

Note: There are two views regarding tongues as evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit:

- (1) Tongues is the necessary evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

This view is held by the majority of Pentecostals. In his book "What Meaneth This?" Carl Brumback says, "It is our sincere belief that without this evidence (namely, that of tongue-speaking) there can be no fully Scriptural baptism with the Holy Ghost." In this book he also says that in most instances he sets forth only that which is generally believed by the Pentecostal Movement and that if he sets forth a personal conviction that is not generally accepted by the Pentecostal Movement, he will be careful to designate it as such. There is no indication that the "sincere belief" expressed in the above quotation is not generally accepted by the Pentecostal Movement. In fact, the thrust of the context in which that quotation appears is that this belief is one which most Pentecostals hold in common.

- (2) Tongues is an evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

This view is held by T.B. Barratt of Norway, Lewi Pethrus of Sweden, and J.E. Stiles, Jr. In the Nov. 8, 1963 issue of Christianity Today, J.E. Stiles, Jr. wrote, "There is a growing minority among Full Gospel people who do not believe that tongues is the 'only' or 'necessary' evidence of the initial receiving of the Holy Spirit. We do accept that it is an evidence." Thus there is a minority of Pentecostals who believe that tongue-speaking is an evidence but not the "only" or "necessary" evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

- a. Distinction between tongues as the initial physical evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit and as a gift of the Holy Spirit.

When a believer receives the baptism of the Holy Spirit, that believer must speak with tongues as the initial physical evidence of this baptism. If that believer doesn't speak with tongues any more, that believer doesn't have the gift of tongues. If that believer continues to speak with tongues, that believer has the gift of tongues

Note: In the early stages of the Pentecostal movement, when a believer received the baptism of the Holy Spirit and spoke in tongues as the initial physical evidence of it, that believer was considered to be one who possessed tongues as a permanent gift of the Holy Spirit. There was no distinction between tongues as the initial physical evidence of the baptism of the Holy Spirit and as a gift of the Holy Spirit. This distinction was made later to account for the fact that not everyone in the Corinthian church had the gift of tongues. Practically all Pentecostals make this distinction today.