

To Be Filled With The Holy Spirit

(Part 3)

“I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.” (Luke 24:49)

Why The Holy Spirit is important for the disciples? Jesus He lived with the early disciples and He trained them and taught them how to live their lives unto Him. But the time had come for Him to leave them and go back to God the Father. Jesus is God the Son, so God was with the early disciples as Jesus was with them. But as the time had come to Jesus to return to God the Father, then no one would be there with them. Therefore Jesus promised them the following: ***“And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Counselor to be with you forever.” (John 14:16)*** The Holy Spirit is God and He is now today with the life of the church and He is doing all and the same work that Jesus was doing in the life of the early disciples. Jesus said about the Holy Spirit the following:

A- “But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you all things and will remind you of everything I have said to you.” (John 14:26) So we need the Holy Spirit who will teach us all things and who will remind us of all the teaching of Jesus. Therefore the early disciples were waiting to receive The Holy Spirit who will take the same place and do all and the same of what Jesus did in their lives.

B- ⁷ “But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you.” (John 16:7) Jesus is God hundred percent and He is also man hundred percent. Therefore as being a man then He cannot be in different places at one time. So He cannot be with the whole disciples who are scattered in different places. But The Holy Spirit can do that. Therefore the above statement of Jesus made it clearer the need to wait to receive the Holy Spirit.

C- ¹² “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. ¹³ But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all truth. He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears, and he will tell you what is yet to come.” (John 16:12-13) The early disciples they realized the need of the Holy Spirit in their lives after Jesus had left them and went to heaven. There are things Jesus wanted to tell them about but since they don't have the capacity to take that all in one time, then they need to wait and receive the Holy Spirit who will continue that process in their life is mandatory. When they received The Holy Spirit He guided them to the whole truth. Therefore we need the filling of The Holy Spirit to be guided to the whole truth.

D- “In a little while you will see me no more, and then after a little while you will see me.” (John 16:16) As Jesus went to heaven the disciples were no more able to see Him but after they received The Holy Spirit then they could see the Lord and enjoy the fellowship with Him.

Notice: After Jesus resurrection from the death He appeared to His disciples, ***²¹ “Again Jesus said, “Peace be with you! As the Father has sent me, I am sending you.” ²² And with that he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit.” (John 20:21-22)***

That did not represent the filling of the Holy Spirit that they needed to wait for. But that represent the seal of the Holy Spirit that God will give to those who receive Christ as what Apostle Paul wrote in his letter to the Ephesians, ***¹³ “And you also were included in Christ when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation. Having believed, you were marked in him with a seal, the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is a deposit guaranteeing our inheritance until the redemption of those who are God's possession—to the praise of his glory.” (Ephesians 1:13-14)***

The early disciples as Jesus command them to stay in Jerusalem until they receive The Holy Spirit, they responded in obedience to the commands and live in favourable atmosphere that cultivate The Holy Spirit as we can read below:-

1- They lived in full obedience: ⁴ “On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with ^[b] water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.” (Acts 1:4-5) The disciples they stayed in Jerusalem until The Holy Spirit came upon them as we can read, ***⁹ “After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight. ¹⁰ They were looking intently up into the sky as he was going, when suddenly two men dressed in white stood beside them. ¹¹ “Men of Galilee,” they said, “why do you stand here looking into the sky? This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into heaven.” ¹² Then they returned to Jerusalem from the hill called the Mount of Olives, a Sabbath day's walk ^[b] from the city. ¹³ When they arrived, they went upstairs to the room where they were staying. Those present were Peter, John, James and Andrew; Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew; James son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot, and Judas son of James.” (Acts 1:9-13)*** Full obedience and submission to God is mandatory for The Holy Spirit Baptism.

2- They lived a life of faith: They fully trusted the Lord, His word and His promises to them. They believed that Jesus would send them the Holy Spirit and therefore they stayed waiting upon the promise of God. Their faith was manifested by deeds showed by their patience to wait upon the Lord and by the style of life that they lived for Christ. They show their faith with acts and deeds as the word of God declares, ***¹⁸ “But someone will say, “You have faith; I have deeds.” Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do.” (James 2:18)***

3- They lived in unity: “They all joined together constantly.” (Acts 1:14 a) They live together the 120 disciples united with one mind and one thought. More than the physical unity is the spiritual unity. They were united around Jesus and on what God's word says. We as disciples we need to be united with God and agree on His word and have the mind of Christ and the thought of Christ and to have one purpose to serve God and the vision of Jesus who commissioned us saying, ***¹⁹ “Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in ^[c] the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age.” (Matthew 28:19-20)*** Unity in the church in the parameters that we mentioned above is so important atmosphere for The Holy Spirit to be pouring on the church members to enable us to do the mission and the vision of God.

My dear and Beloved: Filling with the Holy Spirit is a must. To be filled with the Holy Spirit is God with us whom we in desperate need so we can enjoy life and be able to do His will

My Prayer: Lord God thank you for Jesus who died for me on the cross to give me eternal life. Lord I commit my life and cause in your hand. Fill me with your Holy Spirit; this is my prayer and request in Jesus name, Amen.