





**The Story of Acts  
And the Baptism of the Holy Ghost**

**The Power of the Holy Ghost Then  
and Now**

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## Introduction

God has given us a bunch of tools that help us to be able to live victorious. To help us to be winners. There is one experience that will: help you to overcome the enemy, help you to be bold to be able to make a stand, help you to have powerful prayers, help you to overcome your past, help you to understand God's Word, and help you to better follow where He leads you to go. It will help you to reach out to others in a life changing way. I guess you can probably agree that this is a valuable tool to have. Even better, it is a gift that God gives us. It is called the Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

This book talks about the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. It is also the story of the book of Acts. We will talk about the early Christians who had to overcome persecution on all hands, the kind that often threatened their lives. We will talk about how these men and women started the early churches, and how they overcame persecution to spread churches out all over the world. It is an action story full of God's miracles. You can read about all this in the book of Acts. I have put just the highlights of this story in this book. As you learn about these Christians and how they overcame, you will also learn about how you too can be a bold, and faithful child of God that can change your world around.

The Holy Ghost is a part of God. We will talk about Him, and how He can change your life. We will talk about what it means to have the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, and how you can receive it. I give scriptures for everything that I tell you about so you will be reading a lot of Bible verses in this book. Keep reading. This book will change your life.



## Chapter 1

### About the Holy Ghost

We all know that two of the main characters in the Bible are God and Jesus. Most people though don't know as much about the third main character. He is an important part in the Bible, matter of fact He is connected with Jesus and God in a special way. That person is the Holy Ghost. I call Him a person here because He has some of the characteristics of a person, but He is mostly like God. He is a Spirit. He has a special relationship with God, and Jesus. They are all three so close together that they are united like one. They all operate together. One never goes against the other. They are completely united. Where one goes, the other two are never far away. They are so united that they function like one. They are like one.

The Holy Ghost is the Spirit of God. Until Jesus died for us, the Spirit of God could only come upon people. He couldn't dwell in people like He can now. When Jesus died for our sins so that we could be forgiven, then a whole new thing happened. The Spirit of God could live in us. When we are saved, the Holy Ghost that is in us is what helps us to change. That is what helps us to be able to become

new people. That is what helps us to have the power to overcome the devil. And that is what helps us to be able to overcome our selves. The reason why the Spirit of God couldn't live in us before Jesus died was because of our sin. When Jesus died, He took the punishment for our sins. His blood was shed to clean us up from our sins so that we can start all over. His blood was shed so that we could be forgiven for everything we have done. You see the Spirit of God couldn't live in an unclean vessel. He couldn't live in a dirty house. People without God are just dirty houses. When Jesus died for us (when He died for YOU), we were made clean and whole so that God's Spirit could move in us and take up permanent residence.

God knew that we wouldn't be able to be perfect, and do all the things that we need to do. Admit it. It is much harder to do good than it is to do bad. God knew this. That is why He sent His own Son, Jesus, to die for us. Because Jesus died, when we are sorry for the wrong that we do and we ask God to forgive us then we are forgiven. God loved us that much. He didn't send Jesus to die because we are perfect, holy, religious, or hot stuff in any way. He did it because He knows us like we are. He made a way for us to become way better than what we are. This happens when the Holy Ghost, the Spirit of God, comes into our heart and lives.

So now you have an introduction to the three parts of God: God, the Holy Ghost, and Jesus. And you have a pretty good idea of how we fit into all of that. So let's talk a minute about why? Why did God send His Son to die so that the Holy Ghost could come and live in our hearts? God's motive is simple. His motive is love. Pure and simple love. That is how much He loves us all. That is how much He loves you. We see this when we read John 17:20-23. This is a prayer that Jesus prayed not long before He was crucified. He is praying for us.

When I put parenthesis in a verse, those things that I have added in them are things I have put to help you to understand what is being said. I am not changing the Word of God, but I am adding comments. "Neither pray I for these alone (the disciples), but for them also which shall believe on me through their word; That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me. And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they may be one, even as we are one: I in them, and thou in me, that they may be made perfect in one; and that the world may know that thou hast sent me, and hast loved them, as thou hast loved me." A lot of times we Christians live way beneath what Jesus died to give us. We see from this scripture that Jesus loves

us and wants us to be one with His Father and Himself.

What does the book of Acts in the Bible have to do with all this? It is a really good book in the Bible. If you haven't read it, you need to. It will really help you. It talks about Jesus' disciples in the days when the church was first starting. It has some great characters in it, like the disciples, and Jesus. One of Jesus' disciples (those 12 men who traveled with Jesus before His death) was named Luke. He wrote the book of Acts. It also has people like Paul and Barnabas, two preachers who helped to start many churches. Paul wrote most of the books of the New Testament. There are a lot of other people who have power packed lives whose story is told in the Book of Acts. The most important character is the Holy Ghost. This book is about the Holy Ghost as He appears in Acts. It is a story about how the Holy Ghost filled up people and what happened when He did. It is the story about how when He came on the scene revival broke out everywhere, and thousands were saved in a short time. It is the story of how ordinary men when they were filled or baptized with the Holy Ghost were powerful preachers. When people who were sick were around them, they got healed. The Bible says that those who were Baptized with the Holy Ghost turned their world upside down.

The most exciting part of all this has to do with you. Yes, I did say you. God promised that this experience was for those who were there at the time when the book of Acts took place. He also promised that all this could happen to you. We will talk about that as well. Read on to learn more.

## Chapter 2

### The Holy Ghost Arrives on the Scene

We are going to read about a truly amazing happening. It is known as the day of Pentecost. This day happened after Jesus was crucified on the cross, and after He came back to life and lived on earth for 40 days before He went back to heaven. The day of Pentecost happened after all that. If you will get out your Bible, you can read about this in Acts chapter 2. (All the way through this book I will tell you to read different scriptures. It is a good idea to do that. It will help you.) This chapter is a very powerful account of something that happened. All of the Bible happened for real. Jesus' followers were gathered together.

On the day of Pentecost, suddenly they heard a sound from heaven like a mighty, rushing wind. That sound filled all the house where they were. Then the Bible tells that something miraculous happened. They were all filled with the Holy Ghost. We read about it in Acts 2:4, "And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." That means that Holy Ghost filled them and began to speak through them. He was in them, and He spoke words that came out their mouth. And wow something happened that was different. There were a bunch of people there who

were from all kinds of different countries. Many of these people spoke whatever language that they spoke in their own country. Everybody in that huge crowd heard what was said, and understood it like it was in their own language.

I can remember something like this that happened to me once. I was in Russia, and a preacher was preaching in Russian. There were several of us there from the U.S. All of us heard part of that sermon and it was like it was in English, even though we knew the pastor was preaching in Russian, and none of us knew Russian. There was an interpreter there, someone who was translating what was said into English, but we didn't need that. We understood everything that was said. I have talked to many others who had something similar happen. We compared what we heard later, and we all understood the same thing. That is something like what happened there on the day of Pentecost.

Peter was there on the day of Pentecost, and he was filled or baptized with the Holy Ghost. When the Bible talks about being filled with the Holy Ghost, and being baptized with the Holy Ghost it means the same thing. How do I know that Peter received the baptism of the Holy Ghost? Because he preached a really powerful sermon that day. Also, later on he talked about receiving this gift. Read about this.

Read his sermon. You can find it in Acts 2:14-36. How do I know his sermon was really powerful. Because verse 37 says that his sermon pricked at people's hearts. To put it our way, we would say that his sermon really got to them.

They asked Peter "what shall we do". When the Holy Ghost is filling preachers, or anyone who witnesses for the Lord, then something will happen. It will affect those people being witnessed to. They will begin to want something different. They will be drawn to serve the Lord. They will be drawn to want to be saved if they haven't been. If they have been saved, then they will be drawn closer to God, or they will be strengthened. Or they will receive peace. Their minds and hearts will be made new. When the Holy Ghost is on the scene people and circumstances will be changed.

What was changed that day? Verse 38 to 41 tells us what happened next. "Then Peter said unto them, 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. For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call. And with many other words did he testify and exhort, saying, Save yourselves from this untoward generation. Then they that gladly received his word



were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls.”

What a revival!!!!!! Peter told them to be sorry for all their sins, and to be baptized, and he told them that they would receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. They did, God did His part, the Holy Ghost did His part, and 3,000 people were saved and filled with the Holy Ghost. Then Peter said something that is the best news you have ever heard. Acts 2:39 says, “For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, *even* as many as the Lord our God shall call.” Why is this good news for you? Peter said that this same thing that happened there that day is there for many generations down through time until now. It was for as many as God would call all the way through time, including you. If you have been saved, then God has called you. His Spirit has drawn you. So this promise of the filling of the Holy Ghost and the power that it brought to them there on that day is also available to you. I would say that is good news for us all no doubt about it.

When I grew up, I went to a church that taught us that when we are saved the Spirit of God comes into our life, and that is all there was to it. They did not teach about the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. There are many churches that see it this way. But when I was first saved, I knew that there was something more

than what I had. I met some people who had this experience called the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. I knew that the way I was taught wasn't how it was.

Sometimes you have to unlearn things you thought to be true especially when you find out what God's Word has to say about it. God can show you if what you have learned isn't right. He can lead you in the right direction. Most of all, you can find it out when you read and study the Bible. You see, when you read and study the book of Acts, these people who were there that day were already saved before they received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. Many of them were Jesus' disciples. We know that they were saved. If it was just talking about what happened when you get saved, then what does speaking in other tongues have to do with that. We don't speak in other tongues automatically when we get saved. When you read and study this out, it is plain to see that these scriptures that we are going to talk about are talking about something more than getting God's Spirit when we are saved. I know that when we are saved the Spirit of God comes in us, but we can be filled up to the brim, we can be filled with the Spirit, we can be baptized with Him which means completely immersed in Him.

I didn't really understand any of this until I went to a Pentecostal church. Pentecostal churches are those

that believe in the Baptism of the Spirit also called the filling of the Spirit. I am not talking about the denominations that have the word Pentecostal in them. Sad to say, many of those don't let the Holy Ghost do His work. There are other churches that may not have the name Pentecostal, but they believe this way as well. If you will look back at those verses I quoted, you will see that they talk about this very thing.

When I received the Baptism of the Spirit, or the filling of the Spirit, I began to speak in other tongues and I have ever since. We will talk more about what all that means. I just want to bring it up here to show you that it can't be just talking about salvation here. It also can't mean that this thing happened then when the church was just starting out, but it isn't for us. If that were so, then why did Peter preached that this was also for the generations to come. We just have to understand that this is a gift that God gave the church, the church then and the church now. It is a gift that you too can have. We will talk more about all this coming up. This is just an introduction.

We are going to talk about the book of Acts. Coming up we will read about lame men that walked, and blind men that saw. We will read about how these men who were filled with the Holy Ghost turned their

world upside down. We will also read about how you can do the same.

## Chapter 3

### The Power of the Holy Ghost

The day of Pentecost was just the beginning. Things really started breaking loose from that day on. In Acts 3 we read about how when a lame man who had been lame from the day he was born looked on John and Peter, God healed him, and he was able to walk. That man went walking and leaping and praising God. Can you imagine how he felt that day. He had never walked. When these men prayed for him not only was he walking, but he was running around leaping up and down. That is when Peter preached another sermon. It was a really powerful one, too. How do I know? Because Acts 4:4 tells us that five thousand men were saved. That wasn't counting the women and children. Also, I know that it was a powerful sermon, because the people who were against Jesus put John and Peter in the hold which was like jail.

There will always be people who are against Jesus. Sad to say, many of these people will try to act like they are on God's side. These guys that day were just that way. They were actually a part of the church world, but they didn't believe in Jesus. Just like many people today, they didn't want to do it God's way, but they wanted to do it their way. These high priests got Peter and John out of the hold to talk to

them. That is when the Holy Ghost showed up again. Verse 8 tells us that Peter preached. Again. Even after they had put them in jail. He even preached this message to the very people who had put them in jail. The very same people who had crucified Jesus. He didn't compromise on what he believed either. He put it to them straight and hard and true. He said it just like it was. Talk about boldness. That is something that the filling or Baptism of the Holy Ghost does. It makes people to be bold to stand up for God. It makes them to be powerful witnesses and speakers. It makes them to be over comers. Read Peter's sermons that he preached that day. The first sermon is in Acts chapter 3. The one that he preached after being in jail is in Acts 4. You can tell that the second was just as bold as the first.

These trouble making guys were like the bullies on the block. Not only did Peter and John overcome them, they put them to shame. Because of the boldness that the Baptism of the Holy Ghost gave them and because of what God did that day people marveled at them. We read about how that all happened in Acts 4:13-14, "Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus. And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against

it.” In other words they just simply had to shut up because of what God had done that day.

When they went back to their place where they all met, they started praising God for all He had done. If you want to get God’s attention then praise Him. Thank Him. Love Him. Talk about how wonderful He is. Tell Him how much you love Him, and tell Him how wonderful He is. Why should we do that? Because He is wonderful. Because He is God over all. He made us. He saved us. He uses us to do things for Him, like He did that day in Acts. Did they run scared because things were getting a little tough. You decide when you read Acts 4:29-31. They asked God to make them even bolder to do even more for Him. “And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.”

What happened because of their wanting to go on no matter what? Verse 31 says, “And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.” The Holy Ghost fell on the place where they were gathered in such a powerful way that it shook the place where they were. And everybody

there was filled with the Holy Ghost. Talk about a powerful revival. The persecution that they were facing only made them bolder because they were filled with the Holy Ghost. They were able to face it all with boldness.

What happened next? Let's keep reading. (Just a note added here: I remember a tent meeting that I was at when Bishop Goad was preaching. We actually saw a smoke like haze in the top of the tent because the power of the Holy Ghost was so strong. I can remember meetings that we had where the spirit of God was so powerful in that place that only a few people out of a huge crowd were able to stand on their feet. The rest were slain in the Spirit. This means that the Holy Ghost was so powerful they couldn't stand up, and they fell backwards and lay there for a time. God did miraculous things for them while they were there.)

OK. On with the story of Acts. Now if you mention these 2 names, Ananias and Sapphira, to anyone who knows about their Bible, they will probably make a face and that face won't be a happy face. Why? Because God struck them dead because they lied to the Holy Ghost. And because they stole from the church. Why did they do that? Acts 5:8 tells us that it was because Satan filled their heart. Today we are made to feel that a God that would kill someone is a



really bad God. Most people who believe that are spoiled people. They want to get their way, and they want God to be the kind of God that will let them get by with doing their own thing even if it is wrong. God isn't that kind of God. He isn't a push over, someone who exists to do whatever we want Him to do. He is Lord of all. He is over it all. He made it all. He isn't an evil God, but He is a righteous God. He is a right God.

Spoiled people have a hard time with all that. People who want to serve Him don't. I want a righteous God, because I love righteousness. I love things that are right. I hate sin and how it messes up people's lives. We aren't supposed to sit around and criticize God, but we are to understand His ways. God's Word will help us to do that. So will God's Spirit. Acts 5:11 tells us that fear came on the people that day because of what happened. When the Bible mentions the fear of God, it means an awesome respect for Him. Most people don't have that today. They mock God. They mock God's people. They mock God's Word. They think that they can get by because they don't respect God, or fear Him at all. God can wipe us all out. It is really stupid to take him for granted, and mock Him.

Today we don't respect old people, or anyone or anything. Not even God. We just do our own things.

If we don't respect God, we will find out soon just how awesome He is, and how much He is worthy of our respect. We will find out one way or the other. That is how it is.

Verse 16 says that God's people did many signs and wonders because of God's Spirit. There was a multitude of sick folks, and they were healed every one of them. When you read this account, you get the feeling that there was a whole lot of sick people there that day. Remember, in some of these revival meetings thousands were saved. We don't know exactly how many that were there that I could tell by reading this passage, but you get the message that maybe thousands were healed. I have known many people that God miraculously healed. My mother was one of them. She had advanced non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. God healed her. She went back to her cancer doctor and it was confirmed that there was no longer any cancer in her body. This didn't happen over a long period of time, but instantly. She lived many many years after that, and died when she was 86 years old, and she was in good health at the time.

I remember one of the school students who was healed from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. She had big knots that came up on her legs. They were so big that they were pressing against her main arteries. Doctors put her on bed rest, because they said that if those

knots pressed a certain way against her main arteries, she could die. Every one prayed for God to heal her. She has no sign of cancer now. This is only a few months after all this happened.

I remember someone who was in the hospital with cancer. The cancer had eaten away some of her intestines. The doctors told her she was dying. Little by little she started getting better. When they did tests to see why she was getting better, they found that those parts that had been eaten away because of cancer were restored. Her insides were made new.

God has healed me many times. God is a healer. When you read about Jesus in the gospels (the books of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John in the New Testament that were written by 4 of Jesus' original disciples by those names) you see many accounts of how Jesus healed those that were sick. John 14:12 says, "Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father."

In other words, because Jesus went back to heaven to be with his father, He sent the comforter to us, the Holy Ghost. Because of that we are able to do more than what Jesus did on earth. The Holy Ghost will do miracles through us. Jesus did lots of miracles. You

can read more about Jesus and his time on earth in the Gospels.

I want to add a note here. The people in the church world over have had a terrible time with sickness. I believe that there is coming a time when the church is going to be healed. People are going to receive miraculous healing on every hand. God is going to even use children and young people who will pray for people, and they will be healed. We cannot rely on doctors. I am not saying that it isn't OK to go to the doctor. But many of the doctors kill people by their poor decisions. Many of them are anti-God, and the devil can use them against God's people. We need to rely on God's healing. If God leads us to go to a doctor, then we need to go, but we need to go first to God.

Coming up next, we are going to read about the most amazing prison break ever. Stay tuned.

## Chapter 4

### Prison Again---Or Not

I am going to tell the account of one of the most amazing prison breaks ever. When all of those people brought sick people to the disciples to have them pray for them, those priests and Sadducees, all those church leaders, were really mad. Maybe they were jealous. For whatever reason, though, they put those boys in prison. Again. The next time we see them, they are in the temple preaching again, doing the very thing that they had been doing which had gotten them thrown in prison to start with. How did they get out?

This is what makes this the most amazing prison break ever. The guards didn't know how they got out. Acts 5:23 tells us what the guards had to say about the situation. "The prison truly found we shut with all safety, and the keepers standing without before the doors: but when we had opened, we found no man within." In other words, the prison doors were locked up, and the guards were outside the doors guarding it, and that next morning when they opened up the cell there was nobody there. The prison cell was empty.

Verse 19 tells us how they got out. "But the angel of the Lord by night opened the prison doors, and brought them forth, and said, Go, stand and speak in the temple to the people all the words of this life."

Talk about boldness. They did just exactly like the angel told them to do. You could imagine how they felt after an angel appeared to them and let them out of prison. They went right back to the place where they had been arrested and preached again.

The ones who had them arrested told them this, “Saying, Did not we straitly command you that ye should not teach in this name? and, behold, ye have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this man's blood upon us.” This man that they were talking about was Jesus. Peter’s answer to this is found in Acts 5:29, “Then Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said, We ought to obey God rather than men.” Then Peter preached another little sermon. I say little because it was only a few lines long. But it really packed a punch. How do I know. Read verse 33, “When they heard *that*, they were cut *to the heart*, and took counsel to slay them.”

When those bad guys had a meeting, and it was brought up that they were going to make a plan to kill them, one of the leaders there stood and made a very wise statement. In verses 38 and 39 we read what he said. “And now I say unto you, Refrain from these men, and let them alone: for if this counsel or this work be of men, it will come to nought: But if it be of God, ye cannot overthrow it; lest haply ye be found even to fight against God.” He was right. Those men

were fighting against God and they weren't going to win. You see, when someone fights against us when we are trying to do what God is leading us to do, then when someone fights against us they are really fighting against God. They won't be able to win because God will fight for us.

In other words he told those men to watch out what they did with those men, because if they be of God, then they wouldn't be able to stop them. He was right. They tried and tried to stop this movement. It only grew and grew. It couldn't be stopped. Most of Jesus' original disciples were eventually killed. Saul was eventually beheaded, but this thing still grew and grew. Christians went through a really bad time of persecution during this time, and during later under the Roman Emperor Nero, and even later after his rule.

As of AD 325 an estimated 7 million Christians were killed. Life for a Christian under Roman rule was cruel. They were put in the coliseum to fight gladiators, to fight lions. The Romans tied them to stakes and they were set on fire to light up the coliseum. Still Christianity grew and grew. What if it had been stopped because of the persecution? If it had stopped, we wouldn't be Christians today. But we know that it still kept on all the way through time to us today. Christianity has been fought since then.

We will read about why everyone fights against Christianity coming up.

Why did Christianity grow even during persecution of such a terrible kind? We can see who was behind this growth when we go back to Acts. We read about it in Peter's sermon that he preached to make them get so angry that they wanted to kill them. Let's read Acts 5:32, "And we are his witnesses of these things; and *so is* also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him." Acts 4:8, Acts 4:37, Acts 5:32, and many more times after that tells us that those guys were filled with the Holy Ghost. Acts 4:37 tells us that the Holy Ghost gave them boldness.

Let's back track here a little bit. Peter wasn't always brave. Matter of fact, when he first shows up in the Gospel he wasn't brave at all. Really headstrong, but not brave. Let's rewind a little to a time right before Jesus was crucified. Let's backtrack to a time just before He was crucified, when Jesus was being tried and taken through the court system there. We read about this in Luke chapter 22.

Read it for a better understanding. Jesus was taken to the high priest's house. Peter had been following way off to see what happened. He sat down at a fire with some other people. Three times people who had seen him with Jesus asked if he had been with Jesus.



Three times he lied and told them that he hadn't been. Wow. What a different guy? What made him so different from that time to this time when even faced with imprisonment or even death, he told them that he had been with Jesus? Peter received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, and that made Him bold.

How do I know what made this difference? Because I know that when I received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, I was a lot bolder to do the things that God told me to do. I no longer held back. I no longer was quiet, but I was a lot louder, and a lot bolder when I was witnessing. I had been such a timid person that just reading out loud in a group made me so nervous that I could barely speak. If you know me now, you know that has certainly changed. The same thing that made Peter bold is the same thing that made me bold. The Baptism of the Holy Ghost.

What about you? Do you want to be bolder and braver? We live in a different world today. Bullies try to intimidate everyone around them, even their friends. In America, it isn't popular to stand up for what you believe in. I take it back. It's OK to do that unless you are a Christian. There is a Gospel singer that I know who was invited to sing in a church service for President Trump. After the service, President Trump was talking to him about Christians in America. He made the statement that Christians are

losing their rights faster than any other group in America. That is true. If we don't stand up bold for our rights, then we could lose them. If there has ever been a time when we need the boldness that the Baptism of the Holy Ghost gives us, it is now.

In some countries Christians are killed for their beliefs. We have Bible colleges in some countries where there are 97% Muslims, and only 3% Christians. If you are in a country where there are many Muslims, then you probably know what it means to fear for your life. Just remember the Holy Ghost is your protector and guide. The Holy Ghost will also make you bold.

I want to add something to this chapter. It is mentioned in Acts 5:32. We read that a while ago when we were talking about these guys who were filled with the Holy Ghost. "And we are his witnesses of these things; and *so is* also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey him." This tells us something that is important to know. The Holy Ghost is given to those that obey Him. If you make excuses for all the wrong things you do, even though down in your heart you know these are wrong, then you are disobedient, and you won't receive the Holy Ghost. If you fail to hear and obey God's Word, then you won't receive the Holy Ghost. If you fail to obey God's voice when He leads you, then you won't re-

ceive the Holy Ghost. Obedience is very important. I am not saying that you have to be perfect to receive this gift, because none of us are. I am just saying that you have to be trying with ALL your heart.

Let's talk more about how bold these guys were. In Acts 6:5 we read about a man, Stephen, who was full of faith and full of the Holy Ghost. In verse 8 we read, "And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people." How was he able to do these things? Because he was full of the Holy Ghost, and the Holy Ghost did mighty things using Stephen. This same trouble-making crowd showed up. They sent people to lie against Stephen and set him up.

When they did all this Stephen didn't have a typical reaction. We read what he did in verse 15, "And all that sat in the council, looking steadfastly on him, saw his face as it had been the face of an angel." Hate and bitterness and all that junk can only make you worse off than the people who are persecuting you. God's love and the Holy Ghost will strengthen you to have the right attitude. We know that Stephen did, because when he was dying he prayed that God would not lay this thing to their charge which means that he would forgive them. We'll read about what he said in a minute.

When Stephen preached to them when he was arrested, he didn't hold back. He told it like it was. In verse 51 we read that he told those guys that, "Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Ghost: as your fathers *did*, so *do* ye. Which of the prophets have not your fathers persecuted? and they have slain them which shewed before of the coming of the Just One; of whom ye have been now the betrayers and murderers: Who have received the law by the disposition of angels, and have not kept *it*. When they heard these things, they were cut to the heart, and they gnashed on him with *their* teeth."

It was a practice in those days to stone people to death, to throw rocks at them until they died. This crowd stoned Stephen to death. Read this chapter to find out more. Here is what Stephen did. "Then they cried out with a loud voice, and stopped their ears, and ran upon him with one accord, And cast *him* out of the city, and stoned *him*: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul. And they stoned Stephen, calling upon *God*, and saying, Lord Jesus, receive my spirit. And he kneeled down, and cried with a loud voice, Lord, lay not this sin to their charge. And when he had said this, he fell asleep."

You see evidence of the Holy Ghost all in this account. He gave Stephen boldness to stand. He gave him a message to prick their hearts. He helped Stephen to have what it took to forgive them, even as they were killing them. Love is one of the fruits of the Spirit, one of the qualities of the Holy Ghost.

When you are filled with the Holy Ghost then you are filled with these qualities. These are called fruits of the Spirit, because just as an apple tree has apples, and a cherry tree has cherries, the Holy Ghost has certain things that grow in the lives of those He fills. This scripture talks about the fruit of the Spirit. We read about them in Galatians 5:22-23. “But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.” When you have the Baptism of the Spirit you will have these qualities, because He has these qualities, and you will be filled with them. And these are not small little bits of these. For example, Stephen had a love that was powerful enough that even when he was dying, he loved the men who stoned him to death.

Now I am about to make a statement that may blow your mind. I am convinced that everything, no matter how bad, works out for our good. Where do I get such a crazy notion. Romans 8:28 says, “And we know that all things work together for good to them

that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose.” Now this just doesn’t say that only good things work for our good. It doesn’t say that some bad things work out for our good. It says ALL things work together for our good. How is that so? It is so because God makes it so. I have seen the worst circumstance, the most gut wrenching tragedies, the most terrible happening work out for the good of the one that it happened to, and they all worked out to the glory of God. God works even the terrible out for our good. He is powerful enough, and He loves us enough to do that. He did the same for Stephen’s death.

We get a clue about what good came out of this when we read Acts 7:58, “And cast *him* (*Stephen*) out of the city, and stoned *him*: and the witnesses laid down their clothes at a young man's feet, whose name was Saul.” Who was this guy Saul. How could it be turned out for good that he was there? Keep reading to find out. The next chapter tells us how.

## Chapter 5

### Saul or Paul

We will pick back up where we left off in that last chapter. In Acts 8:1 we read that Saul was consenting to Stephen's death. In other words he gave his OK for that. He agreed with what they did. Who was this guy named Saul anyway? When we read in Acts 8:3 we read that he was definitely not an OK guy. One thing that he did was to spread out the Christians all over that part of the world. How did he do that? Verse 3 says, "As for Saul, he made havock of the church, entering into every house, and haling men and women committed *them* to prison."

He rounded Christians up like cattle and took them to be killed more often than not. This was not a good thing for him to do. It wasn't a God thing for him to do this, and for all the persecution of the church at that time and later in history. God didn't make Saul persecute the church, but he sure used it. When people ran away from the homes and fled all over in different parts of the world, they carried the Gospel with them. They carried the Word of God with them. The world found out that there was a Savior, and they found out that His name was Jesus.

Saul was a Jew. He was a part of those guys who killed Jesus. You see, Saul was a part of the same

ones who were doing all this stuff to God's people. The ones who acted religious, but really weren't, because they weren't obeying God. Saul really thought he was doing good. But he wasn't. Why didn't he know that he wasn't doing a good thing? Because he was not following Jesus. He wasn't obeying him. He wasn't loving him and trying to do what He wanted. He wasn't listening to God's voice speaking to his heart. He didn't know God at all. He just thought that he did. And He didn't have the Holy Ghost Baptism.

The Holy Ghost is a guide to lead us. If we aren't careful it is so easy to be like these people were. We can think that we know what God wants us to do, or we can get close to Him, and have Him tell us what he wants us to do. But God got his attention. And changed his life. And He changed Saul's name. Keep reading.

Chapter 9 tells us that Saul was on his way to Damascus to bind up Christians to take them to Jerusalem. When he was on his way there something happened that changed his life. Jesus spoke to him. What was different about this? Jesus had already died. He spoke to Paul directly in a voice that was out loud, and everybody else that was there with him heard Him. "And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou



me? And he said, Who art thou, Lord? And the Lord said, I am Jesus whom thou persecutest; *it is* hard for thee to kick against the pricks. And he trembling and astonished said, Lord, what wilt thou have me to do? And the Lord *said* unto him, Arise, and go into the city, and it shall be told thee what thou must do.”

All this stopped Saul in his tracks. Matter of fact, God knocked Him flat on the ground and blinded Him. Verse 8 tells us, “And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought *him* into Damascus. God definitely had Saul’s attention. He was not being Mr. Cocky-guy any more. He was humble before God. He had been running from God all this time, but God talked to Him anyway.

If you are running away from God, don’t do that. Stop. Turn around. God knows how to get your attention. He can stop you if it takes blinding you, and that is what He did to Saul. We may be doing like what Jesus said Saul was doing. We may be kicking against the pricks. When God is dealing with our hearts, He pricks us in our spirit. He does what He can to get our attention. Are you listening? Or are you just kicking back.

Saul was really hard-headed and stubborn about not doing it God’s way. Do you know anyone that God

is trying to reach who is that way? Maybe it is someone that you are trying to witness to, and someone that you are praying for. Don't give up. Look what happened to Saul. I have prayed for many years for some people, and thought they weren't going to come to God. When I would start to give up praying for them God would let me know that I needed to keep praying. If Saul could come to the Lord after all he did against God's people, then anyone can. Just put them in the Lord's hands, and trust Him to bring them in. And keep praying.

When God got hold of Saul, he changed in a big way. What brought about that change? In Acts 9:17 a man called Ananias prayed for Saul to receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. He was filled with the Holy Ghost. Not only did Saul become a Christian, but he also became a preacher. He traveled all over that part of the world starting churches that were filled with those very same people that he once had rounded up.

Wow. Could you imagine some of those people going to church and seeing that their speaker would be the same guy who had imprisoned some of their family, neighbors and friends. Paul had it hard. But it didn't take long before they were convinced that the change was genuine. How? Because he had the power of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. They knew that if the Holy Ghost had filled him, then he had

God's approval of him. Also, when they heard the words he preached, they knew that he changed.

When Paul started churches, he would often write letters to those churches that he started, and he also wrote letters to some of the churches that his helpers had started. Many of these letters became books of the Bible. For example, he wrote a letter to the church at Ephesus, and that became the book of Ephesians. All together he may have written 13 books of the New Testament. He wrote most of the New Testament. God used this Christian persecutor, and made a power house out of him through the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. Many of those books of the Bible that he wrote talk about this experience he had, and how it changed his life. Later on we will talk about some of these scriptures.

When Saul (God later changed his name to Paul so from now on in the book we will call him Paul) received the Holy Ghost Baptism, Ananias laid hands on him and prayed for him, and he received it. I have known many, many people who received it in this same way. When I received it, I was in a church service, and the church people laid hands on me (they prayed with their hands touching my head or shoulders, or arms. That is what it means when the Bible talks about laying hands on someone and praying for them. They prayed in tongues and in English. I

didn't receive it that night in that service, but later when I was praying on my own I received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and I spoke in tongues. I have been praying in tongues ever since. We will talk more about the gift of praying in tongues, and what that means coming up. I have known people who just prayed, and they received it. My grandmother and aunt received this gift when I was at their house and I prayed for them. You don't have to be in church. You do have to be in the right place at the right time and doing whatever God leads you to do, to receive it.

Back to Saul (or Paul-2 names for the same guy). Guess what happened? Those same guys that he had once helped capture Christians with were after him. Acts 9:22-23 says, "But Saul increased the more in strength, and confounded the Jews which dwelt at Damascus, proving that this is very Christ. And after that many days were fulfilled, the Jews took counsel to kill him: But their laying await was known of Saul. And they watched the gates day and night to kill him."

Paul couldn't even leave the city without them waiting to kill him. It was on then. You could imagine how badly they wanted to kill Saul. Like this scripture said, he proved to them that Christ was real. He proved to them that there was something to all this

even though they didn't want to see it or accept it. Sometimes it will be that way. When you get saved, you will have others who will be watching you to see if there is a change in you. They will want to know if this thing is real or not. Be careful of your testimony before them. They may even try to trap you up to make it seem that there is nothing to this. It may be that they are jealous, because you are changing your life for the better and they are afraid that they can't. It may be that down inside they know that they need the same thing, but they won't admit it because they don't want to quit all their sin.

They may be under conviction. That means that God is using the change in you to lead them to a change. Don't take things at face value. Or they may know that they need it but they are afraid to admit it, so they take this out on you by attacking you. If they are acting bad against you due to your change, there may be a reason for it.

There was something to that Holy Ghost that filled Paul. It was hard for him at first. The Jews were after him, and the Christians didn't trust him. But Holy Ghost boldness kept him going. If you find it hard to make a stand because your family, or those around you at work, or your old friends don't accept you because of the change in your life, then remember Paul's story. Remember that the Holy Ghost can

give you the boldness you need to make a stand just like He did for Paul.

We can't forget the other crowd in this story. It was the crowd who was against the Holy Ghost. They were against God. They resisted the Holy Ghost and refused to let Him deal with them. They were hard headed and stubborn. Even more hard headed than Paul, because Paul changed eventually.

In Acts 7:52 in one of Peter's sermons, he described those guys as being stiff-necked, and he told them that they were resisting the Holy Ghost. They were fighting against God. When we fight against the Holy Ghost, that is a very bad thing. In the book of Romans Paul wrote about people who do that. We read about them in Romans chapter 1. It will really help you to get out your Bible and read this chapter. There are 2 ways to fight against the Spirit of God. It may be by doing the same thing that Saul did by not yielding and being hard headed and stiff necked.

We can read about all of this in Romans chapter 1. This chapter talks about people who professed themselves to be wise, but instead they became fools. They continued to do things that were wrong even though down in their heart, they knew they were wrong. They worshiped themselves and their own "want to's", and their sin, more than they worshiped

God. They didn't want to keep God in their knowledge because they didn't want to stop their sin. They didn't want to stop those things they knew were wrong. Romans 1:32 says that these people, "Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them."

Do you know people who say they are Christians, they say they have been saved, but they are still doing the same mess that they used to do? Do you know people who hang with the old crowd that they hung with before they got saved? These people are in danger of fitting into this category of people that Paul talked about in this scripture.

What happens to this category of people? We read about them in Romans 1:28, "And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;" In other words they stopped knowing what was wrong and what was right. They lied to themselves so long that they stopped knowing the difference. They couldn't repent when they were convicted of the wrong they did. They couldn't ever change. Because of all of this they couldn't ever get saved, and they could never make it to heaven. Don't ever come to the place that describes you. The Bible bears out that

there is only 1 sin that we can never be forgiven of. That is what is called blaspheming against the Holy Ghost. Jesus talked about it in Mark 3:28-29. Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation.”

One of the jobs of the Holy Ghost is to convict us of our sin. He makes us feel bad when we sin so that we know that we have done wrong. When He convicts us, then we can repent, and ask for forgiveness, and overcome this sin. It all starts with conviction, with Him letting us know when we have done wrong. If we ignore this conviction, and we choose to keep on doing this sin over and over and over and over after we know that we are doing wrong, then eventually we will not feel the Holy Ghost conviction. We will have made so many excuses for our sin that we won't listen when the Holy Ghost convicts us. That causes us to be doomed to an eternity in hell. Don't play with sin. Don't play games with your eternal soul. Take this thing as serious as it is.

Then there was the other crowd. It was the crowd that was hungry for this thing. They saw it work, and wanted it. This was the huge crowds that gathered



and received everything that they could. The disciples witnessed to others. The ones that they witnessed to witnessed to more, and those witnessed to more. Look at it this way. If you tell someone about the Lord. And they tell 5 people. Each of them tell 5 more. Then because of your influence 15,625 people come to the Lord. Do the math. Get fired up and go and tell. Get the Holy Ghost Baptism, and do like these men did. Go and change your world. One verse referred to this crowd as being the ones who were turning the world upside down. Change your world upside down. You have the same things available to you that they had for them. The rest is up to you. How hungry are you? Seek and you shall find.

## Chapter 6

### The Rest of the Story of Acts and What All This Has To Do With You Now

If you haven't been reading your Bible as you read this book, then you are missing out on a lot. Any time that you read a Christian book that gives Bible references, it is important that you read the Bible as you read the book. I have put a lot of quotes from the Bible in this book, but after you read this book it would be a really really really really really good idea to read the book of Acts. You will get so much more from it.

Why will you get more from reading the Bible than from reading this book? God has helped you to understand the book of Acts when you read this book. How do I know? Because He promised that He would teach His children. I John 2:27 tells us, "But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him." Now it is important that you have the right attitude about this verse. What do I mean by that? God promises that the anointing will teach you. What is the anointing? The anointing is a product of the Holy Ghost. He will teach you. That is why it is important to read the

Bible. You will be reading the Bible and you will start to understand it. It will be like it will just stand out to you. He is doing His job. You know that He will teach you. You can trust that. But you can't ever have the attitude that makes you think, "God will teach me. I don't need anybody else to tell me anything." That is just stinking thinking.

God made the church for a reason. This story of Acts talks about how the first churches were set up well over 2,000 years ago. (Matter of fact, Christians were first called Christians at the church of Antioch. Barnabas, one of Paul's helpers, started the church. It started because the people had fled there to escape persecution in other places. That says a lot that they ran there because of persecution, but wound up starting a church there. You can tell that the Holy Ghost was doing His job of making them bold. If He hadn't done so, would we have churches today, or even know about them? Something to think about.)

Anyways, back to my account, Paul and these disciples and followers of Jesus gave their life to these early churches. Not just their everyday lives, but they laid down their lives to the death to start these first churches. History gives the account that Paul was beheaded for his obedience. All of Jesus' original disciples except for Judas who was the one that betrayed Jesus by turning Him over to the

soldiers who took Him to be crucified were in action in the time of Acts. Even though many of them weren't named in the book of Acts, they are mentioned in other books of the Bible. History tell us that everyone of them was killed for serving God, except for John. He was put in prison on an island. He was there when God gave Him the book of Revelations.

What gave all of them the courage and strength to go on and do what they did in spite of everything that was going on around them? What made them able to stay dedicated even though the world was going in the opposite direction? They all had the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. What can help you to be able to stay fired up for God no matter what the rest of the world is doing? What can help you to stay strong to serve God with boldness? You too can have the same thing that these had. It is an experience that is still there, and it is for you too. We will talk more about that.

Let's get back to my question in the last paragraph when we talked about how the Holy Ghost teaches us. I mentioned that we have to be careful and not get a wrong attitude about that. Then I mentioned the church and how God set up the church for a purpose. One of the purposes for God making the church is so that we won't get all proud in ourselves and think that we are everything because God is using us. We

will have others around us to be a part of to keep us from going off all crazy with things.

The church is very precious to God. I am not talking about a certain denomination when I talk about the church. God doesn't mean that when He talks about the church in the Bible. It means everybody that is a part of the family of God. It means the whole entire family of God all over the world. I talk with people all over the world every day because of what we do in the ministry. Some of them barely speak my language. They live in parts of the world that are a lot different from where we live. But I know when I talk to them that they are being led by the same God who leads me. They are being strengthened and made bold by the same Holy Ghost who strengthens me. They are part of the same family because of the same Savior, Jesus, who died for us, who they love with all their heart. They are treasuring and obeying the same Word of God that keeps us all going in the same direction.

We are part of something big. You aren't by yourself. You have a family. It is a family that will stick by you to the death. Why? Because they are children of God who love God and His people with the same love that you have for God, and the same Holy Ghost who helps them to stand for what is right, and stand

for one another. It doesn't make them all perfect, but it sure makes them stronger.

If you have someone who says that they are a Christian, but they do wrong things to you, and they don't come back and apologize or make it right, then they may not have God's Spirit convicting them. If they do have it, then they aren't yielding to Him. I am saying that you may have been treated badly by others around you, but the family of God will treat you right. If they don't then God will take care of making this right.

The church is precious to God, and you are part of that church that stretches all around the world, and all the way down through time to these early people who helped start the church. He refers to the church as being His bride. Ephesians 5:25 talks about how husbands should love their wives like Jesus loved the church. "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it." This is an example of how dear the church is to Jesus. He died for it. These early Christians cherished the church, those people who are part of the family of God. We might not be a part of the church today if they hadn't stayed faithful. If they hadn't been filled with Holy Ghost Baptism and that boldness, the church might not have survived all that persecution.

One day when you get to heaven you will be able to thank them for what they did to start the church. Cherish the family of God. I am not talking about one particular little group of people, but I am talking about the whole family of God all over the world. Stand up for them, and stand with them. Here is something else to think about. Today we have to boldly stand up for the church so that tomorrow our children, and our children's children will have a strong church.

I just want to give you a glimpse of something that is talked about in Revelations 19:1, 5-7. Sometimes we feel like we are all alone, and no body cares. Sometimes we may feel like the church is so small, and nobody is doing it right any more. Here is something to remind you that this isn't so, and to let you know that it is the devil that is trying to make you think this way. This is a glimpse of heaven, and a glimpse of the church that you are a part of. "And after these things I heard a great voice of much people in heaven, saying, Alleluia; Salvation, and glory, and honour, and power, unto the Lord our God: For true and righteous are his judgments And a voice came out of the throne, saying, Praise our God, all ye his servants, and ye that fear him, both small and great. And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for

the Lord God omnipotent reigneth. Let us be glad and rejoice, and give honour to him: for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready.” We are part of a GREAT MULTITUDE. Remember all the thousands that were saved just in the book of Acts. There were many many many many more than just the ones mentioned. They are a part of the same body that you are a part of. They are all part of your church. Down through time, everyone who had served God is part of your church, your body, and you are a part of them. The Bible tells us that when we get to heaven we will be known by them like we know them. You are definitely part of something BIG.

So we see how the church is important to God. Because of the church we don't have to feel that we are alone. We are part of something huge. The church is the influence that we need. It helps us stay strong. The wrong crowd can really get you down. But the right crowd can really lift you up strong. It helps us to stay on the right track and in a right understanding. The Holy Ghost teaches us, but we will also have the devil who tries to get us off on the wrong track with our thinking. The church helps us to have the right thinking and feeling. When we unite together it is harder for the devil to get us sidetracked. That is why I said at the end of the first paragraph that even though the Holy Ghost teaches us



we should never get the stinking thinking that we don't need anybody else to teach us anything because He is our teacher. We need the church to help keep us on the straight path, and to help us to keep our thinking right. That same thing helped them to stay strong in Acts.

Here is an example of what I mean by that. Paul teaches us this. Do you remember how he was a Christian killer, but God spoke to him and changed his direction, and the Holy Ghost filled him making him new. In Galatians 1 he talked about what he did after God changed him and filled him. Galatians is a letter that he wrote to the church that was started in Galatia. Read this first chapter of Galatians. It is too long to put here, and it has a lot of stuff in it that will help you.

To sum it up, Paul tells us that after God saved him, and the Holy Ghost filled him, he went to Arabia to spend time with God. The Holy Ghost taught him when he was there. He tells us that he didn't go to be with all the disciples to learn what they had to tell him, but he drew aside to listen to God. But he didn't take a stinking attitude. He didn't take the attitude that because God was teaching him that he didn't need anybody else's input. After he left Arabia, he went straight to the other disciples and made sure that

what he had received from God matched what they had received from God.

We aren't in a corner with this. We won't ever have a truth that no one else will have. We all serve the same God, and we all have the same Bible, and we all are led by the same Holy Ghost. We are all part of the same body. I hear a lot of people say that they have a new truth that God has shown them that no one else knows. I have even heard people say that they have a new truth that isn't even in the Word of God. That is a sure sign that this person is lying, or that he is being led by the devil instead of by the Holy Ghost.

So we will all march together with the same truth. That is what makes the church so powerful. We talked a little about this earlier. Why has the church been so persecuted through time? Why did the early Muslims hate the Christians, and why do they hate the Christians today? Why did Hitler hate the Jews and the Christians? Why did the communists hate the Christians? During all of these persecutions, people were killed for having Bibles, and they were beaten if they went to church. Why have the people who were determined to take over the world all the way through time hated Christians? Why do the liberal people who try to control our country and other countries today hate the Christians? Why does the devil who wants to control the world and has tried to do so since

the beginning of time hate the church? Because the church is so powerful. They know this.

We have talked a lot about what makes the church to be so powerful. Because it is so powerful, all these influences can't control it. None of them can totally control the church, not even the devil. He won't even be able to control the world until the church is taken out of the world and taken to heaven in what is called the rapture.

You are not only a part of something special, but you are also a part of something powerful. But we can't ever get a stinking attitude, or stinking thinking. If we become proud, we will ruin it all. God teaches us in the Bible that we need to be humble with each other. That we need to yield to Him, and submit to those over us in the Lord. That we need to yield to each other. We can't love the people in the church and not submit to them. If we are cocky, and self absorbed, we can't love anybody not even God. We can't yield to God Himself. So be careful that you don't get stinking thinking and attitudes. But at the same time don't mix up humbleness and boldness. You can stand upright in the face of the devil, and all those that are on his side, and tell them like it is, just like they did in Acts. But you need to be gentle and humble with your brothers and sisters in Christ. And you need to submit to God and His Spirit.

There are two kinds of churches. There is the church, the body of Christ that is world over. Then there are churches who are not part of the body of Christ. What am I talking about? You will find many man made churches who do not obey God. They don't listen to His voice and obey Him. They don't follow God's Word, but they change it to be what they want it to be, and they don't allow the Holy Ghost to do His work. They are just man made with man made teaching. They are a lot like the church guys in the story of Acts who thought they were doing God a favor by killing Christians.

Many of these man made churches teach that the Baptism of the Holy Ghost is not for Christians today, but they say that it was just for those people in Acts. Now I know that isn't true, because the Bible says that it is for us all, all the way through time. Acts 2:39 says, "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, *even* as many as the Lord our God shall call." If you go to a church, and they say that the Baptism of the Holy Ghost is not for us today, and it is not something you can receive, then get out of that church. It isn't a church where the Word of God is being preached in truth, and it isn't a church where you can find the Holy Ghost. So don't become a part of man made churches. We will talk more about why it is

important to go to a church where God leads you to go.

Also, you need to go to a church where the all the gifts of the Spirit are in operation. Where people are taught about how to walk in the Spirit and not just in the flesh. Where people are instructed in ways of righteousness, or right living. Where there is order, and that order is God's order. Where God is leading them in a vision and purpose and you can see that. Choose the church you go to carefully, because the wrong church can do a lot of damage.

We have talked a lot about how the Holy Ghost Baptism is for you. We have talked a lot about how salvation is for you. This wasn't always so, that is it wasn't always so unless you were a Jew. Jews are people that are from Abraham's family. I won't get into all that right now except to say that the Jews were very special to God because of Abraham's obedience. You can read about this starting in Genesis chapter 17, and on from there into the next several chapters. At first, up until the time of Acts, no body could be saved except for the Jews. Then God did something special. Something that He had planned on doing from the beginning of creation. He changed everything. That is why you can be saved today.

In Acts 10 we can read about all this. This part of the account tells about a man named Cornelius who wasn't a Jew. He had an angel visit him to tell him to go see Peter. At the same time Peter had a vision. What was all this about? God was getting ready to change the world. God spoke to both of them that salvation was no longer just for the Jews, but that it would be also for the Gentiles (those people who aren't Jews). He told them that the Holy Ghost Baptism wasn't just for the Jews, but that it too was for everyone. (I want to add a little note here. Angels are still at work in our lives today. They protect us. They can guide us. They are so powerful that they are going to eventually bind up the devil in chains. They fight the enemy for us. They aren't to be worshiped though. Some people almost worship angels, and that is wrong. They themselves worship God. We aren't to worship anything but God.)

That day the angel appeared to Cornelius was really important, because it changed your life. It changed the lives of everyone who wasn't a Jew down through time. Peter and Cornelius went to a meeting, and Peter preached a life changing sermon. You can read the sermon he preached in the second part of Acts 10. After his sermon, the Holy Ghost was poured out on everybody there, and it fell on the Jews and on those who weren't Jews. Acts 10:45-47 says, "And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as

many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God. Then answered Peter, Can any man forbid water, that these should not be baptized, which have received the Holy Ghost as well as we?" So can you receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost? Is it for you? You answer that.

Before I start the next chapter I want to put a note here. In the next chapters I am switching to talking about you and the Holy Ghost. I won't be adding any more from the account of Acts as far as talking about the story of Acts. Read the rest of the book of Acts. I only went through chapter 10. The rest is really exciting. You'll read about how an earthquake shook a jail that Paul was in and it led to the jailer and his whole family being saved, how he was eventually taken to Rome and while he was in prison started churches there, how Paul and all the others overcame a lot of stuff. The Holy Ghost is there through all of it. Read the rest of the book of Acts. It will really help you and keep you fired up.

We are going on to talk more about the Holy Ghost and you.

## Chapter 7

### How Can This Help You

So what does all of this have to do with you? God gives us tools to be able to serve Him in supernatural ways, to be able to overcome the devil who is the enemy of everyone who is serving God, and to be able to have a victorious life. One of those tools is the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. To find out how this can help you we need to look at how this gift helped those in Acts. Things haven't changed a whole lot. We still have things to overcome. What worked for those early children of God works now for us just the same. Let's take a look at what the Baptism of the Holy Ghost did for them, and remember that it will do the same for you. This is a review of a lot of things we have talked about, but we are looking at it now with a different perspective.

We have talked a lot about how the Baptism of the Holy Ghost brings boldness. Acts 4:31 says, "And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness." If you want to speak God's Word with boldness, you need the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. This doesn't just mean that you get boldness if you preach. You may not be called to be a preacher, but we all are called to be a witness to share



what we know about the Lord with others. We are all called to be a light to a world that doesn't know God. The Holy Ghost helps us to do that with boldness.

Acts 11:24 says, "For he (Barnabas) was a good man, and full of the Holy Ghost and of faith: and much people was added unto the Lord." Many times when Acts mentions people being filled with the Holy Ghost we see many people being saved, and many people added to the family of God. The Baptism of the Holy Ghost enables us to be powerful witnesses, powerful prayer warriors, and because of that many people are added to the family of God.

Acts 13:52, "And the disciples were filled with joy, and with the Holy Ghost." The Holy Ghost helps us to find joy even in the midst of persecution. Joy is important. If you have ever been depressed, then you know how important joy is. Joy can get you up and get you going. Joy can increase your faith because when joy is around you can always look up. The Bible tells us in Nehemiah 8:10, "...for the joy of the LORD is your strength." If we lose our joy we often lose our strength. The devil specializes in stealing our joy by causing us to look at the bad things that get us down. Don't let the devil steal your joy.

Acts 16:6-7 tells us that the Holy Ghost guided them. "Now when they had gone throughout Phrygia and

the region of Galatia, and were forbidden of the Holy Ghost to preach the word in Asia, After they were come to Mysia, they assayed to go into Bithynia: but the Spirit suffered them not.” People were trying to kill them. The Holy Ghost guided them in which direction to go in. A lot of people today are letting fear control their lives. They are afraid to go here or there because of all the violence that seems to be all around. If we let the Holy Ghost guide us, we don’t have to be afraid. He won’t let us go places where there is danger. We can trust Him to guide us. We can trust God to protect us and shield us from danger. We don’t have to walk around in a dark world full of fear.

Acts 20:23 tells us that the Holy Ghost can speak to us through others. “Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me.” We talked about how the Holy Ghost leads us by telling us what to say. That isn’t just true when we are preaching, or witnessing, but also when we are talking to others. The Holy Ghost can use us to give words of knowledge guiding others to make right decisions, or words of faith encouraging those around us. These people were able to give Paul words from God about which direction he needed to take. We can do the same to those around us.

Acts 8:17 tells us that because they had the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, they could lay hands on other people who would receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost through their prayers. “Then laid they *their* hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.”

Acts also tells us in Acts 5:16, “There came also a multitude *out* of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.” One of the gifts of the Holy Ghost is the gift of healing.

Acts 12:8-10 tells us about other gifts that we receive when we are filled the Holy Ghost. “For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues.” If we really want to make a difference in the lives of others we need to be Baptized with the Holy Ghost.

Jude 1:20 says that if we pray in tongues in the Holy Ghost it will build up our faith. “But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost.”

In many scriptures in the book of Acts, it was mentioned that the Baptism of the Holy Ghost enabled people to pray in tongues. We will talk about this more coming up, but it is a powerful prayer. It is a prayer that the Holy Ghost Himself prays using your voice. It is a prayer that will move mountains, back up the devil, and cut lose those things that are bound up. There have been many times when I didn't know exactly how to pray for something. But the Holy Ghost did. He would start praying in me in a powerful way, and I would know that my prayer would be answered.

So how about it? Have I convinced you that you need this gift? Keep on reading.

## Chapter 8

### How Can You Receive This Gift

The first thing that we have to do when we are seeking any gift of God including the Baptism of the Holy Ghost is to remember that it is a gift. It is something that God wants to give His children. It isn't something that we can deserve, or something we can earn. It is a gift that God has for us. There are some things that we have to do to unlock His gifts. Like we have to be saved. We have to repent of our sin. We have to obey. We talked about all those things. But we can't feel like we don't deserve it.

We can't be perfect enough to deserve anything of God. But when someone gave you a present, did you give it back to them because you felt like you just didn't deserve it. I don't think so. You were hungry to receive it. That is what you need to do with this gift that God has for you.

The Bible tells us in Luke 11:9-13 some words that we need to remember when we are claiming any of God's promises. We need to remember this especially if we want to receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost "And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall

be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" God knows how to give you the Baptism of the Holy Spirit. How can you receive it? The Bible says to ask for it, seek it, and knock on that door. God knows how to give it, and He is more than willing to give it to those who seek it.

In Acts 8:15-17 we read that the disciples laid their hands on them so that they received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, "Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost: (For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.) Then laid they their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost."

I want to share with you the testimony of how I receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. I had not heard about it. I grew up in a church that didn't teach about or practice the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. A lot of churches don't allow God to work in the fullness of His Word. God knew that I needed this gift to be able to overcome the addictions and scars

that a time of sin had left me. (You may think that it is fine to do whatever you want to, but I am here to tell you that sin is pleasure for a season, but the ways of it brings death.) A friend of mine that I hadn't seen in many years, not since we were in middle school called me, and asked me to go to church with her. Her church believed in the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, and they allowed the Holy Ghost to operate. It was really different to me. At first I was a little afraid of this because it was different to me. But it all left me hungry to receive it. I wanted this in my life. I was determined to receive this gift. Even if I didn't understand all about it.

We have to remember that we may not always understand all the things of God and His Word. We have to remember that God is way above our ways. There are a lot of things that we have to take God at His Word to receive. We have to trust His Word because with our little puny mind we will not understand it all. Isaiah 55:8-9 tell us, "For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways, saith the LORD. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways, and my thoughts than your thoughts." We can't understand most of the things of God because He is so beyond our knowledge. If He doesn't show us things, we can't get most of it on our own. His thoughts are way above what we can even

think. There is no way that we can understand all the particulars of the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, but we can take Him at His Word, get hungry for it, and ask Him to fill us. I don't understand how remote controls work, but that doesn't stop me from clicking away. Seek it, receive it, then use this gift that can turn your world upside down.

Acts 2:38 tells us some prerequisites that we need to have to be able to be filled with the Holy Ghost. "Then Peter said unto them, 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." If you aren't repenting of your sin then you can't receive this gift. If you aren't sorry for your sins, and if you are making excuses so that you can continue to do these, then you aren't repenting. Without repenting of your sins, you won't receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. Another thing that will unlock this gift to operate in your life is obedience. Acts 5:32 tells us, "And we are His witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Ghost, whom God hath given to them that obey Him."

Let's get back a second to my story and how I received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. In a church service, the pastor gave an invitation for those who wanted to receive this gift to come up for prayer. They laid hands on me and prayed that I would



receive it. Now I had learned that one thing that is evidence that someone received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost is that they will speak in tongues. If you remember when we talked about the Baptism throughout what we read in Acts, they received the gift of tongues when they received the Holy Ghost Baptism. When they prayed for me in church that night, I didn't start speaking in tongues. I didn't understand all of that, and it hindered me some.

It wasn't very long after this happened that I was by myself praying for a friend of mine who was dying of cancer. I was really into my prayer, weeping for this friend. Then all of the sudden I started speaking in a foreign language. Words that I didn't understand started pouring out of me. It was like it was me, but it wasn't me who was speaking because I didn't know this language that I was speaking. We will talk more about speaking in tongues in a chapter coming up. The whole next day I spoke in tongues. I didn't understand that I could start or stop it. I thought I had to do it all the time. That wasn't right, but I didn't know. I do know that my friend was healed of cancer.

There isn't any more powerful prayer than a prayer that the Holy Ghost prays in His own language. (I just want to add something here. I knew some people who recorded someone speaking in tongues. They

took it to Virginia Tech and told a language professor that they wanted to know what language that the people in the recording was speaking. They didn't tell the professor that this was someone who was speaking in tongues. The professor told them that this was an ancient dialect, and that it was spoken fluently by whoever was speaking. It tell you that person didn't know a thing about the language they were speaking in when praying in tongues, but God did.)

Just a few months after I received the Baptism of the Holy Ghost that little church shut down. I believe that God had all that happen just for me. I know that because I received this, I was able to overcome all those things that were behind me, and I overcame the enemy who was trying to destroy me. I believe with all my heart if I hadn't received this, I would not be here today. You may be someone who is just like me. You may have some things in your past that you need to overcome. Or you may be going through a battle because the enemy knows that if you get filled up and fired up you will tear the his play house down. Seek and you shall find, knock and it will be opened unto you. God knows how to give you this gift.

## Chapter 9

### Speaking in Tongues

This is definitely one of those things that I was talking about earlier when I said that there are some things that we can't understand without God's help. When we find things like that, we just need to trust God's ways that are so far above our ways. We need to trust Him and His Word. God says it, so just believe it, and receive it.

The gift of tongues is when the Holy Ghost prays through us using our voice. He is in us, and He prays through us. The gift of speaking in tongues is so important to our prayers. When the Holy Ghost prays directly through us using our voice to speak a prayer from Him, it is a really powerful prayer. Have you ever wanted to pray for someone, but you didn't know how to pray? Maybe you didn't know exactly how to pray. Or you didn't know what to pray for. But you knew that it was really important to pray the right thing. When you have the gift of speaking in tongues the Holy Ghost can pray through you and it will be the exact thing that you need to pray for.

Jude 1:20 tells us another benefit of praying in tongues. "But ye, beloved, building up yourselves on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Ghost".

Praying in the Holy Ghost speaking in tongues will build up your faith. It will strengthen you.

Speaking in tongues is also very valuable when you are fighting the enemy. When the devil feels like he is just surrounding me with evil, and he is messing everything up that God is doing, then I let the Holy Ghost have His way to pray through me. I know by how He is saying what He is saying that He is jerking a knot in the devil's tail, and I know that the devil is being bound up. Just as soon as that happens, that feeling of evil is lifted and God's joy rises up in my heart. I know that the enemy is beaten, and that everything will be OK. And it is.

I have had times when the Holy Ghost was praying through me, and at that time I didn't know what I was praying for. I could tell that something was going on, but I didn't know exactly what. Then later God would show me what it was that the Holy Ghost had prayed for. I would find out that someone received a miracle, or the enemy was pushed back from a circumstance and victory was won. I remember someone that told me that the Holy Ghost had started praying in a very powerful way. The next day he found out that his good friend had been stabbed at exactly the same time that this happened. His life was spared.

There have been times when others have prayed for me by speaking in tongues, and times when I have prayed for others, and healing was the result. This happened in Acts as well.

I Corinthians 14 teaches a lot about praying in tongues. When we read this and other scriptures about praying in tongues, we understand that there are different types of tongues. There is a language that is for praising the Lord. Sometimes we can get caught up in praising the Lord, and the Holy Ghost will praise Him through us. There is also a tongue that is for praying for others. There is a tongue that is for giving messages out to the church. I have been in church services where someone would give out a message to the church in tongues, then someone else in the congregation would interpret what was said. Sometimes the message will be given in another language that is a language that someone knows.

I can remember one church service where a little lady gave a message out in tongues. She did not know any Spanish, but the message that she gave out was in perfect Spanish. There was a lady there that was married to a Hispanic man, and she spoke English and Spanish. I knew enough Spanish to understand what this little lady was speaking. In perfect Spanish she told this lady who was married to the Hispanic man that if she would stay true to God that He was

going to bring her husband into the church. The lady giving out the message called her husband by his Hispanic nickname that none of us knew. Talk about someone receiving a blessing from God. This lady shouted through the church. She knew that beyond any shadow of a doubt that this message had come from the Holy Ghost.

Sometimes a message is given out in another language to lead someone to the Lord. I heard a testimony about an Indian that knew his native language even though it was not commonly used. He was going by a church and heard a young child speaking loudly in his native Indian tongue. She was telling him that it was his last chance, and that it was time for him to stop running. She told him that she needed to give his heart and life to God. He ran into the church and to the altar. He knew that he had just heard a miracle. The Holy Ghost had given that message through that little girl who had the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. Sometimes we think that we are too young to receive anything from God. That isn't so. Often the younger the better. Younger children just take God at His Word, and they don't think a miracle away. God uses children a lot.

One of the things the gift of speaking in tongues is used for in church services is to give out a prophecy. A prophecy can mean when God uses someone to tell

about something that is coming in the future. It can also mean when God uses someone to give words of direction, or words of warning, or words of encouragement to someone in the church, or to the church as a whole. I have been in services when all of the sudden everything got really quiet. Then someone who had the Baptism of the Holy Ghost will speak giving a message out. The Holy Ghost would give someone else the interpretation of that message. Whatever was said was for someone in the congregation or for the whole congregation of that particular church. It was certainly worth listening to. God Himself was speaking it.

When we are asking God for anything whether it be the Baptism of the Holy Ghost, or maybe for the gift of healing, or for the gift of faith or any other gift, it is important to remember that there is one thing that we need to seek God for, and if we seek Him for that one thing, then we will receive all these miraculous gifts that God has for us. I Corinthians 13 tell us that we can speak in tongues of angels, but if we don't have charity or love then we are just like tinkling brass, or a sounding cymbal. The greatest gifts that we can have is these three things. I Corinthians 13:13 says, "And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these *is* charity." The greatest of these is love.

In I Corinthians 12:4-11 we read about other gifts that God has for us. We talked about this a little bit earlier, but I want to concentrate on it more here. “Now there are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. We all can have different gifts, with different operations, but it is the same God which works in all of them so it is all coordinated together by Him. And everyone is able to benefit by all the gifts. Here are some of the gifts in verses 8-11, “For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another divers (different) kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues (the Holy Ghost will often lead someone to interpret tongues in a service by telling in English what was said in the other language so that everyone can understand. This may not be done by some one who understands in the natural what was spoken, but the Holy Ghost shows them what was said.) But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.” (In other words different people using different gifts all given by the same Holy Ghost.)

Let’s review for a minute. Let’s talk more about the different kinds of tongues, or the different ways that



speaking in tongues is used. There is a tongue that is used to praise God. There is a tongue that is used to rebuke the devil. There is a tongue that is used to intercede or pray for others, and pray for circumstances. There is a tongue that is used in church services when someone prays in tongues, then God gives to someone else the interpretation of what was said. The gift of tongues is also used to cause someone to hear what is being spoken in the language that they understand. The Holy Ghost has many ways of using tongues, but I am just talking about the main ones here. But remember, He can use them anyway He wants to. Its His work, Him doing His job His way.

The Bible talks about different kinds of tongues in I Corinthians 12:7-12. This passage also talks about different gifts as well as tongues that the Holy Ghost gives us. I wanted to include the other scriptures around the part that talks about different kinds of tongues so that you can see that there are more gifts of the Spirit that the Holy Ghost give us. “But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal. For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit; To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts of healing by the same Spirit; To another the working of miracles; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another

divers kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues: But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will. For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.” This talks about the divers kinds of tongues. Divers means different.

Each different kind of tongue has a job to do. It isn't something that we can understand and do with our mind, but it is something that the Holy Ghost inside of us does. We don't have to control it, so we don't have to worry about which one to choose, and we don't have to worry about what to do. The Holy Ghost takes care of it all. When we speak in tongues, we will have a feeling about what the Holy Ghost is praying for, or what He is doing.

For example, when the Holy Ghost rises up in me to rebuke the enemy, the devil, I definitely can tell what He is doing. He is taking authority and I hear it in what He is saying. It is a powerful prayer that slaps the devil down where he belongs, under our feet.

When the Holy Ghost is praising God through me, I can tell because a powerful praise fills my heart. When I intercede for someone in tongues, I feel a powerful love and a burden for that person. Feeling a burden for someone means that you feel a powerful

God-sent care for that person. You feel God's compassion for them. Sometimes I know who that person is, but sometimes I don't. I just know that there is someone out there who needs this prayer. It is amazing to know that God lays it on people's hearts to pray for people they may not know. When I am going through a battle, I know that there are people out there praying for me. There are some people praying for me who know me, but there may also be others who pray for me that don't even know me, but they are praying in the Holy Ghost and through Him they know just what I need. When the Holy Ghost is praying to change a circumstance, you feel a sense of what He is praying for.

We will talk more scriptures about these divers tongues, or different tongues. There are lots of scriptures in the Bible for each kind of tongue that I am mentioning, but I have only put one for each.

The Bible talks about the gift of tongues being used to praise God. There is a tongue that is used to praise God. Acts 10:46 says, "For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God...."

There is a tongue that is used to rebuke the devil. When the Holy Ghost himself prays through you to rebuke the devil, that is powerful. The devil knows

who this is and what that the Holy Ghost Himself is rebuking Him. He runs.

There is a tongue that is used to intercede or pray for others, and pray for circumstances.

There is a tongue that is used in church services when someone prays in tongues, then God gives to someone else the interpretation of what was said. I Corinthians 14:27, “If any man speak in an *unknown* tongue, *let it be by two*, or at the most *by three*, and *that by course*; and let one interpret.”

The gift of tongues is also used to cause someone to hear what is being spoken in the language that they understand. The first time we see this is in Acts 2:5-8, “And there were dwelling at Jerusalem Jews, devout men, out of every nation under heaven. Now when this was noised abroad, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every man heard them speak in his own language. And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?” If you remember the account I gave of the little lady who spoke in perfect Spanish in a church service, that is one example of this kind of tongue.

One thing that will help you. My brain is a very hyper and active brain. When I pray in tongues, I had to learn to shut my brain up so that it wouldn't interfere. My brain and my body tries to run interference with the Holy Ghost. The devil will try to use both against me. All of the sudden when I am praying in tongues my mind will run little rabbit trails of stuff that have nothing to do with anything. My body will all of the sudden have to go to the bathroom, or have some kind of pain, which is the enemy just trying to interfere. I have learned to get caught up in the Spirit, to focus on what the Holy Ghost is doing and saying, and ignoring the rest.

What a wonderful God we serve. When we read about all the gifts of tongues, and all of the gifts of the Holy Ghost, we remember that God has a plan to make His church powerful. He will keep us, and use us in a mighty way. We can't understand all of them. But that is what makes them so wonderful. They are so huge they are above our puny little minds. Still God makes these available to His body, His church. And they work in us, even if we don't totally understand them.

## **Chapter 10**

### **More Scriptures to Help You**

I want to add here a note that will help you. If you want to read more about the Baptism of the Holy Ghost and speaking in tongues here are some good scriptures to read:

I Corinthians chapters 12, 13, and 14 (The I in front of Corinthians means that this is First Corinthians. Some books of the Bible are in several parts. This means this is the first part of the book of Corinthians.)

Romans chapters 7 and 8 talk about walking in the Spirit and letting God's Spirit lead you.

Jesus talked about praying in tongues in Mark 16:17, "And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues "

One sound word of advice here. If you have questions, don't ask someone who doesn't believe in any of this, and don't ask someone about any of this who has no idea of what it is all about. Ask someone who believes in it. Ask someone who has this gift. If they don't believe in it, or if they don't have it, how can they answer any of your questions.

The first one to ask is God. Remember the verse that we read about how the Holy Ghost can teach you. Ask God to send His great teacher to you. Why

would He do so? He will do it because He loves His children, and you are one of them. He wants to give you understanding. He wants to give you this gift. How do we know? Remember these verses in Luke 11:9-13 some words that we need to remember when we are claiming any of God's promises. I have used them over and over so that they come to you when you think about all this. "And I say unto you, Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you. For every one that asketh receiveth; and he that seeketh findeth; and to him that knocketh it shall be opened. If a son shall ask bread of any of you that is a father, will he give him a stone? or if he ask a fish, will he for a fish give him a serpent? Or if he shall ask an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children: how much more shall your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to them that ask him?" Will God give you this gift if you want it with all your heart? Sure He will.

Closing



If you take this book to heart, and let God's Word that you read in it sink in, this will change your life. It will open up to you an experience that will change your life, and it will change the lives of those you love and those around you. The prophets in the Bible mention that in the last days God will pour out His Spirit in an even more miraculous way than ever before. This is the last days. Let God fill you and use you in a mighty way. Make yourself available to Him. Seek and you will find. This gift is for you.

## More Books That Will Help You

I have written a bunch of books. Many of them will really help you and take you to the next step. Here are some books that are especially for teens and young people.

*About God and His Word and How to Live For Him*

*Who Am I and Where Am I Going*

*What is Wrong??? What Is Right???*

*Promises in God's Word*

*Know What Yo Believe*

*How Can I Be Saved*

*A Better Way*

Here are other books for adults that will help you:

Walking in the Spirit. This one will especially be helpful after you receive the Baptism of the Holy Ghost. It talks about how we can choose to let God's Spirit be an important part by yielding to Him.

Another book that will really help you is Salvation That Sticks.

There are many others on this site that will help you. You can read or you can download all my books at [www.freechristianonlinebooks.com](http://www.freechristianonlinebooks.com). You can also download and play a lot of music on my site. You can also play scripture slideshows that have music behind them, and scriptures. There is a lot there that will lift you up

If you have questions, or want to contact me, email me at [school@nlcm.net](mailto:school@nlcm.net). I would love to hear from you.