongues?** There are many benefits:
 1. It is an outward sign that you have surrendered yourself fully to the Lord and you can expect to operate in the Gifts of the Spirit and with power as He leads. [1 Cor 12:1-31](#); [Rom 12:1-21](#); [Eph 4:4-16](#)
 2. You will become more sensitive to spiritual things and can expect to be able to sense spiritual things going on around you including having dreams and visions! [Gal 5:13-26](#).
 3. It is a unique and very special gift – when filled with the Spirit you are given a language which you can operate at any time, but when in the fellowship with others who are gifted you may be given a tongue (you can usually hear the different language being used) which the Lord will expect to be interpreted either by someone else or yourself. But in all things the overwhelming importance of love and care for each other is emphasised. [1 Cor 12:7-13:13](#)
 4. We are encouraged to pray for the gift of interpretation – because praying in a tongue no

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one understands what you are saying – unless it happens to be the tongue of an unbeliever in the fellowship. Paul recommends that tongues given in company are interpreted when known to be for the people gathered. [1 Cor 14:15-33](#). Notice that the gifts are fully under the control of the person speaking ([vs. 32](#)), no one should feel they can't control when to share and when not to. Notice also that Paul encourages us to pray that we might prophesy for the good of the Body of believers. In the end all this is for the benefit of others. [1 Cor 14:1-12](#).

5. When praying using the spiritual tongue you have been given means you are praying according to God's will and it is often a good place to start before praying anything else! When you don't know what to pray, pray in tongues. [Rom 8:16-28](#).

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Read through these passages and see whether they provide you with a picture of the truth emerging.

- [Acts 1:4-5; 2:14-33](#).
- [Acts 1:8](#)
- [Acts 8:1-4](#)
- [Is 61:1-5; Luke 9:1-2](#)
- [Luke 10:18-20](#)
- [Mark 16:15-18](#)
- [John 7:37-39](#)
- [John 4:23-24](#)
- [Acts 10:44-46](#)
- [Acts 11:15](#)
- [Acts 8:14-17](#)
- [Acts 19:1-6](#)
- [Eph 1:13-14](#)
- [Matt 3:11](#)
- [John 1:33-34](#)

NOTES

1. Baptism in the Holy Spirit is not an "optional extra" - it is a must to be able to do the work of the Kingdom. [Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4-5](#)
2. The word Christian means "anointed one". It is this anointing from the Holy Spirit to which Isaiah refers. [Is 61:1-3](#)
3. Prerequisites to receiving the baptism - (this can and does happen to the new convert!)
 - Being born again and seeking more. [John 3:1-21](#)
 - Obedient (willing to submit to the Lord) [Acts 5:32](#)
 - Intentionally consecrated (set apart to do His will) [Rom 12:1-2; 1 Cor 6:19-20](#)
 - Thirsty (seeking and desiring to be filled with a sincere heart) [John 7:37-39](#)
 - It is received by faith [Gal 3:13-14; Luke 11:9-13](#)
 - Sometimes it needs the laying on of hands to complete this experience. [Acts 19:6](#).
4. All of the above have one major hallmark in the one receiving – complete surrender to God! This of course means surrender of the control of our tongues as well so God can give us the ability to speak with other languages (tongues). The test is - are you willing to seem to be talking gibberish to allow God to give you this blessing? An ounce of embarrassment is worth an eternity of joy!

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NOTES

1. Seek the fullness from Him as Lord of your life. [Acts 2:38-39](#)
2. Any involvement with cults, other "religious, or occult, that you have not renounced? Seek help if you need it.
3. Is there anything in your attitude or beliefs that might prevent you from asking God to fill you? If you are not sure ask for help.



3. Principle 3: Teaching on "laying on of hands"

The "laying on of hands" was a common practice in the early church, sometimes accompanied by oil. Looking back into the Old Testament it was common to pour the oil of anointing on Kings and Priests to consecrate them (set them apart) to God.

- A spiritually significant act [Acts 19:6](#); [Acts 6:1-6](#); [Acts 13:1-5](#)
- Must not be done hastily or haphazardly. [1 Timothy 5:22](#)
- It has its roots in the Old Testament Priests. [Num 27:22-23](#)

Three main reasons for its significance:

- a. The impartation of spiritual blessing or authority.
- b. The acknowledgment of some spiritual blessing or authority already given by God.
- c. A public commitment of a person to God for some special task.

In the New Testament practice of the Laying on of hands has 5 purposes in all.

- a. Healing commissioning and anointing for service - [Gen 48:14](#); [Num 27:18-23](#); [Deut 34:9](#); [2 Kings 13:15-17](#); [Acts 13:2-3](#); [Mark 16:17-18](#); [James 5:14](#)
- b. The filling of the Holy Spirit - [Acts 8:14-17](#); [Acts 19:6](#)
- c. The impartation of spiritual gifts - [1 Tim 4:14](#); [2 Tim 1:6](#); [Rom 1:11-12](#)
- d. To commission ministers of the gospel - [Acts 13:2-3](#)
- e. To appoint men to an administrative office. [Acts 6:1-6](#)



4. Principle 4: The Resurrection of the Dead and Eternal Judgement

This is one of the major teachings that deals with life after death and the final judgments of God. It touches into the very core of the Father's justice.

4.1 Resurrection of the Dead

1. Jesus promised that those who believed in Him would be raised from the dead, and because He did, we who believe will! [Luke 11:20-27](#); [1 Pet 1:3-9](#)
2. There is **no other name under heaven by which we can be saved – that of Jesus Christ.** [Acts 4:10-12](#). All other religions no matter how seemingly “good” who do not acknowledge this fact cannot lead to the One and Only true God – known in the Hebrew as Yahweh or Jehovah as revealed to Moses at the burning bush. [Ex 3:1-15](#). The Father recognised the Son, Jesus Christ as the One He chose. [2 Pet 1:17-21](#); [Luke 9:28-36](#)
3. At death the body returns to earth, but the Spirit and Soul of man goes to one of two abodes until the resurrection:
 - If a person is saved his spirit and soul go to be with God awaiting resurrection morning. [1 Cor 15:42-58](#)
 - If a person is unsaved his spirit and soul will go to the “place of torment” away from the presence of the Lord to await the final resurrection at White Throne judgement. [John 5:28-29](#); [2 Cor 5:10](#)
4. Before the Resurrection of Jesus Christ, all departed spirits/souls went to the same place “Shoel” or “Hades”. (Known often as “Death” in the KJV.). Jesus indicated it was separate from Heaven. ([Luke 10:15](#)). This place had two compartments – one called “Abraham’s bosom” for those deemed righteous by their faith and the other “a place of torment” for those unrighteous. ([Luke 16:19-31](#))
5. The righteous souls of the OT faithful could not go straight into the presence of God because death had not been legally vanquished. But having risen from the dead Jesus vanquished Death and Hades and led captivity captive. ([Rev 1:17-18](#); [Eph 4:7-8](#); [Col 2:9-15](#))

RELEVANT SCRIPTURES

Read through these references and see if they agree with what has been said already.

- [1 Thess 4:13-17](#)
- [Is 38:16-20](#)
- [Ps 139:1-18](#)
- [Rev 20:11-15](#)

4.2 Eternal judgment:

1. For **every soul** that dies there is one irrevocable appointment with God – Judgement. [Heb 9:27-28](#).
2. To those who believe in the Son of God, their judgement was taken at the Cross, so they look forward to bodily resurrection, knowing that their names are in the Lamb’s Book of Life, and spending eternity with God. [John 3:1-21](#). Those who believe are among those who will have a part in the first resurrection at the sound of the Trumpet ([1 Cor 15:42-58](#)) and will escape the “second death” ([Rev 20:6](#)).
3. To those who would **not** accept the Son of God, they will be judged by their deeds at the **White Throne Judgement.** [Rev 20:11-15](#). They will spend eternity away from God paying for rejecting the loving offer of salvation from the Father. After physical death, there is a **spiritual death** (called the “second death” – [Rev 20:14-15](#); [Rev 21:2-8](#)) which is complete and permanent separation



from God and a gulf set between saved and unsaved. The eternal punishment of those in this category is both just and deserved but also terrifying. [Mark 9:38-50](#).

NOTES ON GOD'S JUSTICE

It is worth us talking about the Justice of our God. For many the state of the world today with unsavoury people seemingly getting away with organised crime, trafficking, literal “murder” and genocide does not equate with the justice a loving Father God. After all we know He is Sovereign overall, and nothing escapes His notice. Throughout history it seems that justice “stands afar off” while these hateful crimes continue. There are some principles that might help us to understand how our Father God works out His Justice. Justice will be served.

- a. **It's all about His character** – He is both loving, faithful, just and fair in all His dealings – it's part of His righteous ways. But beware of His wrath when He finally deals with the wicked who do not repent. [Is 40:25-31](#); [Ex 15:1-18](#); [Ps 89: 5-52](#); [Is 46:3-13](#); [Ps 50:1-22](#); [Ezek 21:1-32](#)
- b. **It's all about what He knows and judges as right and just.** All judgement is in the hands of Jesus Christ. And His ways are not our ways, but they are always just and right. [Is 55: 6-11](#); [John 3:31-36](#); [John 5:16-32](#);
- c. **It's all about His timing** – The Lord is never rushed or caught out, he does not have to act but He chooses to do so at the right time – “God's hand is not so short He cannot save!” He has brought His salvation to the earth. He has promised to repay those who have transgressed His righteousness *according to their deeds*. It will be swift like a pent-up stream busting forth that the wind of God pushes along. The end will be just and right and fair. His timing is always perfect and takes into account His all-knowing, all-present path to that final Judgement Day. No one will be able to say “that's not fair” and all those who have not repented will perish. [Isa 59:1-21](#); [Rev 19:11-20:15](#); [2 Pet 2:1-22](#)
- d. **Even Abraham challenged God's actions** at Sodom and Gomorrah – but God knew the heart of those He was dealing with and saved those He knew to save. [Gen 18:16-33](#)
- e. **It is good to call out for justice to our God.** God calls us to cry out for justice – [Isa 1:9-20](#)
- f. **God waits patiently to show compassion**, not being willing that any should perish. [Is 30:15-18](#)
- g. **He accomplished His master plan of salvation by waiting for the perfect time and season** in the world's many generations of history, outsmarting all the attempts of the enemy, no matter how devious he was! At the perfect time a child was born of a virgin just as it was prophesied, and He became the perfect sinless Son of Man who paid fully for all our sin throughout all time at the perfect time as the Lamb of God slain, to defeat death and sin and rise again as He foretold on the third day. He lives today! Now that is justice and mercy kissing each other! [Ps 85:10-13](#); [Is 7:14-16](#); [9:1-7](#); [Micah 5:2](#); [Luke 1:1-2:20](#)
- h. **Those who know Him know He will always act in accordance with His character and His perfect plan.** Justice will be served!
- i. **All who trust in Him will also go through trials and tribulations** which will call for patient endurance until His purposes become known. It tests the veracity of our faith and also produces a inner strength (character) which has its reward, though not as fast as some would like! [Rom 5:1-5](#); [James 1:2-8](#); [1 Thess 1:2-12](#); [2 Cor 1:3-12](#); [1 Pet 1:3-9](#)

REFERENCES

Look up these references and see if they give you the same message.

- [2 Cor 5:8](#)
- [Phil 1:21-24](#)
- [Rev 6:9-11](#)



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- [1 Pet 3:18-22](#)
- [Eph 4:8-16](#)
- [Luke 23:39-43](#)
- [Ps 16:10-11; 49:1-15](#)
- [Matt 12:38-42](#)
- [1 Cor 15:20-28; 15:51-57](#)
- [1 Thess 4:13-18](#)
- [Rev 20:4-10](#)
- [Dan 12:1-3](#)
- [John 5:28-29](#)
- [Rev 6:9-11](#)
- [Rev 20:4-10](#)

NOTES

- a. The bodies of the unsaved at resurrection will also be eternal but not glorified nor perfect nor free. Jude 7:13; 2 Thess 1:7-10
- b. This teaching is a foundation teaching of our faith. It has power to save anyone who believes this truth with all honesty and sincerity. 1 Cor 15:12-17; Romans 10:9,10; Romans 1:4

There are 4 principles of God's judgment

1. According to the truth
2. According to deeds
3. Without respect of persons
4. According to "light" received (i.e. the revelation of His will to the individual).

4.3 The servant's judgment: (Known as the "BEMA Seat") This is to receive rewards as servants.

1. Some "servants" who refused to do His will, will receive punishment. The way we serve now will affect our positions of authority and responsibility in the age to come. [2 Tim 4:8](#); [Rev 22:10-17](#)
2. It makes sense that we keep "our accounts short" by submitting to the Holy Spirit to point out anything that needs attention. [Ps 139: 17-24](#)

4.4 Personal Responsibility

This underlines the importance of each person's responsibility before God to live a life in accordance with God's truth and will.

Join me in saying what Paul said in [Phil 3:7-15](#):

"But whatever things were gain to me, those things I have counted as loss for the sake of Christ. More than that, I count all things to be loss in view of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and count them but rubbish so that I may gain Christ, and may be found in Him, not having a righteousness of my own derived from the Law, but that which is through faith in Christ, the righteousness which comes from God on the basis of faith, that I may know Him and the power of His resurrection and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death; in order that I may attain to the resurrection from the dead. Not

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that I have already obtained it or have already become perfect, but I press on so that I may lay hold of that for which also I was laid hold of by Christ Jesus. Brethren, I do not regard myself as having laid hold of it yet; but one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to what lies ahead, I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. Let us therefore, as many as are perfect, have this attitude; and if in anything you have a different attitude, God will reveal that also to you;”

Should you wish to reach out to me about any of the above please do on simon.robertson@thefathersheart.world.