

The Ministry of the Holy Spirit Baptism and Adoption

The law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus is the principle that goes into effect by virtue of you accepting the redemptive work of Christ for you.

Once Christ has made a way, the Holy Spirit baptizes the believer into the body of Christ.

BAPTISM

- 1) 1 Corinthians 12:13 - Baptism
 - a) The reference is washing
 - i) Isaiah 1:16-19
 - b) This baptism is where the believer is given a new nature and becomes a new creature.
 - c) This is where old things are passed away (washed away)
 - i) Guilt of sin is taken away
 - ii) The dominance of the old man is taken away
 - d) This is where all things are become new
 - i) 2 Corinthians 5:17
 - ii) Galatians 3:27
 - e) The baptism therefore references:
 - i) Putting away the filth of the old man
 - ii) **The putting away of your sins**
 - iii) Putting on that which pertains to Christ. So now we identify with Christ and not this world.
 - f) This baptism is executed by the Holy Spirit
 - g) The washing of regeneration has taken place for every believer (Titus 3:3-5)
 - i) The blood of Christ is the offering
 - ii) The washing takes place by the Holy Spirit
 - h) This is being born-again
 - i) This is to be born of the spirit
- 2) Why is it expedient?
 - a) The Holy Spirit's ministry kicks in after the redemptive work of Christ takes place on the earth
 - b) Without the work of the Holy Spirit you have no connection with Christ other than in name
 - c) Without the work of the Holy Spirit there is nothing NEW about you! Old things are still in place.
 - d) Without the work of the Holy Spirit we are under the condemnation of the law and we are not brought to grace!
 - e) Without the ministry of the Holy Spirit you cannot be born of again
 - f) Without the ministry of the Holy Spirit you are still bound by sin

But we are not finished

ADOPTION

- 1) Romans 8:9
 - (1) In the flesh (the old man)
 - (2) In the Spirit (born again)
- ii) "Dwell in you" –
 - (1) He is with you and in you (John 14:16)
 - (2) The Father and the Son make their abode with those that love the Lord (John 14:23)
 - (3) But remember that there is a directive to abide

- (4) Meaning that abiding is a choice that goes beyond your initial confession of faith
 - (a) You must choose to be in the Spirit as opposed to the flesh**
- iii) The Spirit comes to dwell in us at the new birth - the baptism of Ephesians 4:4-6
 - (1) Ezekiel 36:35-27
 - (2) 1 Corinthians 3:16
- 2) Romans 8:9
 - a) If the Spirit of God dwell in you, then you have the Spirit of Christ, otherwise you are not born again
- 3) If you belong to Christ, then you are capable of being in the Spirit and then you truly have the **Spirit of Christ**
- 4) This is a reference to what is called adoption in Ephesians 1:5 and Romans 8:15
 - a) This adoption puts Christ in us**
 - b) The hope of glory is Christ in us – Colossians 1:27
- 5) Romans 8:14-17
 - a) The sons of God are led by the Spirit of God
 - b) We have received the Spirit of adoption
 - c) This means there is no true leading without sonship
 - d) Ephesians 1:3-7
 - i) The Holy Spirit not only leads you but brings you into the family of God by adoption
 - e) The Adoption
 - i) Brings the SECURITY of sonship
 - ii) The adoption itself is the placing and positioning the nature (and condition) of Christ into the spirit of the believer**
 - (1) The position
 - (a) Christ is a beloved son. We are now the children of God (not **the** Son, for the Son is God and man)
 - (2) The nature
 - (a) The condition, the character
 - (b) The character of Christ is righteous and holy
 - (3) Adoption in Roman culture speaks of the power of what the Holy Spirit ministers
 - (a) Adoption was not uncommon
 - (b) The adopted son usually moved into a better status
 - (c) The family “chose” the child to bring in
 - (d) Roman laws prohibited going back on adoption
 - (i) The adopted child could never be rejected!
 - (e) Witnesses to the adoption were the proof of the adoption in case questions/disputes arose.
 - iii) This adoption in type is exacted in reality by the Holy Spirit

The Spirit of Christ

- 6) Romans 8:9-11
 - a) The Spirit of Christ refers to Christ in you!
 - b) Christ is in you by the adoption administered by the Holy Spirit
- 7) What does it mean to have Christ in us?
 - a) Not only does the Spirit of God dwell in you, the Spirit brings to you, the believer, the presence of the Spirit of Christ

- b) That means we have:
 - i) The position of Christ as a beloved son (not as the Son) – Romans 8:15
 - ii) The nature/condition/character of Christ as righteous – Romans 8:10
 - (1) 1 Corinthians 2:15, 1 John 3:7
 - (2) By the Spirit we are able to follow after righteousness
 - iii) We are chosen members of His royal family
 - iv) We have been brought into His family never to be put away by our Father
 - v) The Holy Spirit confirms our sonship
 - vi) This is the adoption
 - vii) This gives us access
 - (1) John 14:13 Ask in His name
 - (2) John 15:16 You have been chosen so that you could have this access
 - viii) Ephesians 1:3-5
 - (1) This is the point - That we be holy and blameless before Him in love
 - (2) This is the hope of glory (Colossians 1:27)
 - ix) Galatians 4:1-7
 - (1) Here we find the reference to the law of the Spirit of Life in Christ Jesus and the adoption that brings us the Spirit of Christ
 - (2) We are heirs of God through Christ
 - x) THE SECURITY OF SONSHIP – John 14:18

8) Why is it expedient that Jesus goes?

- a) John 16:6-7
- b) Why is it expedient that Jesus goes?
 - i) Without the shedding of blood there is no putting away of our sins.
 - ii) The Holy Spirit will come only **after** Jesus completes His earthly assignment.
- c) If the Holy Spirit does not come:
 - i) We could not be born again
 - ii) We would not be washed
 - iii) We would still be dead in our trespasses and sins
 - iv) We would be without the Lord
 - (1) It is only by the Spirit that one can truly claim Jesus as Lord - 1 Corinthians 12:3
 - v) There is no assurance

9) But now the Holy Spirit has come!

- a) The spiritual truths are real and true
- b) However, our current practice (life) may not match the spiritual truth
- c) The disconnect is due to a lack of a renewed mind
 - i) Romans 12:1-2
 - ii) Ephesians 4:17-24
 - iii) Colossians 3:5-11
- d) This disconnect becomes an old struggle until you renew your mind!