THE BAPTISM AND FULLNESS OF THE SPIRIT

Three Views of the Baptism in the Holy Spirit:

1. <u>The Spiritual</u> <u>theory:</u> The baptism in the Holy Spirit is not something that is meant to be repeated in the lives of believers today in the kind of way that is described in Acts 2, 8, 9, 10, and 19, but is instead to be seen as God's way of giving the church a giant cosmic shove off into the centuries that it would exist. This view implies that the church all at once was born in a BIG BANG of the power of the Holy Spirit and it has been operating off that sunburst of energy of the Spirit of God since its inception. (*Church of Christ, Baptists*)

2. <u>The of the Holy Spirit theory:</u> On the opposite extreme are those within the Pentecostal church who have perhaps not explicitly but sometimes implicitly taught that the baptism in the Holy Spirit is the highest goal of Christian experience and once you have received it you can relax.

3. <u>The</u> <u>theory:</u> The baptism in the Spirit is part of our initiation into the Christian life. I believe in the ultimate intentionality of the Lord and that it is His purpose to make this a cluster of initiation events into the Christian life.

Five Scriptural Terms for the Baptism in the Spirit:

1.	- (Acts 1:5; Acts 11:16; John 20:22; Mathew 3:11)
2.	
3.	(Acts 2:38; Acts 8:20; Acts 10:45-46; Acts 11:17)
4.	(John 20:22; 8:15-17; Acts 19:2)
5.	(Acts 2:4; Acts 4:31; Acts 9:17; Acts 6:3;

Acts 7:55; Acts 13:9)