

One Baptism

by Wayne Goff

There are those today who affirm that Christians are baptized with the Holy Spirit. However, the New Testament tells us that there is “one baptism” (Eph. 4:5). The baptism of the Holy Spirit was limited to the apostles and temporarily intended. It was used to deliver the final revelation of God’s Word (Jn. 14:25-26; 15:26; 16:13). That job has been completed (Jude 3; James 1:25). Therefore, we conclude that Holy Spirit baptism is no longer valid today. However, water baptism is the final step in God’s plan of salvation and is still very much needed today. Therefore, it is the one baptism remaining. “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” (1 Cor. 13:8-10). The “perfect” (completed revelation) has come, so that which is “in part” (miraculous) has now been put away.

HOLY SPIRIT BAPTISM	QUALITY	WATER BAPTISM
Spirit (Acts 1:5)	ELEMENT	Water (Acts 8:38)
Christ (Jn. 1:33)	ADMINISTRATOR	Men (Matt. 28:19)
Promise (Acts 1:2-8)	NATURE	Command (Mk. 16:16)
Reveal Truth (Jn. 16:13)	PURPOSE	Salvation (1 Pet. 3:21)