

JESUS' BAPTISM OF FIRE (Part #1)

While Jesus' baptism of The Holy Spirit falls under Ecclesiology [The study of the Church], Jesus' baptism of fire falls under Eschatology. [The study of the Last Days],

Question: Luke 3:16-17 is exactly like Matt.3:11-12. However, Mark 1:8, John 1:33, Acts 1:4-5, and Acts 11:16 are different. What is the difference? _____

This lesson will study four aspects of part one of Jesus' Baptism of Fire.

1. There is confusion about Jesus' baptism of fire because sometimes the term 'fire' is used symbolically.

For example, the Holy Spirit was used symbolically 'as a dove in' in Matt.3:16 – “After being baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending **as (hosei) a dove** and lighting on Him.”

Later the Holy Spirit was used symbolically '**as of fire**' in **Acts 2:3** – “And there appeared to them tongues **as (hosei/ hos + ei (1cc)) of fire** distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them

NOTE: Both events relate to the **First Advent (Coming) of Jesus Christ.**

2. In Matt.3:12, Jesus' baptism of fire is part of the Second Advent (Coming) of Jesus Christ.

Notice four things associated with Jesus' baptism of Fire in Matt.3:12.

- **Winnowing fork**
 - Separating wheat from chaff (believers from unbelievers)
- **Thoroughly cleansing the floor**
 - Judgment of Second Coming – removal of all unbelievers
- **Gathering of wheat into barns**
 - Security of believers
- **Chaff burned up with unquenchable fire**
 - Divine Judgment of unbelievers

Pay attention to these four aspects of Jesus' Baptism of Fire in point two.

3. Jesus taught seven parables on this subject in Book of Matthew.

There is a message in each of these parables for the believer to apply to their lives until Jesus Christ returns.

The key is the separation of believers from unbelievers for eternity.

- Matt.13:24-30, 36-43 (explanation) Wheat and tares
 - _____

- Matt.13:47-50 Good and bad fish
 - _____
- Matt.22:1-14 Clothed and unclothed wedding guests
 - _____
- Matt.24:42-51 Sensible and evil servants
 - _____
- Matt.25:1-13 Wise and foolish bridesmaid
 - _____
- Matt.25:14-30 Faithful and evil employees
 - _____
- Matt.25:31-33, 41-46 Sheep and goats
 - _____

4. When studying the Book of Matthew, don't forget that Old Covenant believers were not aware of the difference between a First and Second Coming of Christ.

For example,

- Jesus' baptism of Holy Spirit occurred in His First Advent (Book of Acts);
- Jesus' baptism of Fire will occur in His Second Advent (Book of Revelation).

Historically, the time between the two Advents of Christ is called **The Mystery of the Church** in the world.

(Eph.5:32) "The **mystery is great**; but I am speaking with reference to Christ and the church."
 (Rom.16:25-27; 1 Cor.15:51; Col.1:24-27)