

Ready for the Master's Use

TEXT: John 3:3,16; 17:15-17; Acts 1:5-8

SUPPLEMENTAL SCRIPTURE: Ephesians 6:13-17

KEY VERSE: Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

— Ephesians 6:11

RESOURCE MATERIAL: Tract No. 30 — The New Birth, Tract No. 125 — Sanctification, Tract No. 14

— The Baptism of the Holy Ghost

The Word of God plainly teaches that God has three initial experiences for the Christian as a foundation to prepare him for his walk of faith here on earth. The first two, salvation and sanctification, are provided through the shed Blood of Jesus on Calvary (Hebrews 9:22,28; 13:12). The third, the baptism of the Holy Ghost, is a gift of God (Acts 2:38; 10:45), given to provide power for us so that we can fully serve the Lord.

1. What proof have we from Scripture that the three basic experiences God has for a Christian—salvation, sanctification, and the baptism of the Holy Ghost—are to be sought and received in this sequence?

See John 3:3; 17:17, and Acts 1:5.

2. There are several words in use today which indicate the experience one receives when he becomes a Christian. Find Scriptures that use these expressions:

Born again

Saved

Converted

3. What actions stated by Jesus in Mark 1:15 are necessary on our part in order for us to be born again, or saved from sin? Explain what these actions involve.

4. What outward change takes place in one's life when he or she becomes a Christian? See 2 Corinthians 5:17 and Ephesians 4:22-32.

5. When someone comes to God to be saved, he must repent and turn from his sins. In contrast, how do we come to God when seeking to be sanctified? See Romans 12:1,2 and 6:13.

6. What effect does the experience of sanctification have in the life of a Christian? See Romans 6:6 and Hebrews 2:11.

7. What do Jesus' admonitions to His disciples in Luke 24:49 and Acts 1:4,8 teach us of the importance of seeking the baptism of the Holy Ghost?

8. Can we expect to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost today in the same manner and with the same witness as the Early Church, or was the gift just for those in that day? Explain. See Acts 2:38,39.