

- I. Speaking in tongues is the initial, physical evidence that one has received the Baptism with the Holy Spirit.
- There is no single specific verse that states this; however careful study makes this obvious. Normally one needs to study all the passages on any particular topic to fully understand what is being said.
 - If there is an initial, physical evidence, (and the following verses show there is) than what that evidence?
 - The only possible conclusion, based on all passages dealing with the baptism of the Holy Ghost, is that the initial evidence that one has received baptism of the Holy Ghost is speaking in other tongues.
- A. Acts 2:2-4 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 **And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and (i.e. they all) began to speak with other (unknown) tongues (languages),** as the Spirit gave them utterance.
1. Being filled with the Spirit and speaking in tongues are linked together in this passage.
 2. Every one of them spoke in tongues. (*Without exception*).
 - a. The rushing mighty wind and the cloven tongues of fire are never again repeated and therefore could not be the evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost. (*Tongues is repeated over & over*).
 - b. Note: the wind & tongues of fire are signs, not something the believers did in response to the baptism with the Spirit, so these could not be the personal evidence of the baptism with the Spirit.
- B. Acts 10:44-46 And they...were astonished, as many as came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues...
1. The evidence that they were baptized with the Spirit was speaking in tongues.
 - a. For = because; (*the Gr word assigns a reason or an explanation*).
 2. Obviously they all spoke with tongues. (*It doesn't say, "they heard some of them speak with tongues"*).
- C. Acts 19:6 And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied.
1. The baptism in the Spirit is again linked with tongues.
 - a. Evidently they all spoke with tongues (and also all prophesied).
 - (1) At no other time is prophecy mentioned when people are baptized in the Spirit, so this cannot be the initial evidence; however the initial evidence of tongues is always either mentioned, or at least clearly implied.
 - (2) The baptism in the Spirit opens the door into spiritual gifts, such as prophecy, so there is nothing strange about them prophesying after receiving the baptism with the Spirit.
- D. Acts 8:17-19 ...18 And when **Simon saw that through laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Ghost was given**, he offered them money, 19 Saying, Give me also this power, that on whomsoever I lay hands, he may receive the Holy Ghost.
1. Simon observed some immediate & distinct evidence of receiving the baptism in the Holy Ghost.
 - a. This evidence was obviously something other than what he had already seen through Phillip's ministry: (*Read Acts 8:5-8*)
 - (1) Salvation (Acts 8:6)
 - (2) Miracles (Acts 8:6)
 - (3) Deliverances (Acts 8:7)
 - (4) Healings (Acts 8:7)
 - (5) Great joy (Acts 8:8)
 - b. Obviously what he "saw" (*recognized, observed*) was the same thing that happened in all these other passages: He observed them speaking in other tongues.

- E. Read Acts 9:17-18 (Paul received the Holy Ghost in this passage).
1. The passage does not tell us any specific details of what happened when Paul received the Holy Ghost, such as any initial evidence; however we are later told that Paul did speak in tongues. There is therefore no reason to believe that Paul did not first speak in tongues at this time. And, in light of the other passages we can assume that he did. *Sp there is absolutely nothing here to lead one to believe that there is any other evidence of the Baptism with the Spirit aside from tongues)*
1 Cor 14:18 I thank my God, **I speak with tongues more than ye all.**
- F. The example of, and teaching given to, the Corinthian church.
1. Paul pioneered the church at Corinth (Acts 18:1-11)
 - a. It is evident that he led them into the Baptism of Holy Spirit. (He spoke much to them about tongues etc.)
 - b. The Corinthians clearly spoke in tongues. (1 Cor 14)
 2. It was Paul's (and therefore God's) desire that all believers speak in tongues.
 - a. 1 Cor 14:5 I would that ye all spake with tongues (*i.e. "it is my will that ye all speak with tongues"*).
 - b. Why would he want all believers to speak in tongues if there is a different evidence for the Baptism of the Holy Ghost for some people?
- G. Nowhere are we told that someone received the Baptism of the Spirit with some other initial, physical evidence instead of tongues. (*i.e.: for they saw that they had more love, etc.*)
- H. Every passage that shows someone being baptized in the Spirit, and also list an initial, physical evidence of the event, list tongues as that evidence.
- I. Speaking in tongues is the only sign that began on the day of Pentecost with the baptism in the Spirit; every other possible sign existed before Pentecost.