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Introduction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen. (2 Corinthians 13:14)

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power of God to salvation for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek. (Romans 1:16)

"The days are coming," declares the Lord, "when I will make a new covenant with the people of Israel and with the people of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their ancestors" ... I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will they teach their neighbor, or say to one another, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me, from the least of them to the greatest," declares the Lord. "For I will forgive their wickedness and will remember their sins no more." (Jeremiah 31:31-34)

I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. (Ezekiel 36:26)

But he (Jesus) was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement for our peace was upon him (Jesus), and by his stripes we are healed. (Isaiah 53:5, NKJV)

And afterward, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days. (Joel 2:28-29)

The New Covenant is the covenant of the finished work of the cross and the ministry of the Holy Spirit. It is the covenant of the exchange that took place on the cross and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. We are made righteous in the new birth, and we receive the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in the baptism of the Holy Spirit. This Holy Spirit baptism is our personal Pentecost.

John the Baptist announced both dimensions of the New Covenant. He prophesied that Jesus was the Lamb of God who would sacrifice himself for the forgiveness and removal of our sins, "**Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!**" (John 1:29) John the Baptist also announced Jesus as the baptizer with the Holy Spirit and fire: "**As for me, I baptize you with water; but one is coming who is mightier than I He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.**" (Luke 3:16)

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Part A: The Finished Work of the Cross

I. The Consequences of the Cross In Us¹

I.1. Crucified with Christ

I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me. (Galatians 2:20); ... knowing this, that **our old man was crucified with him** ... (Romans 6:6)

To be crucified with Christ is to be dead to our old self and its passions and desires. It is the end of our self without Christ. **If we have died to ourselves, we have become free from self-centeredness, personal ambition, and pride.** That is what Jesus meant when he said, **"If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever desires to save his life will lose it. But whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.** For what profit is it to a man if he gains the whole world and loses his own soul? Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?" (Matthew 16:24-26)

The heart cry of the genuine believer is the beginning of the Lord's prayer: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name - your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven (Matthew 6:9-10).** Our choice is to surrender to the love of Jesus and die to ourselves voluntarily or to perish at his return. Jesus said, **"The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This was the Lord's doing, and it is marvelous in our eyes. ... And whoever falls on this stone will be broken; but on whomever it falls, it will grind him to powder."** (Matthew 21:42 + 44)

Not dying to ourselves is the biggest impasse in a Christian's life. The death to self has already been accomplished when Jesus said in **John 19:30, "Tetelestai!" ("It is finished!").** The very essence of sin is to go astray like sheep, to go our own way. The reign of our ego has been crucified with Christ, and we must walk this victory out daily.

I.2. Free from the Law of Sin & Death

... knowing this, that **our old man was crucified with him, that the body of sin might be**

1) The credit for some of this teaching on "The Cross In Us" goes to Derek Prince.

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done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. ... Likewise you also, **reckon yourselves to be dead indeed to sin**, but alive to God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 6:6 + 11)

He himself (Jesus) bore our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, **having died to sins**, might live for righteousness - by whose stripes you were healed. (1 Peter 2:24)

For **the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has made me free from the law of sin and death**. For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God did by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh, **that the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit**. (Romans 8:2-4)

I.3. Delivered from this Present Evil Age

Grace to you and peace from God the Father and **our Lord Jesus Christ, who gave himself for our sins, that he might deliver us from this present evil age**, according to the will of our God and Father, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen. (Galatians 1:3-5)

When he announced his crucifixion, Jesus said, "I will no longer talk much with you, for **the ruler of this world** is coming, and he has nothing in me." (John 14:30)

Now we have received, **not the spirit of the world**, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God. (1 Corinthians 2:12)

We are not interested any longer in the things of the world. We are focused on the things of the Holy Spirit. We are no longer slaves to the spirit of this present evil age, its reasonings, and its lusts.

I.4. Dead to the Law of Moses

For **I through the law died to the law (of Moses)** that I might live to God. ... I do not set aside the grace of God; for **if righteousness comes through the law (of Moses), then Christ died in vain.**" (Galatians 2:19; 21)

We are delivered from the law of Moses and any other man-made law as a means to achieve righteousness. We are saved and sanctified by faith, not by works. **For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith** - and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of

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God - **not by works, so that no one can boast** (Ephesians 2:8-9). Our salvation and sanctification will then in turn produce works.

Jesus told the Pharisees and the teachers of the law, "Isaiah was right when he prophesied about you hypocrites; as it is written: 'These people honor me with their lips, but **their hearts are far from me. They worship me in vain; their teachings are merely human rules.**' You have let go of the commands of God and are holding on to human traditions. ... **Thus you nullify the word of God by your tradition that you have handed down.** And you do many things like that." (Mark 7:6-8; 13)

2. The Promises of the Cross For Us²

2.1. Forgiven!

God poured the wrath that we deserved on Jesus. He took the punishment that the righteousness of God required so **we can be forgiven and have peace with him. But he (Jesus) was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities. The chastisement for our peace was upon him (Jesus), and by his stripes we are healed.** (Isaiah 53:5, NKJV); Jesus has **canceled the certificate of debt** consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us. And **he (Jesus) has taken it out of the way**, having nailed it to the cross. (Colossians 2:14, NASB); He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed (transferred, NASB) us into the kingdom of the Son of his love, in whom **we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins.** (Colossians 1:13-14, NKJV)

2.2. God Does Not Remember Our Sins

God blots out and forgets our sins. "**This is the covenant** I will make with them after that time," says the Lord. "I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds. **Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.**" (Hebrews 10:16-17) God: "**I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake; and I will not remember your sins.**" (Isaiah 43:25)

2.3. Sanctified Forever

We are sanctified forever by the sacrifice of Jesus on the cross. **We have been**

2) The credit for some of this teaching on "The Cross For Us" goes to Derek Prince. Download the detailed Bible study "Tetelestai - It is Finished" (what Jesus did for us on the cross) at www.his-kingdom.net.

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sanctified through the offering of the body of Christ **once and for all**. (Hebrews 10:10) That does not mean that we cannot sin anymore. It means that Jesus has already purchased our perfect sanctification. We already own it by faith and need to increasingly appropriate it daily.

2.4. Physical and Mental Health

Jesus not only died for the forgiveness of our sins but also for the healing of our body and mind. However, **it was our sicknesses that he (Jesus) himself bore, and our pains that he carried**. Yet we ourselves assumed that he (Jesus) had been afflicted, struck down by God and humiliated. But he was pierced for our offenses. He was crushed for our wrongdoings. The punishment for our well-being was laid upon him, and **by his (Jesus's) wounds we are healed**. (Isaiah 53:4-5, NASB)

Matthew quotes **Isaiah 53:4-5** when he confirms that Jesus fulfilled this Messianic prophecy - even before the cross (**Matthew 8:16-17**): When evening had come, they brought to him (Jesus) many who were demon-possessed. **And he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He (Jesus) himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses."** 1 Peter 2:24 also refers back to Isaiah's prophecy. He himself (Jesus) bore our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness - **by whose stripes you were healed**.

2.5. The Righteousness of God

When we repent and believe in Jesus's sacrifice for our sins, we are born again. Our sins are forgiven and washed away. We become a new creation. We transfer from darkness to light. **2 Corinthians 5:21** states that **he (God the Father) made him (Jesus) who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in him (Jesus)**. **Jesus was spiritually made sin for us**. He did not just take our manifold acts of sin - although he did. He became our sin nature so that **we become the righteousness of God** in him. **While we were still sinners, Christ died for us**. (Romans 5:8)

The born-again Christian is not a sinner anymore. He or she has become the righteousness of God in Christ Jesus. We have received a new nature, the nature of Christ. A spiritual heart transplant takes place at the point of our new birth. This is the new heart of **Ezekiel 36:26: I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh**. The new spirit refers to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Scripture states that we are a royal priesthood (**1 Peter 2:9**). We have been transformed from sinners to kings and priests.

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2.6. Ransomed from the Futile Ways of Your Forefathers

And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, knowing that **you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers**, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, but **with the precious blood of Christ**, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot. (1 Peter 1:17-19)

The blood of Jesus has ransomed us from the futile ways inherited from our forefathers. Collins Dictionary defines the verb 'to ransom' as 'to obtain the release of a captive by paying the demanded price'. **Jesus not only paid the price for the forgiveness of our sins, he also freed us from the false beliefs our forefathers may have held.**

2.7. Brought to Glory

Jesus suffered and endured shame so that we might share his glory: ... looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before him **endured the cross, despising the shame**, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. (Hebrews 12:2); For it was fitting for him (God), for whom are all things and by whom are all things, **in bringing many sons to glory**, to perfect the originator of their salvation (Jesus) through sufferings. (Hebrews 2:10, NASB)

2.8. Accepted in the Beloved

We are fully accepted by God. God the Father has **predestined us to adoption as sons** by Jesus Christ to himself according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of the glory of his grace, by which **he made us accepted in the beloved.** (Ephesians 1:5-6, NKJV) The Mercy Seat was seen as the throne of God. That is why Hebrews 4:16 states: Let us then **approach God's throne of grace with confidence, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in our time of need.**

2.9. Eternal Life

Jesus came so that we can have eternal life. For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. (John 3:16) Jesus tasted spiritual death for us when he became sin on the cross. But we do see Jesus, who was made lower than the angels for a little while, now crowned with glory and honor - because **he suffered death, so that by the grace of God he might**

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taste death for everyone. (Hebrews 2:9, NIV); And having been perfected, he (Jesus) became the author of eternal salvation to all who obey Him. (Hebrews 5:9, NKJV)

2.10. The Blessing of Abraham

Jesus was publicly made a curse on the cross because anyone who hangs on a tree becomes a curse (Deuteronomy 21:22-23). Every Jew knew that hanging on a tree was synonymous to being cursed. **Jesus was made a curse for us so that we might receive the blessing of Abraham.** Christ has redeemed us from the curse of the law, **having become a curse for us** - for it is written, "**Cursed is everyone who hangs on a tree**", **that the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.** (Galatians 3:13-14)

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is the essence of the blessing of Abraham, **in order that in Christ Jesus the blessing of Abraham would come to the Gentiles so that we would receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.** (Galatians 3:14). The promise of the Spirit is the promise of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit in Joel 2:28, "**And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out my spirit on all flesh. Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy.**" It was first fulfilled in Acts 2.

2.11. Financial Provision

Jesus was rich. **However, he became poor for our sake on the cross, so that we may become rich.** For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though **he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you through his poverty might become rich.** (2 Corinthians 8:9) All throughout the New Testament, financial wealth is defined as having all our needs met and money left over to give to others who are in need.

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Part B: The Ministry of the Holy Spirit

I. The New Birth and the Baptism of the Holy Spirit

I.1. The Outpouring of the Holy Spirit Foretold

The first great promise of the New Covenant is the new nature with all its implications. The second great promise is found in [Joel 2:28](#). God solemnly announced that he will pour his spirit on all flesh, and that men and women will prophesy: **And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh; your sons and your daughters shall prophesy. Your old men shall dream dreams, and your young men shall see visions. Even on the male and female servants in those days, I will pour out my Spirit.** ([Joel 2:28-29](#))

I.2. The Example of Jesus and the Disciples

Jesus taught about the new birth and the baptism of the Holy Spirit. The apostles received the Holy Spirit in one instance and received him again later for a second time. When Jesus appeared to them after his resurrection, he breathed on them and said, **"Receive the Holy Spirit."** ([John 20:22](#)) When Jesus breathed on the disciples, this was the moment of their new birth. **They instantly received the Holy Spirit for salvation.** Even though they had followed Jesus for three years, they could not be born again before Jesus died for their sins and rose again. It is impossible to receive a new nature without removing the old sinful nature. Only the cross made that exchange of natures possible³.

However, Jesus commanded his disciples to wait in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came on them again, **"Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about."** ([Acts 1:4](#)) The gift the Father promised in [Joel 2:28-29](#) is the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all believers. Jesus himself called it the baptism of the Holy Spirit, **"For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."** ([Acts 1:5](#)) With this baptism, the disciples received power, **"But you will receive power⁴ when the Holy Spirit comes on you."** ([Acts 1:8](#)) After already having received the Holy Spirit in the new birth, Jesus now commands the

3) This is the reason why Jesus said that the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than John the Baptist, **"He who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."** ([Matthew 11:11](#)) John the Baptist could not be born again because he was beheaded before the cross.

4) power = dunamis (STRONGS G1411): **miraculous power, usually by implication a miracle itself, ability, abundance, meaning, might, mighty deed, worker of miracles, power, strength, violence, mighty wonderful work**

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apostles to wait until they have received the Holy Spirit a second time. **This second time, they were to receive the infilling (or baptism) of the Holy Spirit**, the promise of the Father.

1.3. Did you Receive the Holy Spirit when you Believed?

The baptism of the Holy Spirit can but does not automatically happen at the time of the new birth. The following two independent accounts from Samaria and Ephesus make clear that when a person is born again, they do not automatically receive the baptism of the Holy Spirit:

Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that **Samaria had received the word of God**, they sent them **Peter and John who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For he had not yet fallen on any of them**; they had simply been (water) baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit. (Acts 8:14-17)

Paul passed through the upper country, came to Ephesus, and **found some disciples**. He said to them, **"Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?"** And they said to him, **"On the contrary, we have not even heard if there is a Holy Spirit."** ... And when Paul had laid hands upon them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying. (Acts 19:1,2+6)

1.4. Acts 2: The First Fulfillment of Joel 2:28

The outpouring of the Holy Spirit was first fulfilled at Pentecost (Acts 2). Jesus had gathered his disciples and commanded them not to leave Jerusalem but to wait for what the Father had promised. **"Which," he said, "you heard of from me. For John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."** (Acts 1:4+5) Peter preached at Pentecost, **"The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off - for all whom the Lord our God will call."** (Acts 2:39) Pentecost was the beginning of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit, the promise of the Father. The Holy Spirit has been poured out ever since the early church. The Joel 2:28 reality is for all who are far off until Jesus Christ returns.

Speaking in tongues, praise, and prophecy are evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit: **While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astonished that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on Gentiles. For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God.** (Acts 10:44-46) And when Paul had laid hands

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upon them, **the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking with tongues and prophesying.** (Acts 19:6)

When the Holy Spirit indwells the believer, he brings the power of God. Jesus said, "**But you will receive power⁵ when the Holy Spirit comes on you,** and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8) This power now dwells in us and works in and through us. **Now to him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power⁶ that works in us,** to him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians 3:20-21)

The indwelling power of the Holy Spirit works in two directions: Towards the believer (internally), and for ministry to others (externally).

2. The Internal Function of the Holy Spirit

The Holy Spirit brings spiritual discernment, revelation of the Word of God, effective edification, and inner transformation to the believer. Many of these benefits are linked to speaking in tongues. When we pray in tongues, it is God's design that we do not understand what we are praying. The Holy Spirit places the prayer in tongues in our spirit, and we speak it out. God purposefully bypasses our minds. Paul said, "**For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.**" (1 Corinthians 14:14)

Holy Spirit tongues are the personal prayer language of the believer. **For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God.** Indeed, no one understands them. (1 Corinthians 14:2) What may be only a few words at first will eventually develop into one or several languages in tongues. We must hold Holy Spirit tongues in the highest regard because believers praying in tongues **utter mysteries by the Spirit.** (1 Corinthians 14:2). Paul thanked God because he prayed more in tongues than everybody else (1 Corinthians 14:18).

2.1. The Holy Spirit Brings Revelation of the Word

The Holy Spirit is the Master Teacher. He reminds us of the Word of God and makes it

5) power = dunamis (STRONGS G1411): **miraculous power, usually by implication a miracle itself,** ability, abundance, meaning, might, mighty deed, worker of miracles, power, strength, violence, mighty wonderful work

6) power = dunamis (STRONGS G1411)

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real to us. Jesus said, "But **the helper, the Holy Spirit** whom the Father will send in my name, **he will teach you all things and remind you of all that I said to you.**" (John 14:26) Reading and meditating on the word allows the Holy Spirit to impart revelation to the believer.

The Holy Spirit specifically teaches us **the mysteries of the kingdom** of God and **the promises of God: For to us God revealed them (the mysteries of the kingdom) through the Spirit;** for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. (1 Corinthians 2:10) Now **we have received**, not the spirit of the world, but **the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.** (1 Corinthians 2:10-12)

All the promises of God in him (Jesus) are yes and amen (2 Corinthians 1:20), and it is the Holy Spirit who reveals God's promises to us. He gives us an inner knowledge of our inheritance which is freely given to us by God. These things originate in the cross and come to us by faith. They are the spiritual realities of the new nature under the New Covenant, such as forgiveness, sanctification, eternal life, blessing, healing, abundance, righteousness, glory, and acceptance in the beloved⁷. All of these promises have been freely given to us by God. We cannot work for them, and we cannot pay for them. Jesus has suffered (worked) and paid for them in full. He purchased them for us on the cross. They are ours, and we receive them by faith and patience (Hebrews 6:12).

We all need our personal road to Emmaus. The Holy Spirit will take us there. **And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, he (Jesus) expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.;** And they said to one another, "**Did not our heart burn within us while he talked with us on the road, and while he opened the Scriptures to us?**"; Then, Jesus appeared to all the disciples and said to them, "**These are the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning me.**" **And he opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.** (Luke 24:27; 32; 44-45)

2.2. The Holy Spirit Brings Spiritual Discernment

But the natural man does not receive **the things of the Spirit of God**, for they are

7) Download the detailed Bible study "Tetelestai - It is Finished" (what Jesus did for us on the cross) at www.his-kingdom.net.

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foolishness to him; nor can he know them, because they **are spiritually discerned**. But **he who is spiritual judges all things**, yet he himself is rightly judged by no one. For "who has known the mind of the Lord that he may instruct him?" But **we have the mind of Christ**. (1 Corinthians 2:14-16)

The Holy Spirit gives us spiritual discernment. We will know things that we cannot know by natural means. We will be able to spiritually evaluate all things. We receive the spiritual judgment of what is from the Lord and what is not. We might know what the root of a problem is, or what spirit a person or a teaching is of. Spiritual discernment often comes through **inner knowledge**.

We can also judge things by the effect they have on us spiritually. **And let the peace of God rule in your hearts**, to which also you were called in one body; and be thankful. (Colossians 3:15) Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and pleading with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. **And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus**. (Philippians 4:6-7) **Spiritual peace** is a sensation that we perceive in our inner man. Whenever the Holy Spirit removes his peace, that is a check or a warning signal that something is not right. Through the inner witness, the Holy Spirit inoculates us against false words. When we are exposed to sin, false doctrine, or false prophecy, the Holy Spirit can give us an inner distance, disapproval, or even disgust.

The Holy Spirit will remove his peace when we are about to sin, are currently sinning, have sinned, or are exposed to something external that is not of the kingdom of God. This inner witness can happen before we even understand the situation or can argue scripturally why something is true or false. On the other hand, when the Holy Spirit flows through a teaching and the true anointing is present, all our inner wells open up. We will feel drawn to the person or the teaching. We will feel spiritual rivers of fresh water flowing over us and through us.

But **the anointing which you have received from him abides in you**, and you do not need that anyone teach you; but as **the same anointing teaches you concerning all things, and is true**, and is not a lie, and **just as it has taught you, you will abide in him**. (1 John 2:27)

2.3. Praying in Tongues Edifies the Believer

There are three manifestations of tongues. The first manifestation of tongues is the **personal prayer language of the believer for self-edification**. The second is tongues with

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interpretation in the church (1 Corinthians 12:7+10), and the third is tongues as a sign for unbelievers (1 Corinthians 14:22; Acts 2:5-11).

Praying in tongues as a personal prayer language edifies the believer. **For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to people but to God.** Indeed, no one understands them; they utter mysteries by the Spirit. ... **He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church.** (1 Corinthians 14:2+4) When we pray in tongues, we build ourselves up on our most holy faith. **But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.** (Jude 20-21)

This first kind of tongues is not part of the ministry gifts listed in 1 Corinthians 12:8-11. The nine gifts of the spirit listed in 1 Corinthians 12 are **for the common good** (1 Corinthians 12:7). They are for the church. The gift of tongues for self-edification is not for the church but exclusively for the believer. It is the only manifestation of tongues that a believer can flow in at any time he or she wishes.

It is God's will that all believers receive this gift of tongues. Tongues come with the baptism of the Holy Spirit: **"... you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off - for all whom the Lord our God will call."** (Acts 2:38+39) The apostle Paul spoke in tongues extensively, **"I thank my God I speak with tongues more than you all."** (1 Corinthians 14:18)

2.4. The Holy Spirit Brings Personal Transformation

We use the Scriptures as a mirror to determine where we stand spiritually. **For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man who looks intently at his natural face in a mirror. For he looks at himself and goes away and at once forgets what he was like. But the one who looks into the perfect law, the law of liberty, and perseveres, being no hearer who forgets but a doer who acts, he will be blessed in his doing.** (James 1:23-25)

... as his divine power⁸ has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, **through the knowledge of him who called us by glory and virtue, by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that through these you may be partakers**

8) power = dunamis (STRONGS G1411): **miraculous power, usually by implication a miracle itself, ability, abundance, meaning, might, mighty deed, worker of miracles, power, strength, violence, mighty wonderful work**

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of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust. (2 Peter 1:3-4)

We are transformed by the renewing of our minds and the transforming power of the Holy Spirit. Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but **be transformed by the renewing of your mind**. Then, you will be able to test and approve what God's will is - his good, pleasing, and perfect will. (Romans 12:2, NIV) But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being **transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord**. (2 Corinthians 3:18)

3. The External Function of the Holy Spirit

3.1. The Gifts of the Holy Spirit

The gifts of the Holy Spirit reflect God, the giver of the gifts. They do not reflect the recipient, nor the person moving in the gifts. The gifts are given to one believer for another believer or a group of believers. They do not belong to the minister. They belong to the Holy Spirit who distributes the gifts as he wishes. We cannot move in the gifts of the Holy Spirit according to our own will. The only gift we can activate and flow in any time at our own will is speaking in tongues for self-edification. However, tongues for self-edification is not one of the gifts listed in 1 Corinthians 12:4-12. When we minister in the gifts for the edification of the church, we are completely dependent on the direction of the Holy Spirit and his distribution of the gifts.

Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as he (the Holy Spirit) wills. (1 Corinthians 12:4-12)

The word of knowledge is the supernatural knowledge about a situation. The word of wisdom is direction from God on what to do in a given situation. Prophecy is a word from God for the believer. Tongues with interpretation are also a prophetic gift. The prophecy is given in tongues by one believer and then interpreted into the local natural

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language by the same or another believer. The gift of discernment of spirits is the discernment that an evil spirit is present. This discernment can go further and identify which evil spirit it is, for example, a spirit of confusion, depression, lust, anger, murder, and so forth. The gift of faith is supernatural faith that comes down for a person or a situation. Gifts of healing are a special anointing to heal physical and mental illness. The effecting of miracles refers to extraordinary miracles such as the growing of limbs or the raising of the dead.

In essence, these gifts are an impartation of a word or of power to a believer for another person. They are a prolongation of the personal life of the believer where he or she already hears the voice of the Holy Spirit and moves in his anointing. The difference is that the gifts of the Holy Spirit go beyond the individual believer and flow into ministry to others.

3.2. The Works of Jesus

Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit and with power. You know of Jesus of Nazareth, how God anointed him with the Holy Spirit and with power (dunamis), and how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed of the devil, for God was with him. (Acts 10:38) Jesus was anointed for ministry to those who were bound by sin, sickness, and demons. He said, "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he anointed me to bring good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim release to captives and recovery of sight to the blind. To set free those who are oppressed. To proclaim the favorable year of the Lord." (Luke 4:18-19 quoting Isaiah 61:1-3)

He made it clear that the baptism of the Holy Spirit would provide God's power for ministry. He said, "I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power (dunamis) from on high." (Luke 24:49) Jesus also said, "But you will receive power (dunamis) when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." (Acts 1:8) The Greek word for power is dunamis (STRONGS G1411). It means miraculous power; usually by implication a miracle itself, ability, abundance, meaning, might, mighty deed, worker of miracles, power, strength, violence, mighty wonderful work. It is the very same word for the power that Jesus was anointed with.

The manifestation of this power is the essence of the gospel. Paul said, "For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ, for it is the power⁹ of God to salvation for everyone

9) power = dunamis (STRONGS G1411): miraculous power, usually by implication a miracle itself, ability, abundance, meaning, might, mighty deed, worker of miracles, power, strength, violence, mighty

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who believes, ..." (Romans 1:16) and **"... I shall find out, not the words of those who are arrogant but their power¹⁰. For the kingdom of God does not consist in words but in power¹¹."** (1 Corinthians 4:19-20)

The effect of this power is salvation, healing, and deliverance. Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people. The news about him spread throughout all Syria; and they brought to him all who were ill, those suffering with various diseases and pains, demoniacs, epileptics, paralytics; and he healed them. (Matthew 4:23+24) The apostles performed the same miracles Jesus did. At the hands of the apostles many signs and wonders were taking place among the people ... they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and pallets, so that when Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on any of them. The people from the cities in the vicinity of Jerusalem were coming together as well, bringing people who were sick or tormented with unclean spirits, and they were all being healed. (Acts 5:12; Acts 5:15-16)

The Holy Spirit has performed the works of Jesus ever since the early church. Jesus predicted, "I tell you the solemn truth: The person who believes in me will perform the miraculous deeds that I am doing," (John 14:12, NET) and "these signs will follow those who believe: In my name they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents; and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover." (Mark 16:17+18)

In Conclusion

The New Covenant is the Covenant of the finished work of the cross and the ministry of the Holy Spirit. It is the New Covenant of the Holy Spirit, made possible and sealed by the blood of Jesus: **He (Jesus) has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant - not of the letter but of the Spirit. For the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. (2 Corinthians 3:6)**

All glory to Jesus.

wonderful work

10) power = dunamis (STRONGS G1411)

11) power = dunamis (STRONGS G1411)

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Appendix I: The Day of Atonement Fulfilled

In fact, the law requires that nearly everything be cleansed with blood, and **without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.** (Hebrews 9:22, NIV); **As far as the east is from the west, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.** (Psalm 103:12)

The Day of Atonement (Yom Kippur) is the highest holy day of the Jewish people. **Leviticus chapter 16** details the instructions for the Day of Atonement¹². Atonement had to be made once a year for the sins of the Israelites. Once atonement had been made, the Israelites were considered clean from all their sins (**Leviticus 16:30**).

On the Day of Atonement, the high priest Aaron had to come into the Holy Place with a bull and two male goats. Aaron had to kill the bull as a sin offering - make atonement - for himself and his house first. He then had to kill one goat as a sin offering for the people, take some of its blood, go into the Holy of Holies, and sprinkle it over and in front of the Mercy Seat. This was to make atonement for the sins of the people of Israel.

He presented the other goat to the Lord alive and sent it into the wilderness. This second goat did not purchase the forgiveness of sins because there was no shedding of blood. Aaron had to **lay both hands on the head of the live goat and confess over it all the wickedness and rebellion of the Israelites - all their sins - and put them on the goat's head. He shall send the goat away into the wilderness ... The goat will carry on itself all their sins to a remote place.** (**Leviticus 16:21-22**) The sins of Israel were symbolically transferred to the second goat and carried away into the wilderness. The sin goat (with the sins of Israel) was never to return. It had the function of symbolically removing the sins of the Israelites.

The first and the second goat foreshadowed what Jesus accomplished on the cross. He fulfilled the Day of Atonement perfectly. He fulfilled the function of the first goat because he offered himself as a sin sacrifice on the cross. His blood was spiritually sprinkled over and before the Mercy Seat when the physical veil in the temple was torn from top to bottom. He also fulfilled the function of the second goat. As John the Baptist announced, Jesus takes away our sins as if he sent them into the wilderness never to return. **Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!** (**John 1:29**) We see both the forgiveness and the cleansing/removing of our sins again in **1 John 1:9. If we confess our sins, he (Jesus) is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all**

12) Atonement means reparation for an offense or injury. (Merriam-Webster Dictionary)

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unrighteousness.

However, it is impossible for the blood of bulls and goats to take away sins. (Hebrews 10:4) What an intricate system of offerings under the Old Covenant could not achieve, Jesus accomplished on the cross. He voluntarily went through unsurpassed suffering to pay the penalty for our sins. His suffering on the cross inaugurated the New Covenant under which we live today. We can be forgiven, cleansed, and set free from all our sins. All glory to God.

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Appendix 2: Our Sins Blotted Out

- The next day, John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, "**Behold! The lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!**" (John 1:29)
- **You know that he (Jesus) appeared in order to take away sins;** and in him there is no sin. (1 John 3:5)
- **Whoever conceals their sins does not prosper, but the one who confesses and renounces them finds mercy.** (Proverbs 28:13)
- **If we confess our sins, he (Jesus) is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.** (1 John 1:9)
- ... **having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us,** which was hostile to us; and he (Jesus) has taken it out of the way, **having nailed it to the cross.** (Colossians 2:14)
- "**This is the covenant I will make with them after that time,**" says the Lord. "I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds. **Their sins and lawless acts I will remember no more.**" (Hebrews 10:16-17)
- God: "**I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake; and I will not remember your sins.**" (Isaiah 43:25)
- **The Lord does not treat us as our sins deserve or repay us according to our iniquities. ... As far as the East is from the West, so far has he removed our transgressions from us.** (Psalm 103:10 + 12)
- Who is a **God** like you, who **pardons wrongdoing and passes over a rebellious act** of the remnant of his possession? He does not retain his anger forever because **he delights in mercy.** He will again take pity on us: **he will trample on our wrongdoings.** Yes, **you will cast all their sins into the depths of the sea.** (Micah 7:18-19)