

# The Life-Style of the Spirit

## Lesson #7

### THE FILLING OF THE SPIRIT

#### "Is the Holy Spirit Filling you right now?"

There are three possible answers. (1) No, (2) Yes, (3) I don't know what you mean by "being filled with the Spirit."

#### I. IT IS A COMMAND

1. Imperative verb - not a suggestion, but a command. This means it is a sin Not to be filled with the Spirit. We need to be convinced and convicted of this.

2. It is a plural verb - There are no exceptions. Every Christian is to be filled.

3. The filling is necessary for Purity of Life.

(1) Negative - overcome works of flesh - Gal. 5:16 f

(2) Positive - Produce Christ-likeness - Gal. 2:22

4. The filling is necessary for Power in Life.

A Christian without the filling is as useless as a light bulb without electricity or a candle with fire or a bullet without powder.

Note: God rejects all done in the flesh. Everything I do - singing, preaching, witnessing - without the filling of the Spirit will constitute the wood, hay and stubble at the Judgment Seat of Christ. The life lived without the filling of the Spirit is wasted life, no matter how much it achieves.

#### II. A COMMAND TO BE CONTROLLED BY THE SPIRIT

1. A passive verb - Lit. "Let the Holy Spirit fill you." The Holy Spirit wants to fill you more than you want to be filled.

2. Note the contrast and comparison between being drunk with wine and filled with the Spirit.

3. To be filled with the Spirit is to be controlled by the Spirit, to be "possessed completely", to yield totally and unreservedly to Him in every area of your life.

4. This means:

(1) Negatively, our sins must be confessed.

a. I didn't say, you must have victory over sin before you can be filled - you can't have victory until you are filled. But every known sin must be confessed to God.

b. Confessing to others and asking forgiveness may be impressed upon you by the Spirit - Matt. 5:23, 24

c. Restitution of money, etc. may be necessary. The Holy Spirit will reveal these things to you.

There must be complete obedience to the Spirit if He is to control you.

(2) Positively, we must enthrone Christ as Lord in our lives.  
Only when Jesus is Lord is the Holy Spirit controlling us.

5. When we have confessed and repented of all known sin, obeyed completely the Spirit and by a positive act of our will enthrone Jesus as Lord, the Holy Spirit fills us. Accept it by faith, not feeling. Thank Him for it.

### III. A COMMAND TO BE CONTINUOUSLY CONTROLLED BY THE SPIRIT.

The verb is in the present tense - "be being filled..." signifying a habit of life. You can be filled with the Spirit every moment of every day.

1. By instant confession of sin. I John 1:9

2. By immediate obedience to the Spirit.

(1) Quench not - I Thess. 5:19

(2) Grieve not - Eph. 4:30