

Introduction- THE DISCIPLES WERE NOT ONLY BAPTIZED, BUT EMPOWERED AND INFILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

1. But for some reason of other, it mentions often that they were filled with the Spirit
2. Sometimes they had amazing success in the work- sometimes they did not
3. We need to study what was meant by their being full of the Spirit, and perhaps we can see the hand of God at work, and avoid the pitfalls-

I.- GOD PROMISED THE DISCIPLES THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT**A. THE DISCIPLES WERE INSTRUCTED TO WAIT FOR THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT COMING UPON THEM ACTS 1:8**

1. The Disciples had all the Jews, and the Roman empire against them- Satan's forces arrayed
2. To face all of this they needed Power- not the power of the sword, but of the Spirit.
3. We need this power today- Hymn # 385 "Teach me to Pray, Lord" Without this power we are done.

B. THEY RECEIVED AN INFILLING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT AND IT PRODUCED RESULTS* Acts 2:4

1. "They were all filled" and people understood them- Peter preached and 3,000 souls were saved
2. Acts 4:8, "Peter filled with the Holy Ghost" again spoke out with boldness, yet not boastfulness
3. Paul was filled with the Holy Ghost, and preached Christ- Acts 9:17, 20

C. WHEN THEY WERE FULL THEY HAD POWER, BUT SOMETIMES THEIR POWER FAILED* OR WAS THE FAILURE THEIRS

1. Peter was filled with doubt about Cornelius- Acts 10:10, but Paul rebuked him- Gal 2:11--
2. Paul on one occasion resurrected a boy, on another wrote to Timothy powerless to heal his
3. We need to learn from their mistakes, as well as their blessings stomach ache.

II.- ARE WE SPIRIT FILLED AND EMPOWERED TODAY?**A. The Spirit moves in when we are saved, and infills us and empowers us**

1. John 6:63 "It is the spirit that quicketh-" He gives us the more abundant life John 10:10
2. Gal. 5:22 "The fruit of the Spirit"- The things which God wants in our lives- real powers
3. Acts 13:52 Even in the midst of persecution the Holy Ghost gave joy- Rom 14:17- Joy in H.G.

B. THE POWER OF THE HOLY GHOST IS FOR THE GLORY OF GOD NOT MAN

1. Many want this mysterious power to escape from their own responsibility or hard work
2. But it is God that controls the power- like a gas line to a 375 HP motor in a car.
3. You have your foot on the throttle- but a clogged gas line-motor will idle fine-but gasp out-

B. SIN CUTS THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT FROM WORKING

1. David cried to God- Psa 51:11 "take not thy holy spirit from me!" Sin chatters the well
2. Many Christians have the power of the filling of the Spirit at first - then grow powerless.
3. The Holy Spirit is still in them, but sin keeps them from being full of the spirit- And God will not give lasting power to a dirty vessel- no man can demand God's power.

III.- HOW CAN WE BE FILLED AND EMPOWERED BY THE SPIRIT

Our part is to allow ourselves to be filled, then God will empower us as He needs us.

A. WE CAN PREPARE THE WAY FOR GOD TO FILL US WITH HIS SPIRIT

1. Confess any known sin!-I John 1:9 Mortify the deeds of the flesh-Col 3:5 Clean the well!
2. Hunger and Thirst after Righteousness- Matt 5:6- and Heb 12:14 Holiness
3. Yield the will to God's control-Matt. 16:24 - self denial to have the mind of Christ-Phil 2:5, 3:8
4. If you have done 1-3- you are filled. God will then power you for any need

1. You have more than a tiger in your tank- but slide corners and loose it- be carnal!

B. HOW CAN WE RETAIN THE FILLING OF THE SPIRIT - think you are spirit filled- pride-XX

1. Humility is a part of the filling- the moment you think you are something- you aren't Phil. 3:12-14
2. Daily fresh manna- filling - progressive sanctification- growth in grace

C. BUT WE MUST CHOOSE * WHICH WILL LEAD IN OUR LIVES* SPIRIT OF FLESH*SELF Eph. 5:18

1. No man can serve two masters- Matt. 6:24, seek kingdom v. 33- & Rom 14:17--is joy in HG
2. We don't get more of the Spirit- to be filled- we let Him have more of us!
3. Eph 5:18- Imperative Mode-Command, Present tense-continual, Plural-to all,

Passive Voice- let God do it to you!

Concl.

1. WILL YOU PERMIT THE HOLY SPIRIT TO FILL AND POWER YOUR LIFE?

1. To receive the infilling of the Spirit- accept Christ as your Saviour
2. To be freshly filled- clear out your heart that the Spirit can fill every recess
3. To be specially powered- Attempt great things for God, expect great things of God and yours will be a spirit filled and powered life.

Inv.

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