

### ...AND THEY ALL SPOKE IN OTHER TONGUES Acts 2:4

### THE IMPORTANCE OF HOLY SPIRIT

- OUR ADVANTAGE: John 16:7 (ESV) Nevertheless, I tell you the truth: it is to your advantage that I go away, for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you. But if I go, I will send him to you.
- ONE LIKE JESUS: John 14:16 (ESV) And I will ask the Father, and he will give you *another* Helper, to be with you forever,
- OUR POWER: Acts 1:8 (NLT) 8 But you will receive *power* when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."
- OUR ENABLER FOR SERVICE: Acts 10:38 (NLT) And you know that God *anointed* Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power. Then Jesus went around doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

# **IS HOLY SPIRIT STILL FOR TODAY?**

- Joel 2:28 (NLT) 28 "Then, after doing all those things, I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your old men will dream dreams, and your young men will see visions.
- Acts 2:16–18 (NLT) 16 No, what you see was predicted long ago by the prophet Joel: 17 'In the last days,' God says, 'I will pour out my Spirit upon all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy. Your young men will see visions, and your old men will dream dreams. 18 In those days I will pour out my Spirit even on my servants—men and women alike— and they will prophesy.
- Acts 2:38–39 (NLT) 38 Peter replied, "Each of you must repent of your sins and turn to God, and be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. Then you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 This promise is to you, to your children, and to those far away—all who have been called by the Lord our God."

## **TONGUES...MORE THAN AN INITIAL EVIDENCE**

• Acts 2:4 (ESV) — And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

### **Do We Have to Speak In Tongues?**

"If we look at the examples set forth after the day of Pentecost, we see that each time there was mention of people being baptized in the Holy Spirit, there was the evidence of tongues (a physical sign of the baptism) given. This Scripture support can be found in Acts 2:4; Acts 8:14-18; Acts 10:44-46 and Acts 19:4-6. In each case, tongues is associated with the baptism. This is telling me that God's intention for the Spirit baptism and a sign of full submission to the Holy Spirit is that we also relinquish our tongue, that unruly little member of our body that James speaks of in James 3:6-8"

(DW Blog 5-19-2015)

### THE POWER OF THE TONGUE

- James 3:6–8 (ESV) 6 And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. 7 For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, 8 but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison.
- Proverbs 18:21 (ESV) Death and life are in the power of the tongue, and those who love it will eat its fruits.
- Matthew 12:36–37 (ESV) I tell you, on the day of judgment people will give account for every careless word they speak, 37 for by your words you will be justified, and by your words you will be condemned."

#### WHO IS REALLY SPEAKING?

"Glossolalia produced a significantly different pattern of brain activity than singing, the team reports in the November issue of **Psychiatry Research: Neuroimaging**. Perhaps the most important difference was a decrease in frontal lobe function, Newberg says. "The part of the brain that normally makes them feel in control has been essentially shut down." Another notable change was increased activity in the parietal region--the part of the brain that "takes sensory information and tries to create a sense of self and how you relate to the rest of the world," Newberg says. The findings make sense, says Newberg, because speaking in tongues involves relinguishing control while gaining a "very intense experience of how the self relates" to God." Interestingly, he notes, the glossolalia responses were the opposite of those seen in subjects in a meditative state. When people meditate on a particular sacred object, Newberg has found that their frontal lobe activity increases, while their parietal activity goes down. This conforms with the notion that in meditation one has a controlled focus while losing a sense of self. "

## WHY TONGUES?

### **HOLY SPIRIT PRAYER**

## Romans 8:26–28 (NLT)

26 And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. 27 And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will. 28 And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

## WHY TONGUES?

 1 Corinthians 14:2 (TPT) — When someone speaks in tongues, no one understands a word he says, because he's not speaking to people, but to God—he is speaking intimate mysteries in the Spirit.

• Jude 20 (TPT) — But you, my delightfully loved friends, constantly and progressively build yourselves up on the foundation of your most holy faith by praying every moment in the Spirit.

• Ephesians 6:18 (NLT) — Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere.

## HOW TO RECEIVE THE BAPTISM OF HOLY SPIRIT

## John 7:37–39 (ESV)

- 37 On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, 'Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.' " 39 Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.
- 1. Thirst: an act of awareness of our need
- 2. Come: an act of faith that God is the source
- **3. Drink:** an act of obedience
- 4. Believe: an act of trust