

## The Holy Spirit and the Successful Christian Life(1)

### Introduction

- A. Some of the most important promises in all the Bible have to do with the ministry of the Holy Spirit. For example, note the following verse:

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

- B. Every person realizes the tremendous need for wisdom, guidance and enablement as he faces the demands of daily life. This is particularly true for the Christian. The Lord Jesus said, "Without Me ye can do nothing." John 15:5.

- C. God has not saved us and then left us to flounder about in our own weakness and ignorance. He has made every provision for us. A part of that provision is the ministry of the Holy Spirit.

- I. God promised a time when all of His people would be anointed alike, Joel 2:28,29.

And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions. And also upon the servants and upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out My Spirit.

Observation: God wants you to recognize that you are not a second-rate Christian.

- II. God promised that the believer may be a river of living water, John 7:37-39.

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 hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water. But this spake He of the Spirit, which they that believe on Him should receive, for the Holy Spirit was not yet given, because that Jesus was not yet glorified.

Observation: God wants you to bring life into the lives of others.

- III. God promised to send the Holy Spirit to be the believer's Helper, John 14:16-18.

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, Whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth Him not, neither knoweth Him, but ye know Him, for He dwelleth with you and shall be in you.

Observation: God wants you to know how great your Helper is.

- IV. God promised that the Holy Spirit would lead the believer into a life of cooperative ministry, John 15:26,27.

But when the Comforter is come, Whom I will send unto you from the Father, even the Spirit of Truth, which proceedeth from the Father, He shall testify of Me, and ye also shall bear witness, because ye have been with Me from the beginning.

Observation: God wants you to measure your life by what He can do through you – not by your feelings or circumstances.

V. God promised that the Holy Spirit would glorify Jesus Christ through the believe., John 16:13,14.

Howbeit when He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, He will guide you into all truth} for He shall not speak of Himself, hut whatsoever He shall hear, that shall He speak, and He will show you things to come. He shall glorify Me, for He shall receive of mine, and shall show it unto you.

Observation: God wants you to understand the goal of your life – glorify Him.

VI. God promised that the Holy Spirit would empower the believer, Acts 1:8.

But ye shall receive power after that the Holy Spirit is come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto Me both in Jerusalem and in all Judea and in Samaria and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Observation: God wants you to realize the depth of His provision.

VII. God promised a day of fulfillment for all His prophecies concerning the coming of the Holy Spirit, Acts 2:33.

Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted and having received of the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, He hath shed forth this which ye now see and hear.

Observation: God wants you to understand that the Church, which was born on the Day of Pentecost, is a baptized and anointed Church. When one becomes a believer today, he is made a member of that Church (I Cor. 12:13). As a consequence, through His relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church, the believer is baptized and anointed with the Holy Spirit and is enabled to carry out the Great Commission (Matthew 28:18-20). The present day believers possess all the value and power of Pentecost to live a successful life.

#### Conclusion

- A. Question: If we have all of this provision, then why is it that the power of God is not more manifested in our lives?
- B. Answer: In the believer's life, the provision of God is not necessarily automatic. He must learn about God's provision, how to put it into practice, and then he must practice it!
- C. Summary: We must choose to cooperate with the Holy Spirit. Review the above points and ask the Holy Spirit to make them real in your life.

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