

ASSEMBLIES OF GOD THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

BTH 534 The Baptism in the Holy Spirit

James H. Railey

Summer 2002

COURSE SYLLABUS

COURSE DESCRIPTION

The course is an exegetical and theological examination of the classical Pentecostal understanding of Spirit baptism. The historical development of the doctrine and relevant hermeneutical issues will also be considered.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

Upon the completion of this course, the student will have demonstrated in classroom discussions, examinations, and papers

1. A basic understanding of the biblical bases for the classical Pentecostal doctrine of the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
2. A better appreciation for the historical development of the classical Pentecostal doctrine of the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
3. An understanding of the classical Pentecostal doctrine of the baptism in the Holy Spirit.
4. An insight into the positions that compete with the classical Pentecostal doctrine.
5. An increased hunger for the reality of the baptism in the Holy Spirit in the individual life and in the corporate life of the contemporary church.

TEXTBOOKS

Chan, Simon. Pentecostal Theology and the Christian Spiritual Tradition. Journal of Pentecostal Theology Supplement Series, no. 21, ed. John Christopher Thomas, Rick D. Moore, and Steven J. Land. Sheffield: Sheffield Academic Press, 2000.

Grudem, Wayne A. ed. Are Miraculous Gifts for Today: Four Views. Counterpoints Series. Grand Rapids, MI: Zondervan Publishing House, 1996.

Keener, Craig S. Gift and Giver: The Holy Spirit for Today. Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 2001.

Palma, Anthony D. The Holy Spirit: A Pentecostal Perspective. Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 2001.

COURSE OUTLINE

- I. The Historical Development of the Doctrine of Spirit Baptism

- II. The Hermeneutical Issues in the Doctrine of Spirit Baptism
- III. The Biblical Material Relative to the Doctrine of Spirit Baptism
- IV. The Doctrine of Spirit Baptism

METHODOLOGY

The primary method of instruction will be the lecture, with ample time devoted to the discussion of ideas and issues germane to the course. The student will be expected to take notes consistently during the sessions.

COURSE REQUIREMENTS

1. The student is expected to attend all class sessions. Absences should be for extreme circumstances only. The limits established by the Seminary will be observed. (“Barring a serious medical emergency, credit cannot be granted for courses in which a student has been absent beyond the equivalent of more than 2 weeks . . .” – Catalog, 70).
2. The student is expected to submit a 3-5 page typed critique of each of the assigned texts. They will be due according to the following schedule: Palma – June 6; Keener – June 13; June 20 – Chan; and June 26 – Grudem.
3. There will be a final exam given on Friday, June 28, 2002. The exam will be essay in nature and designed to allow the student to reflect his/her experience and learning during the class.

GRADING PROCEDURE

The final grade will be determined as follows:

Book critiques	50%
Final exam	50%

Grades are recorded and averaged on the basis of the following grade scale: A=12; A-=11; B+=10; B=9; B-=8; C+=7; C=6; C-=5; D+=4; D=3; D-=2; F=1. Classroom participation will also be considered in the assignment of the final grade.

To receive a passing grade for the course all work must be submitted. The grade of I (Incomplete) may be granted only for extenuating circumstances upon the request of the student. Except in the case of severe extenuating circumstances the course grade will be reduced by one letter grade.

SELECTED BIBLIOGRAPHY

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- Bittlinger, Arnold. Gifts and Graces. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1967.
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- Bruce, F. F. The Book of Acts. (NIC) Revised Edition. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1988.
- Bruner, F. D. A Theology of the Holy Spirit. Grand Rapids: Eerdmans Publishing Co., 1970.
- Burgess, Stanley M. and Gary B. McGee, Eds. Dictionary of Pentecostal and Charismatic Movements. Grand Rapids: Zondervan Publishing House, 1988.
- Cullmann, Oscar. Early Christian Worship. Trans. A. Stewart Todd and James B. Torrance. London: SCM, 1953.
- Dalton, Robert C. Tongues Like as of Fire. Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 1945.
- Dempster, Murray W., Byron D. Klaus, and Douglas Peterson, Eds. The Globalization of Pentecostalism: A Religion Made to Travel. Oxford: Regnum Books International, 1999.
- Dunn, James D. G. Baptism in the Holy Spirit. London: SCM, 1970.
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- Ervin, Howard M. Conversion Initiation and the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1984.
- _____. Spirit Baptism: A Biblical Investigation. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1987.
- _____. These Are Not Drunken. Plainfield, NJ: Logos, 1968.

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Gee, Donald. The Fruit of the Spirit. Springfield, MO: Gospel Publishing House, 1928.

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Hawthorne, Gerald F. The Presence and the Power. Dallas, TX: Word Publishing, 1991.

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- Rea, John. The Holy Spirit in the Bible: All the Major Passages About the Spirit. Lake Mary, FL: Creation House, 1990.
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- Shelton, James B. Mighty in Word and Deed: The Role of the Holy Spirit in Luke-Acts. Peabody, MA: Hendrickson Publishers, 1991.
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Williams, J. Rodman. The Gift of the Holy Spirit Today. Plainfield, NJ: Logos, 1980.

SPECIFIC DATA

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