

Series: The Wealth of Christ the Walk of the Christian

BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

EPHESIANS 5:18-21

Text: Ephesians 5:18

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¹⁸ *And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but **be filled with the Spirit;***

Introduction:

There is much confusion regarding what it means to be Spirit filled.

I have heard preachers say that the evidence of being filled with the Spirit is to speak in tongues. As sincere as they might be in their intentions, there is not one shred of evidence to support this belief. Yet, I believe that we can know what it means to be filled with the Spirit and also why it is commanded.

Notice:

1. THE REQUIREMENT (VS.18)

Ephesians 5:18

¹⁸ And **be not** drunk with wine, wherein is excess; **but** **be** filled with the Spirit;

A. Command

It is imperative that the believer be filled with the Spirit. Some live and act as though this is an option. It is not! Just as imperative as it is to not be drunk with wine, it is commanded that we are to be filled with the Spirit.

B. The Conditions (Colossians 3:16, 17)

Colossians 3:16-17

¹⁶ Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom; teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord. ¹⁷ And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.

One cannot be filled with the Spirit unless the Word of Christ dwells within them richly. This must happen within the soul of man.

This is not just head knowledge; this is when one acts upon Truth while exercising faith or believes that the Word of God is, indeed, the Word of God.

2. THE RESEMBLANCE (VS. 18)

Ephesians 5:18

¹⁸ *And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit;*

As a drunk is controlled by a different substance – a spirit filled Christian is controlled by a different person.

3. THE RESULTS (VS. 19-21)

Ephesians 5:19-21

¹⁹ *Speaking to yourselves in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;* ²⁰ *Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;* ²¹ *Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.*

A. A Silent Joy (vs. 19)

Ephesians 5:19

¹⁹ *Speaking **to yourselves** in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord;*

For there to be a song on the lips, there must be joy in the heart. If you do not have inward joy and peace, you are not filled with the Spirit. There are two reasons that one is not filled with the Spirit. One is either lost or if saved, is not letting the Word of Christ dwell in you richly.

B. A Spirit of Thanksgiving (vs. 20)

Ephesians 5:20

²⁰ Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ;

Psalms 100 tells us what thanksgiving is all about.

Psalms 100:1-5

¹ Make a joyful noise unto the LORD, all ye lands. ² Serve the LORD with gladness: come before his presence with singing. ³ Know ye that the LORD he is God: it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture. ⁴ Enter into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise: be thankful unto him, and bless his name. ⁵ For the LORD is good; his mercy is everlasting; and his truth endureth to all generations.

A Spirit filled thankful person will make a “joyful noise unto the Lord”. This thankfulness will show up in every part of one’s existence.

D. A Submitting to Others (vs. 21)

Ephesians 5:21

²¹ *Submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.*

One learns the art of submitting from the Word of God. This tells us that the Spirit-filled person does not have to be first.

Also seen in the production of the right fruit

Galatians 5:16-26

¹⁶ *This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfil the lust of the flesh.* ¹⁷ *For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.* ¹⁸ *But if ye be led of the Spirit, ye are not under the law.* ¹⁹ *Now the works of the flesh are manifest, which are these; Adultery, fornication, uncleanness, lasciviousness,* ²⁰ *Idolatry, witchcraft, hatred, variance, emulations, wrath, strife, seditions, heresies,* ²¹ *Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God.* ²² *But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,* ²³ *Meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.* ²⁴ *And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and*

lusts. ²⁵ If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit. ²⁶ Let us not be desirous of vain glory, provoking one another, envying one another.

The Fruit of the Spirit is evidenced by one's life in the way that he lives it.

Close:

Are we fulfilling both of these commands in our lives?