

The background of the slide is a dark, almost black, field filled with a complex network of bright blue and white light trails. These trails are thin, elongated, and appear to be moving or vibrating, creating a sense of dynamic energy and depth. The trails intersect and overlap, forming a web-like structure that is more dense in some areas and more sparse in others. The overall effect is reminiscent of a starfield or a network of data connections.

Baptism and the Holy Spirit

Baptism and the Holy Spirit

- Questions
 - What is the purpose of baptism?
 - What is the Holy Spirit's role in salvation?
- People love matters about which little is revealed in scripture.
 - Mysterious, imagined potential for deeper knowledge, interest in the unknown
 - Possible to speculate or inject personal beliefs

Baptism and the Holy Spirit

- Our task is simple, non-glamorous, and relatively easy
 - Consider what is written in the Bible
 - Preach what is written in the Bible
 - And be content with what is written in the Bible

What Did The Apostles Preach About Baptism?

- It was commanded for the remission of sins
 - Acts 2:38
- It was done to wash away sins
 - Acts 22:16
- It involved water
 - Acts 8:36-38, 10:48
- It was done with no delay
 - Acts 16:25-33

Baptism Is A Burial And Resurrection With Christ

- It is a baptism into the death of Christ
 - Rom. 6:3
- It is a burial with Christ into death
 - Rom. 6:4
- It is done that we might walk in newness of life
 - Rom. 6:4-5
- It involves crucifying the old man, destroying the body of sin
 - Rom. 6:6
- It frees us from sin that we might live with Christ
 - Rom. 6:7-11

Baptism And Deity

- Baptism is the means by which we put on Christ and become children of God
 - Gal. 3:26-27 - “For you are all sons of God through faith in Christ Jesus. 27 For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ.”

Baptism And Deity

- Baptism is a work of God
 - Col. 2:11-13 - “In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, 12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses”

Baptism And Deity

- Baptism is a washing and regeneration through Christ, and a renewing through the Holy Spirit
 - Titus 3:4-7 - “But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, 7 that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”
 - John 3:5 - “Jesus answered, “Most assuredly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God.”

Baptism And Deity

- The Holy Spirit is the giver of the gift, the Revealer of the promise
 - Acts 2:38-39 - “Then Peter said to them, Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call.”

Baptism And Deity

- The Holy Spirit is the giver of the gift, the Revealer of the promise
 - The phrase is Objective Genitive instead of an Appositional Genitive
 - The gift of John Brown; John Brown is the giver of the gift
 - The gift of God; God is the giver of the gift
 - John 4:10 - “Jesus answered and said to her, If you knew the gift of God, and who it is who says to you, 'Give Me a drink,' you would have asked Him, and He would have given you living water.”

Baptism And Deity

- The Holy Spirit is the giver of the gift, the Revealer of the promise
 - “The meaning must be determined on the basis of doctrinal truth rather on grammatical form” (Franklin Puckett, *The Holy Spirit*, p.14)
 - “The promise in verse 39 pertains to the blessing of salvation, the consequent result of the remission of sins” (ibid., p.22)
 - “The promise relates to the Abrahamic covenant, fulfilled in and through Christ” (Gen 12:1-3; 22:18; Ga 3:14-16) (ibid., p.22-26)
 - This harmonizes with Paul's phrase “the promise of the Spirit” as that which the Spirit promised.
 - Gal. 3:14 - “That the blessing of Abraham might come upon the Gentiles in Christ Jesus, that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.”

Baptism And Deity

- The Holy Spirit was instrumental in revealing the means whereby we acquire the blessings of salvation. His role was revealer.
- The Holy Spirit is not the gift given when one is saved by baptism into Christ.

Baptism And Deity

- “What about baptism in the Holy Spirit?”
 - Matt. 3:11 - “I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.”

Baptism And Deity

- What Christ meant
 - John 16:7-8, 13-14 - “Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. 8 And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment... 13 However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.”

Baptism And Deity

- When it happened
 - Acts 2:1-4 - “When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.”

Baptism And Deity

- When it happened
 - Acts 10:44-48 - “While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. 45 And those of the circumcision who believed were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. 46 For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, 47 Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have? 48 And he commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord. ”

Baptism And Deity

- The baptism with the Holy Spirit
 - Was limited to a few people on only two occasions
 - Was accompanied by miraculous activity
 - Was for the purpose of Divine revelation
 - Was before baptism, not with baptism
 - Had no other connection with individual salvation than that of revealing what one must do to be saved
- Believing the Holy Spirit has a larger role than that which is revealed does not make it so.

Baptism And Deity

- Why do some members of the church want a larger role for the Holy Spirit than what is revealed in scripture?
- Why do they want a literal, personal indwelling of Deity in the absence of scriptural support?

We Do Not Want To Be Alone

- God created us to be social creatures. Families, clubs, communities, cities, countries: people need people in order to thrive. God knew this and put Christians together in the church.
- As people age and lose family and friends to the mortal condition of life, they grasp strongly to remaining relationships because they do not want to be alone in this world.

We Do Not Want To Be Alone

- It is this desire to be close that leads many disciples to desire and to come to believe in a closer relationship with Deity than that which God has promised.
- Such people feel very alone and want God to be even closer than His word says He is. They want Him to live inside of their very bodies, so He will be as close a possible.
- While I feel great affection and empathy for such persons, I cannot preach their convictions. The Bible does not promise it, therefore I cannot proclaim it.

The Indwelling of Deity

- In as much as love dwells in you, that is the extent to which God is with you.
- In as much as faith dwells in you, that is the extent to which Christ is with you.
- In as much as the word dwells in you, that is the extent to which the Holy Spirit is with you.