

New Testament Baptisms Series
“Baptism into the body of Christ and
Baptism of Fire”

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Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all Scriptures are from the NKJV Bible.

1. Baptism into the Body of Christ. 1 Corinthians 12:13-14 “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. For in fact the body is not one member but many.”
 - a. Holy Spirit supernaturally places us into the body or family of God.
 - b. We are on earth to become Christ’s hands, feet, tongue, etc. with various functions, gifts and callings.
2. God’s wonderful family
 - a. When we are born again into God’s family, we become brothers and sisters in Christ to every other believer in the world.
 - b. God’s family is made up of people from every nationality, race and culture.
Revelation 5:9-10 “And they sang a new song, saying: ‘You are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth.’”
 - c. We are sons and daughters of the King of the Universe. 2 Corinthians 6:18 “‘I will be a Father to you, And you shall be My sons and daughters’, Says the Lord Almighty.”
3. Baptism of fire. Luke 3:16 “John answered, saying to all, ‘I indeed baptize you with water; but One mightier than I is coming, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to loose. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.’”
 - a. Fire is symbol of purification and power.
 - b. Trials or difficult times are a type of baptism of fire.
 - c. The Lord wants to purify us during these times, but the cleaning process may not be easy. Luke 3:17 “His winnowing fan is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clean out His threshing floor, and gather the wheat into His barn; but the chaff He will burn with unquenchable fire.”
 - d. When spiritual slag is revealed in our lives, Jesus will help us get rid of those impurities.
4. Drinking the cup
 - a. Jesus asked His disciples if they were willing to suffer for the cause of the kingdom. Matthew 20:22-23 “But Jesus answered and said, ‘You do not know what you ask. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?’ They said to Him, ‘We are able.’ So He said to

them, 'You will indeed drink My cup, and be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with; but to sit on My right hand and on My left is not Mine to give, but it is for those for whom it is prepared by My Father.'"

- b. Disciples said they were willing to suffer, but later deserted Jesus when He was arrested.
- c. Jesus reaches out with forgiveness because He understands our weakness.

5. Count it all joy

- a. God wants us to trust Him when we go through the fire. James 1:2-5 "My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing. If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."
- b. His character is being worked into our lives and we become more useful in His service.

6. Persevering in our trials

- a. Brother or sister sandpaper who rubs you the wrong way. How will you respond?
- b. When we persevere in trials, we are purified by the Word of God. Ephesians 5:25-27 "Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her, that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word, that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish."

7. On Fire for Jesus

- a. Another side to the baptism of fire is the power aspect.
- b. We should be on fire for Jesus. Revelation 3:19 "As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten. Therefore be zealous and repent."
- c. Early disciples burned with a zeal for God.
- d. Are our desires wrapped up in His desires? Psalms 69:9 "Because zeal for Your house has eaten me up..."