

To Be Filled With The Holy Spirit

(Part 7)

¹⁵ He said to them, “Go into all the world and preach the good news to all creation. ¹⁶ Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.” (Mark 16:15-16)

To be filled with The Holy Spirit is not a luxurious thing that you can live and achieve the goals of God in your life without it. But is an essential and mandatory for what God had entrusted to you from mission in your life. Jesus commissioned us to go to the whole world and preach the gospel. But we cannot go and do His work unless He is with us. The only possible way that He is with us and will be with us and can do His will and serve Him properly is when we are filled with The Holy Spirit

Jesus also said the following to His apostles: *“¹⁷ And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons; they will speak in new tongues; ¹⁸ they will pick up snakes with their hands; and when they drink deadly poison, it will not hurt them at all; they will place their hands on sick people, and they will get well.” (Mark 16:17-18)* These privileges will appear in the life of those disciples only when they are filled with The Holy Spirit. Therefore you need to be filled with The Holy Spirit for the following more reasons.

7- Driving out demons: Jesus drove out demons with the Holy Spirit. *“²² Then they brought him a demon-possessed man who was blind and mute, and Jesus healed him, so that he could both talk and see. ²³ All the people were astonished and said, “Could this be the Son of David?” ²⁴ But when the Pharisees heard this, they said, “It is only by Beelzebul, the prince of demons, that this fellow drives out demons.” ²⁵ Jesus knew their thoughts and said to them, “Every kingdom divided against itself will be ruined, and every city or household divided against itself will not stand. ²⁶ If Satan drives out Satan, he is divided against himself. How then can his kingdom stand? ²⁷ And if I drive out demons by Beelzebul, by whom do your people drive them out? So then, they will be your judges. ²⁸ But if I drive out demons by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God has come upon you.” (Matthew 12:22-28)* In *Luke 11:20* Jesus called the Holy Spirit the finger of God, *“²⁰ But if I drive out demons by the finger of God, then the kingdom of God has come to you.”* In our mission to preach the gospel we will face demons and the power of darkness opposing us and we can overcome them only if we are filled with the Holy Spirit. The following are some more examples we can read about the work of The Holy Spirit in driving out demons in the life of the first century church.

A-*“⁶ They traveled through the whole island until they came to Paphos. There they met a Jewish sorcerer and false prophet named Bar-Jesus, ⁷ who was an attendant of the proconsul, Sergius Paulus. The proconsul, an intelligent man, sent for Barnabas and Saul because he wanted to hear the word of God. ⁸ But Elymas the sorcerer (for that is what his name means) opposed them and tried to turn the proconsul from the faith. ⁹ Then Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked straight at Elymas and said, ¹⁰ “You are a child of the devil and an enemy of everything that is right! You are full of all kinds of deceit and trickery. Will you never stop perverting the right ways of the Lord? ¹¹ Now the hand of the Lord is against you. You are going to be blind, and for a time you will be unable to see the light of the sun.” Immediately mist and darkness came over him, and he groped about, seeking someone to lead him by the*

hand. ¹² When the proconsul saw what had happened, he believed, for he was amazed at the teaching about the Lord.” (Acts 13:8-12)

B-*“¹⁶ Once when we were going to the place of prayer, we were met by a slave girl who had a spirit by which she predicted the future. She earned a great deal of money for her owners by fortune-telling. ¹⁷ This girl followed Paul and the rest of us, shouting, “These men are servants of the Most High God, who are telling you the way to be saved.” ¹⁸ She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so troubled that he turned around and said to the spirit, “In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!” At that moment the spirit left her.” (Acts 16:16-18)* Again Paul drove out another demon that was troubling their mission.

8- Protection: The Holy Spirit will be the one to protect us from all the work of devil and demons. The Holy Spirit that we are filled with may even protect us from sicknesses and poisons. *“Once safely on shore, we found out that the island was called Malta. ² The islanders showed us unusual kindness. They built a fire and welcomed us all because it was raining and cold. ³ Paul gathered a pile of brushwood and, as he put it on the fire, a viper, driven out by the heat, fastened itself on his hand. ⁴ When the islanders saw the snake hanging from his hand, they said to each other, “This man must be a murderer; for though he escaped from the sea, Justice has not allowed him to live.” ⁵ But Paul shook the snake off into the fire and suffered no ill effects. ⁶ The people expected him to swell up or suddenly fall dead, but after waiting a long time and seeing nothing unusual happen to him, they changed their minds and said he was a god.” (Acts 28:1-6)*

9- The Holy Spirit is our advocator and our defender against the schemes and the weapons of Satan: *“³ For though we live in the world, we do not wage war as the world does. ⁴ The weapons we fight with are not the weapons of the world. On the contrary, they have divine power to demolish strongholds. ⁵ We demolish arguments and every pretension that sets itself up against the knowledge of God, and we take captive every thought to make it obedient to Christ. ⁶ And we will be ready to punish every act of disobedience, once your obedience is complete.” (2Corinthians 10:3-6)* You can do all the above when you are filled with The Holy Spirit whom God will give to you as you obey Him.

10- Healing from sickness: As we are filled with The Holy Spirit people would receive healing when we lay hands on them and pray in the name of Jesus. *“⁷ There was an estate nearby that belonged to Publius, the chief official of the island. He welcomed us to his home and for three days entertained us hospitably. ⁸ His father was sick in bed, suffering from fever and dysentery. Paul went in to see him and, after prayer, placed his hands on him and healed him. ⁹ When this had happened, the rest of the sick on the island came and were cured. ¹⁰ They honored us in many ways and when we were ready to sail, they furnished us with the supplies we needed.” (Acts 28:7-10)*

My Dear and Beloved: *“After the Lord Jesus had spoken to them, he was taken up into heaven and he sat at the right hand of God. ²⁰ Then the disciples went out and preached everywhere, and the Lord worked with them and confirmed his word by the signs that accompanied it.” (Mark 16:17-20)* As they received The Holy Spirit Baptism then the Lord was with them and that is why they were able to go out and to preach everywhere. The same for you as you seek to be filled with The Holy Spirit you can and will do the same.

My prayer: *Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus who died on the cross for my sins to give me eternal life. Lord I surrender my life to you in living in full submission to your will. Lord, this is my prayer: Fill me with The Holy Spirit in Jesus name, Amen.*