

“THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!”

I. INTRODUCTION:

- A. One of the most important principles that helps us to properly understand the word of God is to “keep the scriptures in the proper context where they are found.”
- B. Let me give you an example.
(Bible study with Norman Ballard about the Lord’s Supper & Mechanical Instruments of Music/Mt. 27 & Lk. 10)
- C. This example clearly shows the importance of “keeping the scriptures in their proper context.”

II. THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT!

- A. When it comes to the subject of the “gift of the Holy Spirit”, this rule of Bible study is very important again.
- B. The phrase “gift of the Holy Spirit” is used in at least 3 different ways in the scriptures.
- C. In order to correctly understand its meaning in the various places it is used, we must “keep the scripture in its proper context.”
- D. Let’s look closer at these places where the phrase “the gift of the Holy Spirit” is found.
 - 1. This phrase is found in Acts 2:38.
 - 2. It is also found in Acts 8:12-20.
 - 3. It is found again in Acts 10:44-48.
- E. In Acts 2:38, the “gift of the Holy Ghost” is received when a person “obeys the gospel.”
 - 1. In this verse, the “gift of the Holy Ghost” is speaking of the “gift of Salvation & all the blessings that come with it.” (Acts 2:21,38,41/Eph. 1:3/Gal. 3:26-27/ Rom. 6:3-4/Acts 22:16/1 Pet. 3:21)
 - 2. Every person who is “baptized in the name of of the Lord” receives this aspect of the “gift of of the Holy Ghost.”
- F. In Acts 8:12-20, the “gift of the Holy Spirit” was received “through the laying on of the apostles’ hands.”
 - 1. In this place, the “gift of the Holy Ghost” is speaking of the “miraculous gifts of the Holy

Ghost” (Simon saw something happen...)

2. This aspect of the “gift of the Holy Ghost” is received only “through the laying on of the apostles’ hands.” (Acts 19:1-6/Rom. 1:11/2 Tim. 1:6/Acts 6:1-8/Acts 8:5-8)
- G. In Acts 10:44-48, the “gift of the Holy Ghost” was received “directly from Heaven.”
1. In this place, the “gift of the Holy Ghost” is speaking of the “baptism of the Holy Spirit” for Peter had to go back to when the Holy Spirit was “given to the Apostles at the beginning” to find the same thing happening again. (Acts 11:1-4,13-18/Acts 2:1-4/Acts 10:44-46)
 2. The “gift of the Holy Ghost” in Acts 10:44-48 is not the same as in Acts 2:38, for it was received by Cornelius and his household “before they were baptized.”
 3. And the “gift of the Holy Ghost” in Acts 10:44-48 is not the same as in Acts 8:12-20, for it was received “without the laying on of Apostles’ hands.”

III. CONCLUSION:

- A. Even though the house of Cornelius received “Holy Spirit baptism” like the Apostles, it is important to note that the purpose in each case was different.
1. The purpose of Holy Spirit baptism upon the Apostles was to “guide them into all truth, to endue them with power from on high, and to make them witnesses for the Lord Jesus Christ.” (Jn. 16:13/Lk. 24:49/Acts 1:4-8/2 Cor. 12:12)
 2. The purpose of Holy Spirit baptism upon Cornelius and his household was to show that the “Gentiles could be baptized into the Lord’s church without having to submit to the Jewish rite of circumcision.” (Acts 11:1-18/Acts 10:44-48/Acts 15:1-11)
- B. Remember brethren that in order to correctly understand the word of God, we must learn to “keep the scriptures in their proper context.”

C. THE INVITATION!