

The Gift Of
The Holy Spirit
Acts 2:38

Our Salvation Is The Promise
Acts 2:38-39
“And Peter (said) unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
For to you is the promise, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, (even) as many as the Lord our God shall call unto him.”

Our Salvation Is The Promise
Acts 3:25-26
“Ye are the sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with your fathers, saying unto Abraham, And in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.
Unto you first God, having raised up his Servant, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities.”

Our Salvation Is The Promise
Galatians 3:26-29
“For ye are all sons of God, through faith, in Christ Jesus. For as many of you as were baptized into Christ did put on Christ.
There can be neither Jew nor Greek, there can be neither bond nor free, there can be no male and female; for ye all are one (man) in Christ Jesus.
And if ye are Christ’s, then are ye Abraham’s seed, heirs according to promise.”

The Promise – Galatians 3:29

For to you is <u>the promise</u> , and to your children, and to all that are afar off Acts 2:39	<u>Abraham’s seed ...</u> <u>Heirs according to promise</u> Galatians 3:29
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The Promise – Galatians 3:29
This is the theme of Apostles’ preaching!
Acts 2:38-39
Acts 3:25-26
Acts 13:23, 32
Acts 26:6-7
Ephesians 3:3-8
Hebrews 11:13, 33, 39

What Was Promised?
"Remission Of Sins"

▶ **Matthew 26:28** ▶ **Acts 2:38**
"this is My blood ... which is shed for many for the remission of sins" *Repent, and ... be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ "for the remission of sins"*

IN ORDER TO HAVE IN ORDER TO HAVE

Acts 2:38

“And Peter (said) unto them, Repent ye, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ unto (*for KJV*) the remission of your sins; and ye shall receive the **gift of the Holy Spirit.**”

What Were They Promised?

- ▶ The **gift** as the Spirit himself?
- ▶ The **gift** as a “measure of the Holy Spirit?”
- ▶ The **gift** as a blessing that the Holy Spirit bestows?
- ▶ The Holy Spirit personally comes into the believer and dwells within him?
- ▶ The Holy Spirit bestows the ability to perform miracles – especially to speak in tongues?
- ▶ Were they promised the Holy Spirit Himself or were they promised a gift from the Holy Spirit? Was the Spirit Himself the gift or was He the giver?

Cannot be Answered On The Basis Of The Grammar Alone

- ▶ Franklin Puckett wrote that, “Grammatically it may be either the Holy Spirit Himself, or it may be that which the Holy Spirit gives. The grammar does not determine whether the Holy Spirit is the gift or the giver.” (The Holy Spirit 12-13). On pages 13 and 14 he cites Greek authorities and shows that they conclude “that the distinction between the Subjective and the Objective Genitive depends, not on grammatical, but upon doctrinal reasons, and that these are to be carefully deduced from an accurate comparison of parallel passages” (Winer Grammar of the New Testament Dict., Part III, Sec. 30, 199).

**Gift Or Giver?
Comparison Of “Gift Of”
Passages**

- ◆ John 4:10 – “*gift of God.*”
- ◆ Ephesians 4:7 – “*gift of Christ.*”
- ◆ Acts 2:38 – “*gift of the Holy Spirit.*”

A gift implies a giver. One cannot have a gift without a giver and a receiver.

Metaphorically Or Literally?

metaphor
 “1 a figure of speech in which a word or phrase is applied to something to which it is not literally applicable ... (e.g. food for thought). 2 a thing symbolic of something.”

- ▶ John 3:34 – **Spirit by measure.**
 The Holy Spirit is a Person, and cannot, therefore, be measured out or given in small doses. It must, then, mean a *measure* of His power.
- ▶ Ephesians 5:18 – **Filled with the Spirit.**
 Does this mean “filled with the Person of the Holy Spirit”? In Colossians 3:16, we read that it is the “word” that dwells within us.
- ▶ 1 Thessalonians 5:19 - **Quench the Spirit.**
 This discusses the hindering of the Spirit’s work.

Gift Of The Holy Spirit In Context

The Immediate Context. Acts 2:21 The text of Peter's sermon was this: *"And it shall be, that whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved"* (Acts 2:21; Joel 2:32)

- **Salvation is promised to both Jews and Gentiles. "All Nations"** (Romans 10:12-13; Acts 2:39; cf. Galatians 3:7-29; Galatians 3:14 – "promise of the Spirit")

Gift Of The Holy Spirit In Context

The Immediate Context, Acts 2:33

- ▶ Peter declares that Jesus was exalted to the right hand of God and ***received the promise of the Holy Spirit***. He did not receive the Holy Spirit himself but he received that which the Holy Spirit promised.
- ▶ The promise was that he would sit on David's throne (Acts 2:34-35).
 - This statement was made just five verses before Acts 2:38. (2 Samuel 7:12; Psalms 16:8-10; 89:35-37; 132:10-12; 110:1-4; Zechariah 6:13).
- ▶ The promise of the Spirit is what the Holy Spirit promised and the gift of the Holy Spirit is what the Holy Spirit gave.

Gift Of The Holy Spirit In Context

▶ Remote Context of Acts 3:19, 22ff

Acts 3:25-26

- ▶ "Ye are the sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with your fathers, saying unto Abraham, ***And in thy seed shall all the families of the earth be blessed.***
- ▶ Unto you first God, having raised up his Servant, sent him to ***bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities.***"

Gift Of The Holy Spirit In Context

Remote Context Of Acts 26:16-18

- ▶ Jesus said to Paul, *"... to this end have I appeared unto thee, to appoint thee a minister and a witness both of the things wherein thou hast seen me, and of the things wherein I will appear unto thee; delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles unto whom I send thee, to open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive the remission of sins and an inheritance among them that are sanctified by faith in me"*

Gift Of The Holy Spirit In Context

Remote Context Of Acts 26:16-18

▶ *"... to this end have I appeared unto thee, to appoint thee a minister and a witness both of the things wherein thou hast seen me, and of the things wherein I will appear unto thee; delivering thee from the people, and from the Gentiles unto whom I send thee, to open their eyes, that they may turn from darkness to light and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive the remission of sins and an inheritance among them that are sanctified by faith in me"* (Acts 26:16-18)

- ▶ This is a commentary on the gift of the Holy Spirit. Paul was not directed to teach something different from what Peter preached.
- ▶ The promised inheritance that resulted from their receiving the remission of sins was the gift of the Holy Spirit.

How Can This Salvation Be The Gift Of The Holy Spirit?

- ▶ 1 Peter 1:3-5, 14, 18, 21; 1 Peter 1:10-12
- ▶ The Holy Spirit enabled men to prophesy concerning this salvation (2 Peter 1:20-21).
- ▶ The Holy Spirit enabled men to preach this message of salvation (1 Peter 1:12).
- ▶ The Holy Spirit validated the message of this great salvation by signs and wonders (Hebrews 2:1-4).
- ▶ This is why the salvation of Acts 2:21 can be, and indeed is, the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2:38).

- ▶ Salvation was prophesied by the Holy Spirit.
- ▶ Salvation was announced by those who preached the gospel by the Holy Spirit.
- ▶ Their message of salvation was validated by the Holy Spirit.
- ▶ The promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2:38 was not only to those present but for all who would repent and be baptized.
- ▶ Everyone who complies with the conditions of Acts 2:38 receives the gift of the Holy Spirit and that gift is the salvation promised through the prophets.