

The Baptism Of The Spirit

Description

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John 1:24-34

John was the one-eyed man in the kingdom of the blind. Unlike the proverb, instead of making him king some wanted to brand him a crazed, deluded, even dangerous prophet. Yet, many came to him and believed his testimony of "He who comes after me" (John 1:15). John's baptism of repentance was to prepare the way for Jesus' baptism with the Holy Spirit. One would prepare, the Other would fulfil.

On the day Jesus came to be baptized "John saw Jesus," in a way no other did. "Look, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!" (1:29). John saw even more: he saw the Spirit come down on Jesus like a dove. He heard an inner voice, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is the one who will baptize with the Holy Spirit" (1:33).

The Holy Spirit brings sight to our blindness, clarity to our confusion, depth to our devotion, tenderness to our character, and usefulness to our service. Jesus calls His children into the flow of the Spirit, "Be baptized!"

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