



Crossroad of Truth

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Before We Start...

The Holy Bible Is The Inspired, Living Word of God

“**All** Scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work.” (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

“For the **word** of God is **living and powerful**, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.” (Hebrews 4:12)

“ ‘Is not My **word** like a **fire**?’ says the Lord, ‘And like a **hammer** that breaks the rock in pieces?’ “ (Jeremiah 23:29)

ALL Scripture is the inspired Word of God, and is powerful like a “Fire”, “Hammer”, and “Sword”

What Famous People Said About The Bible

“The **Bible** is no mere book, but a Living Creature, with a power that conquers all that oppose it” - *Napoleon*

“I believe the **Bible** is the best gift God has ever given to man” - *Abraham Lincoln*

“A thorough knowledge of the **Bible** is worth more than a college education.”
- *Theodore Roosevelt*

“A man has deprived himself of the best there is in the world who has deprived himself of a knowledge of the **Bible**” - *Woodrow Wilson*

“There are many more sure marks of authenticity in the **Bible** than in any profane history. All my discoveries have been made in answer to prayer... I have a fundamental belief in the Bible as the Word of God, written by men who were inspired. I study the Bible daily” - *Sir Isaac Newton*

The Spirit Filled Life

A Commandment By God

Ephesians 5:18

“And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but **be filled with the Spirit**”

Keep in mind that this was

1. A commandment, not a choice
2. Given to believers

Other Biblical Examples - Spirit Filled

Luke 1:41

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb; and Elizabeth was **filled** with the Holy Spirit.

Luke 4:1

Jesus, **full** of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led around by the Spirit in the wilderness

Acts 13:9

But Saul, who was also known as Paul, **filled** with the Holy Spirit..."

Acts 4:8

Then Peter, **filled** with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers and elders of the people..."

Acts 6:5

The statement found approval with the whole congregation; and they chose Stephen, a man **full** of faith and of the Holy Spirit

Ephesians - Context

Written by the Apostle Paul to a body of Church believers:

- “...To the **saints** who are in Ephesus, and **faithful** in Christ Jesus.”
(Ephesians 1:1)
- Therefore I also, after I heard of **your faith** in the Lord Jesus and your **love** for all the saints (Eph 1:5)

Three truths are revealed in this book:

1. Christians are exalted above the world by God’s grace
2. The truth and service of believers, and
3. A life lived as a Spirit-filled believer

Ephesians - Holy Spirit

“...having **believed**, you were sealed with the **Holy Spirit** of promise.” (Eph 1:13, 4:30)

The Holy Spirit is referred to as the “deposit,” “seal,” and “earnest” in the hearts of Christians (2 Corinthians 1:22; 5:5; Ephesians 1:13-14; 4:30).

The Holy Spirit is God’s seal on His people, His claim on us as His very own. The Greek word translated “earnest” in these passages is arrhabōn which means “a pledge,” that is, part of the purchase money or property given in advance as security for the rest.

The gift of the Spirit to believers is a down payment on our heavenly inheritance, which Christ has promised us and secured for us at the cross. It is because the Spirit has sealed us that we are assured of our salvation.

No one can break the seal of God.

Ephesians - Holy Spirit

“...having **believed**, you were sealed with the **Holy Spirit** of promise.” (Eph 1:13, 4:30)

The Holy Spirit is given to us to confirm to us that we belong to God who grants to us His Spirit as a gift, just as grace and faith are gifts (Ephesians 2:8-9).

Through the gift of the Spirit, God renews and sanctifies us. He produces in our hearts feelings, hopes, and desires which are evidence that we are accepted by God, that we are regarded as His adopted children, that our hope is genuine, and that our redemption and salvation are certain in the same way that a seal guarantees a legal will or agreement.

God grants to us His Holy Spirit as a pledge that we are His forever and shall be saved in the last day. The proof of the Spirit's presence is His operations on the heart which produce repentance, the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:22-23), conformity to God's commands and will, a passion for prayer and praise, and love for His people. These things are the evidences that the Holy Spirit has renewed the heart and that the Christian is sealed for the day of redemption.

Ephesians - Holy Spirit

Jesus Christ bore the seal of God:

“On him God the Father has placed his seal of approval” (John 6:27).

Those who trust in Jesus also possess the seal of God, which is the Holy Spirit:

“You also were included in Christ when you heard the message of truth, the gospel of your salvation. When you believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God’s possession” (Ephesians 1:13–14)

It is good to know that God’s children are sealed, secure, and sustained amid the wickedness of this chaotic world.

Ephesians - Holy Spirit

The purpose of the Holy Spirit

1. “...who is the **guarantee** of our inheritance until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory” (Eph 1:14)
2. “For through Him [Jesus] we [Paul and Saints] both have **access** by one Spirit to the Father.” (Eph 2:18)
3. Reveals to believers the **mystery of Christ** (Eph 3:4-5)
4. We are “...**strengthened** with might through His Spirit in the inner man” (Eph 3:16)



What is the Mystery of Christ?

A “mystery” in Scripture is previously hidden truth now divinely revealed. In this case, the first time that there will be an interval between Christ’s first and second advents. The mysteries are

1. The kingdom of heaven (Matt 13:3-50)
2. Israel’s blindness during this age (Rom 11:25)
3. Translation of living saints at the end of this age (1 Cor 15:51-52; 1 Thess 4:13-17)
4. NT Church as one body composed of Jews and Gentiles (Eph 3:1-12)
5. Church as the bride of Christ (Eph 5:23-32)
6. In-living Christ (Gal 2:20; Col 1:26-27)
7. Of God and of Christ (1 Cor 2:7; Col 2:2-9)
8. The processes of which godlikeness is restored to man (1 Tim 3:16)
9. Lawlessness (2 Thess 2:7)
10. Seven Stars (Rev 1:20)
11. Babylon (Rev 17:5, 7)

Having vs Filling of The Spirit

The NT distinguishes between **HAVING** the Spirit, which is true of ALL believers, and being **FILLED** with the Spirit, which is the Christians' privilege and duty.

An important verse in understanding this is John 14:16:

“And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another advocate to help you and be with you forever”

Jesus promised the Spirit would indwell believers and that the indwelling would be permanent.

Having vs Filling of The Spirit

The permanent indwelling of the Spirit is not for a select few believers, but for all believers.

The Holy Spirit

1. Is a gift given to all believers in Jesus without exception, and no conditions are placed upon this gift except faith in Christ (John 7:37-39).
2. Is given at the moment of salvation (Ephesians 1:13).
3. Indwells believers permanently. The Holy Spirit is given to believers as a down payment, or verification of their future glorification in Christ (Ephesians 4:30).



Having vs Filling of The Spirit

As the Holy Spirit lives in the believer, He brings life-changing results. The indwelling Spirit

- 1) Comes to a soul dead in sin and creates new life (Titus 3:5). This is the new birth Jesus spoke of in John 3:1–8.
- 2) Confirms to the believer that he belongs to the Lord and is an heir of God and fellow-heir with Christ (Romans 8:15–17).
- 3) Installs the new believer as a member of Christ's universal church. This is the baptism of the Spirit, according to 1 Corinthians 12:13.
- 4) Gives spiritual gifts (God-given abilities for service) to the believer to edify the church and serve the Lord effectively for His glory (1 Corinthians 12:11).
- 5) Helps the believer understand and apply the Scripture to his daily life (1 Corinthians 2:12).

Having vs Filling of The Spirit



- 6) The indwelling Spirit enriches the believer's prayer life and intercedes for him in prayer (Romans 8:26–27).
- 7) Empowers the yielded believer to live for Christ to do His will (Galatians 5:16). The Spirit leads the believer in paths of righteousness (Romans 8:14).
- 8) Gives evidence of new life by producing the fruit of the Spirit in the believer's life (Galatians 5:22–23).
- 9) Is grieved when the believer sins (Ephesians 4:30), and He convicts the believer to confess his sin to the Lord so that fellowship is restored (1 John 1:9).
- 10) Seals the believer unto the day of redemption so that the believer's arrival in the Lord's presence is guaranteed after this life (Ephesians 1:13–14).

Having vs Filling of The Spirit

There is ONE baptism with the Spirit, but MANY fillings with the Spirit.

To be filled with the Spirit implies freedom for Him to occupy ALL part of our lives, guiding and controlling us. Then His power can be exerted through us so that what we do is fruitful to God.

The filling of the Spirit does not apply to outward acts alone; it also applies to the innermost thoughts and motives of our actions.

- Psalm 19:14, "May the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be pleasing in your sight, O LORD, my Rock and my Redeemer."

Sin is what hinders the filling of the Holy Spirit, and obedience to God is how the filling of the Spirit is maintained.

- Ephesians 5:18 commands that we be filled with the Spirit, however it is not praying for the filling of the Holy Spirit that accomplishes the filling. Only our obedience to God's commands allows the Spirit freedom to work within us. It is impossible to be filled with the Spirit all of the time. When we sin, we should immediately confess it to God and renew our commitment to being Spirit-filled and Spirit-led.

Why Should I “Be Filled With The Spirit”?

1. To battle against our enemies using “...the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (Eph 6:17)
 - Power over sin
2. For God the Father to hear our prayers (Eph 6:18)
3. So “that I may open my mouth boldly to make known the mystery of the Gospel, for which I am an ambassador in chains.” (Eph 6:19-20)
 - Power in service

Why Should I “Be Filled With The Spirit”?

Results of a Spirit filled life:

- Great peace and heart rest,
- exaltation of spirit,
- Unspeakable joy and full of glory,
- a new realization of the presence of God,
- freedom and liberty of testimony and prayer,
- an inexpressible longing for God,
- separation from the world, and \
- a spiritual love before unknown



Questions You Must Answer

- Where do you stand in relation to God's Will?
- Have you really surrendered all to Jesus Christ?
- Do you recognize Him alone as your Lord and Master?
- Are you willing to go where He wants to go, to do what He wants you to do, and to be what He wants you to be?
- Have you still a will of your own, or is God's will yours, and is it your supreme delight to please Him?
- What holds the reins of your life?
- Who controls your actions?

Do You Want To Live A Spirit Filled Life?



1. Confess - 1 John 1:9 ***
 - a. Every sin and failure, sins of omission and commission; confess it all to Him
 - b. Unbeliever - need only to confess that they sin (“God be merciful to me a sinner”)
 - c. Believer - must confess all sins
2. Renounce - Psalm 66:18
 - a. Renounce everything that displeases to God - turn from it and put it out of your life.
 - b. Confession without renunciation is useless
 - c. Am I willing AND determined to be delivered from my sin(s)?
 - Eg. Prodigal Son - he was willing, but not determined to walk away from our sin.
3. Surrender - Matt 16:24, Luke 9:23, Mark 8:34
 - a. Give Him your life
 - b. Dedicate, yield, lay your life on the altar. Hold nothing back
 - c. God can only you if you humble yourself to letting Him be in control
4. Obedience
 - a. Daily - weekly practice of all the above
 - b. Study God’s Word
5. Believe/Faith - Mark 1:15, John 3:16, Rom 10:9, Acts 16:31 ***
 - a. You’ve done your part, now believe that He will do His.
 - b. Trust Him for the fulness: feeling or no feeling. Refuse to doubt

Testimonies of Living A Spirit Filled Life

DL Moody

The blessing came upon me suddenly like a flash of lightning. For months, I had been hungering and thirsting for power in service. I had come to that point where I think I would have died if I had not got it. I remember I was walking the streets of New York. I had no more heart in the business I was about than if I had not been in the world at all. Well, one day -- oh, what a day! I cannot describe it, I seldom refer to it; it is almost too sacred an experience to name it -- right there on the streets the power of God seemed to come upon me so wonderfully I had to ask God to stay His hand. I was **filled** with a sense of God's goodness, and I felt as though I would take the whole word to my heart. I took the old sermons I had preached before without any power, it was the same old truth, but there was new power. Many were impressed and converted. This happened years after I was converted myself. I would not now be pleaded back where I was before that blessed experience if you should give me all the world -- it would be as the small dust in the balance.

Testimonies of Living A Spirit Filled Life

Charles G Finney

As I turned and was about to take a seat by the fire, I received a mighty Baptism of the Holy Spirit. Without any expectation of it, without ever having the thought that there was any such thing for me, without any recollection that I had ever heard the thing mentioned by any person in the world, the Holy Spirit descended upon me in a manner that seemed to go through my body and soul. I could feel the impression, like a wave of electricity going **through and through me**. Indeed it seemed to come in waves and waves of liquid love; for I could not express it in any other way. It seemed like the very breath of God. I can recollect distinctly that it seem to fan me, like immense wings.

No words can express the wonderful love that was shed abroad in my heart. I wept aloud with joy and love; and I do not know but I should say, I literally bellowed out the ununtterable gushings of my heart. These waves came over me one after the other, until I recollect I cried out, "I shall die if these waves continue to pass over me." I said, "Lord, I cannot bear any more;" yet I had no fear of death.

Testimonies of Living A Spirit Filled Life

Jesus Christ

21 When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. 22 And the **Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him**, and a voice came from heaven which said, “You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased.”

(Luke 3:21-22)

Then Jesus, **being filled with the Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan and was **led by the Spirit** into the wilderness, 2 being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. (Luke 4:1-2)

Then Jesus returned in the **power of the Spirit** to Galilee, and news of Him went out through all the surrounding region. 15 And He taught in their synagogues, being glorified by all. (Luke 4:14-15)

Closing

Remember, the Holy Spirit is the last and greatest armor/weapon God equips us with: a “sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God” (Eph 6:17)

And don't forget to “praying always with all prayer and supplication in the Spirit, being watchful to this end with all perseverance and supplication for all the saints”
Eph 6:18