

Acts 19:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.

Analysis

When Paul laid hands on them, 'the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.' This Pentecost-like experience authenticated their transition from John's baptism to Christian faith. Speaking in tongues and prophesying demonstrated the Spirit's presence, paralleling Acts 2 (Jews), 10 (Gentiles), and now transitional disciples. The Spirit's visible manifestation confirmed doctrinal correction.

Historical Context

This marks the final group receiving visible Spirit baptism in Acts. The pattern shows God confirming major transitions: Jewish Pentecost (ch. 2), Samaritan inclusion (ch. 8), Gentile acceptance (ch. 10), and now John's disciples (ch. 19).

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Romans 10:9 — Confession and belief for salvation

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. Why did God give visible signs of the Spirit at key transitional moments?
2. How does the Spirit's work authenticate doctrinal truth?
3. What role do extraordinary gifts play in confirming the gospel?

Interlinear Text

καὶ ἐπιθέντος αὐτοῦς τοῦ Παύλου τὰς χεῖρας ἦλθεν
And **had laid** **them** G3588 **when Paul** G3588 **his hands** G5495 **came** G2064
G2532 G2007 G846 G3972

τὸ πνεῦμα τὸ ἅγιον ἐπ' αὐτοῦς ἐλάλουν τε
G3588 **Ghost** G3588 **the Holy** **on** **them** **they spake** **and**
G4151 G40 G1909 G846 G2980 G5037

γλώσσαις καὶ προεφήτευον
with tongues **And** **prophesied**
G1100 G2532 G4395

Additional Cross-References

Acts 6:6 (Parallel theme): Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid their hands on them.

Acts 2:4 (Holy): And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Mark 16:17 (Parallel theme): And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

1 Timothy 5:22 (Parallel theme): Lay hands suddenly on no man, neither be partaker of other men's sins: keep thyself pure.

2 Timothy 1:6 (Parallel theme): Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou stir up the gift of God, which is in thee by the putting on of my hands.