

Acts 19:2

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.

Analysis

Paul's question - 'Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed?' - revealed these Ephesian disciples' incomplete understanding. Their response 'We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost' indicated they were disciples of John rather than fully Christian believers. This encounter shows the transition from John's preparatory ministry to Christian fullness.

Historical Context

These disciples, like Apollos, apparently received teaching about Jesus through John the Baptist's followers without learning about Pentecost and Spirit baptism. Paul's instruction brought them to full Christian understanding and experience.

Related Passages

Colossians 1:16 — All things created through Christ

Psalm 19:1 — Heavens declare God's glory

Study Questions

1. How do you help those with partial understanding of Christ come to fuller knowledge and experience?

2. What does this teach about the Holy Spirit's essential role in Christian life and testimony?

Interlinear Text

εῖπον	πρὸς	αὐτόν	εἰ	πνεῦμα	ἄγιον	έλάβετε	
He said	unto	him	whether	Ghost	Holy	Have ye received	
G2036	G4314	G846	G1487	G4151	G40	G2983	
πιστεύσαντες	οἱ	δὲ	εῖπον	πρὸς	αὐτόν	Ἄλλ	οὐδὲ
since ye believed	G3588	And	He said	unto	him	G235	not so much as
G4100		G1161	G2036	G4314	G846		G3761
εἰ	πνεῦμα	ἄγιον	ἔστιν	ἡκούσαμεν			
whether	Ghost	Holy	there be any	We have			
G1487	G4151	G40	G2076	G191			

Additional Cross-References

1 Corinthians 6:19 (Holy): What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own?

John 7:39 (Faith): (But this spake he of the Spirit, which they that believe on him should receive: for the Holy Ghost was not yet given; because that Jesus was not yet glorified.)

Acts 19:5 (Parallel theme): When they heard this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.

Galatians 3:5 (Faith): He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

Acts 10:44 (Holy): While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word.

Acts 2:17 (Spirit): And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

1 Samuel 3:7 (Parallel theme): Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, neither was the word of the LORD yet revealed unto him.

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