

ACTS AT A GLANCE
An Overview of the Book of Acts

Lesson One – The Works and Gifts of the Holy Spirit
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1. Introduction

- 1.1. Who is the Holy Spirit? – The Holy Spirit is one of the three personalities of the godhead. Matthew quoted Jesus as saying, *“Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit”* (Matt 28:19).
- 1.2. The Work of The Holy Spirit – The Holy has a number of roles but the two most important to our study of Acts are as follows:
 - 1.2.1. Revealer of the Word of God – The Holy Spirit’s role in communicating the will of God to those He has created is clearly shown by the following passages:
 - *“But as it is written: “Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him. But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. 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. These things we also speak, not in words which man’s wisdom teaches but which the Holy Spirit teaches, comparing spiritual things with spiritual”* (2 Cor 1:9-13)
 - *“... by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, which, when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ), which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets”* (Eph 3:3-5).
 - *“Knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit”* (2 Pet 1:20-21).
 - *“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 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. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you”* (John 16:12-14).

1.2.2. Confirmer of the Word

- Anyone could say that they are inspired by the Holy Spirit to speak the words of God. But is it really true? How could one know whether the one making such a claim was deluded, a liar, or a true prophet?
- The Holy Spirit solves this problem by providing special supernatural abilities to those who are really speaking for God. The resulting miracles were intended to prove conclusively that they had the approval of God.
- A number of scriptures will be presented on this matter as this study proceeds but, for now, just consider these two:
 - Mark 16:19-20: *“So then, after the Lord had spoken to them, He was received up into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God. And they went out and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them and confirming the word through the accompanying signs. Amen.”*
 - Heb 2:3-4: *“How shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation, which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed to us by those who heard Him, God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit.”*
- This is a very important concept. When we read about miracles in the New Testament, the purpose was not for the comfort or entertainment of men but rather to send a message – ‘The one performing this miracle is approved of God and the words he is saying are from God.’

1.2.3. Modern errors – There are so many misconceptions about the Holy Spirit and its work. But the above passages address this matter with crystal clarity. *So called* miracles performed for entertainment, personal aggrandizement, or social/secular benefit frauds that had nothing to do with the real work of the Spirit.

2. Jesus and the Holy Spirit

2.1. Jesus as a Child – There is no evidence that Jesus, as a human child, had gifts of the Spirit that enabled Him to work miracles.

2.1.1. Since His public ministry had not yet started, He was not serving as a prophet in the way that He would be later. So there was no need for the Spirit to miraculously reveal the will of the Father to Him.

2.1.2. Since he was not yet serving as a public spokesman for God, there was no need for miracles to confirm His identity and His message.

2.1.3. The fact that there was no legitimate secular application for gifts of the Spirit in the life of a young Jesus (or anyone else) is illustrated by Matt 4:1-4. After Jesus had fasted forty days and forty nights, He was hungry. *“Now when the tempter came to Him, he said, ‘If You are the Son of God, command that these*

stones become bread.” But on this occasion (just like on all other occasions), Jesus refused to use miracles to satisfy his physical needs.

2.2. His baptism and the Start of His Ministry

2.2.1. “Now Jesus Himself began *His ministry at about thirty years of age*” (Luke 3:23).

2.2.2. As His ministry commenced, Jesus went to be baptized by John the Baptist. “*When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him*” (Matt 3:16). “*He remained upon Him*” (John 1:32). There are at least two things to be noted from this:

- This was a sign to John that Jesus was the Son of God, the promised Messiah. “*And John bore witness, saying, ‘I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, ‘Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.’ And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.*” (John 1:32-34).
- Note from John 1:32 that the Holy Spirit remained on Jesus. This signifies that the Spirit was preparing to perform His assigned role during the three-year ministry of Jesus, that is, (a) revelation of the will and words of the Father and (b) miracles to confirm His deity and the legitimacy of His message. This is confirmed by Peter’s words in Acts 10:38: “*God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.*”

2.2.3. At this time, Jesus was given the Spirit in an unlimited measure. “*He who has received His testimony has certified that God is true. For He whom God has sent [i.e., Jesus] speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure. The Father loves the Son, and has given all things into His hand*” (John 3:34). In contrast, the dispensation of the Spirit to the apostles and others was limited.

2.2.4. Within days, the first miracle. At a wedding in Cana, Jesus acquiesced to His mother’s request and miraculously provided wine for the wedding attendees. Notice especially verse 11 – “*This beginning of signs Jesus did in Cana of Galilee, and manifested His glory; and His disciples believed in Him*” (John 2:1-11).

- And from that point on, “*Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease among the people*” (Matt 4:23).
- The fact that New Testament revelation and teaching about the Messiah and His kingdom began at this time is confirmed by Matt 4:17: “From that

time Jesus began to preach and to say, ‘Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.’” Also Acts 10:37: “That word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached.”

- So Jesus as a child did not preach His gospel and perform miracles. This happened after “*God anointed [Him] with the Holy Spirit and with power*” at His baptism and He began His public ministry.

2.3. The role of the Holy Spirit and miracles in the ministry of Christ – The purpose of the Holy Spirit in the ministry of Jesus was the same as it was later in the ministry of the apostles and other first century Christians.

2.3.1. The words that Jesus taught during His ministry came from His Heavenly Father. He said, “*I speak to the world those things which I heard from Him ... I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things.*” (John 8:26, 28). It seems that the Holy Spirit played a part in the communication of these words just as he did later for the apostles (see again Acts 10:38).

2.3.2. The miracles that Jesus performed were intended to prove His deity – and that He was who He said He was. In this way they also validated the truth of His words. Consider these passages:

- While in prison, John sent two of his disciples to ask Jesus., “Are You the Coming One, or do we look for another?” Jesus answered and said to them, “Go and tell John the things which you hear and see: *The blind see and the lame walk; the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear; the dead are raised up and the poor have the gospel preached to them*” (Matt 11:2-3).
- “And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.” (John 20:30-31)
- “Then the Jews surrounded Him and said to Him, “*How long do You keep us in doubt? If You are the Christ, tell us plainly.*’ Jesus answered them, ‘*I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father’s name, they bear witness of Me”*” (John 10:24-25).

2.3.3. Among those with good hearts, these miracles had exactly the effect that was intended:

- “*And they were all amazed, and they glorified God and were filled with fear, saying, “We have seen strange things today!”*” (Luke 5:26).
- “*They were all amazed at the majesty of God*” (Luke 5:26; 9:43).
- “*And all the multitudes were amazed and said, “Could this be the Son of David?”*” (Matt 12:23).

3. The Apostles Perform Miracles During the Life of Christ

- 3.1. When Jesus chose His twelve apostles, *“He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.”* He then gave them the ‘limited commission’ and sent them out to preach only to the Jews. He commanded them to, *“heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons ...”* (Matt 10:1, 8). This is the first record we have in the New Testament of signs and wonders being performed by anyone other than Jesus.
- 3.2. This early dispensation of miraculous power to the apostles was apparently limited when compared to that given to them later. Matt 19:14-21 records an incident when the apostles were unable to cure a young man of a demon.

4. Promise of the Comforter – John 14:16, 26, 15:26, 16:7,13

- 4.1. As the ministry of Christ proceeded toward the time of His death, the apostles may have been apprehensive about what would happen after their Teacher was gone. But Jesus comforted them by promising that the Holy Spirit would be given to them as a Helper.
 - 4.1.1. *“Let not your heart be troubled ... I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever--_the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans ...”* (John 14: 1, 16-18).
 - 4.1.2. *“... When the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me”* (John 15:26).
 - 4.1.3. *“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear *them* now. 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.”* (John 16:13).
- 4.2. As a result of the work of this Helper, Jesus could say, *“But when they arrest you and deliver you up, do not worry beforehand, or premeditate what you will speak. But whatever is given you in that hour, speak that; for it is not you who speak, but the Holy Spirit”* (Mark 13:11).
- 4.3. Following His resurrection Jesus *“breathed on them, and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit”* (John 20:22). He then *“commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” He said, “you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now”* (Acts 1:4-5). Note that this passage ties together (a) the coming of the Comforter/Helper (i.e. the Holy Spirit), (b) the baptism of the Holy Spirit, and (c) the Day of Pentecost.

5. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit

5.1. Holy Spirit baptism in prophecy

- 5.1.1. When John the Baptist came on the scene to prepare the way for Christ, he spoke of Holy Spirit baptism saying, *“And I knew him not: but he that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shall see the Spirit descending, and remaining on him, the same is he which baptizes with the Holy Ghost”* (John 1:33).
- 5.1.2. Note from Acts 1:4-5 cited above that Jesus Himself promised that His apostles would receive Holy Spirit baptism not long after His ascension.

5.2. The Day of Pentecost

- 5.2.1. *“And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance”* (Acts 2:1-4).
- 5.2.2. So what was unique and special about this occurrence?
 - It fulfilled the prophecies of Joel about the work of the Spirit in the beginning of the Christian age (Acts 2:16-20; Joel 2:28-32).
 - This was the first time recorded in the Bible of men ‘speaking in tongues.’ But this baptism was not primarily about miracles. Truly the apostles did perform great miracles after Pentecost – even raising the dead (Acts 9:36-41), but they had already been empowered to do such works much earlier (Matt 10:1, 8).
 - This Holy Spirit baptism was the fulfillment of Jesus’ promise to send the Spirit to them as a helper (John 16:13; Acts 1:4-5). And this promise was for special inspiration – the Spirit would (a) guide them into all truth (John 16:13), (b) enable them to remember all this Jesus had taught them (John 14:26), (c) provide God’s words to them as they preached (John 16:13), and (d) guide them as they wrote the Holy Scriptures (Eph 3:3-5, 2 Pet 1:20-21).
 - Why was this called a *“baptism”* of the Holy Spirit? On other occasions it is simply said that men were *“filled”* with the Spirit (e.g., Acts 9:17). The answer lies in the definition of the Greek word translated into English as *“baptism.”* This word, *“baptizo,”* means *“to immerse, submerge; to make whelmed”* (Strong’s Greek Dictionary; No. 907). So to be baptized in the Holy Spirit is to be totally immersed in the influence and power of the Spirit. The use of the word *“baptism”* in this context refers to the great scope, power, intensity, significance, and effect of this particular work of the Spirit. The apostles were not lightly touched by some limited manifestation of the Spirit but, in contrast, were totally immersed in power of the Spirit.

5.3. The Conversion of Cornelius

- 5.3.1. Holy Spirit baptism was a promise to the apostles and not to all Christians. And that promise was fulfilled on the Day of Pentecost. In all the conversion stories in the Book of Acts there is not further mention of Holy Spirit baptism except in chapter 10.
- 5.3.2. Acts 10 records the first time the gospel is preached to the Gentiles. While Jesus had commanded his apostles to *“Go unto all the world and preach the gospel to every creature”* (Mark 16:15) there was considerable prejudice among the Jews toward the Gentiles. A special intervention by the Spirit was necessary to make Jewish Christians understand that God had accepted the Gentiles into His kingdom.
- 5.3.3. On this occasion, God commanded the apostle Peter to go and preach to a Gentile named Cornelius. Peter obeyed the word of the Lord (Acts 10:9-20).
- 5.3.4. *“While Peter was still speaking these words, the Holy Spirit fell upon all those who heard the word. 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”* (Acts 10:44-45). Later when Peter reported to the Christians at Jerusalem he said, *“And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, ‘John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’”* (Acts 11:15-16). So Peter equated this event with the baptism of the Holy Spirit that had occurred at Pentecost.
- 5.3.5. Following this event, Peter *“commanded them to be baptized in the name of the Lord”* (Acts 10:48). Earlier Peter had stated that the purpose of baptism was to receive the remission of sins (Acts 2:38). From this we see that:
 - The baptism of the Holy Spirit did not save Cornelius and his household. They still had to submit to the same requirements that everyone else did.
 - There were two different baptisms involved. The baptism for remission of sins was different from the baptism of the Spirit.
- 5.3.6. The unique purpose of the baptism of the Holy Spirit on this occasion is clearly to provide a miraculous indication that God had accepted the Gentiles on an equal footing with the Jews in His Kingdom. Consider these passages:
 - *“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. For they heard them speak with tongues and magnify God. Then Peter answered, ‘Can anyone forbid water, that these should not be baptized who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?’”* (Acts 10:47).
 - *“And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning. I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, ‘John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ If*

therefore God gave them the same gift as He gave us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?" When they heard these things they became silent; and they glorified God, saying, "Then God has also granted to the Gentiles repentance to life" (Acts 11:15-18).

6. Holy Spirit Gifts Spreads Beyond the Apostles

- 6.1. The prophecies of Joel mentioned earlier (Joel 2:28-32) certainly applied to what happened on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2:16-21). But this prophecy was not fulfilled exclusively by Pentecost but also by the wide dispersion of miraculous gifts of the Holy Spirit throughout the church of the first century.
- 6.2. The first non-apostle miracle workers were identified in Acts 6. On this occasion a complaint arose because some of the Greek-speaking widows in the Jerusalem church were being overlooked when food was distributed. The apostles' response was to have the church set forth seven good men to oversee this work – *"whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them"* (Acts 6:5-8, 8:13). These men included Stephen and Phillip, both of whom were at this time empowered to perform miracles:
 - 6.2.1. *"And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people."* (Acts 6:8).
 - 6.2.2. *"Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria and preached Christ to them. And the multitudes with one accord heeded the things spoken by Philip, hearing and seeing the miracles that he did. unclean spirits, crying with a loud voice, came out of many who were possessed; and many who were paralyzed and lame were healed" (Acts 8:5-7).*
- 6.3. How the gifts of the Spirit were conveyed – There were two parties who were involved in the dispensing of miraculous power to first century Christians.
 - 6.3.1. First, the Holy Spirit seems to have played a role in determining who received gifts and what gifts they received. Paul wrote to the Corinthians, *"Now concerning spiritual gifts, brethren, I do not want you to be ignorant...There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit...But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills"* (1 Cor 12:1, 4, 11).
 - 6.3.2. Secondly, the apostles actually conveyed such gifts by laying their hands on the recipient. Note these passages:
 - *"Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, ... whom we may appoint over this business ... And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen... and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them. And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people"* (Acts 6:3-8; also 8:6, 13).

- *"They sent Peter and John to them ... when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ... Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit. And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money" (Acts 8:15-18).*
 - *"And when Paul had laid hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke with tongues and prophesied." (Acts 19:6)*
- 6.3.3. [Note that the gifts the Holy Spirit received by Cornelius did not involve the laying on of the apostles hands (Acts 10:44). It was why Peter characterized this event as baptism *"with the Holy Spirit"* (Acts 11:16). And Holy Spirit baptism was administered by Jesus and not by the apostles (John 1:33; Acts 11:16).]
- 6.4. Holy Spirit gifts become wide-spread in the early church
- 6.4.1. Fulfillment of the he prophecy of Joel 2 started with the miracles on the Day of Pentecost but did not end there. In the following years miraculous gifts were spread through out the church.
- We have already noted the spread of spiritual gifts to Antioch (Acts 8:14-17) and Corinth (Acts 19:1-7).
 - Later, spiritual gifts were widely used (and misused) at Corinth. Paul wrote chapters 12-14 of the Book of First Corinthians to regulate the use of such gifts.
 - One reason that Paul wanted to go to Rome was *"to impart ...some spiritual gift"* to the Christians there (Rom 1:11).
- 6.4.2. The nature of spiritual gifts in the early church
- There was a wide diversity of gifts in the early church including wisdom, knowledge, faith, healing, miracles, prophecy, discerning spirits, speaking in tongues, and interpretation of tongues (Rom 12:4-10).
 - None were intended for personally profit or entertainment. Instead they were intended to reveal and confirm the word (see section 1.2 above) for the spiritual benefit of mankind.
 - *"But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all" (1 Cor 12:7).*
 - *"Even so you, since you are zealous for spiritual gifts, let it be for the edification of the church that you seek to excel ... Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification" (Rom 12:12, 26).*

6.4.3. Misuse of spiritual gifts – Man can take any good gift of God and misuse it so that it is less valuable. This was certainly true of spiritual gifts. Some examples of such misuse are as follows:

- Coveting certain gifts out of pride (e.g., speaking in tongues - 1 Cor 14:5, 14-30).
- Looking down on those who possessed gifts considered inferior (1 Cor 12:14-30).
- Insisting on using a gift when, in context, it may not be profitable (e.g., using tongues when there is no interpreter - 1 Cor 14: (1 Cor 14:22-25).
- Insisting on using one gift when, in context, another gift may be more appropriate (e.g., tongues vs. prophesying - 1 Cor 14:22-25).
- Using spiritual gifts in such a way as to cause disorder and confusion in the assembly (e.g., multiple speakers at the same time - Rom 31-33, 40).

7. **The End of Spiritual Gifts** – Spiritual gifts played a crucial and God-given role in the early church – but that role was temporary. After such gifts had accomplished the purposes intended by God, they were abolished. Consider the following:

7.1. Spiritual gifts were intended to reveal the word of God at a time when the New Testament had not been completed and distributed (Eph 3:3-4; 2 Pet 1:20-21). Gifts of wisdom, knowledge, and prophecy (1 Cor 12:4, 10) enabled early Christians to discern between truth and false doctrine when there was no written Bible to refer to. It enabled them to share the truth and refute error. But after the full gospel was revealed, such gifts were no longer needed. Remember that Jude described the gospel as "*once for all delivered to the saints*" (Jude 3).

7.2. And if the gospel has already been fully and completely revealed, there are no need for miracles such as healing and tongues to confirm new revelation – there is no new revelation.

7.3. Paul clearly spoke to this matter in 1 Cor 13:8-10: "*Love never fails. But whether there are prophecies, they will fail; whether there are tongues, they will cease; whether there is knowledge, it will vanish away. For we know in part and we prophesy in part. But when that which is perfect has come, then that which is in part will be done away.*"

7.3.1. There were at that time spiritual gifts such as prophesying, speaking in tongues, and miraculous knowledge. They existed in a time that knowledge was imperfect and in part (i.e., incomplete).

7.3.2. But all of them were to cease. And their ceasing would correspond to a time when knowledge and prophecy were no longer imperfect and incomplete but rather were complete and perfect. This happened when the New Testament was fully written down.

7.3.3. Anyone today who claims to have new revelation is a false prophet. The Lord said, "*For I testify to everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book:*

If anyone adds to these things, God will add to him the plagues that are written in this book; and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God shall take away his part from the Book of Life, from the holy city, and from the things which are written in this book” (Rev 22:18-19). In the words of Paul, “But even if we, or an angel from heaven, preach any other gospel to you than what we have preached to you, let him be accursed.” (Gal 1:8).

- 7.4. One other point on the cessation of spiritual gifts: Remember that such gifts could only be conveyed through the laying on of the apostles’ hands. It is clear than, that following the death of the last apostle, there could be no more laying on of hands and no new spiritual gifts given. Therefore, by early in the second century, such gifts would have faded from the scene.

ACTS AT A GLANCE
An Overview of the Book of Acts

Questions on Lesson One

1. Read Eph 3:3-5, 2 Pet 1:20-21, and John 16:12-14. What work of the Holy Spirit is addressed by the passages? _____

2. Read Mark 16:19-20 and Heb 2:3-4. What work of the Holy Spirit (closely related to the one above) is addressed in these passages? _____

3. Do you think that, while a teenager or pre-teen, that Jesus possessed miraculous knowledge and power? _____ Why or why not? _____

4. How old was Jesus when He began His ministry (Luke 3:23)? _____. At what point did the Holy Spirit come upon Jesus? _____. Describe this event (Matt 3:16, John 1:32). _____

5. What was the special significance of this event to John (John 1:32-34)? _____

6. To what degree did Jesus have the Holy Spirit (John 3:34)? _____
How did Jesus use His miraculous power to make His life as a man more pleasant and comfortable (Matt 4:1-4)? _____
7. What was the first miracle performed by Jesus (John 2:1-11)? _____

8. What purpose of the Holy Spirit in the ministry of Jesus is indicated by John 8:26, 28?

What purpose is suggested by Matt 11:2-3, John 10:24-25, and John 20:30-31?

9. The apostles had miraculous power during the lifetime of Jesus (Matt 10:1, 8). Was it limited or unlimited (Matt 19:14-21)? _____. Above we noted that there are two principle roles of the Holy Spirit. Which one of these was relevant to these early miracles of the apostles and which was not? _____
10. What new promise did Jesus make to His apostles regarding the Holy Spirit? What was to be its new role in their work of evangelism (John 16:13; Mark 13:11) _____
11. Name two people who prophesied about the baptism of the Holy Spirit (John 1:33; Acts 1:3-4)? _____
 When did this Holy Spirit baptism occur? _____
 On whom (Acts 1:26-2:4)? _____. This fulfilled the promise of what Old Testament prophet (Acts 2:16)? _____. What promise of Jesus did it fulfill (John 16:13; Mark 13:11)? _____
12. What basis is there for comparing the apostles' Holy Spirit baptism with the event that occurred at the conversion of Cornelius? (Acts 10:47, 11:15-16)? _____
 Did this wonderful miracle save Cornelius? Explain. _____
 What was the purpose of this work of the Spirit? _____
13. Who were the first non-apostles who received gifts of the Holy Spirit (Acts 6:5-8, 8:5-7)? _____
 How did they receive this power (Acts 6:6)? _____
 How did the brethren at Antioch receive gifts of the Holy Spirit (Acts 8:15-18)? _____
 What was different about the way the brethren at Ephesus received the Spirit (Acts 19:6)? _____

What was different about how Cornelius received the Spirit? _____

14. What does Paul emphasize about the use of Spiritual gifts in the early church (Rom 12:12, 26)? _____

Give one example of the misuse of gifts in the early church (1 Cor 14)? _____

15. How would you prove that spiritual gifts (i.e., miracles) have ceased? _____
