

Acts 1:5

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

Analysis

The contrast between John's water baptism and Spirit baptism marks the transition from preparatory ministry to new covenant reality. The Greek 'baptizo' (immerse) emphasizes total envelopment by the Spirit, not mere external ritual. This promise fulfilled at Pentecost demonstrates God's faithfulness and inaugurates the age of the Spirit.

Historical Context

John the Baptist had prophesied this Spirit baptism (Mark 1:8) around AD 27-28. Jesus now promises its imminent fulfillment 'not many days hence,' building anticipation for Pentecost ten days later.

Related Passages

1 John 4:8 — God is love

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

Study Questions

1. How have you experienced the Spirit's empowering presence in your Christian walk?

2. In what ways does Spirit baptism transform believers beyond mere religious ritual?

Interlinear Text

ὅτι	Ἰωάννης	μὲν	βαπτισθήσεσθε	ὕδατι	ὕμεῖς	δὲ
For	John	truly	baptized	with water	ye	but
G3754	G2491	G3303	G907	G5204	G5210	G1161
βαπτισθήσεσθε	ἐν	πνεύματι	ἁγίῳ	οὐ	μετὰ	πολλὰς
baptized	with	Ghost	the Holy	not	many	
G907	G1722	G4151	G40	G3756	G3326	G4183
ταύτας	ἡμέρας					
G3778	days					
	G2250					

Additional Cross-References

Matthew 3:11 (Holy): I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire:

Luke 3:16 (Holy): John answered, saying unto them all, I indeed baptize you with water; but one mightier than I cometh, the latchet of whose shoes I am not worthy to unloose: he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire:

1 Corinthians 12:13 (Spirit): For by one Spirit are we all baptized into one body, whether we be Jews or Gentiles, whether we be bond or free; and have been all made to drink into one Spirit.

Titus 3:5 (Holy): Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost;

Mark 1:8 (Holy): I indeed have baptized you with water: but he shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost.

Acts 19:4 (Baptism): Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus.

Acts 10:45 (Holy): And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost.

John 1:31 (Parallel theme): And I knew him not: but that he should be made manifest to Israel, therefore am I come baptizing with water.

Joel 3:18 (Parallel theme): And it shall come to pass in that day, that the mountains shall drop down new wine, and the hills shall flow with milk, and all the rivers of Judah shall flow with waters, and a fountain shall come forth of the house of the LORD, and shall water the valley of Shittim.