


Ecclesiology

Session 8



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Areas of Systematic Theology

- Prolegomena – Introduction
- Theology – Study of God
- Christology – Study of Christ
- Pneumatology – Study of the Holy Spirit
- Anthropology – Study of Man
- Hamartiology – Study of sin
- Soteriology – Study of salvation
- Angelology – Study of angels
- **Ecclesiology – Study of the Church**
- Eschatology – Study of the end



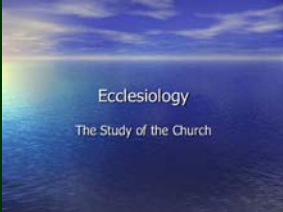
Ecclesiology Overview

- I. Definition
- II. Universal vs. local
- III. Word pictures
- IV. Origin
- V. Israel – Church differences
- VI. Intercalation
- VII. Purposes
- VIII. Activities
- IX. Government
- X. Officers
- XI. Ordinances
- XII. Purity



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Definition of Ecclesiology

- Ekklēsia (ἐκκλησία)
- ěk (ἐκ) / kaleo (καλέω)
- Acts 15:14
- Logos
- 1 Cor 10:32

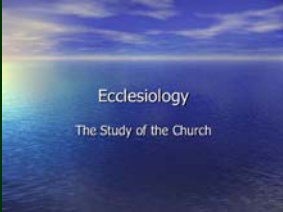
The Definition of the Church

- a. All (both Jew & Gentile) who have trusted in the very Messiah rejected by first-century national Israel (Gal. 3:28; Rom. 10:19; Eph. 2:14)
- b. Intercalation
- c. Does not fulfill Israel's purposes



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The Universal vs. Local Church

	Universal	Local
Number	One	Many
Members	All believers from Pentecost to the Rapture	Local gathering
Spiritual status	Believers only	Believers and unbelievers
Living or dead	Living and dead	Living only
Assembly	Cannot assemble at one place and time	Can assemble at one place and time
Visibility	Invisible	Visible
NT Material	Minority	Majority
Joining	Faith alone	Unique requirements
Denomination	All believers	Specific denomination

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Universal Church Word Pictures

1. Shepherd/sheep – John 10:16; Acts 20:28; Heb 13:20; 1 Pet 5:2-4
2. Head/body – Rom 12:5; 1 Cor 12:12-13; Eph 1:22-23
3. Bride/groom – Eph 5:22-33; 2 Cor 11:2-3
4. Temple – 1 Cor 3:16-17; Eph 2:19-22; Gal 6:10
5. High priest/priesthood – Heb 4:14-15; 1 Pet 2:5-9; Rev 1:6
6. Pillar of truth – 1 Tim 3:15
7. Vine and branches – John 15:1-8

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Ecclesiology
The Study of the Church


When Did the Church Begin?

- a. Christ referred to the Church in the future tense (Matt. 16:18)
- b. Paul referred to the Church as a “mystery” (Eph. 3:4-5, 9)
- c. The Church did not exist prior to Acts 1 since Christ became the head of the Church (Eph. 5:23) after His Ascension (Eph. 1:20-22)
- d. The Church did not exist prior to Acts 1 since spiritual gifts (1 Cor. 12:7; 14:26) only came into existence after His Ascension (Eph. 4:7-11)



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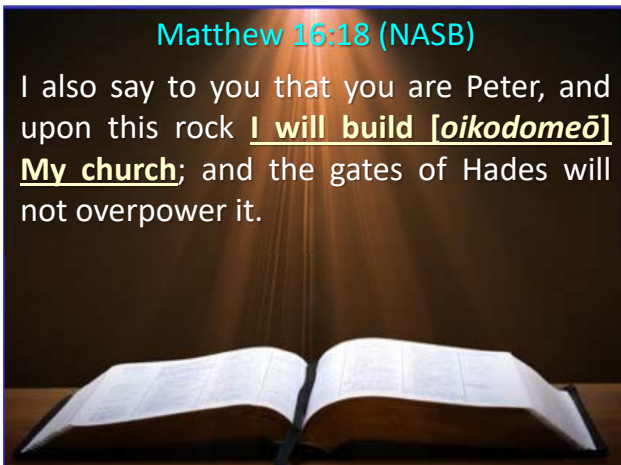
- e. The Church existed before Paul’s conversion in Acts 9 (Acts 5:11; 8:1,3; Rom. 16:7)
- f. The Baptizing (*joining, uniting, identifying*) ministry of the Holy Spirit began in Acts 2
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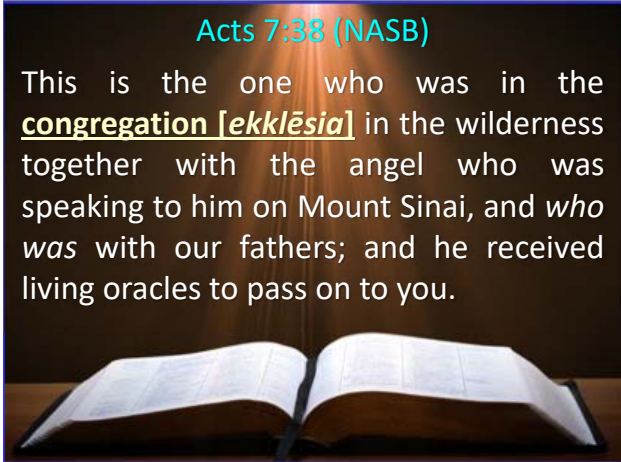
Matthew 16:18 (NASB)

I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build [oikodomeō] My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it.



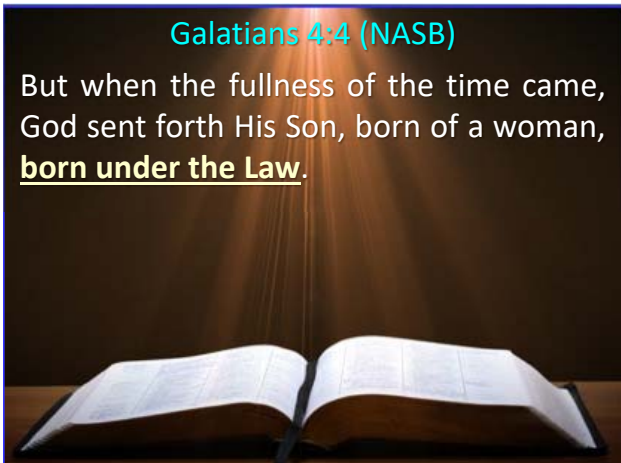
Acts 7:38 (NASB)


This is the one who was in the **congregation [ekklesia]** in the wilderness together with the angel who was speaking to him on Mount Sinai, and *who was* with our fathers; and he received living oracles to pass on to you.



Galatians 4:4 (NASB)

But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, **born under the Law.**

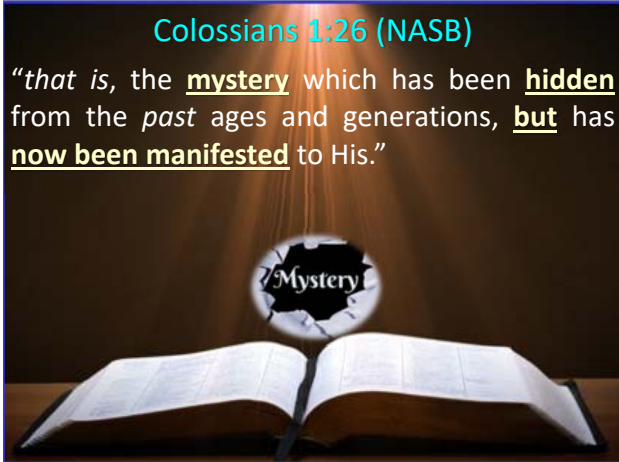


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Colossians 1:26 (NASB)

*“that is, the mystery which has been hidden from the *past* ages and generations, but has now been manifested to His.”*



Romans 16:25-26 (NASB)

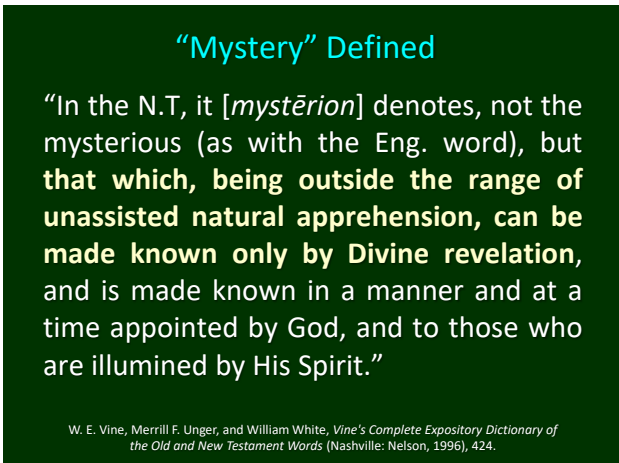
²⁵ “Now to Him who is able to establish you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery which has been kept secret for long ages past, ²⁶ but now is manifested, and by the Scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the eternal God, has been made known to all the nations, leading to obedience of faith.”



“Mystery” Defined

*“In the N.T, it [*mystērion*] denotes, not the mysterious (as with the Eng. word), but **that which, being outside the range of unassisted natural apprehension, can be made known only by Divine revelation,** and is made known in a manner and at a time appointed by God, and to those who are illumined by His Spirit.”*

W. E. Vine, Merrill F. Unger, and William White, *Vine's Complete Expository Dictionary of the Old and New Testament Words* (Nashville: Nelson, 1996), 424.



Ephesians 3:3-6 (NASB)

“that by revelation there was made known to me the mystery, as I wrote before in brief. ⁴By referring to this, when you read you can understand my insight into the mystery of Christ, ⁵which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed to His holy apostles and prophets in the Spirit; ⁶**to be specific, that the Gentiles are fellow heirs and fellow members of the body, and fellow partakers of the promise in Christ Jesus** through the gospel”.



Ephesians 3:9 (NASB)

“and to bring to light what is the administration of the mystery which for ages has been hidden in God who created all things.”



Ephesians 2:15-16 (NASB)

“by abolishing in His flesh the enmity, *which is* the Law of commandments *contained* in ordinances, so that **in Himself He might make the two into one new man**, thus establishing peace, ¹⁶ and might **reconcile them both in one body** to God through the cross, by it having put to death the enmity.”




Ruth 1:16 (NASB)

“But Ruth said, “Do not urge me to leave you *or* turn back from following you; for where you go, I will go, and where you lodge, I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God, my God.”



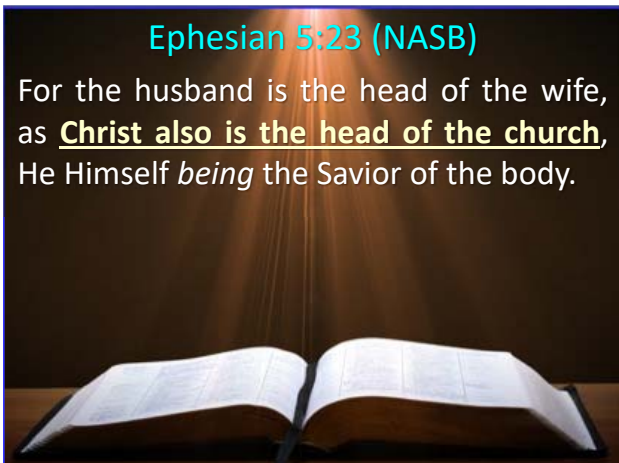
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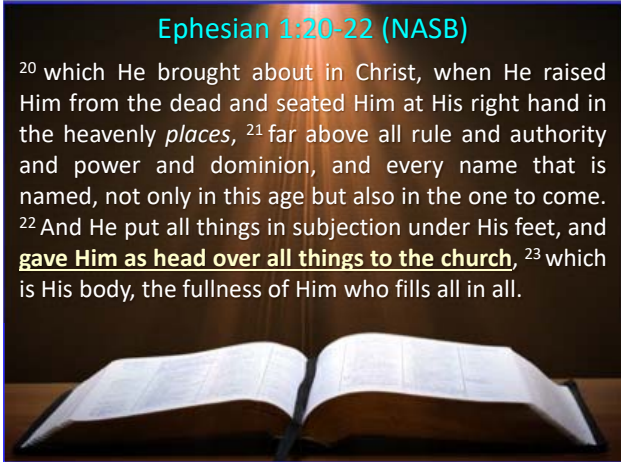
Ephesian 5:23 (NASB)

For the husband is the head of the wife, as Christ also is the head of the church, He Himself *being* the Savior of the body.




Ephesian 1:20-22 (NASB)

²⁰ which He brought about in Christ, when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, ²¹ far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the one to come. ²² And He put all things in subjection under His feet, and **gave Him as head over all things to the church**, ²³ which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.




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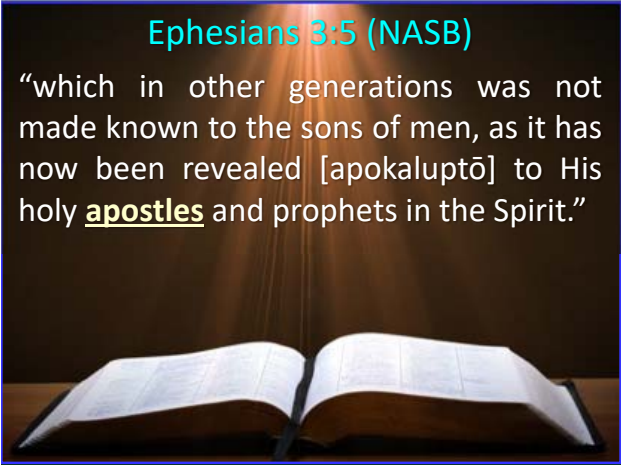
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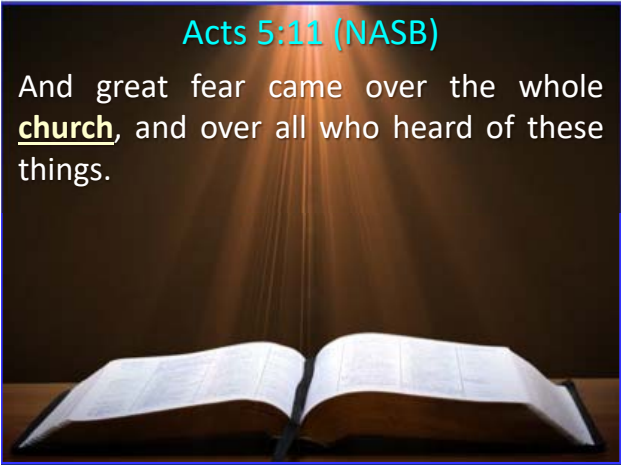
Ephesians 3:5 (NASB)

“which in other generations was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed [apokaluptō] to His holy **apostles** and prophets in the Spirit.”



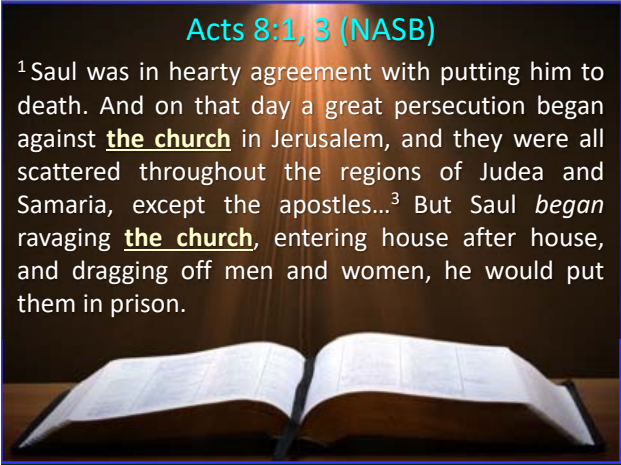
Acts 5:11 (NASB)

And great fear came over the whole **church**, and over all who heard of these things.



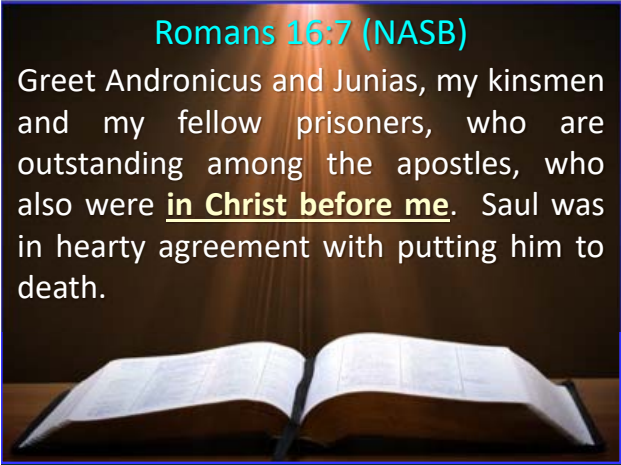
Acts 8:1, 3 (NASB)

¹Saul was in hearty agreement with putting him to death. And on that day a great persecution began against **the church** in Jerusalem, and they were all scattered throughout the regions of Judea and Samaria, except the apostles...³ But Saul *began* ravaging **the church**, entering house after house, and dragging off men and women, he would put them in prison.



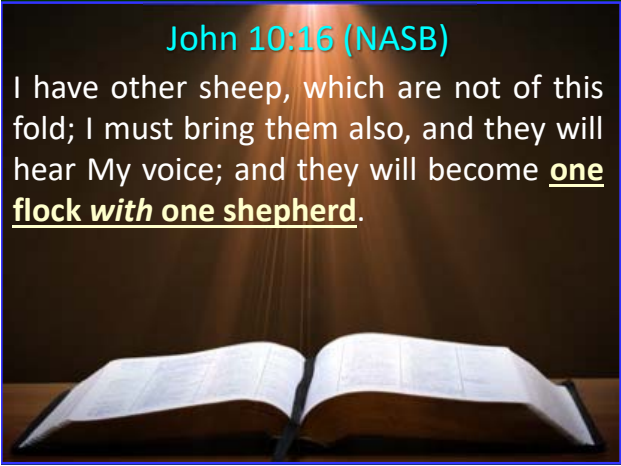
Romans 16:7 (NASB)

Greet Andronicus and Junias, my kinsmen and my fellow prisoners, who are outstanding among the apostles, who also were **in Christ before me**. Saul was in hearty agreement with putting him to death.



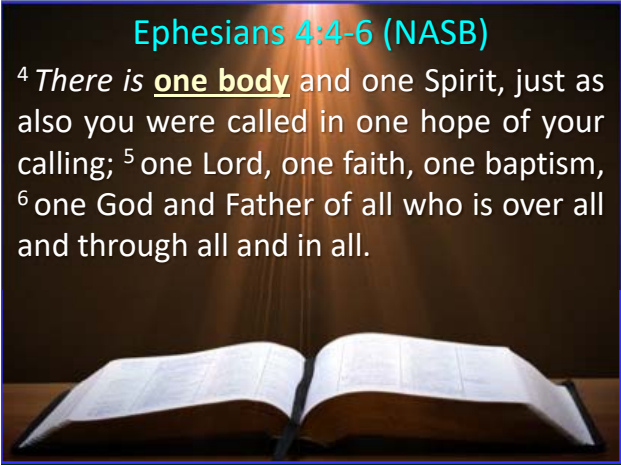
John 10:16 (NASB)


I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become **one flock with one shepherd**.



Ephesians 4:4-6 (NASB)

⁴ There is **one body** and one Spirit, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; ⁵ one Lord, one faith, one baptism, ⁶ one God and Father of all who is over all and through all and in all.




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e. The Church existed before Paul's conversion in Acts 9 (Acts 5:11; 8:1,3; Rom. 16:7)

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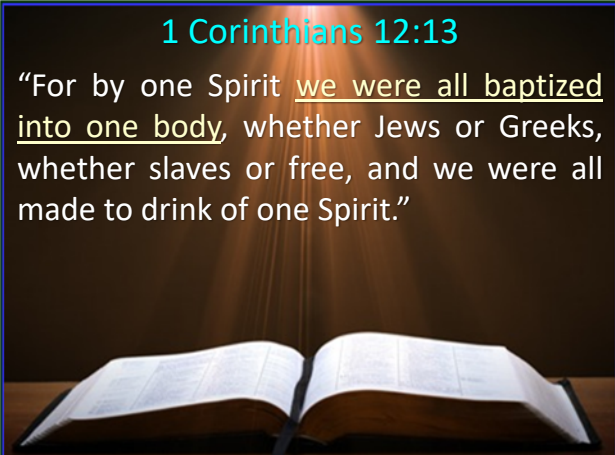
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1 Corinthians 12:13

"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."



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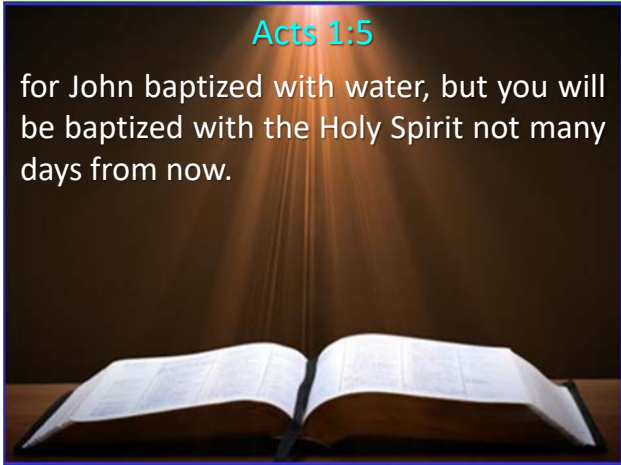
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Acts 1:5

for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.



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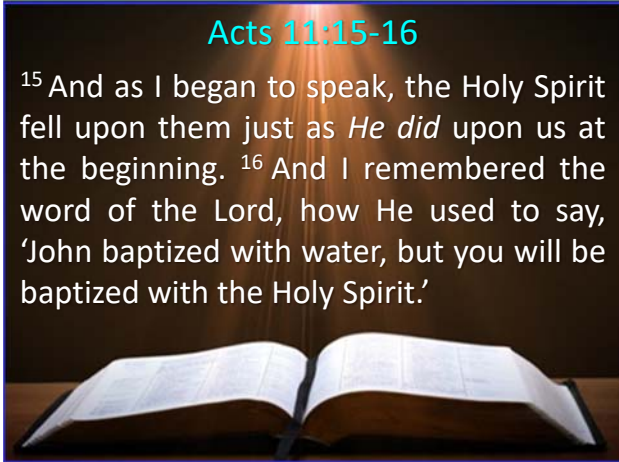
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Acts 11:15-16

¹⁵ And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as *He did* upon us at the beginning. ¹⁶ And I remembered the word of the Lord, how He used to say, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.'



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