

The Indwelling and Filling of the Holy Spirit

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Romans 8:9; John 7

No. 3

We are in a study of the Holy Spirit and have seen so far that:

1. He is gathering out of the world, both Jew and Gentile a heavenly people by which they are divinely transformed and qualified for residence in the highest heaven.
2. He empowers believers to be witnesses for Jesus Christ through the sharing of the Gospel.



Today we move on to, what I consider a more personal ministry of the Holy Spirit to the believer; the indwelling and filling of the Spirit.

This indwelling means that the Holy Spirit dwells inside of you meaning He should be at home in your heart.

It is received at the moment you accept Christ as your Savior.

5 Aspects of the Indwelling of the Spirit:

1. Marks out the believer as belonging to God.

Rom 8:9 ... you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. But if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him.

“in the flesh” living in the natural, unregenerate state

“in the Spirit” living in the new, regenerated state

2. Distinguishes between the Old and New Testaments:

Rom 7:6 But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.

The age past is characterized by the letter of the Law. The present age by the indwelling Holy Spirit.

It was the Law that led us to Christ but not we have the Holy Spirit that leads us.

3. An essential attribute of salvation:

Jn 7:37 availability of the Holy Spirit

Now on the last day, the great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone is thirsty, let him come to Me and drink."

Jn 7:38 accompanies salvation through believing

"He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, 'From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.'"

v.39 *But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive;*

identifies the believer with the "glorified Christ"

for the Spirit was not yet "given," because Jesus was not yet glorified.

"given" not in the original text but added for clarification

Should read; "the Spirit was not yet

4. The promise of the indwelling:

Jn 14:16 *"I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever;*

"another" *allos* – another of the same likeness

Ex.

You have an apple, I give you another (allos) fruit – it's another apple.

Anothen – you have an apple I give you another fruit, it's a watermelon.

It's a fruit but a different kind.

So Jesus gives another Helper.

v.17 *that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you.*

"abides" *meno* - to stay - a timeless present

"in you" in your heart

5. Gives spiritual understanding:

I Cor 2:12 *Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God,*

It is by means of the Holy Spirit that we understand the things of God and they are not foolishness to us like those void of the Spirit in the world.

Review:

1. Marks out the believer as belonging to God.
2. Distinguishes between the Old and New Testaments.
3. Essential attribute of salvation;
Available to anyone who believes.
Identifies believers with the glorified Christ.
4. Promised by Christ.
5. Enables believers to understand spiritual things.

5 Aspects of the Filling of the Spirit

Just as the indwelling of the Spirit is given to every believer at the moment of salvation, so the filling of the Spirit is also provided, only to believers in Christ.

The purpose of the filling:

Provides "power" to live the Christian life.

Let's look at some of the reasons the Holy Spirit provides divine power to the believer.

1. To serve God, not legalistically but willingly.

Back to;

Rom 7:6 *But now we have been released from the Law, having died to that by which we were bound, so that we serve in newness of the Spirit and not in oldness of the letter.*

We do not serve the Law but Christ.

It is not a mechanical keeping for the Law but a living, relationship we are in.

2. To confirm your sonship.

Rom 8:14 *For all who are being led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.*

Ie.

By walking in the Spirit daily, we become convinced that we are children of God.

But to drift away is to let doubt enter in.

3. to order your life.

Gal 5:16 *But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not carry out the desire of the flesh.*

"walk" *peripateo* – walk around

There battle rages every day between the flesh and the Spirit. When we are filled with the Spirit and being led by the Spirit, we overcome the dictates of the flesh; our old, sinful nature.

4. To be influenced in a positive way.

Eph 5:18 *And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, but be filled with the Spirit,*

"dissipation" *asotia* – unsavedness, excess, riot

"filled" *pleroo* – to cram fill up

Look at the difference between the two.

5. What the filling depends on.

The filling of the Holy Spirit is not determined by particular qualities of the believer, but rather,

by the adjustment and submission to God's will and plan.

This means the filling of the Spirit is a CHOICE!

Rom 8:13 *For if you are living according to the flesh, you must die; but if by the Spirit you are putting to death the deeds of the body, you will live.*

Now;

The big question:

If the filling of the Holy Spirit is to enable and empower me to do all these things,

And it is my choice to do so,

How do I get to the place where I make the proper choices so this can happen?

Gal 6:8 *For the one who sows to his own flesh will from the flesh reap corruption, but the one who sows to the Spirit will from the Spirit reap eternal life.*

"sow" literally; receive seed

Practically; to indulge your sensual appetite

The principle of "You reap what you sow."

Summary:

The purpose of the filling:

1. To enable you to willingly serve God.
2. To confirm your sonship.
3. To order your life.
4. To be influenced in a positive way.

All of this begins with the desire to want to do so for the filling of the Holy Spirit is not God's adjustment to us but our adjustment to Him.