**Acts 11:1-18**

**“Peter is Vindicated”**

**Recap of Last Week: “While Peter was Still Speaking”**

**SLIDE 1**

**“The Baptism of the Holy Spirit”**

The “Baptism of the Holy Spirit” may be defined as that work whereby the Spirit of God places the believer into union with Christ and into union with other believers in the body of Christ at the moment of salvation.

**SLIDE 2**

**Three Things That Are Good to Know**

1. 1 Corinthians 12:13 clearly states that all believers have been Spirit

baptized, as all been given the Spirit to drink (the indwelling of the Spirit). This indicates the indwelling of the Holy Spirit is assumed of each believer.

2. Nowhere in Scripture are believers commanded to be baptized with, in or by the Spirit, or in any sense to seek the baptism of the Holy Spirit. This indicates that all believers have been given the indwelling Holy Spirit. (Baptized in the Spirit)

3. The Holy Spirit takes up residence within us the moment we truly believe (the moment we are saved). Titus 3:5 tells us, “*He saved us, not on the basis of deeds which we did in righteousness, but in accordance with His mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewing by the Holy Spirit...”*

**SLIDE 3**

**The Holy Spirit With, In, and Upon U**s

The Holy Spirit is “with” us – this indicates the approach of God to our soul. The result of this relationship is that He convicts of sin, shows Christ to be the object of faith, gives us faith, and regenerates us, and assists in our ongoing sanctification .

The Holy Spirit dwells “in” us: This indicates the abiding presence of the Spirit in the Christian’s body. This relationship results in our ability to be a fully-functioning member of the Body of Christ.

The Holy Spirit “Comes Upon” (Fills) us – This indicates the Holy Spirit’s sharing His power in order to witness or attest to the truth of Jesus Christ. This relationship always results in the glorification of Jesus.

**SLIDE 4**

**Last Week’s Application**

1. Faith (True Belief) in Christ alone is the only requirement for salvation. (Acts 16:31)

2. At your private and personal moment of faith in Christ, you are saved and sealed by the Holy Spirit. (Ephesians 1:13)

3. As believers in Christ, the Holy Spirit is always with us, and lives inside us. (1 Corinthians 3:16)

4. As we live our lives in identification with Christ through His Spirit, the Spirit will at times come upon or fill us resulting in the glorification of Jesus (Acts 7:55-56)

**This Week**

Proverbs 21:2 reminds us that, “Every person’s way is right in his own eyes, But the Lord examines the hearts.”

Proverbs 14:12 says, “There is a way *which seems* right to a person,
But its end is the way of death.”

We are pretty much convinced that our ways, the ways we think, the opinions we are often all too free to express, are right, which means anything else must naturally be wrong.

In matters of Christian theology and doctrine, which way do you lean? Is it toward your own thinking, opinion, and background, or are you inclined to an open mind and heart toward scripture?

What are your presuppositions regarding the things of the Lord?

Examples:

Arguments or disagreements come up even, or maybe especially between Christians.

Today we see a potentially sharp disagreement between Christians, and how it was resolved.

Let’s read...

**Acts 11:1-18 – Peter is Vindicated**

*“Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. 2 And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, the Jewish believers took issue with him, 3 saying, “You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” 4 But Peter began and explained at length to them in an orderly sequence, saying, 5 “I was in the city of Joppa praying; and in a trance I saw a vision, an object coming down like a great sheet lowered by four corners from the sky; and it came to where I was, 6 and I stared at it and was thinking about it, and I saw the four-footed animals of the earth, the wild animals, the crawling creatures, and the birds of the sky. 7 I also heard a voice saying to me, ‘Get up, Peter; kill and eat.’ 8 But I said, ‘By no means, Lord, for nothing unholy or unclean has ever entered my mouth.’ 9 But a voice from heaven answered a second time, ‘What God has cleansed, no longer consider unholy.’ 10 This happened three times, and everything was drawn back up into the sky. 11 And behold, at that moment three men who had been sent to me from Caesarea came up to the house where we were staying. 12 And the Spirit told me to go with them without misgivings. These six brothers also went with me, and we entered the man’s house. 13 And he reported to us how he had seen the angel standing in his house, and saying, ‘Send some men to Joppa and have Simon, who is also called Peter, brought here; 14 and he will speak words to you by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ 15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning. 16* *And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ 17 Therefore, if God gave them the same gift as He also gave to us after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?” 18 When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, “Well then, God has also granted to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”*

**SLIDE 5**

**Passage Outline:**

**1. Accusation/Conflict (Vs. 1-4)**

*“Now the apostles and the brothers and sisters who were throughout Judea heard that the Gentiles also had received the word of God. 2 And when Peter came up to Jerusalem, the Jewish believers took issue with him, 3 saying, “You went to uncircumcised men and ate with them.” 4 But Peter began and explained at length to them in an orderly sequence, saying,*

**Notes:**

**2. Defense/Testimony (Vs. 5-15)**

**Notes:**

**3. The Defense Rests (Vs. 16-17)**

*And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ 17 Therefore, if God gave them the same gift as He also gave to us after believing in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God’s way?”*

**Notes:**

**4. The Verdict (V. 18)**

*“When they heard this, they quieted down and glorified God, saying, “Well then, God has also granted to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life.”*

**Notes:**

**SLIDE 6**

**Points of Application Regarding Conflict**

**1. Keep the Main Thing the Main Thing (Colossians 3:1-3)**

*“Therefore, if you have been raised with Christ, keep seeking the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 [a]Set your minds on the things that are above, not on the things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.”*

**2. Be Humble (Colossians 3:12-13)**

*“So, as those who have been chosen of God, holy and beloved, put on a heart of compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience;**bearing with one another, and forgiving each other, whoever has a complaint against anyone; just as the Lord forgave you, so must you do also.”*

**3. Measure Your Responses (James 1:19-20)**

*“Now everyone must be quick to hear, slow to speak, and slow to anger; for a man’s anger does not bring about the righteousness of God.”*

**SLIDE 7**

**In Regard to our Relationships...**

**Seek the Attitude of Christ (Philippians 2:1-7)**

*“Therefore if there is any encouragement in Christ, if any consolation of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any affection and compassion, 2 make my joy complete by being of the same mind, maintaining the same love, united in spirit, intent on one purpose. 3 Do nothing from selfishness or empty conceit, but with humility consider one another as more important than yourselves; 4 do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others. 5 Have this attitude in yourselves which was also in Christ Jesus, 6 who, as He already existed in the form of God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, 7 but emptied Himself by taking the form of a bond-servant and being born in the likeness of men.”*