

CHRIST CHURCH, VIRGINIA WATER SUNDAY 4TH JULY 2010

SERMON NOTES: 8.00 & 9.30 AM SERVICES

Title: "Acts 8:4-25: A Second Blessing in The Holy Spirit?"

Preacher: Ro Mody

The key questions: Why is the Holy Spirit withheld from the Samaritan believers until later? Does it mean we should seek a Second Blessing in the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit is withheld from the Samaritan believers so we may understand the importance of...

1. THE UNITY OF CHRISTIANS

Acts 8:14 When the apostles in Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they **sent Peter and John to them**. 15 When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptised into the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 Then Peter and John placed their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

Isaiah 11:13 Ephraim's [Samaria's] jealousy will vanish, and Judah's enemies will be cut off; Ephraim will not be jealous of Judah, nor Judah hostile toward Ephraim [Samaria].

2. THE AUTHORITY OF THE APOSTLES

Acts 8:14 When the apostles **in Jerusalem** heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. 15 When they arrived, they prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, 16 because the Holy Spirit had not yet come upon any of them; they had simply been baptised into the name of the Lord Jesus. 17 **Then Peter and John placed their hands on them**, and they received the Holy Spirit.

John 4:22 You Samaritans worship what you do not know; we [Jews] worship what we do know, for salvation is from the Jews.

3. THE GIFT OF GOD

Acts 8:18 When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money 19 and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit." 20 Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the **gift of God** with money! 21 You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God.

"The Holy Spirit is the promised present of the Father, and, as such, a perfect free gift given – not merely offered – to believers who simply receive (never obtain) Him."

– Frederick Dale Brunner

"I BELIEVE IN ONE UNIVERSAL AND APOSTOLIC CHURCH" – the Nicene Creed