

## Life In The Spirit

September 11, 2024

Romans 6

No. 4

We come to the conclusion of our short series on the Work of the Holy Spirit Today with a message I call "Life In The Spirit."

We have talked about:

1. The Divine Work of the Spirit Today
2. The Transitional Period (Book of Acts)
3. Indwelling and Filling of the Spirit
4. Grieving, Quenching the Spirit

Today,

We will seek to wrap it all up with a summary of the Christian life in the Spirit:

We will look at 5 aspects of living life in the Spirit.

### **1. Resistance of the Spirit**

We previously saw in I Thes 5:19 that we are to "not quench the Spirit."

The Spirit is quenched by an attitude of resistance or indifference to the known will of God.

It is simply saying "No" to God.

Now, we move to the actual living in the Spirit:

### **2. The Yielded Life**

**Rom 6:12** *Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its lusts,*

**v.13** *and do not go on presenting (yielding) the members of your body to sin as instruments of unrighteousness; but present (yield) yourselves to God as those alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness to God.*

No longer using a screwdriver as a hammer.

You have probably done that but that is not what it was designed for. Neither were the members of your body designed for dead works or carnal living.

This is why:

Through baptism we passed through co-crucifixion, co-death and co-burial with Christ.

Also;

We are now "alive from the dead"

**Rom 6:11** *alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord.*



This is the basis of our experiential sanctification; the process by which we are conformed to the image of Christ.

Rom 12:2 *do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, so that you may prove what the will of God is, that which is good and acceptable and perfect.*

“prove” test God’s will

This requires faith.

To understand life in the Spirit, we have:

### **3. The Example Of Christ**

Jesus alone led a manner of life in which he pleased the Father.

Now;

How did He do this?

Ans. He did not draw upon His own resources as a member of the Godhead, but like every believer is expected to do, He was dependent on the Holy Spirit.

Note;

It is becoming of anyone who enters humanity to be yielded to the will of God through the Spirit.

Anything less is anarchy to God’s household.

Case in point – Lucifer, the highest angel.

His “5 I wills” were rebellion against God.

Is 14:13 But you said in your heart,

1. I will ascend to heaven;
2. I will raise my throne above the stars of God,
3. I will sit on the mount of assembly In the recesses of the north.
4. I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;
5. I will make myself like the Most High.'

This he also prompted the first 2 humans to do as well; to take for themselves that which God had forbidden: fruit from the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil.

He showed up again when Jesus was fasting in the wilderness and tried to tempt Him to independence from God.

Through that trial, Christ became the “model” for all of humanity in what it means to be in a right relationship with God.

It was prophesied of Jesus;

Heb 10:7 *Behold, I have come (in the scroll of the book it is written of Me) to do Your will, O God.*

As the cross drew nearer, He said;

*Father, if You are willing, remove this cup from Me; yet not My will, but Yours be done."*

Lu 22:42

As our example, Paul noted about Jesus ;

Phi 2:8 *Being found in appearance as a man, (that's His humanity) He humbled Himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross.*

Jesus is the One that could say;

Jn 8:29 *I always do the things that are pleasing to Him."*

And;

Heb 5:8 *Although He was a Son, He learned obedience from the things which He suffered.*

Jesus' absolute yieldedness to, as the Son of God, becomes the example of all those who, through faith, have become sons of God.

Therefore,

Life in the Spirit involves:

#### **4. The Will of God**

Most believers desire to be in the will of God. It is an often asked question, "What is the will of God for my life?"

It is a noble desire, and expected, for a Christian to want to be in God's will.

So let's look at three aspects of the will of God:

1. The Spirit filled life is only for those who are committed to do the will of God. In that place, the soul can hear the voice of God.
2. The guidance of the Spirit will always be in harmony with the Word of God.

This does not make the Bible a "grab and go" fortune telling machine.

Rather,

Jesus said to the Pharisees;

Jn 5:39 *You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; it is these that testify about Me; (that's good)*

v.40 *and you are unwilling to come to Me so that you may have life. (that's bad)*

3. There are no rules governing the leading of the Spirit.

He leads different people different ways. We all have our own path to follow.

The important factor:

In your Christian walk, it is your ability to be led that carries the most consequences.

When you are guided by the Spirit, you are in a most delicate relationship. You are not being led like a horse with a bit and bridle, but with a still, small voice in your heart.

So in a nutshell, we have a general understanding of life in the Spirit.

1. Resisting the Spirit annuls everything.
2. A yielded life gives the Spirit his way.
3. Christ is our example of the surrendered life.
4. The will of God is our prime target for living.

Finally;

The last general principle of the Spirit filled life.

### **5. The Sacrificial Life**

Jesus did not die for you so you could go from one form of slavery to another. The Christian life is a voluntary life. It is in that life that God is glorified.

But,

You can be like the slave in the O.T. when he was given the opportunity be free from his master.

Ex 21:5 *I love my master, my wife and my children; I will not go out as a free man,'*

v.6 *then his master shall bring him to God, then he shall bring him to the door or the doorpost. And his master shall pierce his ear with an awl; and he shall serve him permanently.*

David wrote Ps 40, prophesying of the coming Christ;

v.6 *Sacrifice and meal offering You have not desired; My ears You have opened; Burnt offering and sin offering You have not required.*  
(ref. Ex 21:5)

Summary;

The highest motive for yielding to God is not merely a desire for victory in daily life, or for power or blessing;

It is for the Christ life, which is sacrificial.

Sacrificial does not necessarily mean painful.

It simply describes doing the will of Another. (God)

Some pain may lie in the path, but what prevails is joy and the experience of a heart of peace.

This is what it means, to live the Spirit filled life.