

Statements 6-8

"Statements of Fundamental Truth"

6. THE ORDINANCES OF THE CHURCH

BAPTISM IN WATER

The ordinance of baptism by immersion is commanded by the Scriptures. All who repent and believe on Christ as Saviour and Lord are to be baptized. They declare to the world that they have died with Christ and that they also have been raised with Him to walk in newness of life.

- What defines new-ness of life?
- How does one walk in it?

Matthew 28:19; *"Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit..." NASU*

Mark 16:16; *"He who has believed and has been baptized shall be saved; but he who has disbelieved shall be condemned." NASU*

Acts 10:47,48; *"Surely no one can refuse the water for these to be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we did, can he?" NASU*

Romans 6:4; *"Therefore we have been buried with Him through baptism into death, so that as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, so we too might walk in newness of life." NASU*

HOLY COMMUNION

The Lord's Supper: consisting of the elements: bread and the fruit of the vine-- is the symbol expressing our sharing the divine nature of our Lord Jesus Christ... **2**

Peter 1:4; *"For by these He has granted to us His precious and magnificent promises, so that by them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped the corruption that is in the world by lust." NASU ,*

a memorial of his suffering and death (**1 Corinthians 11:26**; *“For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.”*)
NASU,

and a prophecy of His second coming, (**1 Corinthians 11:26**; *“For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.”*),
and is enjoined on all believers *“until He come!”*

- What did Jesus say? *“This is My body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” This cup is the New Covenant in My blood; do this as often as you drink it in remembrance of Me.”* **NASU**
- **Luke 22:14-21**; *“When the hour had come, He reclined at the table, and the apostles with Him. 15 And He said to them, “I have earnestly desired to eat this Passover with you before I suffer; 16 for I say to you, I shall never again eat it until it is fulfilled in the kingdom of God.” 17 And when He had taken a cup and given thanks, He said, “Take this and share it among yourselves; 18 for I say to you, I will not drink of the fruit of the vine from now on until the kingdom of God comes.” 19 And when He had taken some bread and given thanks, He broke it and gave it to them, saying, “This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me.” 20 And in the same way He took the cup after they had eaten, saying, “This cup which is poured out for you is the new covenant in My blood.”* **NASU**

7. THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

All believers are entitled to and should ardently expect and earnestly seek the promise of the Father, **the baptism in the Holy Spirit and fire**, according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ.

This was the normal experience of all in the early Christian Church. With it comes the endowment of power for life and service, the bestowment of the gifts and their uses in the work of the ministry.

Luke 24:49; *"And behold, I am sending forth the promise of My Father upon you; but you are to stay in the city until you are clothed with power from on high."*

NASU

Acts 1:4; *"Gathering them together, He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait for what the Father had promised, "Which," He said, "you heard of from Me..."* **NASU**

Acts 1:8; *"...but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth."* **NASU**

1 Corinthians 12:1-31;

(3) *"...no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, 'Jesus is accursed'; and no one can say, 'Jesus is Lord,' except by the Holy Spirit."*

(4-7) *"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. 6 There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. 7 But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good."* **NASU**

(10) *"...to another various kinds of tongues, and to another the interpretation of tongues."* **NASU**

(30-31) *"...All do not speak with tongues, do they? All do not interpret, do they? 31 But earnestly desire the greater gifts."* **NASU**

- This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth.

Acts 8:12-17; *"But when they believed Philip preaching the good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were being baptized, men and women alike. 13 Even Simon himself believed; and after being baptized, he continued on with Philip, and as he observed signs and great miracles taking place, he was constantly amazed."*

14 Now when the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent them Peter and John, 15 who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For He had not yet fallen upon any of them; they had simply been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then they began laying their hands on them, and they were receiving the Holy Spirit.” NASU

Acts 10:44-46; “While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who were listening to the message. 45 All the circumcised believers who came with Peter were amazed, because the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles also. 46 For they were hearing them speaking with tongues and exalting God.” NASU

Acts 11:14-16; “...and he will speak words to you by which you will be saved, you and all your household.’ 15 “And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as He did upon us at the beginning. 16 “And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, ‘John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’” NASU

Acts 15:7-9; “After there had been much debate, Peter stood up and said to them, “Brethren, you know that in the early days God made a choice among you, that by my mouth the Gentiles would hear the word of the gospel and believe.” NASU

- With the baptism in the Holy Spirit come such experiences as:

an overflowing fullness of the Spirit, **John 7:37-39**; “Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink. 38 “He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, ‘From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.’” 39 But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.”, **Acts 4:8**; “Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, “Rulers and elders of the people...” NASU

a deepened reverence for God, **Acts 2:43**; “Everyone kept feeling a sense of awe; and many wonders and signs were taking place through the apostles..., **Hebrews 12:28**; “Therefore, since we receive a kingdom which cannot be shaken, let us

show gratitude, by which we may offer to God an acceptable service with reverence and awe..." NASU

an **intensified consecration** to God and dedication to His work, **Acts 2:42**: *"They were continually devoting themselves to the apostles' teaching and to fellowship, to the breaking of bread and to prayer."* NASU

and a **more active love** for Christ, for His Word and for the lost, **Mark 16:20**; *"And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them, and confirmed the word by the signs that followed."* NASU

8. THE INITIAL PHYSICAL EVIDENCE OF THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

The baptism of believers in the Holy Spirit is witnessed by the initial physical sign of speaking with other tongues as the Spirit of God gives them utterance.

Acts 2:4; *"And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance."* NASU

- The speaking in tongues in this instance is the same in essence as the gift of tongues, but is different in purpose and use.

1 Corinthians 12:4-10; *"Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. 6 There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. 7 But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. 8 For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, 10 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."* NASU

1 Corinthians 12:28; *"And God has appointed in the church, first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, various kinds of tongues."* NASU