

Truths of Assurance and Freedom

Lesson # 11 -- The Believer's Privilege -- Being Filled with the Holy Spirit.

Introduction

- A. The area of our life as believers, where we are most often frustrated and disappointed, has to do with our day-by-day practice of the truth.
- B. God, in His infinite wisdom, has made specific provision for that area of our life. The Holy Spirit has been given to every believer as a "Helper."

But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth ... He will bring glory to me. John 16:13,14 NIV

I. The Importance of Being Filled with the Holy Spirit.

A. The prayer of the Lord Jesus

And I will pray the Father and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you forever, even the Spirit of truth John 14:16,17

Comment: Our Father wants you to know how great your Helper is.

B. The commandment to be filled with the Holy Spirit

Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is. And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess, but be filled with the Spirit. Eph 5:18

Comment: To be obedient to God -- this commandment must be high on our daily priority. All neglect of the Holy Spirit is like an insult to Him.

II. The Benefits of Being Filled with the Holy Spirit.

A. The benefit of spiritual edification

...Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your hearts to the Lord, giving thanks ... submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God. Eph 5:18-21

B. The benefit of spiritual growth

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faithfulness, meekness, self-control: against such there is no law. Gal 5:22,23

C. The benefit of spiritual fruitfulness

In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. He that believeth on me, as the Scripture said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. (But this spake he of the Spirit) John 7:37-39

D. The benefit of spiritual service

1. Divine enablement for witnessing.

But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto me Acts 1:8

2. Divine enablement for our prayer life.

Likewise the Spirit helpeth our infirmities, for we know not what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself maketh intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Rom 8:26

3. Divine enablement for ministry

Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the message of wisdom, to another the message of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another the ability to speak in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. I Cor 12:7-10 NIV

III. The Warning Regarding the Holy Spirit.

A. We are warned not to resist the Holy Spirit

Ye stiffnecked and uncircumcised in heart and ears, ye do always resist the Holy Spirit, as your fathers did, so do ye. Acts 7:51

B. We are warned not to lie to and test the Holy Spirit.

But Peter said, Ananias, why hath Satan filled thine heart to lie to the Holy Spirit, and to keep back part of the price of the land? ... Then Peter said unto her, How is it that you have agreed together to tempt (test) the Spirit of the Lord? Acts 5:3,9

C. We are warned not to grieve the Holy Spirit.

And grieve not the Holy Spirit of God, whereby you are sealed unto the day of redemption. Eph 4:30

D. We are warned not to quench the Holy Spirit.

Quench not the Spirit. I Thess 5:19

Conclusion

A. These passages should create a great hunger in our hearts to be filled with the Holy Spirit as well as a deep awareness of how we have neglected Him.

B. God is reaching out to you in these Scriptures. He has your best interest in mind. He wants to care for you, bless you, and use you in a wonderful way.

C. We must give Him permission to fill us -- and then cooperate with Him.

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