

“I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit!” Mark 1:8 NLT

lectio // Mark 1:1-8

What in the world could John be taking about? As he put people under the water, symbolizing death, and brought them back up, symbolizing resurrection, this was Baptism by water and John was authorized to do so by God. John says that Jesus would come and baptize with the Holy Spirit. Water is an element, a thing. The Holy Spirit is a person. How can one be submerged into another? The greek word, later used by Paul, to be “filled” is the word Pleroo. The word was used to “submerge and soak” an item into a liquid, like animal fat. It would be soaked until the item was fully filled with the fat. Our concept in filled is one thing to be poured into another, like filling a glass with water. The New Testament word is more like taking a sponge and submersing into a full glass of water so the sponge is completely soaked or “filled” with the contents of the container. Jesus, being the baptizer, takes us and submerges us completely into the person of the Holy Spirit until we are 100% full of his person, his presence.

oratio

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

I have since come to understand that this baptism, this soaking is meant to be continual. Unlike, being baptized in water as a symbol of death and resurrection, this soaking is “being filled” as a symbol of constant submission to the Holy Spirit. That each day I am submerged in your Spirit and completely filled by your leading and guiding of my life. The best part, when I am squeezed, Jesus should ooze out of me!

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root