



My Father's House

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BAPTISM IN THE SPIRIT OUR NEW LIFE IN CHRIST

For the first 8 centuries the newly baptized converts looked for and experienced a deeper release of the Holy Spirit. In the book "Fanning the Flame" by Fr. George Montague and Fr. Michael Scanlon this release of the Spirit was accompanied by Charismatic gifts, especially speaking in Tongues, a Word of Prophecy, a deeper love of the Eucharist, a deeper appreciation of the Catholic faith, a warmer devotion to Mary, and Resting in the Spirit. With the rise of the modern Charismatic movement, over 150,000,000 people have made the Life in the Spirit seminar leading to the release of these Charismatic gifts. Let's look closely of the most important of these.

1. A Deeper, Closer and More Personal Relationship with Jesus Christ who lives in our hearts. So many people have witnessed that Jesus took on a new dimension in their life. He was no longer a God way up there, but He was a God who lived in their hearts. He was no longer a God back there who used to speak and who used to heal, but He was the God who is speaking to them primarily from within through their own thoughts and who was actually healing them of worry, fear, doubt, loneliness and even pain.
2. The scriptures came alive. As they meditated upon the Scriptures, certain words appeared almost in gold. They had such a personal impact on their minds and hearts. It was no longer simply God loves everyone, but God loves me unconditionally as I am, and therefore, I am His beloved child.
3. The Mass and the Eucharist came alive and I look forward to be healed. at the moment that I receive Jesus because I had that expectant faith of the Woman who said "Say but the word and I shall be healed."
4. I felt a new release from sin as I went to confession more frequently, and I experienced a new power to forgive those who had hurt me.
5. I realized that Jesus was speaking personally to me, not only through the Scriptures, but also and perhaps most personally through my own thoughts and my deepest intuitions.
6. I noticed that my prayers had a new power as I saw more and more of them being answered, and the Rosary became one of my favorite prayers.
7. I had a new devotion to Mary as my Mother and Model.
8. I felt a new appreciation for my Catholic faith when I realized that my Catholic Church was really God's Pillar and standard of Truth for me, and I appreciated more deeply that I was a member of His One True Mystical Body.
9. I had a deep love and appreciation for Pope John Paul II as I now have a deep appreciation and love for Pope Benedict XVI. Both are strong Father figures.

10. I had a deeper urge to spread the news of my new-found life in the Spirit. I wanted everyone to know that they too could have a personal relationship with Him, and I began to encourage many people to attend Charismatic prayer meetings and to be Baptized in the Spirit.

11. I began to realize that my Catholic faith was essentially and totally Charismatic. That every single thing was a gift that came from the Father through the Son in the Power of God's Spirit. I became a person of deeper gratitude; thanking God for life and persons in the gifts of His Spirit.

12. Praise and worship became more and more for me a way of life as I realized that I was here, above all to give honor, glory, adoration and praise to my God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

THE SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Corinthians 12: 4-11

“There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit;
There are different forms of service but the same Lord;
There are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in
everyone.

To each individual the manifestation of the Spirit is given for some benefit.

To one is given through the Spirit the expression of **wisdom**;

To another the expression of **knowledge** according to the same Spirit;

To another gifts of **healing** by the one Spirit;

To another **mighty deeds**;

To another **prophecy**;

To another **discernment of spirits**;

To another varieties of **tongues**;

To another **interpretation of tongues**.

But one and the same Spirit produces all of these, distributing them
individually to each person as He wishes.

GIFT OF TONGUES

Scriptures

“...to another varieties of tongues...” (1 Cor 12:10)

“In the same way, the Spirit too comes to the aid of our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit itself intercedes with inexpressible groanings. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the intention of the Spirit, because it intercedes for the holy ones according to God’s will.” (Romans 8:26-28)

“These signs will accompany those who believe:... they will have the gift of tongues...” (March 16:17)

“And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in different tongues, as the Spirit enabled them to proclaim.” (Acts 2:4)

“For one who speaks in a tongue does not speak to human beings but to God, for no one listens; he utters mysteries in spirit.” (1 Cor 14:2)

“For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit is at prayer but my mind is unproductive. So what is to be done? I will pray with the spirit, but I will also pray with the mind...”

(1Cor 14:14-15)

SALVATION

Conversion

Turning away from sin
Finding out and following what God says about something
Choice: Choosing Jesus and the Life in the Spirit
Whole new way of life
A call to radical change

In one of the Ignatian Exercises is a Meditation on the 2 Standards

A standard of Christ and the standard of satan
Scripture Passages:

- 1) St. John expresses it as a struggle between darkness and light
- 2) St. Paul tells us it is a struggle between the spirit and the flesh
- 3) St. Augustine calls it a struggle between the City of God and the city of man

Using Imagery as St. Ignatius teaches us to contemplate:

Imagine 2 plains : one a great plain about Jerusalem, where our Lord, the sovereign Leader of the "just", stands. The other plain is about the region of Babylon, and here is where Lucifer, the enemy of Christ and the enemy of our human nature, takes his place.

Christ calls us together and wishes to unite all men
Satan draws men away from Christ and makes them his own disciples

In Revelations we are told unable to defeat the Woman "he (satan) became angry at the woman and went off to make war on the rest of her offspring - on those who keep God's commandments and give witness to Jesus."

Satan's Tactics

Tempts through:
Cravings for riches (wealth and power)
Through worldly honor - we want this title or that
Through our pride

St. John talks about the 3 concupiscence's:

"...if anyone loves the world, the Father's love has no place in him, because everything that there is in the world -- **disordered bodily desires, disordered desires of the eyes, pride in possessions** -- is not from the Father, but it is from the world." (1 John 2:15-16)

Using Revelations again we're told that a great battle arose in Heaven and Michael and his angels threw satan and his angels out of heaven down to the earth. After the battle a loud voice was heard from Heaven: "Now have salvation and power come, and the Kingdom of our God and the authority of His Anointed."

We now imagine Jesus as our sovereign and true Chief (the lamb) opposite of satan (the dragon) awakening Love in our hearts, communicating Joy and giving Glory to the Father.

Jesus' Attitude

Jesus is humble

Grace radiates from His whole person

He attracts and fascinates solely by His Presence - seeking the highest spiritual poverty. He doesn't go after His own glory, but seeks humiliations and contempt, knowing that it is from them a person is led to humility; i.e. a sense of reality about our human condition.

Jesus sends His disciples forth to search out all men of any and every condition and to help them.

Question: Who do I wish to serve? Which Kingdom do I see myself in?

Charisms

Graces of the Holy Spirit.

A Spiritual gift by which the Holy Spirit moves through us.

Purpose of the Charisms:

- 1. To Build up the Church**
- 2. For the Good of people**
- 3. For the Needs of the world**

We need to accept them with gratitude and use them in conformity with the promptings of the Holy Spirit.

In John 15:5 Jesus tells us: “Whoever remains in Me and I in him will bear much fruit. Because without Me you can do nothing.”

The Holy Spirit wants to make all Christians fruitful.

PRINCIPLES OF CHARISM

“C” : Community – we are Christ’s body and individual parts of it. We are all contributing to the building of the mystical body of Christ. We need to belong to some type of group: a rosary group, a Bible study group, a marriage encounter group, a charismatic prayer group. If and when needed the group can pray for us.

“H” : Healing – The Holy Spirit is dwelling in us, working on our spirits, changing us, converting us. The fruits are: LOVE, JOY, PEACE, PATIENCE, KINDNESS, GENEROSITY, FAITHFULNESS, GENTLENESS, SELF-CONTROL.

“A” : Attitude – ours should be that of Jesus. John 15:4 states “Remain in me, as I remain in you.” Do we really believe that Jesus remains in us through His Holy Spirit? TAKE YOUR HAND AND PUT IT ON YOUR HEART. IN INDIRECTLY TOUCHING OURSELVES WE’RE TOUCHING JESUS. Jesus is going to lead us in sharing with

people, in giving love, in giving consolation, in giving instruction, in wisdom. SAY "YES", Holy Spirit, MOVE!

"R": Revelation – Jesus is revealed through charisms. They are a revelation of Jesus' presence in our midst.

"I": Interior – Jesus says: "whoever believes in Me will do the works that I do, and will do greater ones than these....." Jesus works in and on our hearts to draw us into a deeper relationship with Him.

"S": Service – we're called to minister to the Body of Christ.

"M": Mission – we all have our own mission. No one can replace us, no matter who we are, no matter where we are.

MANIFESTATIONS OF THE GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

Cor. 12

WORD GIFTS:

- 1. Tongues – Scripture handout. Fr. Bill will speak more on.**
- 2. Interpretation of Tongues – An inspired message by the Holy Spirit that gives meaning to the word spoken in tongues. Ex: first encounter at a prayer meeting.**
- 3. Prophecy – The Lord speaks through a person that which He desires for the here and now. It may be a word of direction, encouragement or expression of His Love, but it is a personal message to the group or person. When we hear it, it rings truth to us.**

POWER GIFTS:

- 1. Faith – An internal conviction that God will act in a particular situation in a particular way. Ex: When I was a single mother and raising my children, I had faith to believe that God would provide for all of our needs. Sometimes it seemed that He wouldn't, but He ALWAYS came through.**

- 2. Healing – God touches and brings wholeness as an answer to prayer. Can be in body, mind, heart, soul, will, intellect or emotion. Ex.**
- 3. Miracles – God touches and brings wholeness in a dramatic way as an answer to prayer. Can be spiritual, physical, psychological or emotional.**

REVELATION GIFTS:

- 1. Word of Knowledge – the Holy Spirit reveals knowledge one word at a time. Heard in the heart or sensed in the heart or mind which will be of spiritual benefit to the person for whom it is being revealed. Ex:**
- 2. Wisdom - One is led intuitively to do or say something, or refrain from saying or doing something. Ex:**
- 3. Discernment of Spirits – one intuitively and instantaneously senses what spirits are present and operative within a word, action, situation, or person. Can be a holy or evil or a mixture. For instance coming into a place and instantly sensing it is peaceful. Meeting someone and sensing there is something not right. Ex: Hospice case with the sister..... or ACT conference and confusion.**

BISHOP SAM JACOBS STATEMENT ON CHARISMS

The exercise of the charisms of the Holy Spirit should impact every aspect of our personal lives and our relationship with others.

Otherwise we are like the person who buried the talents, or the persons who hides the light under a bushel basket. We received the power of the Holy Spirit to make a difference in the world, to further the kingdom of God, to build up the Body of Christ. If this is not happening, it is not because the power of God is lacking. It is because we are not fulfilling the plan of God in our lives. The power comes from God and the fruit is of God. What He desires of us is the willingness to be active instruments through which He can renew the face of the Earth.