

Experiencing the Holy Spirit as Our Divine Enablement

Luke 4:18,19; 9:1,2; 10:1; John 17:18; 20:21; 1 Peter 2:5,9

Introduction

A. Every believer has been called into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ.

God, who has called you into fellowship with his Son Jesus Christ our Lord, is faithful.
1 Cor 1:9

1. It is this call of God, applied to us in the new birth, that is the foundation of all life and ministry and the source of all redemptive grace. 1 Cor 12:13; Eph 1:3; 1 Peter 1:3
2. We are taught through this great act of God, that we no longer belong to ourselves, and also the priority of the spiritual over all other facets of life. 1 Cor 6:19,20; Matt 6:33

B. God's call to us is based on His love, kindness, and redemptive grace.

1. We must accept the truth of the Bible: God loves us and cares for us in spite of what has happened to us or is happening to us.
2. **He wants you.** And His desire is for daily fellowship with you and for you to enter into a cooperative ministry with Him.

C. Why do I begin this message as I have?

1. Because your life and ministry flows out of your heart experience with God more than your head.
2. Because God wants you to know your provision for life and ministry is a **Person**: Jesus Christ Himself – through the ministry of the Blessed Holy Spirit. John 14:16

I. We are Called to be Priests — that is Our Office.

You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be a holy priesthood, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 2:5 (9)

A. A priest is one who represents God to man — through ministry.

B. A priest is one who represents man to God — through prayer.

II. We are a Commissioned Priesthood — that is Our Ministry.

- A. The commission is to proclaim the Gospel — the content of the ministry. Luke 9:2; Matt 28:18-20
- B. The commission is to apply the Gospel — the application of the ministry. Luke 9:1,2
1 Cor 2:4

III. We are an Authorized Priesthood — that is Our Authority.

- A. We have the right to speak to mankind for God — as God's voice. Luke 9:4,5; 10:11,12
- B. We have the right to speak to God for mankind — by praying in the Spirit. Eph 6:18

IV. We are an Anointed Priesthood — that is our Enablement.

- A. We have received, legally, all the presence, gifts and power of the Holy Spirit — He is our divine enablement. John 14:16-18; Acts 1:8; 2:32,33; 1 Cor 2:12; 12:13
- B. We are to receive, daily, through the surrender of faith, His enabling presence — that is our responsibility. Rom 14:17; 15:13; 1 Cor 2:4; 4:20; Gal 5:25; Eph 5:18; 1 Thess 1:5

Conclusion

- A. We must fix our heart, mind and faith on God as a Person — not on His gifts and power.
- B. Our enablement is a Person — the Blessed Holy Spirit — Who had come to make the Lord Jesus real in our life and ministry.
- C. We are warned not to resist (Acts 7:51); lie to (Acts 5:3); test (Acts 5:9); grieve (Eph 4:30); or put out the Spirit's fire (1 Thess 5:19).
- D. We are commanded to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Eph 5:18

Victor Matthews