Introduction to the Power of Holy Spirit

- The Power and influence of the Holy Spirit among the most complicated NT teaching
- Jesus answered and said unto him, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born anew, he cannot see the kingdom of God. 4 Nicodemus saith unto him, How can a man be born when he is old? can he enter a second time into his mother's womb, and be born? 5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except one be born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God! <u>Jn 3:3-5</u>

Don't Be Fooled – Very Amazing!

- When an illustration or parable is as complicated as the truth a very deep concept.
- Entrance into the kingdom of God is similar to our first birth.
- Being born the first time is just like being born the second time. It is type and antitype.
- Our first birth.
- A conception, forming of a body, the gift of an eternal soul.

Don't Be Fooled – Very Amazing

- We can look at complicated things in life but we see them so often it seems commonplace.
- Yet it actually is incomprehensible.
- Springtime is filled with impossible things!
- Dead and barren becomes green and living.
- Trees, shrubs with no leaves return to life.
- Brown grass becomes green,
- flowers bloom, fruit grows.

Incomprehensible

- As you do not know what is the way of the wind, Or how the bones grow in the womb of her who is with child, So you do not know the works of God who makes everything. Eccl 11:5
- Jesus used both of these with Nicodemus
- Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born again.' 8 The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit." In 3:7-8

First Birth as amazing as New Birth!

For You formed my inward parts; You covered me in my mother's womb. 14 I will praise You, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made; Marvelous are Your works, And that my soul knows very well. 15 My frame was not hidden from You, When I was made in secret, And skillfully wrought in the lowest parts of the earth. 16 Your eyes saw my substance, being yet unformed. And in Your book they all were written, The days fashioned for me, When as yet there were none of them. Ps 139:13-16

The Holy Spirit in the New Birth

- He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, 6 whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <u>Titus 3:5-6</u>
- For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body — whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free — and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. <u>1Cor 12:13</u>

Born Again

- Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart, 23 having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the word of God which lives and abides forever, . . . 25 ... Now this is the word which by the gospel was preached to you. 1 Pet 1:22-25
- We purified our souls when they obeyed the truth. Born again not of corruptible seed (fleshly birth)
- But incorruptible seed (spiritual birth) word of God
- Peter had no trouble understanding the new birth.
- Every time a sinner obeyed the gospel—a new birth

Sword of the Spirit – God's Word

- the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God;
 Eph 6:17-18
- For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Heb 4:12-13
- Think of 1Cor 2:9-11; 2Tim 3:15-16;
- The Word is Inspired by the Holy Spirit. That is why it is incorruptible seed and that is why it is living and active.

Our Relationship with Him

- We are to be keenly aware of this relationship. We are commanded not to grieve Him.
- And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. <u>Eph. 4:30-31</u>
- lupeo to make sorrowful; to affect with sadness, cause grief; to throw into sorrow:
- (Thayer's Greek Lexicon, 3076

It is Very Important we Understand

- in whom ye also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation,-- in whom, having also believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 which is an earnest of our inheritance, unto the redemption of (God's) own possession, unto the praise of his glory. Eph 1:13-14
- Progression:
- heard the word of truth the gospel of your salvation.
- (Peter's sermon in Acts 2 or 10; Eunuch; Saul; etc.)
- You Believed
- You were sealed with the Holy Spirit of Promise
- (it is passed on from generation to generation through the Word of God)

Spirit Sealed and became the Earnest

- The Power exerted in the New Birth
- in whom ye also, having heard the word of the truth, the gospel of your salvation, -- in whom, having also believed, ye were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise, 14 which is an earnest of our inheritance, unto the redemption of (God's) own possession, unto the praise of his glory. Eph 1:13-14
- And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, in whom ye were sealed unto the day of redemption. Eph 4:30

What do the "earnest" and "seal" of "the Holy Spirit" mean to us today?

- Now he that establishes us with you in Christ, and anointed us, is God; 22 who also sealed us, and gave (us) the earnest of the Spirit in our hearts. 2 Cor 1:21-22
- Now he that wrought us for this very thing is God, who gave unto us the earnest of the Spirit. 2 Cor 5:5
- All of this occurred when we heard the gospel, believed, and obeyed

Power Exerted in Baptism

- Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. ... 6 knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin. Rom 6:4,
- even when we were dead in trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved), 6 and raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, Eph 2:5-7
- The Power: Tremendous: Dead Made Alive

Power Exerted in Baptism

- In Him you were also circumcised with the circumcision made without hands, by putting off the body of the sins of the flesh, by the circumcision of Christ, 12 buried with Him in baptism, in which you also were raised with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. 13 And you, being dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He has made alive together with Him, having forgiven you all trespasses, Col 2:11-14
- Circumcised; raised with power

The Earnest: Our Down Payment

- Dead in Trespasses & Uncircumcision
- Lost in Sin
- God gave us the Holy Spirit. He:
- Made us alive
- Washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit
- The down payment was the resurrection of our soul in the new birth.
- We now possess everything by faith. That is the promise and the downpayment!