



# SERMON NOTES

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Title: The Holy Spirit is...

#2 in the series on the Spirit Filled Church

1. The expectation of a “normal” Christian life is dependent upon the controlling power of the Spirit within a person’s life.
  - a. Murray’s six points:
    - i. It is the will of God that every one of His children should live entirely and unceasingly under the control of the Holy Spirit;
    - ii. Without being filled with the Spirit, it is utterly impossible that an individual Christian or a church can ever live or work as God desires;
    - iii. Everywhere and in everything we see the proofs, in the life and experience of Christians, that this blessing is but little enjoyed in the Church, and alas!, is but little sought for;
    - iv. This blessing is prepared for us and God waits to bestow it. Our faith may expect it with great confidence;
    - v. The great hindrance in the way is that the self-life, and the world, which it uses for its own service and pleasure, usurp the place that Christ ought to occupy;
    - vi. We cannot be filled with the Holy Spirit until we are prepared to yield ourselves to be led by the Lord Jesus Christ to forsake and sacrifice everything for this pearl of great price.
  - b. Qualities of a “normal” Christian life
    - i. Power over temptation and sin within our lives. Gal. 5:16, “*Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh.*”
    - ii. Regular, intimate communion with God. Jn. 14:23, “*If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.*”
    - iii. Becoming like Christ in His character. 1 Jn. 2:6, “*He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked.*”
  - c. Necessity of the Spirit
    - i. He teaches us what remains to be known. Jn. 14:26, “*But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you.*”
    - ii. Apart from God, nothing is possible. Jn. 15:5, “*I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.*” And Rom. 8:8, “*So then, those who are in the flesh cannot please God.*”
  - d. Sealed by y Controlled by the Holy Spirit. Every true disciple of Jesus is sealed by the Spirit, but not every disciple has allowed the Spirit to fully control them.
2. Brief review of the person of the Holy Spirit.
  - a. His personality

- i. Intellect (*cf. 2 Cor. 2:10-13, Rom. 8:27*)
    - ii. Emotion (*cf. Eph. 4:30, James 4:5*)
    - iii. Will (*cf. 1 Cor. 12:11*)
  - b. Actions by the Spirit towards people
    - i. He teaches (*cf. Jn. 16:13-15*)
    - ii. He testifies (*cf. Jn. 15:26*)
    - iii. He guides (*cf. Rom. 8:14*)
    - iv. He performs miracles (*cf. Acts 8:39*)
    - v. He convinces (*cf. Jn. 16:7-8*)
    - vi. He restrains (*cf. Gen. 6:3, 2 Thess. 2:6-7*)
    - vii. He commands (*cf. Acts 8:29*)
    - viii. He intercedes in prayer (*cf. Acts 8:26*)
  - c. Actions by people toward the Spirit
    - i. He can be obeyed (*cf. Acts 16:6-7*)
    - ii. He can be lied to (*cf. Acts 5:3*)
    - iii. He can be resisted (*cf. Acts 7:51*)
    - iv. He can be blasphemed (*cf. Mt. 12:31*)
    - v. He can be grieved (*cf. Eph. 4:30*)
    - vi. He can be insulted (*cf. Heb. 10:29*)
  - d. He is a distinct personality
    - i. Apart from the apostles (*cf. Acts 15:28*)
    - ii. Apart from the Son (*cf. Jn. 16:14*)
    - iii. Apart from the Father and the Son (*cf. Mt. 28:19, 2 Cor. 13:14*)
  - e. He is divine (*cf. 1 Cor. 2:10-11, Luke 1:35, Rom. 15:19, Ps. 139:7-10, Heb. 9:14, Job 26:13, 2 Tim. 3:16, Jn. 3:5-8, Mt. 28:19*)
3. Advent of Pentecost and God's special provision of His Spirit in us.
- a. Until Pentecost, the Spirit would come and go with select individuals.
    - i. Joseph; *Gen. 41:38, "And Pharaoh said to his servants, "Can we find such a one as this, a man in whom is the Spirit of God?"*
    - ii. Samson; *Judges 14:6, "And the Spirit of the LORD came mightily upon him..."*
    - iii. Saul; *1 Sam. 11:6, "Then the Spirit of God came upon Saul..."*
    - iv. David; *1 Sam. 16:13, "Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers; and the Spirit of the LORD came upon David from that day forward."*
    - v. Elijah, Elisha, etc.
  - b. God promised from long ago that there would be a time when He would dwell within His people.
    - i. *Ez. 36:26, "I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh."*
    - ii. *Ez. 37:14, 26, "I will put My Spirit in you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I, the LORD, have spoken it and performed it," says the LORD.'*

*Moreover I will make a covenant of peace with them, and it shall be an everlasting covenant with them; I will establish them and multiply them, and I will set My sanctuary in their midst forevermore."*

- iii. Joel 2:28-29, *"And it shall come to pass afterward that I will pour out My Spirit on all flesh; Your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, Your old men shall dream dreams, Your young men shall see visions. And also on My menservants and on My maidservants I will pour out My Spirit in those days."*

c. Pentecost was the moving of the Temple from outside to inside the people of God.

- i. Jn. 14:16-17, *"And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever –the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him; but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you."*
- ii. 1 Cor. 6:19, *"Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?"*

d. The results of this move of His temple:

i. Access to power and guidance

- 1. Acts 1:9, *"you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you"*
- 2. Jn. 16:13, *"He will guide you into all truth"*

ii. Greater intimacy and communion

- 1. Jn. 14:16, *"He will give you another Comforter, that He may abide with you forever."*
- 2. Jn. 14:23, *"We will come to him and make Our home with him."*
- 3. 2 Cor. 13:14, *"The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen."*

iii. Greater responsibility

- 1. Lev. 6:13, *"A fire shall always be burning on the altar; it shall never go out."*
- 2. Prov. 26:20, *"Where there is no wood, the fire goes out;"*
- 3. Is. 42:3, *"A bruised reed He will not break, and smoking flax He will not quench; He will bring forth justice for truth."*
- 4. 2 Tim. 1:6, *"Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands."*

4. Take-aways

- a. Love & pursue God with everything.
- b. The "normal" Christian life is meant to be of power, communion and reflection of Christ.
- c. *"Alas, this blessing is little enjoyed..."*
- d. The Holy Spirit is a Person.
- e. The anointing used to be provisional and selective in the OT.
- f. At Pentecost, God moved His temple from outside to inside His people.
- g. The indwelling of the Spirit carries real results and promises.