

HOLY SPIRIT & SPIRITUAL GIFTS

Part 5 of THE PURPLE BOOK. Various.

Peter Foxwell. Cornerstone Church. February 6, 2022.

INTRODUCTION

- The presence of the Holy Spirit in our lives is the proof that we belong to Jesus.

Acts 11:15-18 (ESV) As I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell on them just as on us at the beginning. 16 And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he said, 'John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.' 17 If then God gave the same gift to them as he gave to us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could stand in God's way?" 18 When they heard these things they fell silent. And they glorified God, saying, "Then to the Gentiles also God has granted repentance that leads to life."

- The Holy Spirit is central and essential to the Christian life.

WE NEED THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. We need the Holy Spirit initially.

- Christianity is NOT about moral improvement. It's about spiritual transformation.
- We have no spiritual life apart from the Holy Spirit.
 - Romans 8:9-10 (ESV) You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.
 - 1 John 4:13 (ESV) By this we know that we abide in God and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit.

2. We need the Holy Spirit daily.

- Our new lifestyle is enabled by the Holy Spirit.
 - Galatians 5:16, 25 (ESV) But I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ... 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.
 - Galatians 5:3 (ESV) Having begun by the Spirit, are you now being perfected by the flesh?
- As we cooperate with the Holy Spirit by faith, our lives change.
 - Galatians 5:22-25 (ESV) The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control ...

3. We need the Holy Spirit emotionally.

- The Spirit poured God's love into our hearts at conversion.
 - Romans 5:5 (ESV) God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.
- The Spirit assures us that we belong to God forever.
 - Romans 8:16 (ESV) The Spirit himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God ...
- The Spirit always intercedes for us when we are weak.
 - Romans 8:26 (ESV) ... the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us ...

4. We need the Holy Spirit constructively.

- The Holy Spirit empowers us ALL to serve Jesus and build up the church.
 - 1 Corinthians 12:7 (ESV) To **EACH** is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.
- We are weak, but the Holy Spirit is mighty.
- Natural reasons should not stop us from serving supernaturally.
 - Romans 12:6 (ESV) Having gifts that differ according to the grace given to us, **LET US USE THEM ...**

COOPERATE WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

1. Be open to the presence and power of the Spirit in your life.
 2. Do not grieve him by engaging in sinful behavior.
 3. Do not quench him by denying or ignoring him.
 4. Daily, welcome him to work in your life.
 5. Yield to his will and ways. Cooperate with him.
 6. Step up to serve Jesus and his church, trusting in Holy Spirit's power.
 7. Don't be afraid of him. The Christian life is a Spirit-filled life.
- Homework:
 - Review today's teaching.
 - At small group, discuss the Spirit's presence and power in your life.
 - Study chapter 5 of the Purple Book: Spiritual Hunger & God's Word.

TODAY'S BIBLICAL/THEOLOGICAL TERMS: THE INDWELLING HOLY SPIRIT

On the Day of Pentecost, as promised, the believers were baptized with the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28; Matt. 3:11; John 1:33; Acts 1:5; 11:16; 1 Cor. 12:13). It was a time of transition in the history of redemption because on that day the Holy Spirit began to function among God's people with new covenant power (Acts 2).

Baptism with the Spirit is a one-time event at the onset of the Christian life by which we are joined to Jesus and his church. We are empowered for witness and ministry (Acts 1:8; Eph. 4:8, 11–13), given power over the influence of sin (Rom. 6:11–14; 8:13–14; Gal. 2:20; Phil. 3:10), and power to stand against Satan and demons (2 Cor. 10:3–4; Eph. 1:19–21; 6:10–18; 1 John 4:4). The Holy Spirit also distributes gifts for ministry to all believers (Acts 2:16–18; 1 Cor. 12:7, 11; 1 Peter 4:10; cf. Num. 11:17, 24–29). These gifts are for the corporate building up of the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:7; 14:12).

Filling with of the Spirit. Paul tells the Ephesians, "Do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery; but be filled with the Spirit" (Eph. 5:18). He uses a present tense imperative verb that could more explicitly be translated, "Be continually being filled with the Holy Spirit," thus implying that this is something that should repeatedly be happening to Christians.

Such fullness of the Holy Spirit results in renewed worship (Eph. 5:19–20), and in renewed relationships to others (Eph. 5:21—6:9). In addition, such a filling will often result in increased sanctification and increased power for ministry

We see examples of repeated filling with the Holy Spirit in the book of Acts (2:4; 4:8, 31); it is an event that can occur over and over again in a Christian's life. It may involve a momentary empowering for a specific ministry (Acts 4:8; 7:55), or a long-term characteristic (see Acts 6:3; 11:24). Stephen, received a fresh new filling of the Holy Spirit in great power (Acts 7:55).

Adapted from Systematic Theology, by Wayne Grudem.