### THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

"Streams of living water will flow...."

John 7: 38.

Clément Le Cossec

<< YOU will
RECEIVE THE
GIFT OF THE
HOLY SPIRIT >>
Act 2:38.

## 50 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE IN THE MOVEMENT OF THE SPIRIT

In 1935, while the Wakening-called "Pentecost" begins in Normandy, my parents knew this.

"There at Havre servants of God laid hands on the sick and healed them. You should go, "said a lady to my mother who was seriously ill, and she gave her the address of the evangelical meetings. At that time my father was the lighthouse keeper of Antifer, 25 kilometers from Le Havre. He was also sick .. He decided to go see F. Galicia, the pastor of the Evangelical Church. We went there both on bicycles and we attended an evangelical meeting. Soon after, during the imposition of hands on the sick - made in the name

Jesus Christ - by evangelists Jeffreys, during an evangelistic evening in Le Havre Theatre, my father was cured of his heart disease, eczema and rheumatism. My mother was also freed from her suffering. Both were converted to Jesus Christ as well as my brother and my sister. I also decided to follow Christ. I was then 14 years.

It was a complete change in the family which later came to live in Havre. I learned by the announcement of the Gospel that there is "no condemnation for those in Christ Jesus" Romans 8: 1. I realize inner peace, whereas before I was anxious about the torment of the Hereafter; this new life i found greatly passionate me.

We lacked no meeting, thirsty for spiritual life in an atmosphere of a new awakening that began in 1930 when the first missions of the English evangelist Douglas SCOTT with which I was later privileged to work with on evangelistic campaigns.

In my teenage heart, I made the commitment to one day become a preacher of the Gospel for the poor.

At the age of 16, while I pursued business studies, I spent every evening after lessons and homework, half an hour to Biblical studies through correspondence courses of the Assemblies of God Bible school in London. Every time, before the study, I prayed, asking God to help me through His Spirit to understand His Word. I was in perfect communion with God, filled with the Spirit, but I was afraid of speaking in tongues. I was influenced by pernicious books whose authors had not experienced the true biblical baptism in the Holy Spirit.

They claimed that the external manifestations - including speaking in tongues - were of diabolical origin. I was apprehensive because of this. though I was living the fullness of the Spirit, I stopped praying and praising God for fear of evil demonic influences spoken of in these books. At age 19, I left my job, my graduate studies and a bright earthly future, to engage in God's service by faith. However, despite my Bible knowledge, there was something missing. Although pleased to have received the congratulations of my professor of Bible School, and my diploma signed by the prominent pastor Howard Carter, I had to free myself of my fears and experience the gift of the Holy Spirit. Upon my arrival in Lisieux, Normandy, I asked the pastor with whom I entered into pastoral training impose my hands for the reception of baptism in the Holy Spirit. I was willing to accept the gift of the Holy Spirit such as the Lord had given to the Christians of the early Church. Immediately, Christ baptized me in the Spirit that made me speak in unknown language. Since then, in January 1940, I continue to speak in tongues.

This experience led me into a new dimension of communion with God through the Spirit. This grace is extraordinarily beautiful and uplifting. It is accessible to anyone who wants to trust in Christ which John the Baptist said:

"He will baptize you in the Holy Spirit. "Luke 3: 16

It is the believers who thirst for a greater spiritual strength in their Christian life I dedicate this "biblical book," especially those who are restrained by fear.

## " YOU WILL RECEIVE THE GIFT THE HOLY SPIRIT " Acts 2: 38

It is the day of Pentecost. Jesus Christ ascended to heaven since ten days. 120 followers had come to be filled with the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues in Jerusalem on Mount Zion, in an upper room. The apostle Peter is among them and and he addresses thousands of pious Jews flocked near where occurred this event. He explains that it is the fulfillment of this prophecy of Joel:

"In the last days, saith God, I will pour out my Spirit on all flesh. "Acts 2: 17.

Then, after having announced the good news of the death of Christ for the salvation of men and resurrection, he made them this promise:

"You shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. "Acts 2: 38.

It is formal, sure of what he announces. He does not use the word "perhaps". "YOU WILL RECEIVE" he said. There is no possible doubt.

This certainty, Jesus communicate to his followers before leaving the earth, during his last supper with them:

"I will pray the Father, and he will **GIVE** ... you another Comforter, the Spirit of Truth. "John 14: 16-17

and HE GAVE in this day at Pentecost.

God is rich in kindness, in the words of the psalmist David (Psalm 86: 15). His love was manifested in sending His Son Jesus to save mankind:

"For God so loved the world that HE GAVE his only son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. "John 3: 16. God proved his love by giving His Son, and by his Son, he gives the Holy Spirit (Acts 2: 33)

One day, having finished praying, Jesus taught his disciples how to pray. He used a very simple argument to persuade them that, in his goodness, God is willing to give you the Holy Spirit:

"What father among you would give a stone to his son, if he asks for bread? or if he ask a fish, will he give a snake instead of a fish? or if he asks for an egg, will he offer him a scorpion? If so wicked as you are, you know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your heavenly Father not give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him. "Luke 11: 11-13

Have you sincerely asked?

God offer the gift, what gift! THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

Ask for the gift, accept to receive IT ON HIS PART, is to honor him.

### THE WORD GIFT

The GIFT word is translated from the Greek word "Dorea". He has a sense of a present, a pure gift, free, a gift without waiting for anything in return.

In reading the biblical texts concerning the Holy Spirit, I was struck by the use, by Jesus Christ and by the apostles of the word "DON" and "GIVE" and of the verb.

Therefore in the word GIFT is a teaching regarding the acts of God and the believer:

God has nothing to receive. He gives.

The believer has nothing to give in exchange, he **receive**. "God has granted the us GIFTS from his Spirit. "(Literal translation of 1 John 4: 13)

"You will receive the GIFT of the Holy Spirit" Act 2:38.

### THE INVITATION OF JESUS TO THOSE WHO THIRST FOR THE SPIRIT

During the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem, Jesus stood, with a loud and solemn voice, uttered these words:

If anyone is thirsty, let come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the scripture said, streams of living water will flow from within him. By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believe are later to **receive**. up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified." John 7:37-39.

Now the Spirit IS GIVEN. This is a GIFT, ALL who believe in Jesus can RECEIVE, today as in the days of the apostles.

### CONDITIONS TO RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY- SPIRIT

In Jerusalem after Pentecost, the number of those who believed in the Lord grew increasingly and the from neighboring towns people came there because there were many miracles done by the hands of the apostles. Because of this, religious leaders threw the apostles in the common prison. During the night an angel opened the door, rescued them and told them to announce the good news to the people in the temple.

They were again arrested and brought before the priest, the council and the elders of Israel. They said to them:

"We must obey God rather than men ... The God of our fathers raised up Jesus ... Him hath God exalted at HIS right as Prince and Savior to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. We are witnesses of these things, as well as the **Holy Spirit that God GIVES** to those who obey him. "Acts 5: 12 -32.

- "What shall we do?"

This question was asked Peter by the Jews who believe and have decided to obey God to be saved.

Peter gave them this answer:

- " repent each one of you,

**and be** baptized in the Name of Jesus for the forgiveness of your sins and receive **THE GIFT of the HOLY-SPIRIT** "
Act 2:37-38.

" Him

- JESUS -

will baptize you

In the

**HOLY-SPIRIT** "

Matthieu 3:11

# THE GIFT OF THE HOLY-SPIRIT OR BAPTISM IN THE HOLY-SPIRIT

When Peter was staying in Jaffa, in the house of Simon the tanner, God sent him to a pious, God-fearing man, named Cornelius and living in Caesarea. When he announced the Gospel to him as well as his family and friends, asserting that "whoever believes in Jesus receives in his Name the forgiveness of sins" (Acts 10: 43), the Holy Ghost came on them all .

Jews who believed in Jesus, and called at the time "circumcised believers", accompanied Peter. They were amazed, surprised, to see that "the GIFT of the Holy Spirit had been poured out on the Gentiles because they heard them speak in tongues, and magnify God" (Acts 10: 45). Those who were not Jewish were called "heathens" by the Jews of that time.

The news of this miracle spread throughout Judea and Peter had to face in Jerusalem the reproaches of Jews who became Christians, he had transgressed the Jewish custom which forbade a Jew to associate with strangers and even eating with them (Acts 10: 28 and 11: 3)

Peter relate the events, remembering how God had spoken to him by means of a vision, a voice, and the Holy Spirit. Then he said:

"When I began to speak, the Holy Ghost fell on them, as on us at the beginning. And I remembered the word of the Lord: John baptized with water, but you will be baptized in the Holy Spirit. If then God gave them the same GIFT as us, who had believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, could I oppose God? "Acts 11: 15-17.

A single experience is expressed by these two texts:

"You will be baptized in the Holy Spirit."

It is the SAME GIFT as that received by the 120 disciples on the day of Pentecost in Jerusalem as Peter said, "the Holy Spirit fell on them, as on us at the beginning."

There are not two kinds of GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT or two kinds of BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT. All those who believe in the Lord Jesus Christ receive THE SAME GIFT.

Being baptized in the Holy Spirit is having received the GIFT and vice versa receiving

the GIFT is have received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. The affirmations of the apostle Peter are unequivocal about it.

" They will

speak in

new tongues"

Mark 16:17

<sup>&</sup>quot;God gave them the same gift as us. "

### THE GIFT IS RECEIVED BY FAITH

Five years before the descent of the Holy Spirit in Caesarea on Cornelius and all who had joined him to hear the message of the Apostle Peter, the Holy Spirit was poured out on the Samaritans:

"Peter and John laid hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit ... When Simon saw that the Holy Spirit was GIVEN by the imposition of the apostles' hands, he offered them money. "Acts 8: 1. Simon, a former magician, had seen the manifestation of the Holy Spirit and had not realized it was GOD'S GIFT. He thought that the power to give the Spirit was in humans. He was still animated by his magician processes. Nowadays, some literature would have us believe that pagan, demonic manifestations are comparable to the authentic manifestations of the Holy Spirit. Do not listen to them because the devil cannot but produce only fakes.

Peter severely rebuke him and said:

" May your money perish with you, because you thought you can buy God's gift with money! " Acts 8:20.

### THE GIFT of the Holy Spirit is GOD'S GIFT. It is a Divine gift.

Neither riches, nor human values material, intellectual or moral, nor sacrifices, nor any merit, give access to GIFT OF GOD.

### The GIFT is received by faith.

It is not a reward, a good conduct certificate.

"God gave them the same GIFT as us, who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ" Acts 11: 17

Because they BELIEVED in Jesus as their Savior, the apostles received the "Spirit that **SHOULD RECEIVE those who believed in Jesus.**"John 7: 39

FAITH in JESUS and His work on the Cross, precedes receiving the GIFT of the Holy Spirit. This faith gives access to Salvation, to Eternal Life, free gift of God (Romans 6: 23). (To well understand Salvation, please refer to the biblical book 1: THE SALVATION OF THE SOUL

And by faith in the promises of Jesus we receive the GIFT of the Holy-Spirit.

The verb to **receive** is associated with **GIFT**:

- "You will RECEIVE THE GIFT of the Holy-Spirit" (Acts 2:38)
- "Have you RECEIVED THE GIFT of the Holy-Spirit?" (Acts 19:2)

To receive is take what is offered, "freely".

- "Let him that is willing **TAKE** the water or life" Revelation 22:17
- "If anyone be thirsty, come to me and **let HIM DRINK.**" said Jesus (John 7: 27)

Let him take...let him drink... " is there a better invitation to exercise our faith?

- Could you give us some water to drink?

The farmer to whom this question was asked hurried to fetch us water. This took place in India where i was on mission with some friends. It was scorching hot.

We have just gone through the fields, through small paths to reach a village inhabited by families of the tribe of Lambadis, isolated and far from the hills.

When they offer us each a glass of water we do not remain motionless, watching the water and ask questions about it.

We were so thirsty that immediately we drank hastily the glass of water offered. To our satisfaction, happy to quench our thirst.

Jesus asks everyone to make the gesture of faith regarding the receipt of GIFT of the Holy Spirit, he teaches us to have an attitude of faith while praying:

"Whatever you ask in prayer, BELIEVE YOU HAVE RECEIVED, and you shall see it accomplished. "Luke 11: 27.

## RECEPTION MEETINGS THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

At SAMARIA: When the apostles Peter and John arrived, they gathered all those who believed in Jesus and were baptized by immersion. They placed their hands in them to receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit and

"They received the Holy Spirit" Acts 8: 17

**At EPHESUS:** The apostle Paul had a MEETING WITH 12 Ephesians after their baptism in water and he placed hands on them to receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit, and: "The Holy Spirit came upon them. "Acts 1

"The Holy-Spirit came on them" Acts 19:5-6

At JERUSALEM: The 120 disciples who received the gift of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost, sat in expectation of receiving this because Jesus had told **them to wait**. The reason was important because Jesus knew that in the day of Pentecost Jews from various nations would be gathered on Mount Zion where the MEETING in the Upper Room took place. Effectively thousands of Jews that day, heard this sound bewildered a crowd came together and they became followers of Jesus Christ, upon hearing the apostle Peter (Acts 2: 5-41).

Today it is no longer necessary to wait but to seize by faith the promise. "The promise is for EVERYONE God will call" (Acts 2: 39) .It is within the reach of each of us who have answered the call of God and have believed in Jesus as Savior.

That's why I suggest calling the prayer meetings for obtaining the Gift of the Holy Spirit, "Meetings of reception of the Holy Spirit," rather than wait or research meetings.

My twin son, Paul and Stephen, aged 14, attending a Christian convention in which four evenings were devoted to receiving the Gift of the Holy Spirit.

Etienne went there every night. Last night, I asked Paul, who had not participated in the first meetings, why he was not at those meetings. He said: "It is unnecessary to go every night, what matters is to have faith. I will attend tonight. " So he went there last night. After the exhortation, the preacher began to lay hands on each. Paul immediately received the gift of the Holy Spirit and began to speak in tongues.

On leaving the meeting, Etienne who had not achieved what the Gift told me, "Dad, it's not fair for I went every night and I have not received anything." I encouraged and reminded him that the gift is received by faith. He received, in turn later.

### Receiving the Gift of the Holy Spirit is a matter of faith and not of merit since it is a GIFT offered.

There is no point being in feverish expectation, tense, anxious, nervously searching as if one can acquire the gift by pious efforts.

One day on a visit to three Christians of the same family, near Rennes in Brittany. I told them about the Gift of the Holy Spirit and then we had a moment of prayer during which I placed hands them. The grandmother and the boy fifteen years old on immediately received the gift and they began to speak in tongues. The Mother did not receive it. She kept begging God to forgive her sins. Her voice expressed sadness and her prayer was a kind of lamentation. I interrupted her and I assured her of the certainties Salvation, recalling this text of the Scripture: "those who believe in Jesus have eternal life and their sins are erased" (1 John 5: 13 and Hebrews 10: 17).

I brought on the ground of faith and thanksgiving: she began to thank God for the forgiveness offered in Jesus Christ and the promise of the Gift of the Holy Spirit. Immediately, she received the Gift and began to speak in tongues.

These examples of receipt of Gift of the Holy Spirit are innumerable. In the 34 nations where I preached the Gospel I saw a multitude of believers who have received the genuine Gift of the Holy Spirit through faith in Jesus. All Christians can receive this gift. It is the same for all.

### - "I am against noise. "

This thought was expressed by a Reformed minister to me. He had come to a Darbyste brother - le frère large - to pray for receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit.

I pointed out that the day of Pentecost there was a lot of noise but nevertheless I respected his conviction.

We began to pray and when I imposed hands on brother Darbyste, he began to speak in tongue gently, calmly, almost without noise. Then I prayed for the Reformed pastor and I impose hands on him. Suddenly, when he was filled with the Holy Spirit, he began to speak in tongues out loud, very, very strong ...

Each may have different emotional and demonstrative reactions according to his temperament, but the experience is spiritually identical, the same Gift of the Holy Spirit.

In his book "they will speak new languages," the writer John F. Sherril says about his baptism in the Holy Spirit:

"From the depths of myself, a depth from which I was ignorant that the voice was able to come, springs a torrent of joyful sounds ... syllables were themselves already formed ... all more abundant that could have form in my tongue and lips of earthly man.I had no feeling that the situation was beyond my control. I never really had felt more master of myself ... I could have stopped the tongues at any time, but why would i? I wanted the contrary they never stop still,. "

The baptism in the Spirit has nothing to do with the psychological or diabolical counterfeits such as those I have seen, particularly in India among Hindus and those who engage in yoga. It has no relation to the mystical trances worship.

When Christ baptizes in the Holy Spirit is really He who does and does not give anything other than what he promised:

"I will send the Comforter, the Spirit of Truth ..." John 16: 7 and 15: 17.

Let us have complete confidence in Jesus.

## " YOU WILL BE BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY-SPIRIT"

Acts 1:5

On the Mount of Olives, the resurrected Jesus appeared one last time to his disciples he had chosen. During the interview he gives them orders and he promises them with this:

"You, in a few days, YOU WILL BE BAPTIZED IN THE HOLY SPIRIT."

"And YOU WILL BE MY WITNESSES."

Acts 1: 5 and 8

Jesus promised them the power to be his witnesses in Jerusalem to the ends of the earth. He stated that this force will be communicated by the Holy Spirit:

"....When the Holy-Spirit will come upon you" Acts 1:8

After uttering these words, Jesus ascended to heaven and the apostles descended the Mount of Olives, crossed the brook Kidron and entered Jerusalem, where they went to the upper chamber usual place of their meetings. There, other disciples joined them to pray. They were all numbered about 120. Among them were the brothers of Jesus and the women and Mary the mother of Jesus.

Ten days later, the promise was realized. The evangelist Luke recounted this event in Acts 2: 1-2.

"The day of Pentecost they were all together in one place. Suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. Tongues, like tongues of fire appeared unto them separated from each other, and it rested upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Outside of the demonstrations of tongues of fire, noise and strong wind, note two important facts at their baptism in the Holy Spirit:

### 1. An interior manifestation:

"They were all filled with the Holy Spirit."

A fullness of the Spirit, this is the first action of the Spirit. The second can not be without this divine fullness. This is the birth itself of living water.

### 2. The exterior manifestation came after:

"They began to speak in other languages." This is the demonstration by the human voice, languages as the Spirit gives everyone to express.

People hastened to the noise caused by the strong wind - and the 120 people who spoke in tongues at the same time - said: "How is it we hear them speak in our own language ... each. ? "Acts 2: 8

### The "speaking in tongues" is of divine origin.

It is GIVEN by the SPIRIT.

It is written:

"They began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit ENABLES them."

### Speaking in tongues is a miraculous gift.

"This are the MIRACLES that will accompanied them that will believe: ... they will speak in new tongues..." Mark 16:17.

This is the outflow from an inner source of life of which the disciples were filled.

### Didn't Jesus say:

"Whoever believes in me as the scripture said, streams of living water will flow from within him." John 7:37-38.

"By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. John 7:39.

After receiving the Spirit, the Apostle Peter said to the thousands of Jews gathered near the upper chamber:

"God raised Jesus. We are all WITNESSES. Exalted to right the hand of God, he has received from the Father the Holy Spirit and has poured out as you see and hear "Acts 2: 33.

These witnesses, clothed in the power of the Spirit, attested by the voice of Peter that the promise is fulfilled. The Holy Spirit is poured by Christ. It is GIVEN. This GIFT is seen and heard.

John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus Christ told his listeners, at the Jordan where he was baptizing, near Jericho:

"I baptize you with water to lead you to repentance: but he that cometh after me is mightier than I, and I am not worthy to until his shoes. Him,Is He that will baptize you with the Holy Spirit. "Matthew 3: 11.

The four gospels narrates this part of the message of John the Baptist (Mark 1: 7, Luke 3: 15, John 1: 22). This shows that this word had a great importance. John the Baptiste prophetically announced the descent of the Holy Spirit. He was categorical: "He, Jesus, will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

I noticed in my New Testament in Greek the use of the little word "ev" that should be translated as "inside, in" and not "the". It is more normal to use the term "baptism in the Holy Spirit" rather than "baptism of the Holy Spirit."

The word "baptize" in Greek means "dip, immerse, submerge," so literally we should say, "I immerse you in water. Him he will immerse you in the Holy Spirit. "

The one who is baptized in water makes a tangible experience, even so one who is baptized in the Spirit KNOWS he is and as it is VISIBLE and AUDIBLE (Acts 2: 33). It is not an invisible, inaudible baptism.

Jesus Christ alone is the one who baptizes in the Spirit. When he does, it is just as real and scoring as when a preacher baptized a Christian in water.

It is not an invisible "spiritual baptism". There is no confusion with the New Birth the Apostle Paul called "baptism in Christ or baptism in his death" Romans 6: 3-4. (This is clearly explained in the "booklet: The Biblical baptism")

If the conversion was the baptism in the Holy Spirit, the Apostle Paul would not have asked this question:

"Have you received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? "Acts 19: 2. Upon hearing of their negative response, the apostle asked them another question:"What baptism have you been baptized? "Acts 19: 3

It is obvious that the relation between the two issues clearly demonstrates unequivocally that Paul asked them if they had received the GIFT of the Holy Spirit, or BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT.

And when Paul laid hands on them, the Holy Ghost came on them.

It was not only imperceptible interior, for immediately "they spoke in tongues and prophesied. "Acts 19: 6.

When there is baptism in the Spirit, there is, according to the biblical standard, an audible manifestation, visible, speaking in tongues. This is a definite experience, precise and personal.

Have faith in Jesus and his promise, and you too: "You will be baptized in the Holy Spirit" by him.

### THE HOLY SPIRIT:

### WHAT HE IS

The Bible is inspired by the Holy Spirit and animated by its action, from the first chapter of Genesis where it is written that "The Spirit of God was hovering over the waters" to the last chapter of the Apocalypse where an urgent invitation addressed by the Spirit to the thirsty.

The assertions of the Bible demonstrate conclusively that the Holy Spirit is not a power or energy or a fluid but a real PERSON who manifests and communicates power.

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you" Acts 1: 8"That you may abound in hope in the power of the Holy Spirit. "Romans 15: 13.

This texts talks about the power of the person of Holy-Spirit.

There can not be any confusion between the person of the Holy Spirit and its manifestations. For a clear distinction, it is helpful to know WHAT HE IS according to the Bible, its names, its attributes, its images.

### **HIS NAMES**

. THE HOLY SPIRIT. It was under this name that he is often introduced. Jesus designate this way when he promised the disciples: "You will be baptized in the Holy Spirit. "Acts 1: 5.

On the day of Pentecost, Peter said in his speech: "You shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. "Acts 2: 38 The Spirit is HOLY. Its mission is to bring souls to the holy image of Christ (2 Corinthians 4: 18).

**THE SPIRIT.** "God has revealed to us by the Spirit. For the SPIRIT searches everything, even the depths of God. "1 Corinthians 2: 10 "The Spirit said to Philip. "Acts 8: 29

"I saw the Spirit descending from heaven" John 1: 32

"There is one Spirit" Ephesians 4: 4.

. THE SPIRIT OF GOD. "Do you not know that God's Spirit lives in you?"1 Corinthians 3: 16

And to indicate that God's Spirit is a separate person from God, the Apostle wrote in his same epistle: "We have received the Spirit who is from God. "1 Cor. 2: 12.

- . **SPIRIT OF THE LORD**. "The Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away" Acts 8: 39. "We are transformed by the Spirit of the Lord" 2 Corinthians 3: 18.
- . **SPIRIT OF CHRIST.** "The circumstances marked by the Spirit of Christ" 1 Peter 1: 11.
- . **SPIRIT OF TRUTH.** "The Spirit of Truth that the world can not receive" J. 14: 17

"The Spirit of Truth will guide you into all truth" J. 16: 13 This justifies our absolute faith in the apostles' teaching.

. **COMFORTER.** This name occurs four times in the Gospel of John. The original Greek word is "Parakletos".

This is the same word used to describe the person of Jesus in the First Epistle of John, chapter 2, verse 1. It literally means "called to" "Called to his aid." It can be translated as: lawyer, advocate, intercessor, help, defender, support, comforter.

"If I go, I will send the Comforter," Jesus said to his disciples (john 16: 7) Jesus sent to earth THE PERSON even of the Holy Spirit to always be with THOSE WHO BELIEVE IN HIM (John 14: 16-17). What a blessing to know that the Spirit is always there to help us face the temptations, the difficulties of life, the onslaught of evil forces.

### **HIS ATTRIBUTES**

### . ITS KNOWLEDGE

"The Spirit PROBE ALL, even DEPTHS OF GOD" 1 Corinthians 2: 10. "Which men, indeed, knows the things of man, except the spirit of man which is in him? Similarly, no one knows THE THINGS OF GOD, except the Spirit of God "1 Corinthians 2: 11.

The knowledge of the things of God is not accessible to the intelligence of man without the aid of God's Spirit.

Man knows only what God reveals to him by the Spirit, and the Spirit even knows the DEPTHS OF GOD.

Knowledge of the Spirit has no limit:

"The Spirit searches ALL"

Because he knows EVERYTHING he is able:

### To teach all things,

"The Holy Spirit whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things" John 14: 26.

### to lead into all truth,

"When the Comforter is come, the Spirit of truth, he will guide you into ALL TRUTH" John 16: 13.

### . HIS POWER

Before the advent of man on earth, God's Spirit was involved in creation: "The Spirit of God was hovering over the waters" Genesis 1: 2.

It is not surprising to read in Job 33: 4, "The Spirit of God created me." We can not explain this with our limited intelligence.

It was he who, by his power, formed the body of Jesus in the womb of Mary, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you and the power of the Most High will cover you with his shadow. Therefore the child to be born will be called the Son of God. "Luke 1: 35.

By receiving the baptism in the Holy Spirit, the believer receives a coating of the power of the Holy Spirit, called "power from on high" "I send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you are clothed with POWER from on high "Luke 24: 49.

### . HIS WILL

"One and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually AS HE WANTS. "1 Corinthians 12: 11.

The Holy Spirit has its own will. He is sovereign. Its act freely "as he wants." But it is in agreement with God the Father:

"He who searches the hearts knows THE MIND OF THE SPIRIT, because the Spirit t intercedes for the saints according to God's will." Romans 8: 27.He has his own thoughts in harmony with God's will. What he wants is actually what God wants. What he thinks is what God thinks.

### . HIS FRUIT

"The fruit of the Spirit is LOVE ..." Galatians 5: 22.

It has love, "I urge you ... by the love of the Spirit ..." Romans 15: 30, this love comes from God: "God is love" (1 John 4: 8), and it is the Spirit which puts it in us, "... the love of God is poured into our hearts BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, which was given us. "(Romans 5: 5)

### . ITS ACTION

### IN UNION WITH THE FATHER AND SON

"Jesus also being baptized, and while he was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove; and a voice came from heaven, saying, Thou art my beloved Son; in thee I am well pleased. "Luke 3: 21-22.

"And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter ..." John 14: 16.

"This Jesus God raised ... He received of the Father the Holy Spirit the promised ..." Acts 2: 32-33. "The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you. "2 Cor. 13: 13.

The Holy Spirit is A PERSON infinitely wise and powerful, loving person. He is present in us to help us approach God, lead us in the truth, shaping us into the image of Jesus Christ, clothe us with strength to bear witness to Christ in the world and build up the Church.

### . THE OIL

In the Old Testament, the anointing oil was a sign that God had chosen someone for a particular service: king, prophet, priest.

Jesus applied himself to Nazareth this text of Isaiah 42: "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me because he ANOINTED me to ..." Luke 4: 11.

The oil symbolizes the Holy Spirit hence the use of this expression: "The anointing of the Holy Spirit."

### . THE DOVE

It is at the moment of Jesus' baptism in the Jordan that God's Spirit descended on Jesus in the form of a DOVE. The event came to confirm the Messiahship of Jesus. Among the aspects of the fruit of the Spirit, Scripture mentions PEACE and THE GENTLE attributed to the dove.

. **THE FIRE** John the Baptist said of Jesus that he will baptize "with the Holy Spirit and FIRE" Luke 3: 16. On the day of Pentecost, tongues of FIRE rested on the disciples at the time of the descent of the Holy Spirit. FIRE symbolizes the cleansing work of the Spirit.

- . **THE WATER** Jesus referred to water to designate the abundant life of the Spirit. He spoke of "rivers of LIVING WATER which will flow" John 7: 38. It is the image of a continuity of LIFE, always renewed in the grace.
- THE WIND The action of the Spirit is compared to a breath as the WIND. The prophet Ezekiel, in his vision of the dry bones, hear the Lord say, "Come from the four WINDS, breathe upon these slain that they may live" Ezekiel 37: 9. During his conversation with Nicodemus, Jesus talked to him about WIND which no one knows where it comes from and where it goes, adding "So it is with everyone who is born of the Spirit" John 3: 8. At Pentecost, at the baptism in the Holy Spirit of 120 disciples, there was an impetuous WIND. This illustration of the Spirit by the Wind

gives a sense of mystery and sovereignty of the powerful work of the Spirit.

### THE HOLY-SPIRIT WHAT HE-DOES

### . HE INSTRUCT :

"L'Esprit-Saint... vous enseignera..." Jean 14:26.

### . HE REMINDS:

"...and will remind you of everything i have said to you" John 14:26.

### . HE TESTIFY:

"...The Spirit of truth...will testify about me" Jean 15:26.

### . HE CONVINCE :

"...He will convince the world... " Jean 16:8.

### . HE GUIDES :

"He will guide you into all truth" John 16:13.

### . HE SPEAKS:

"He will not speak on his own "Jean 16:13.

### . HE LISTENS :

"He will tell you what he hears "In 16:13.

### . HE ANNOUNCES:

"He will tell you what is yet to come "Jean 16:13.

### . HE GLORIFIES:

- "He will glorify me" Jean 16:14.
- . HE ORDERS: "The Spirit told Philippe: Go "Actes 8:29.
- " The Holy-Spirit said : Set apart for me Barnabas and Saul... " Actes 13.2.

### . HE SENDS:

"Barnabas and Saul, were sent by the Holy-Spirit" Actes 13:4.

### . HE PREVENTS:

" having been warned by the Holy-Spirit" Acts 16:6.

### . HE WARNS :

"The Holy-Spirit warns that..." Acts 20:23.

### . HE HELPS:

"The Holy-Spirit helps us in our weakness "Romans 8:26.

### . HE INTERCEDES:

" The Holy-Spirit himself intercedes for us with wordless groans" Romans 8:26.

### . HE KNOWS:

"...the mind of the Spirit..." Romans 8:27.

### . HE PROBE:

"The Spirit reveals to us... 1 Cor. 2:10.

### . HE REVEALS:

" no one knows the things of God, if not the Spirit of God" 1 Cor. 2:11.

### . IL DISTRIBUTES:

"One and the same Spirit and he distributes them to each one... "1 Cor. 12:11.

### . HE DETERMINES :

"as he determines" 1 Cor.12:11.

A thing can not teach, persuade, lead, order, think; therefore, the HOLY SPIRIT IS NOT A THING BUT A PERSON. A thing can not speak, hear, warn, intercede, as it is written of the Holy Spirit. This proves with certainty that the Holy Spirit is a person.

Moreover, since it is a person, We understood that it be possible to:

### . LIE TO HIM:

"that you have lied to Holy-Spirit" Acts 5:3.

### . TEMPT HIM:

"how could you conspired to test the Spirit of the Lord"? » Actes 5:9.

### . RESIST HIM:

" you always resist the Holy-Spirit "Actes 7:51.

### . GRIEVE HIM:

"Do not grieve the Holy-Spirit of God! "Ephésiens 4:3:

### . OUTRAGE HIM:

"who have insulted the Spirit of grace? "Hebrews 10:29.

### . BLASPHEMY HIM:

"The blasphemy against the Spirit will not be forgiven" Matthieu 12:31.

" Do not put out

the Spirit. "

1 Thessalonians 5:19

## RECEPTION OF GIFT OF HOLY SPIRIT AT FIRST YEARS OF THE CHURCH

### . **JERUSALEM**, Pentecost

Acts 1: 4-8. Lord's promises: "You will be baptized in the Holy Spirit ... you will receive power ...".

Acts 2: 1-4. Fulfillment of the promises, "they were ALL filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues ..."

The 120 people who received the Holy Spirit that day with Mary and the Apostles had been praying for ten days (Acts 1: 14).

### . In SAMARIA, three years later.

Acts 8: 16-17: "Peter and John prayed that the Samaritans would receive the Holy Spirit and then lay their hands on them and they **received** the Holy Spirit."

These Samaritans had already believed and were baptized (Acts 8:12). Baptism in the Holy Spirit is not to be confused with conversion!

### . At CESAREE, eight years later.

Acts 10: 44-46: "The Holy Ghost descended upon all who heard the Word ... The gift of the Holy Spirit was also poured out upon the Gentiles, for they heard them **speaking in tongues** and glorifying God." Baptism in the Holy Spirit is a gift that God gives to all who believe in the Lord Jesus without exception. "God has given them the same gift as we who believed the Lord Jesus Christ ..." Acts 11:27.

God often passes over our conceptions, our preconceived notions, our prejudices. He looks to the heart, to faith in His Word.

### . A EPHESE, twenty-one years later.

Acts 19: 6: "After Paul had laid their hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them and **they spoke in tongues** and prophesied."

They received the gift of the Holy Spirit after the baptism of water and the laying on of hands.

These examples prove that the Holy Spirit was spread everywhere in the same way.

## MANIFESTATION WHEN RECEIVING THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The reception of the Gift of the Holy Spirit comprises two distinct phases:

### 1. INTERNAL EVENT

"They were all FILLED with the Holy Spirit." Acts 2, 4

The expression "filled with the Holy Spirit "is often mentioned in the Word of God:

Acts 4:8: "Peter, FILLED WITH THE HOLY-SPIRIT? said to them...".

Acts 7:55: "Stephen, FILLED WITH THE HOLY-SPIRIT, looked up to heaven..."

Acts 9:17: "The Lord Jesus has sent me to that...you maybe FILLED WITH THE HOLY-SPIRIT".

Acts 13:9: "Then Saul, who was also called Paul, FILLED WITH THE HOLY-SPIRIT..."

At Pentecost, the 120 were FILLED WITH HOLY-SPIRIT before speaking in tongues. To be filled is the essential base, which is sometimes named "PLENITUDE of the Holy-Spirit". Acts 6:3,5: "Men FULL of the Holy-Spirit".

### 2. EXTERNAL MANIFESTATION, visible and audible

Speaking in tongues normally derives from the fullness of the Spirit. "They were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them to express themselves."

"Jesus received from the Father the Holy Spirit that was promised, and he poured it out what you now SEE and HEAR" Acts 2:33.

"When Simon saw that the Holy-Spirit was given... Acts 8:18.

"The gift of the Holy-Spirit was poured out in the Gentiles, for they HEARD them speaking in tongues" Acts 10: 46.

Speaking in tongues is the "manifestation" of the Holy Spirit, NORMAL AND BIBLICAL, outwardly showing an inner fullness.

In this experience of baptism in the Holy Spirit there are:

- 1. A STATE: They were "filled"
- 2. An ACTION: "They began to speak."

From this observation it is easy to deduce that one can not be baptized without being filled with the Spirit. When there is fullness of the Spirit, speaking in tongues manifests itself simply and normally, provided that it is left to the Spirit to direct us.

"They spoke in tongues AS THE SPIRIT GIVES THEM TO EXPRESS." It is not the disciple who speaks of himself, who conceives speaking in tongues.

### THE SPIRIT AND THE CHURCH

" The Church encouraged by the Holy-Spirit it increased in number". Acts 9:31.

It is the Spirit that strengthened the Church.

Without the Spirit the Church is lifeless.

From the day of Pentecost, it's the Spirit that by his power strengthened and dynamised the spiritual life.

The self- fulfillment of the apostles launched by the Spirit to the conquest of souls for Christ and the zeal of Christians to spread the Gospel in spite of the persecution were the result of the permanent action of the Spirit in the Church.

In contact with the Spirit, the personality of man is transformed. It is the Spirit that makes the new birth possible. Through his fruit, he implants in the believer the image of Christ. He also manifests his presence through the spiritual gifts he distributes to the members of the Church, the body of Christ.

The presence of the Spirit is in every Christian who by faith belongs to Christ even though he has not yet received baptism in the Holy Spirit.

"For if anyone has not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his" Romans 8: 9. There is no question in this text of the gift of the Holy Spirit, but of the person of the Holy Spirit.

"The Spirit testifies to our spirit that we are children of God" Romans 8: 6.

"Because you are sons, God sent the Spirit of his son into your hearts" Gal. 4: 6.

All the saved are regenerated by the Spirit. They have the Spirit because they belong to Christ who redeemed them for a great price.

And all are urgently invited by Christ and the apostles to RECEIVE THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT and thereafter to ASPIRE SPIRITUAL GIFTS for the Edification of the CHURCH (1 Corinthians 14:12).

A Christian community conforming to biblical teaching is normally animated by the gifts given to each by the Spirit for the good of all.

"Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is GIVEN for the COMMON utility" 1 Corinthians 12: 7.

Baptism in the Holy Spirit is FOR ALL THE CHURCH, for EVERY CHRISTIAN in particular.

"The promise is FOR ALL" Acts 2:39.

### THE SPIRIT AND THE WORD OF GOD

<sup>&</sup>quot; All scripture is inspired by God" 2 Timothée 3:16.

The fact of having received the gift of the Holy Spirit does not mean that we possess the perfect knowledge of all the truths of the Word of God. The Gift does not dispense us from probing the Scriptures, quite the contrary. Indeed, after receiving the gift of the Holy Spirit, it is indispensable to support one's faith on the WORD OF GOD and not on religious traditions.

The Holy Spirit helps to understand the spiritually things." For who a person's thoughts except that person's own spirit within him, Likewise, no-one knows the thoughts of God except the Spirit of God. But we have not received the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which comes from GOD, so that we may understand what God has freely given us. This is what we speak, not in words taught us by human wisdom but in words taught by the Spirit, explaining spiritual realities with SPIRIT TAUGHT WORDS. 1 Corinthians 2: 11-13.

he Holy Spirit is also the SPIRIT OF TRUTH and leads in all truth; But man can refuse this truth. If he turns away from it and becomes entangled in the practices deprecated by the inspired Word of God, he risks seeing the Spirit extinguish within him.

Therefore, after receiving baptism in the Holy Spirit, continue to strengthen your faith. Establish it firmly, unwaveringly, on the truths of the Bible, the Word of God.

### The Bible is the basic guarantee of all teaching, even when baptized in the Holy Spirit.

It is very necessary to act like the Bereans who "daily examined the Scriptures to see if what was said to them was true" Acts 17:11

# **UTILITY OF THE GIFT OF THE HOLY-SPIRIT**

. The Holy Spirit grant access to spiritual GIFT.

The panoply of gifts is presented by the Apostle Paul in 1 Corinthians 12:

"To the one is GIVEN by the Spirit a word of wisdom;

To another a word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

To another the gift of working miracles;

To another prophecy;

To another the discernment of spirits;

To another the diversity of tongues;

To another interpretation of tongues.

"There are different kinds of GIFTS but the same Spirit." 1 Cor.12:7/10 and 14.

As regards the word "GIFT", there are in the Greek original three different words to designate it:

« Dôréa », « charisma », « Pneumatika ».

Here are some texts these words are used:

Acts 2:38: "You will receive the gifts (dôréa) of Holy-Spirit."

Romans 12 :6 : " We have different gifts (charismata) according to grace."

1 Cor. 1:7: "You do not lack any spiritual gift "(charismati).

1 Cor. 12:4: « There are diversity of gifts (charismata).

1 Cor.12 : 1 : " How about spiritual gifts (pneumatikon).

1 Cor. 14: 2 and 12 " Eagerly desire spiritual gifts (pneumatikon).

Nowadays some people have thought it appropriate to replace the word "DON" with the word "charism" whose root is the Greek word "charisma". This word has become common, even in the language of unbelievers. It serves to designate natural talents and not just spiritual gifts. "Charismata" is derived from the verb "charidzesthaï" which means: to be pleasant, to give pleasure to (the word root is "chara" = joy).

The Greek word "pneumatikos" comes from the word "pneuma" which means wind, breath, spirit. The text of 1 Thessalonians should literally translated as "do not quench the breath (pneuma)." 1 Thess. 5:19.

The word "charisma" presents the gifts with their gratuitousness, while "pneumatika" characterizes their origin.

Spiritual gifts are therefore manifestations of the divine breath, of the Holy Spirit, and not of natural capacities.

It therefore seems preferable to use "SPIRITUAL GIFT" rather than "CHARISMS" to avoid confusion.

The simple words of the Bible are sufficient to enlighten our spiritual intelligence. Wise words allow us to express ourselves in our theological, intellectual language, but not necessarily spiritual and accessible to all. Simplicity and spirituality in keeping with biblical truth go hand in hand.

#### . The gift of the Holy Spirit confers power for witness.

Christ had promised him to his disciples:

"You will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you, and you will be MY WITNESSES. Acts 1: 8.

On the day of Pentecost, the fearful Peter, who had denied his Master, Evangelists, like Philip, and the apostles were accompanied by miracles and divine healings, having received by the Holy Spirit the gifts to perform miracles and to heal. spoke with authority when filled with the Holy Spirit.

The apostle Paul wrote to the Christians of Corinth: "My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's Power." 1 Cor. 2: 4.

. The Gift of the Holy Spirit gives access to the gifts that EDIFY THE CHURCH."He that prophesies edifies the Church" (1 Corinthians 14: 4). "Since you aspire to spiritual gifts, whether it is for the edification of the CHURCH that you seek it in ABUNDANCE." 1 Cor. 14: 12.

Desire the gifts to put them at the service of others, it is the way par excellence, that of love.

"Let everyone give to the service of others the gift he has received. 1 Peter 4:10.

"Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, if I do not have love, I am NOTHING. 1 Cor. 13: 1.

LOVE, the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22) and the GIFTS distributed by the SPIRIT are two inseparable rails in the life of the Church.

"Follow the way of love", the apostle Paul, said but he also added Eagerly desire spiritual gifts", he added still: "I would like EVERYONE OF YOU to in tongues." (1 Cor. 14: 1 and 5.)

### THE GRACE OF

#### **SPEAK IN TONGUES**

It is well to remember that the gift of speaking in language is MIRACULOUS: "Here are the MIRACLES that will accompany those who have believed: They will speak new languages."

This is not the natural ability to speak foreign languages that one learns with one's intelligence and that one retains with one's memory. In my missionary activities, I sometimes travel with companions who speak six or seven languages. This facilitates our work of evangelization in some foreign countries, but the DONATION TO SPEAK IN TONGUES is totally different.

The MIRACULOUS DONATION is to speak in tongues that we do not understand and that the Holy Spirit, of which we are filled, makes us pronounce.

These tongues are not gibberish, but really languages.

At Pentecost the tongues spoken by the disciples who knew only Hebrew and Aramaic were understood by the Jews from several foreign countries who exclaimed and said,"How do we hear them speak in our own tongues of the wonders of God? Acts 2:11.

During a praise worship, I heard near me a pastor speaking in English as he did not know a word. He said, among other things: "I am coming soon to fetch my flock." During a pastoral meeting, at the moment of prayer, a pastor spoke with a loud voice in tongue. expressing himself in Hebrew and yet he did not know that language. Another who did not know it also exercised the gift of interpretation and translated the message in French. It was an excellent exhortation, the accuracy of which was confirmed by another pastor who spoke Hebrew very well for having studied it at the University of Jerusalem.

A gypsy Christian who had gone to Algeria to speak, spoke in Arabic and was understood by people who knew the language.

I heard a person speak in Gypsy language, "the romance", when she can not speak this language. Some of the words were: "I am God, I am the Great God, the Holy God, the God who blesses."

Pastor Horton recounts in his book "The Gifts of the Spirit" that in 1927, in China, a Christian named Wang spoke in tongues. The language was English, the language of the English missionaries present. Of which he did not know a word.

Some of his words were: "Those who walk in white garments and are faithful will be taken.

These examples are numerous throughout the world, among Christians baptized in the Holy Spirit. They confirm that these are indeed spoken languages and not a sequence of sounds without meaning, even if they appear unintelligible because they are not understood.

Speaking in tongues is not only a normal outer manifestation and biblical, of a plenitude of the Spirit and clear evidence of the baptism in

the Spirit, but it is also A GRACE that gives him who possesses this gift inward edification Which prompts him to glorify God:

"For they heard them speaking in tongues and praising God" Acts 10 : 46.

"FOR THOSE WHO SPEAK IN TONGUES SPEAK TO GOD" 1 Cor. 14: 2.

What a blessed communion!

He receives new forces. He edifies himself, he "builds spiritually himself" It is a grace accessible to all children of God.

The Apostle Paul spoke much in tongues and thanked God for it (1 Corinthians 14:18). If he, the apostle, possessed and manifested this gift, why should we refuse it?

"Do not forbid speaking in tongues."

1 Corinthians 14:39

## " BE FULL OF THE SPIRIT "

The Apostle Paul expressed this wish to the Christians of Corinth: "I desire that you speak ALL in tongues" 1 Cor. 14: 5.

And he addresses this urgent exhortation to the Christians of Ephesus, concerning the fulness of the Holy Ghost:

"BE COMPLETE WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT." Ephesus. 5:18.

The reception of the gift of the Holy Spirit is above all interior. It is a fullness of the Spirit whose speaking in tongues is the visible result. Being filled with the Holy Spirit must be the first aspiration of the Christian. Then, when he reaches this fullness, the Holy Spirit gives him the faculty of speaking in other tongues.

Speaking in tongues is the verbal expression of an inner abundance of life of due to the Holy Spirit that transports you to a blessed communion with God. Personal spiritual edification, resulting from speaking in tongues, is only possible if these two facts are linked together: the fullness of the Holy Spirit and speaking in tongues.

When you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you do not need to force yourself to speak in tongues. It is the Spirit that gives you the power to express yourself in other languages. Just let yourself be dragged by the rivers of living water of the Spirit. As Jesus says: "Rivers of living water will flow from your heart" (John 7:38). Let them flow in you, in peace and confidence.

Perhaps you are wondering what the difference is between being "filled with the Holy Spirit" and "being baptized in the Holy Spirit".

The answer is very simple. To explain and reconcile these two verbs: "filled" and "baptized" which means "plunged or immersed, the image of the oil lamp is used.

To be able to illuminate, the wick must first be plunged in oil and, while it is plunged, the oil becomes impregnated, fills the wick which is thus ready to be lit.

When the apostle Paul was converted, he received a visit at Damascus from a Christian named Ananias, who said, "Saul my brother, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on the way by which you came, sent me That you might recover your sight and that **YOU BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY-SPIRIT.** Acts 9:17.Later it is said of him: "Then Saul, called Paul, **FULL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** .... Acts 13: 9.

Likewise, it is said of the apostle Peter:

"Peter, FILLED OF THE HOLY SPIRIT ..." Acts 4: 8.

If, after being baptized in the Holy Spirit, you're filled with the Holy Spirit, the reasons may be various: neglect of prayer, doubt, fear, test, discouragement ... A renewal is necessary. For this it is good to dedicate ourselves once more to the Lord in meditation and sometimes to unite with brothers and sisters in fervent prayer, as did the apostles:

"They lifted up their voice to God, ALL TOGETHER ... When they prayed ... They were ALL FILLED OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. Acts 4: 24-31.

God cause all Christians to be also filled with the Holy Spirit!

This is possible since Jesus Christ has not changed. He is the same TODAY (Hebrews 13: 8). He still baptizes with BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, as in the time of the apostles. The GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT which he grants today is IDENTICAL to that of the beginning of the Church.

You can receive it now, in the same way as the first Christians.

When you are FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT, you speak in tongues as the Spirit enables you to speak (Acts 2: 4).

RETAIN THESE PROMISES:
"You will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."
Acts 2:38.
"You will be baptized in the Holy Spirit."
Acts 1: 5.
AND THIS EXHORTATION:
"Be filled with the Holy Ghost."
Ephes. 5:18.
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