Imagine resisting the gift of salvation:

“The wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.” Romans 6:23

Imagine refusing the gifts of healing:

“Praise the Lord and never forget his gifts... he heals all our diseases.” Psalm 103:2-3
Imagine not valuing the gift of children:

“Children are a gift from God; they are his reward.” PSALM 127:3

Far too many of God’s children resist and reject the gift of the Holy Spirit!

“For do not leave Jerusalem until the Father sends you the gift he promised, as I told you before. John baptized with water, but in just a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” ACTS 1:5

WHY BELIEVERS REFUSE THE GIFT:

• They debate terminology: is it baptism “in”, “of”, or “with” the Holy Spirit?
• They argue that Spirit baptism was only for the first century.
• They reason that Spirit-fullness comes at salvation.
• They make the charismata (spiritual manifestations) optional.

For far too many believers, analysis and argument trumps employment and enjoyment of the gift – grieving the Spirit.
“Don’t leave until you are baptized with the Spirit... for the promise is for you and all people in every age, in every place that God calls into his family.”

**ACTS 1:4, 2:39**

Satan’s Fear of Spirit-Filled Believers

Baptism with the Holy Spirit enables believers to carry on what Jesus started, in Jesus’ power.

**SPRIT BAPTISM: THE WHAT**

“In a few days, you’ll be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” **ACTS 1:4**

*Baptized - bathidzo:*

Fully immersed, submerged, drenched, saturated to overflowing.
Spirit baptism drenches, fills and overflows us in a force much bigger than we can contain.

PREOCCUPIED WITH PREPOSITIONS

No matter the preposition — of, in or with — baptism drenches us in the Person of the Holy Spirit so we can overflow in the power of the Holy Spirit.

SPIRIT BAPTISM EMPOWERS US WITH WHAT?

- Connection with the Father—intimacy will flow.
- Love for people—even the unlovable.
- Holiness of character—the power to resist sin, passion for purity.
- Boldness to share—courage to proclaim Jesus, the right words downloaded instantly.
- Enablement for impact—Spiritual gifts and the fruit of the Spirit makes the natural supernatural.
SPIRIT BAPTISM: THE HOW

“Believe that it’s for me–God won’t give what I doubt is for me right now!” JAMES 1:6-8

“Ask for it in faith–how much more will the Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask.” LUKE 11:13

“Wait for God to give it–baptism will come in his timing.” ACTS 1:4

SPIRIT BAPTISM: THE HOW

“Prepare for the Spirit’s arrival–move my stuff out (sin, wrong motives, worldliness) so the Spirit can move in.” EPHESIANS 4:30-32

“Expect to receive–impartation won’t happen without expectation.” MATTHEW 9:29

The critical issue of my pneumatology: Have I been drenched with the Holy Spirit?

**Ask** for the gift. **Wait** for the baptism. **Receive**, by any means necessary, the drenching of the Holy Spirit!
Lord Jesus, you are the One who baptizes with the Holy Spirit and with fire. I now ask you to baptize me. Drench me with the love of God. Fill me with the presence of God. Cleanse me with the fire of God. Enable me with the power of God. Equip me with the gifts of God. Totally transform me into what you want me to be. Let my life continually overflow with you. For the glory of God alone, I ask in faith and thank you in advance for the promise of the Holy Spirit.