

There Is One Baptism: *Holy Spirit or Water Baptism? (2)*

There is one, and only one, Lord and hope—there cannot be two. There is also *one baptism* (Eph. 4:4-6). Is it water or Holy Spirit baptism?

In Scripture, when sinners understood the gospel they requested to be baptized in water. When the Ethiopian first learned about Jesus, the first question we are told he asked was about baptism (Acts 8:36). In Acts 2:41, 3,000 people desired the remission of sins and by faith, after repenting of sin, received that desire when baptized in water.

Baptism with the Holy Spirit was different, never being requested or given in response to man's request. The apostles did not know they would receive Spirit baptism on Pentecost (Acts 1:4-8; 2:1-4). Cornelius' household did not request or expect the Spirit to fall on them (Acts 10:44). In every case, God alone decided when this baptism would be given.

Which one is the *one baptism*? This week, we will host a booth at the Independence County Fair. Come by to talk about this subject, to pick up CDs on this and other topics (such as "same-sex marriage"), or for various written materials (such as *Why I Left the Baptist Church*).