

LETTER TO LEADERS

By

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The Holy Spirit is a gift.

In the Book of Acts, Luke chronicles the works of God after the ascension of Jesus. In Acts 2:38 he writes "Then Peter said to them, Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the **gift** of the Holy Ghost."

Just as salvation is a gift, so is the Holy Spirit is a **gift**.

The church has rightfully placed much importance on what Christ accomplished for us through the cross and resurrection (salvation, healing, prosperity, etc.). However, there has been little emphasis of the release of the Holy Spirit to dwell in the followers of Christ. In fact much of the church has taught that, at least some of the functions of the Holy Spirit are not for today, namely the gift of tongues.

The 20th Century Pentecostal church emphasized that one must "tarry" in order to receive. They made the Baptism of the Holy Spirit a reward for Holiness and tarrying. NO! The word of God very plainly calls the Holy Spirit a **gift**. It cannot be earned by waiting for it. It cannot be earned by carnal holiness. It is a **gift**.

As the gift of salvation was received by faith, so the gift of the Holy Spirit is also received by faith.

Some believe the Holy Spirit is received when they are born again. Others believe the Holy Spirit is received as second or separate work of grace. The important thing is this. Knowing the Holy Spirit dwells within us, we must allow the Holy Spirit the liberty to function in and through us. 1 Cor 12 tells us what these functions can be. Ga 4:11 tells us how the Holy Spirit empowers us for leadership. Ga 5 tells us of the fruit of the Holy Spirit in our soul realm.

Having received the **gift** of the Holy Spirit, we need to expect these works of the Holy Spirit to be operating in our lives. If they are not apparent, seek God until they are working in your life.

In His Love,

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