

# Baptism of Fire

The **Baptism of Fire** is **The Judgment** by Jesus that comes when Jesus returns to earth and has won the Armageddon campaign. In this judgment *all unbelievers are cast off the earth* and all believers on earth will go into the millennial kingdom.

There is the **Baptism of Fire** for the Jews and **Baptism of Fire** for the Gentiles.

There are SEVEN BAPTISM IN THE BIBLE (*sorry Baptist, they are not all water!*) All seven of these baptism's can be classified as either **real** or **ritual**. The ritual baptisms are symbolic.

## The Real baptisms

1. **Baptism of Moses**  
1 Corinthians 10:2 (which we will be studying at the 9:15 service)
2. **Baptism of Fire**—which we are studying now
3. **Baptism of the Holy Spirit**  
1 Corinthians 12:13; also Acts 1:5;  
Romans 6:3-4; Galatians 3:26-28;  
Colosians 2:12.

1 Corinthians 12:13

*<sup>13</sup> For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body, whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free, and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.* This is a **real**

baptism, where everyone who believes in Jesus Christ as Savior is identified or put in union with Christ, at the point of faith in Christ. You can never lose the baptism of HOLY SPIRIT.

4. **The Cross**, where Jesus was identified with our sins in judgment called baptism of the cross.

Mark 10:38

*<sup>38</sup> But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or to be baptized with the baptism with which I am baptized?"*

Luke 12:50

*50 But I have a baptism to undergo, and how distressed I am until it is accomplished!*

## **Ritual Baptisms**

- <sup>1</sup>, The Baptism of John the Baptizer  
John 1:25-33—this baptism was symbolic of the one being baptized that he has believed that this Jesus was the promised Messiah, and by this baptism he was ritually identified with the coming King and His Kingdom.
- <sup>2</sup>, The baptism of Jesus Matthew 3:13-17.  
This was a ritual water baptism of Jesus where He is identified with the Father's Plan to go to the cross and die for the sins of the world. (believers sins and unbelievers sins) This baptism is a ritual baptism that looks forward to the real baptism of Jesus on the cross.
- <sup>3</sup>. Baptism of believers Acts 16:33 This is a ritual baptism that the person believes that this Jesus is their Savior.  
Symbolically it is like Jesus' two baptisms one ritual and one real, so, for the

believer there is a symbolic ritual baptism and a real baptism.

## There are Seven Major Judgments in the Bible

1. Jesus being judged for all the sins of the world on the cross.

2 Corinthians 5:21

*He made Him who knew no sin to be sin on our behalf, so that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.*

2. Self-Judgment of believers to see if they are ready for Communion

1 Corinthians 11:31 and to test yourself if you are walking by faith in HOLY SPIRIT

2 Corinthians 13:5

3. Judgment of every believer at the Judgement Seat of Christ after the Rapture of the Church

1 Corinthians 3:11-16—this judgment will be of the time you were in the power of the HOLY SPIRIT and the time you were out of the power of HOLY SPIRIT.

4. Judgment of living Jews after the Second Advent or **Baptism of Fire** for living Jews Ezekiel 20:33-38; taught in our study

- of Matthew 25, under the study of the Ten Virgins Matthew 25:1-13; and in the Parable of Talents Matthew 25:14-30
5. Judgment of living Gentiles after the Second Advent, which we are studying now. Matthew 25:31-46.
  6. Judgment of all unbelievers at the end of the Millennium called the GWTJ (Great white Throne Judgment) Revelation 20:11ff.
  7. Judgment of angels 1 Corinthians 6:3 and Matthew 25:41.

Many people react to Judgments by God, especially judgments into eternity without God. One of the reasons for this is that they do not understand God. They ask the question how can a loving God cast His creatures into eternal lake of fire? But the question should be how can a PERFECTLY RIGHTEOUS God, NOT cast every un-righteous creature into eternal separation from Him?

**But God found a way to solve this question, He, out of His LOVE, sent His Son to the cross to bear the judgment of everyone's sins, and now all that a person has to do is to believe in Jesus as Savior and God.** At that point God imputes everyone who believes in Jesus **WITH PERFECT RIGHTEOUSNESS** and pronounces them **JUSTIFIED**. The **RIGHTEOUSNESS** of God and the **LOVE** of God are not in conflict, but rather they complement one another.

So, again, the **Baptism of Fire** is the removal of all unbelievers from the earth.

Remember the mark of new civilizations in the bible. With the **flood** all unbelievers are removed from the earth and only believers continue on in a new civilization. At the **Rapture** of the Church all believers are removed from the earth and only unbelievers enter into The Tribulation.

Now, after this judgment, at the **Second Advent** all unbelievers are removed from the earth and only believers go into the Millennial Kingdom.

Remember the grace of God, before each of these catastrophic events (**flood, rapture** and **baptism of fire**) God warned all unbelievers and gave them opportunity to believe in His Messiah.

Also, remember that if you do not understand the history of the Jews you will never understand history from God's perspective. All human history centers on the history of the Jews. And understanding this makes history come alive and meaningful for time and eternity.

There are several Biblical documentations of the **Baptism of Fire** or the removal of unbelieving Jews and unbelieving Gentiles when Jesus Christ returns to earth at Second Advent at end of The Tribulation

The **Baptism of Fire** prophesied in Matthew 3:11-12.

Matthew 3:11

<sup>11</sup> *“As for me, (John the Baptizer) / baptize you with water for (or because of) repentance, (that leads to faith in Jesus as the Messiah) but He who is coming after me (Jesus the Christ, the Son of God in incarnation) is mightier than I, and I am not fit to remove His sandals; (as His servant) He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit (Jesus will baptize believers with the HOLY SPIRIT –recorded in Acts 2, on Day of Pentecost) and with fire (occurs at the Second Advent in Judgment of Gentile unbelievers JESUS CHRIST is responsible for two baptisms.)*

**He now pictures Jesus Christ with a fork in His hands**

<sup>12</sup> *“His winnowing fork (used to separate wheat from chaff) is in His hand, and He will thoroughly clear His threshing floor; (the earth) and He will gather His wheat into the barn, (believers who will go into the Millennial.) but He will burn up the chaff (unbelievers at this gathering) with unquenchable fire.”*

(Fire that burns forever. Don't let anyone tell you there is no hell to fear. It is real and it is eternal.)

People come up with all kinds of human thinking to try to spare their relatives or someone they love who refused to believe in JESUS CHRIST. But people, while they are alive is the time to pray and talk with them, not come up with non-biblical escapes, not found in WORD OF GOD.

Luke 3:16

<sup>16</sup> John answered and said to them all, *“As for me, I baptize you with water; but One is coming Jesus Christ who is mightier than I, and I am not fit to untie the thong of His sandals; He will baptize you (believers) with the Holy Spirit (on Day of Pentecost) and (unbelievers with) fire.* (At Second Advent, after the Armageddon campaign.)

<sup>17</sup> *“His winnowing fork is in His hand to thoroughly clear His threshing floor, (the earth) and to gather the wheat into His barn; but He will burn up the chaff with unquenchable fire.”*



2 Thessalonians 1:7

<sup>7</sup> *and to give relief to you who are afflicted and to us as well when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with His mighty angels in flaming fire,*

<sup>8</sup> *dealing out* (in judgment) *retribution* (Now note the basis of the final judgment) *to those who do not know God* (if you refuse to believe in Jesus as the Christ you do not know God) *and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.* (obedience that is faith. This is a final judgment based on the decision they made while alive.)

<sup>9</sup> *These will pay the penalty of eternal destruction,* (for their refusal to believe in Jesus as their Savior and that judgment will be for them forever being) *away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power,*

Another passage that describes the **Baptism of Fire** is one we have studied.

The days of the flood of Noah. Matthew 24:36-41.

Just before the Second Advent of Jesus Christ the days will be like those before the flood. The **Baptism of Fire** is described in

WORD OF GOD in an analogy: *AS*

Remember Matthew 24:37-41

*as the days of Noah were...*

you will recall that Jesus did not even mention the perversions and sins of those days but simply says that people were so caught up in their daily lives they were too busy to consider the coming Messiah, the anointed Savior to even consider they needed a Savior. But in that analogy

*one taken in judgment* - unbelievers

*one left to go into Millennium* - believers.

People will be so busy in their normal lives, they will be too busy for the Lord. As we saw when we studied this passage it does not refer to the rapture of the Church, but to the Second Coming of JESUS CHRIST. Unbelievers are taken off the earth and believers are left on the earth. And just as in the days of Noah, people will be in shock at the coming of JESUS CHRIST. They are unprepared.

There are several parables speaking of the **Baptism of Fire**.

- <sup>1</sup> Wheat and Tares Matthew 13:24-43
- <sup>2</sup> Good and Bad Fish Matthew 13:47-50
- <sup>3</sup> The wise master of the house Matthew 24:42-51 This passage emphasizes the **Baptism of Fire** for the Jews, where the wise are the Jews who will go into the Millennial Kingdom while the foolish represent the unbelieving Jews who are taken off the earth.
- <sup>4</sup> Parable of the Ten Virgins Matthew 25:1-13 where the **5 wise virgins** are Jews who remain on earth and go into the Kingdom, while the **5 foolish virgins** are unbelieving Jews who are taken off the earth.
- <sup>5</sup> Parable of the Talents, which we just completed, where the two servants who allowed the money (WORD OF GOD) work, represent believing Jews who go into the Kingdom...these to rule with Him; and the one foolish servant represents unbelieving Jews who are taken of the earth

There are so many phrases to describe what waits *for everyone who refuses to believe in Christ alone by Faith alone*.

1	<b>The Gehenna of fire.</b>	Matthew 5:22 Matthew 18:9
2	<b>The outer darkness</b>	Matthew 8:12 Matthew 22:13 Matthew 25:30
3	<b>Unquenchable fire or the Lake of fire that burns forever</b>	Matthew 3:12 Mark 9:43 Luke 3:17

4	<b>The eternal fire</b>	Matthew 25:41 Jude 7
5	<b>The eternal destruction</b>	2 Thessalonians 1:9
6	<b>The furnace of fire</b>	Matthew 13:42 Matthew 13:50
7	<b>The Blackness of Darkness—absence of light-JESUS CHRIST the light of the world, whom they chose against.</b>	2 Peter 2:17 Jude 13
8	<b>The Second death— first death is physical, the second is eternal— eternal spiritual death</b>	Revelation 2:11 Revelation 20:14 Revelation 21:8

I hope you will take the time, to look up every one of these passages and meditate on what is being said and described. You can see why so many reject these passages, on no other grounds than that they do not like them, and why so many try to come up with false doctrines to counter these descriptions of eternal judgment. Oh, people, Jesus Christ and believing in Jesus Christ are so important to God and so vital for every individual on earth throughout all history.

There are a multitude of people who try to find a way around eternal judgment. **Dr. Arnold G. Fruchtenbaumb**, in his book ***The footsteps of the Messiah***, pages 729-736, where he covers a number of **false teaching** that there will be a second chance to be saved, after physical death on

earth. There is **no second chance**, now is the time to believe.

The **Baptism of Fire** is the removal of unbelieving Jews and unbelieving Gentiles from the earth leaving only believing Jews and believing Gentiles to enter into the Millennial Kingdom of JESUS CHRIST.

Matthew 25:31-46 concentrates on the **Baptism of Fire** on the Gentiles or the Judgment of the Gentiles at the Second Advent of JESUS CHRIST Think about it, through the days and years of The Tribulation many Gentiles will be killed and millions will be killed in the Armageddon Campaign. But there will be a number of Gentiles still alive after this decisive battle and they will be judged by Jesus the Judge.

There are two specific passages that teach of this judgment of the Gentiles. Matthew 25:31-46 is one, but let's begin with the one in the OT, in the book of Joel.

First of all let's see **when** Joel prophesied.

(Look on your flow chart, in the Southern Kingdom 830-820 bc)

Joel used the already occurred invasion by Locust that devastated the land, that they had no wine and so complete that grain offerings to God were impossible; to warn the people of the coming of the day of the Lord. The **Baptism of Fire** for Jews and Gentiles where he ends with describing the events of the Terrible day of the Lord. The Judgment of Gentiles Joel 3:1-16 and

Restoration of Judah Joel 3:17-21.

By way of intro. Let's note in the book of Joel where we have a number of questions answered about the judgment of the Gentiles.

Joel 3:15

<sup>15</sup> *The sun and moon grow dark And the stars lose their brightness.*

<sup>16</sup> *The LORD roars from Zion And utters His voice from Jerusalem, And the heavens and the earth tremble. But the LORD is a refuge for His people And a stronghold to the sons of Israel*

<sup>17</sup> *Then you will know that I am the LORD your God, Dwelling in Zion, My holy mountain. So Jerusalem will be holy, And strangers will pass through it no more.*

Now for our study Joel 3:1-3

<sup>1</sup> *“For behold, in those days and at that time, (After Jesus has returned to earth, and defeated the armies in the Armageddon campaign) When I restore the fortunes of Judah and Jerusalem,*

<sup>2</sup> *I will gather all the nations (actually Gentiles; He will gather all the Gentiles together in this valley) And bring them down to the valley of Jehoshaphat. (This is between Jerusalem and Mt. of Olives part of this is known as the ravine of Kidron, where Jesus crossed over with 11 of His disciples after observing the Last Passover and the First Lord’s Supper.) Then I will enter into judgment with them there On behalf of My people and My inheritance, Israel, (this is the way our Lord thinks of the Jews of Israel.) Whom they (these Gentiles) have scattered among the nations; (or among the Gentiles, taking them out of their own land) And they have divided up My land. (Perfect description of what is going on in the middle east today)*

<sup>3</sup> *“They have also cast lots for My people,  
Traded a boy for a harlot And sold a girl  
for wine that they may drink.”*

The judgment by JESUS CHRIST will result in not national judgments but individual Gentiles being removed from the earth or allowed to enter the Millennial Kingdom. When we get to our study in Matthew 25, we will see that there will be those who were pro-Semitic as well as anti-Semitic. People, your attitude toward the Jews will not determine your Salvation but it will reveal your knowledge of the WORD OF GOD. It is amazing how many born again believers are anti-Semitic...no, it is not amazing at all!

You will note in this Joel passage the indictment contains **three atrocities against Israel**

- <sup>1</sup> Scattering the Jews during The Tribulation, especially starting in the middle of The Tribulation.
- <sup>2</sup> Dividing up the land –as they moved toward it in battle.
- <sup>3</sup> Selling Jews into slavery, devaluing their status as human beings.



*“My people, My land”*

and this is the way we should understand history. The Jews and  
The Land belong to the Lord.

**So what do we know about this judgment?**

## **Who When, Where, Why**

### **Who is the judge**

Jesus Christ

### **Who is to be judged:**

Gentiles on earth

### **When:**

After the Second Advent and after the  
Armageddon campaign, and after restoring the  
fortunes of Israel

### **Where:**

Valley of Jehoshaphat

### **Why:**

Rejection of Jesus as the Messiah, scattering the  
Jews throughout the world, dividing up their land  
and selling Jews into slavery

With this in mind let's look at Zechariah.

(first let us locate where Zechariah prophesied  
on our chart- in the box — 520-490 bc)

Zechariah 14:1-2

<sup>1</sup> *Behold, a day is coming for the LORD* (DAY OF THE LORD FROM OUR STUDY ( *when the spoil* (possessions) *taken from you* (by the Gentiles) *will be divided among you.*

<sup>2</sup> *For I will gather all the nations* (Gentiles) *against Jerusalem to battle,* (Armageddon campaign) *and the city* (Jerusalem) *will be captured, the houses* (of the Jewish people) *plundered, the women ravished and half of the city exiled, but the rest of the people will not be cut off from the city.*

This brings us now to our study in Matthew 25:31-46

## **Judgment of the Gentiles.**