

FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT

Acts 2:1-4; 38-39

Introduction: We have heard many times the name, Holy Spirit. We have even used it ourselves and we know that the Holy Spirit refers to the spiritual presence of the Lord Jesus Christ. We also know that according to Jesus, the Christian is to be filled with the Holy Spirit, however, there are times when the Christian seems to act if he/she has never been filled with the Holy Spirit. There are a lot of things we just don't know about the Holy Spirit.

I. WHERE DOES THE CHRISTIAN GET THE HOLY SPIRIT?

1. Jesus told His disciples that He would send them another comforter, that he would be with them forever.
2. On the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit came to the disciples so strong that cloven tongues of fire appeared over their heads and they began to speak in foreign languages.
3. The Scriptures teach that when one accepts Jesus Christ as his/her Savior, the Holy Spirit comes into him/her.
4. The Scriptures further teaches that God is anxious to send the Holy Spirit to the believer, as anxious as parents are to give their own children good things.

II. WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE "FILLED" WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

1. It means, first of all, that the Christian has emptied him/herself of his/her own desires and wants.
2. It means that the believer/Christian has completely surrendered his/her entire life to God, holding nothing back.
3. It means that the believer is truly concerned about his/her own sin and the lost people around.
4. It means that the believer is willing to "go all the way" for God, even death if necessary.
5. It means that the believer has placed his/her entire life into God's hands through his/her complete faith, never to look back, never to doubt.
6. It means that the believer has power in prayer, with people and most of all, with God.

III. DOES THE HOLY SPIRIT FILL THE CHURCH?

1. If the services are dry, formal, boring and disinteresting, then the Holy Spirit is not there.

2. If attendance is small, few are saved in the services, the offerings are small, then the Holy Spirit is not there.
3. If the members are discouraged and many do not attend services, then the Holy Spirit is not there.

IV. HOW CAN A PERSON BE FILLED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT?

1. One cannot have the Holy Spirit and be lost, an unbeliever.
2. One cannot be filled with the Holy Spirit and be a mediocre, lukewarm Christian.
3. One cannot be filled with the Holy Spirit and have no concern for the lost.
4. One cannot be filled with the Holy Spirit and put his/her Church and God last.
5. One cannot be filled with the Holy Spirit and attend services just occasionally.
6. One cannot be filled with the Holy Spirit and compromise with sin.
7. One cannot be filled with the Holy Spirit and have no prayer life.
8. To be filled with the Holy Spirit, one must completely, unconditionally surrender his/her all, everything, money, property and life to God.
9. To be filled with the Holy Spirit, one must never doubt, never look back or question the acts of God.
10. To be filled with the Holy Spirit, one must be in constant fellowship with God by reading the Bible, praying and attending faithfully worship services.

CONCLUSION:

1. If a believer has become non-spiritual, it because he/she has not given him/herself completely to God. Something is still being withheld.
2. If the believer is to grow, be of any service to God, then total surrender must be given to God.
3. Christian, are you Holy Spirit filled? Indwelt, yes, but FILLED? Do you perhaps need to rededicate yourself to the one who has bought you and given you eternal life?
4. There is absolutely NOTHING you can't do for God WHEN the Holy Spirit is allowed to be in complete control of your life. This is God's plan for your life. Let God have all of you.