

Series: Wealth and Walk of a Christian
"Spirit-Filled" Pt. 1
Eph. 5:18
12-3-17 Sun AM

In v. 18 Paul states two commands. Then in vs. 19-21 we see five participles that give the evidences of the Spirit controlling the believer.

It is this second command I want to talk about for the next two Sunday mornings. The overall context is spirit-Filled relationships (5:18-6:4).

Q- What does it mean to be spirit-Filled and how do we do that?

I. What are the ministries of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life?

- Indwelling of the Spirit- takes up residence.
- Baptism of the Spirit- places us in the body [1 Cor. 12:12-14].
- Sealing of the Spirit- gives security [Eph. 1:13-4; 4:30].
- Gifts of the Spirit- supernatural enablement's for service and edification.
- Fruit of the Spirit is the character of Jesus lived in and thru us.
- The anointing of the Spirit is empowerment for service and discernment [1 John 2:20, 27; 1 Cor. 2:1-5].
- The Filling of the Holy Spirit in a continuous experience whereby we have a part and the Spirit has a part. It is a command to live moment by moment under the control of the Holy Spirit.

II. What does it mean to be filled with the Spirit?

This work is often misunderstood and misapplied. I want to look at the incorrect meaning and then the correct meaning.

(1). *Incorrect meaning-*

First, it does not command believers to get something they don't already have. They have the Spirit at salvation.

Second, the filling of the Spirit is not the baptism of the Spirit. Holy Spirit baptism is not an extra experience you need to seek; it is something you have at the moment of salvation. The baptism of the Spirit is an act by which Jesus Christ thru the Holy Spirit places you into the body of Christ (1 Cor. 12:13; John 7:37-39).

Third, the filling is not something that makes you super spiritual, but normal Christianity. It is not something you seek but receive. "Be filled" is in the passive voice and indicates you receive the action.

(2). *Correct meaning-*

First, the literal translation reads "Be being kept filled." The idea is living moment by moment under the control or influence of the Spirit. It is walking in the Spirit.

Second, the Greek word *Pleroo* is used 3 ways in the N.T.

1. **Pressure-** wind moving a ship by the sails. The Holy Spirit provides the thrust for obedience, and takes us in the proper directions. We are carried along in the Christian life by the pressure of the Spirit.
2. **Permeation-** The Holy Spirit permeates our life and gives flavor and evidence of the Spirit.
3. **Domination-** this is the primary use, to control. We are commanded to yield to the total control of the Holy Spirit. Every emotion, thought, and act will be under His direction.

So being filled with the Spirit means being pressured, permeated, and dominated by the Holy Spirit.

Having an overflow of joy that outworks itself in renewed worship and relationships. God fills for worship and service.

III. How are we filled with the Spirit? What is our part?

1. We must confess our sins [1 John 1:9]
2. Make an act of the will to surrender and yield to His control [Rom. 12:1-2; Gal. 2:20].
3. We can't be controlled by the Spirit unless we are controlled by the Scriptures [Col. 3:16]. Let the Word be at home in your heart and life. Scripture should permeate and dominate every thought, word, and deed.
4. The Spirit filled life is one of joy and controlling of the life by obedience to God's Word.