



# SERMON NOTES

US N°. 148

Date: July 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014

Title: The Necessity of the Spirit

#1 in the series on the Spirit Filled Church

1. The Two Greatest Commandments
  - a. *"YOU SHALL LOVE THE LORD YOUR GOD WITH ALL YOUR HEART, WITH ALL YOUR SOUL, WITH ALL YOUR MIND, AND WITH ALL YOUR STRENGTH."* Mark 12:30
  - b. *"YOU SHALL LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR AS YOURSELF."* Mark 12:31
2. The necessity and role of the Holy Spirit.
  - a. The Holy Spirit's role and function within the Trinity, and His leading role with the KOG today. The Father and Son are in heaven awaiting the fulfillment of times, until then the Spirit of Jesus dwells on earth to help the Church be made perfect.
    - i. Rom. 14:17, *"the kingdom of God is not eating and drinking, but righteousness and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit."*
    - ii. Jn. 14:16-18, 26, *"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. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you... 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."*
    - iii. Jn. 15:26, *"But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, He will testify of Me."*
    - iv. Jn. 16:5-16, *"But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, 'Where are You going?' But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away; for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but if I depart, I will send Him to you. And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment: of sin, because they do not believe in Me; of righteousness, because I go to My Father and you see Me no more; of judgment, because the ruler of this world is judged. 'I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you. 'A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father.'"*
  - b. Characteristics of a Normal Christian Life
    - i. 1 Cor. 4:20, *"For the kingdom of God is not in word but in power."*

- ii. 1 Cor. 1:18, 24, *"For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God... but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God."*
- iii. 1 Cor. 2:4-5, *"And my speech and my preaching were not with persuasive words of human wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God."*
- iv. Jn. 10:10b, *"I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly."*
- v. Communion with God
  - 1. 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."*
  - 2. 1 Cor. 1:9, *"God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord."*
  - 3. Rev. 3:20, *"Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me."*
- vi. Character of Christ
  - 1. 1 Jn. 2:6, *"He who says he abides in Him ought himself also to walk just as He walked."*
  - 2. 1 Pet. 2:21, *"For to this you were called, because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that you should follow His steps..."*
  - 3. Jn. 13:13-17, *"You call Me Teacher and Lord, and you say well, for so I am. If I then, your Lord and Teacher, have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. For I have given you an example, that you should do as I have done to you. Most assuredly, I say to you, a servant is not greater than his master; nor is he who is sent greater than he who sent him. If you know these things, blessed are you if you do them."*
- c. How little the abundant life is enjoyed by the Christian and the Church.
  - i. *"Everywhere among the children of God we hear complaints of weakness and sin. Amongst those who not so complain, there is reason to fear that their silence is to be ascribed to the prevalence of ignorance or self-satisfaction." Andrew Murray, 1895*
  - ii. *"Far too many Christians, however, are not experiencing the enabling power of God. For these believers it is simply a matter of doing the best they can to conform to certain expected standards. On the surface, some appear to be more successful at conforming to the rules than others, but if they are honest with themselves, and this is no easy task because of our bent for self-deception, there is the ever present awareness that something is wrong. In our attempt to rationalize, we may seek to find comfort in thoughts such as: "No one is perfect, we all have our weaknesses," or "I am doing the very best I can, and I am sure God understands.""*
  - iii. Jn. 17:16, *"They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world."*
  - iv. It is not our best that God wants in our lives, but rather His best through the empowerment of His Spirit. Col. 1:29, *"To this end I also labor, striving according to His working which works in me mightily."*

1. God knows we cannot do this on our own. If we could do this in our own strength, why then does Jesus make so many promises about the Spirit? Human weakness and sin prevent us from doing this. Gal. 3:10, *"For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse; for it is written, "CURSED IS EVERYONE WHO DOES NOT CONTINUE IN ALL THINGS WHICH ARE WRITTEN IN THE BOOK OF THE LAW, TO DO THEM.""*
- d. The doctrine of the filling of the Holy Spirit is vital to fellowship with God and to obedience. Without an understanding of this doctrine the believer cannot properly function in the Christian life.
  - i. 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. Acts 1:4-5, *"And being assembled together with them, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," He said, "you have heard from Me; for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.""*
  - iii. Spirit v Flesh
    1. Rom. 8:4, 13-14, *"...the righteous requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us who do not walk according to the flesh but according to the Spirit... if you live according to the flesh you will die, but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God."*
- e. A right understanding of the filling and controlling ministry of the Spirit is required of the Church and is highlighted by Gal. 4:19, *"My little children, for whom I labor in birth again until Christ is formed in you..."* The meaning of the Greek word "formed" (G3445 "morfow") is the idea of giving outward expression of inner character. Paul prays that Christ would be outwardly expressed in the believer, but from within through the power of the Spirit. Mere external conformity is not the goal. The verb "formed" is in passive tense which means the subject receives the action rather than produces the action. Christ formed in one's life is not something the Christian can do, nor is it something Christ does Himself. Christ does not manifest Himself in the life of the Christian. This ministry has been given to the Holy Spirit.
  - i. Gal. 5:16-25, *"Walk in the Spirit, and you shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh. For the flesh lusts against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh; and these are contrary to one another, so that you do not do the things that you wish... And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit."*
3. Communion with the Holy Spirit
  - a. Every true disciple of Christ has the Holy Spirit, but not all live controlled or filled by the Spirit.
    - i. Sealed by the Spirit
      1. Eph. 1:13, *"In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise..."*

2. 2 Cor. 1:21-22, "Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, who also has sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee."

ii. Unknowing of the filling

1. Acts 8:15b-17, "who, when [Peter & John] had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit."
2. Acts 19:1-2, "And it happened, while Apollos was at Corinth, that Paul, having passed through the upper regions, came to Ephesus. And finding some disciples he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" So they said to him, "We have not so much as heard whether there is a Holy Spirit.""

b. Andrew Murray's The Full Blessing of Pentecost (1895) six main 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.

4. Take-aways

- a. Love with all.
- b. The necessity and role of the Holy Spirit.
- c. There is a normal Christian life which many are missing out on.
- d. The doctrine of the filling of the Holy Spirit is critical to the life of the Church.