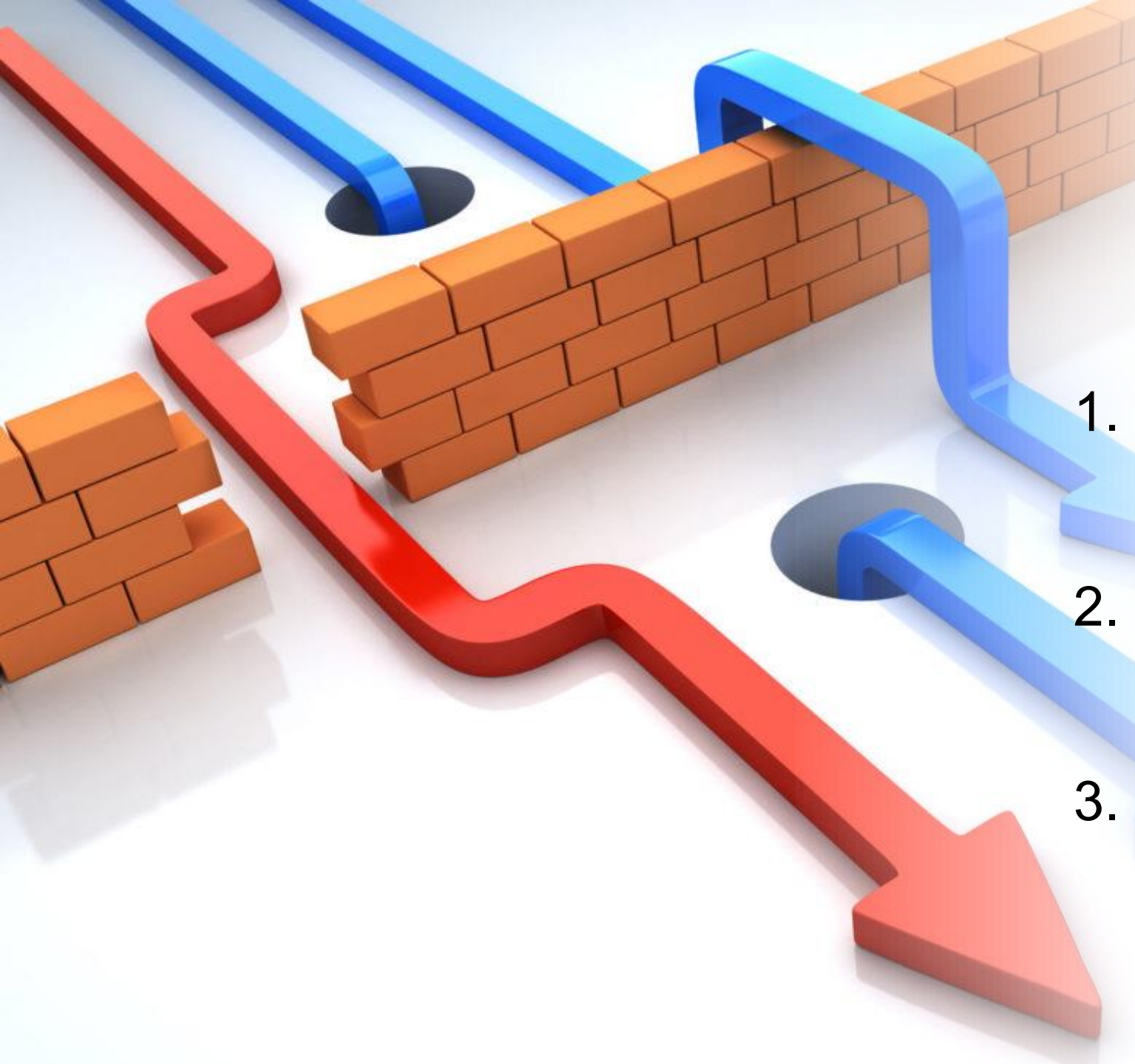
A hand is held open, palm up, in the lower center of the frame. The background is a warm, golden, slightly blurred light, suggesting a sunrise or sunset. The overall mood is hopeful and spiritual.

If it's from God, it's good.
If it's good, I want it!

Overcoming barriers to experiencing the BOHS – for all believers for all
time



Overcoming Barriers to Experiencing the BoHS

1. The BoHS and speaking in tongues is for all believers for all time.
2. It is a useful gift we should embrace, pursue, and use regularly.
3. It is solely received by faith, it is not contingent upon my own perceived standing with God.

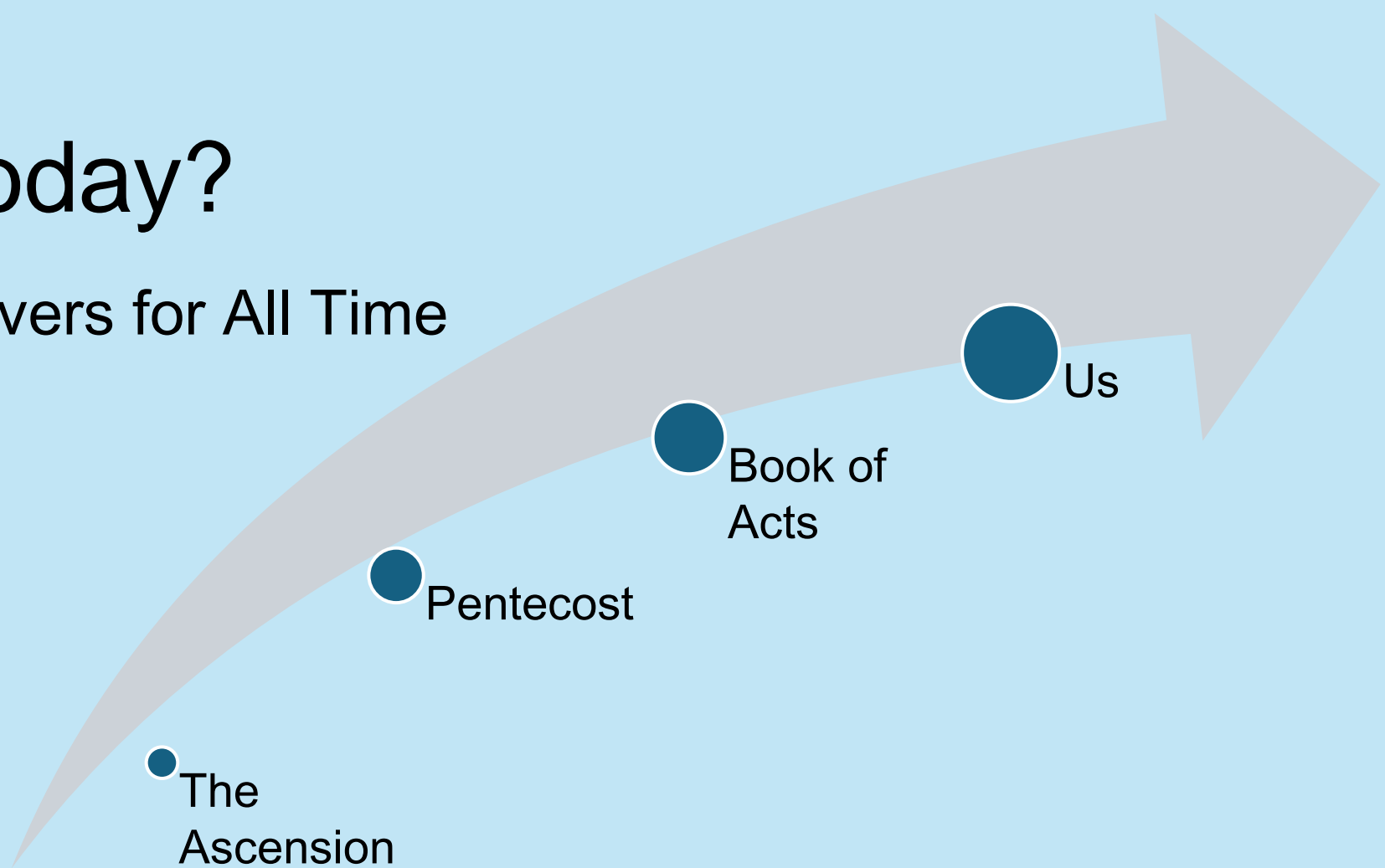


Barrier 1 – Incorrect teaching

- The speaking gifts of the HS ceased when the apostles died and the bible was complete
- Speaking in tongues is from the devil
- I received the HS when I got saved, I don't need to seek anything else

Not for today?

- For All Believers for All Time



- Act 2:38 And Peter said to them, "*Repent* and be *baptized* every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will **receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.** 39 For the promise is for **you** and for your **children** and for **all** who are far off, **everyone** whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

Not for today?

- **The command to seek and use the gifts still stands**

1 Cor 14:37 If anyone thinks himself to be a prophet or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things which I write to you are **the commandments of the Lord**. 38 But if anyone is ignorant, let him be ignorant. 39 Therefore, brethren, **desire earnestly to prophesy, and do not forbid to speak with tongues.**

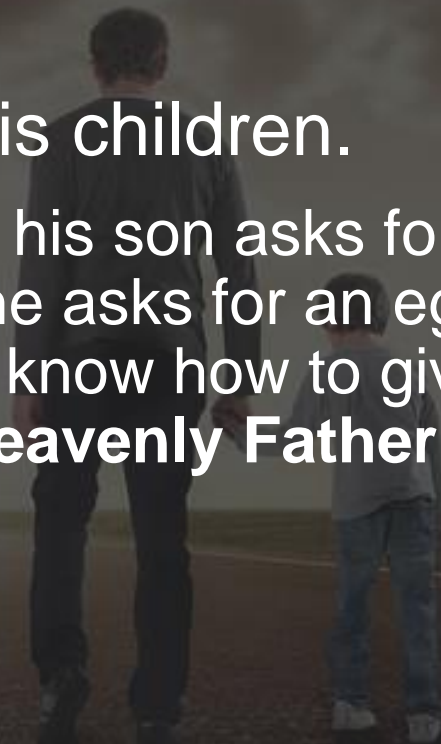
- **Supernatural activity is a sign of the advancement of the Kingdom**

Mark 16:17 And these signs will follow those who believe: In My name they will cast out demons; **they will speak with new tongues;**

Tongues are from the devil?

Recall that God only gives good gifts to his children.

- Luk 11:11-13 ESV What father among you, if his son asks for a fish, will instead of a fish give him a serpent; 12 or if he asks for an egg, will give him a scorpion? 13 If you then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will the heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask him!**"

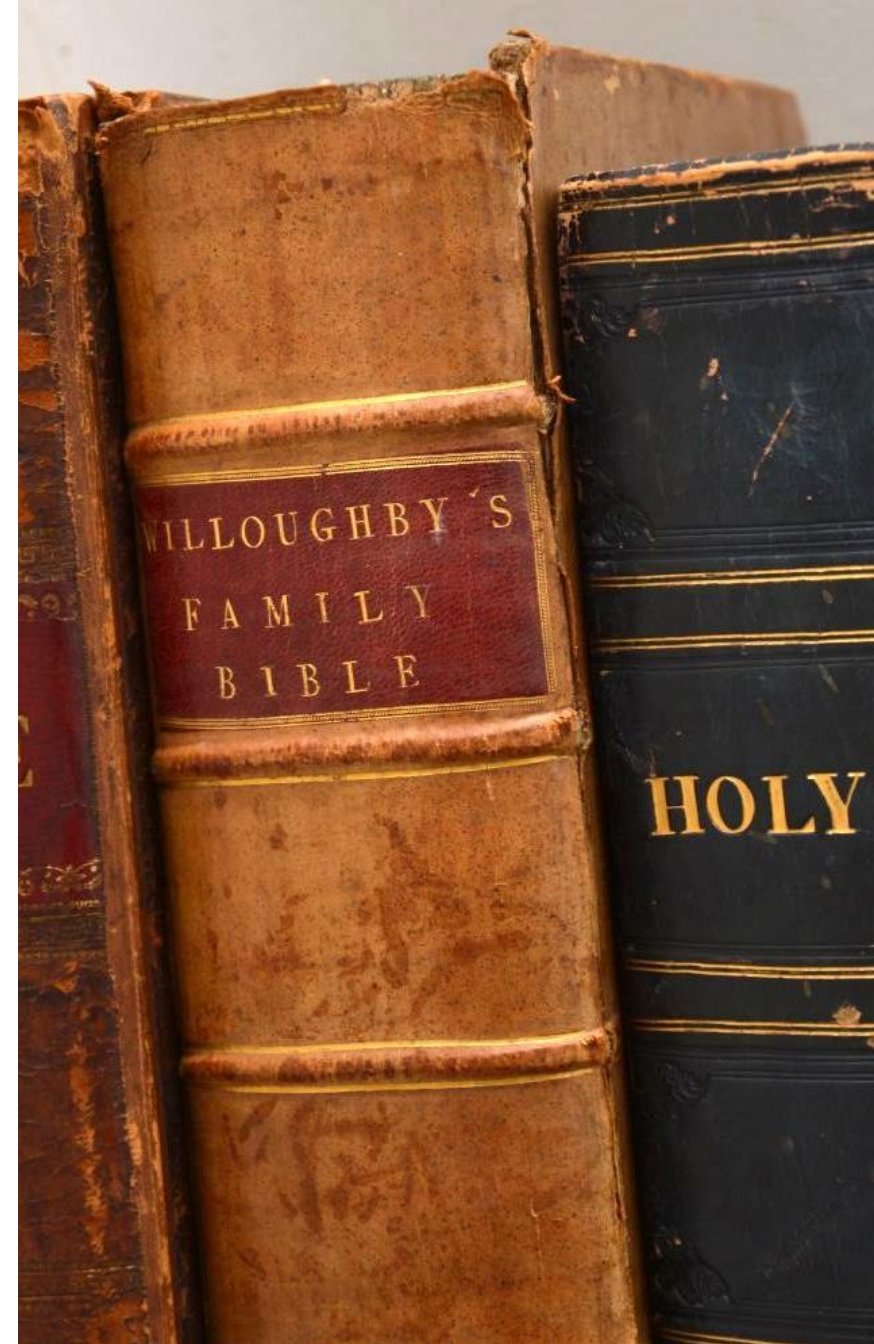


Other doctrinal questions...

- Is the BoHS a second experience?
- Do I have to speak in tongues as the evidence of the BoHS?

Better questions:

- Am I continually seeking to be filled with the Spirit?
- Am I earnestly desiring to be used in spiritual gifts?
- Am I eagerly using God's grace gifts to serve him?





Barrier 2 – I don't think
this is that important, or
for me

If Paul thought it was important for himself...

1 Cor 14:

2 For anyone who speaks in a tongue does not speak to men but to God.
Indeed, no one understands him; he utters mysteries with his spirit.

4 He who speaks in a tongue edifies himself, but he who prophesies edifies the church. 5 I would like every one of you to speak in tongues.

14 For if I pray in a tongue, my spirit prays, but my mind is unfruitful.
15 So what shall I do? I will pray with my spirit, but I will also pray with my mind; I will sing with my spirit, but I will also sing with my mind.

18 I thank God that I speak in tongues more than all of you.

28 If there is no interpreter, the speaker should keep quiet in the church and speak to himself and God.

A woman with blonde hair, wearing a blue top, is shown in profile, looking upwards with her hands raised in prayer. The background is a blurred crowd of people, suggesting a church service. An orange horizontal bar is located in the top left corner.

Tongues as a personal prayer language is useful and good.

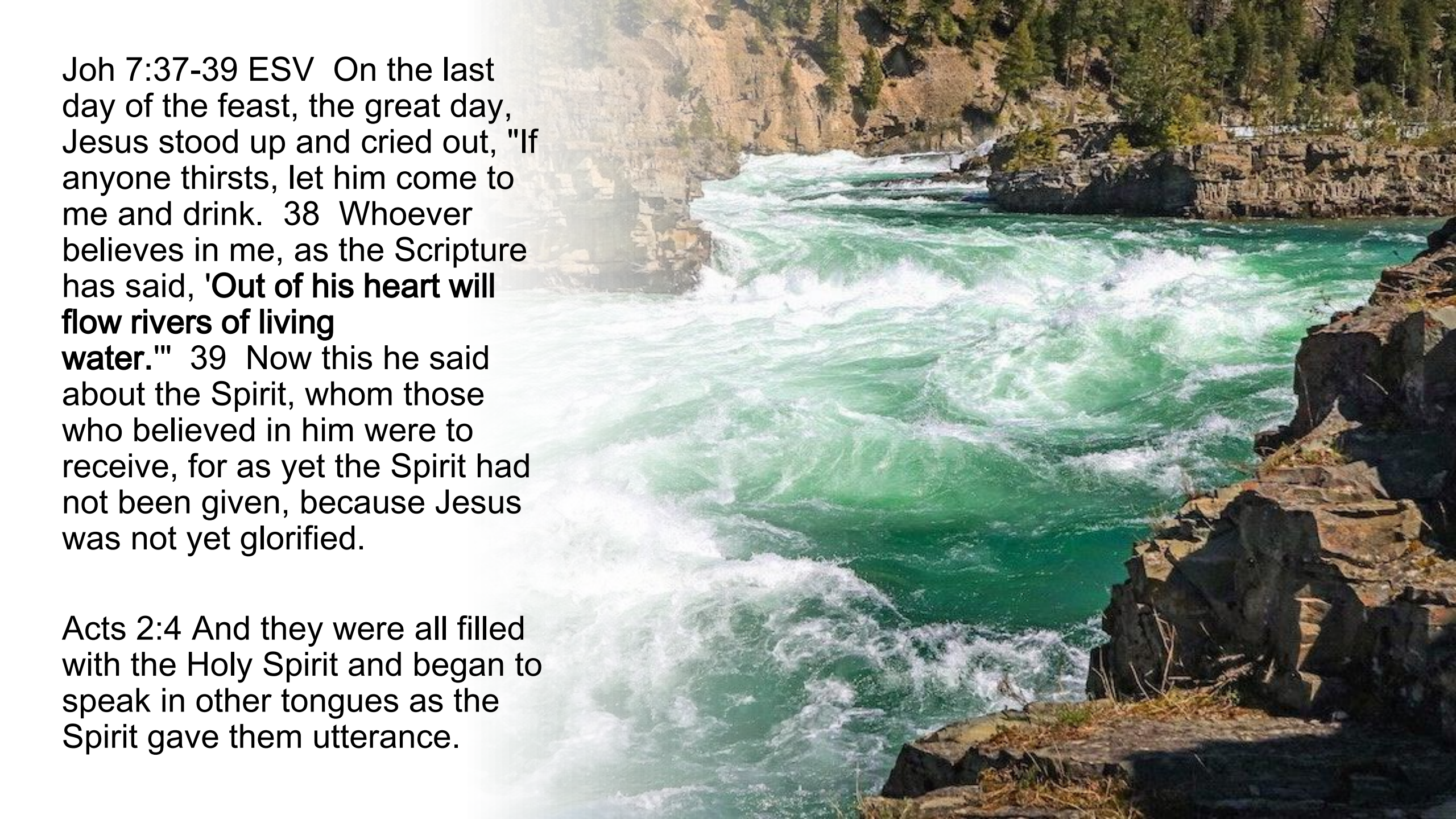
- It is prayer to God, not to men, uttering mysteries with his spirit (v2)
- Speaking in tongues edifies the speaker, this is useful (v4)
- **Tongues is available for all (vs 5) – Paul encourages us all to do it!**
- Prayer with the spirit, your mind is not involved, you aren't thinking up what to say (v14)
- You can sing in tongues too! (v15)
- Paul regarded it as good and important (vs 15, 18)
- It is OK to do in church! But quietly, to yourself and God. (v28)



Barrier 3 - I don't know
how to receive the BoHS



Spiritual
Natural



Joh 7:37-39 ESV On the last day of the feast, the great day, Jesus stood up and cried out, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, '**Out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.**'" 39 Now this he said about the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were to receive, for as yet the Spirit had not been given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Acts 2:4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

How do we receive the BoHS and tongues?

- Come to Jesus thirsty for more (seek Jesus not tongues)
- Be convinced from God's Word it is for you (for all believers for all time)
- Drink (surrender open your heart, soul, mind)
 - You will "drink in" and out of your belly will flow (speaking in tongues)
- Ask. God wants to give you his best gifts!
- Receive. It is a gift. It doesn't depend upon you; it is based on what Christ has done. (It is proof of the resurrection and ascension of Jesus)
- Speak. Let words flow out of your mouth as the Spirit gives utterance.

How I overcame my mental blocks with receiving the gift of tongues

1. I had to be open and curious about everything God has for me. (Lack of humility probably delayed the process for me!)
2. I convinced myself from God's Word that tongues is for all believers for all times, and that it is good and necessary. **If the apostle Paul needed it, how much more do I?**
3. I pursued it away from the pressure of a group setting. I wanted it be real, I didn't want to just try and put it on for someone else.
4. I continued to step out and exercise that gift until it became a free-flowing river.
5. I exercise that gift regularly now as part of my normal devotional life.

