

Desire to Be Filled

by A.W. Tozer

To be filled with the Holy Spirit, one must first genuinely desire it, surrendering to His lordship and considering the implications of being possessed by a spirit other than their own.

Scripture: Galatians 5:22, Ephesians 5:18

Topics: "Surrender to God", "Desire for the Holy Spirit"

Description

A.W. Tozer emphasizes the necessity of desiring to be filled with the Holy Spirit, challenging the audience to reflect on their true willingness to be possessed by God's Spirit. He points out that mere attendance or verbal expressions of desire do not equate to a genuine longing for the transformative power of the Holy Spirit in their lives. Tozer warns that being filled with the Spirit means surrendering control and allowing the Spirit to be the Lord of one's life, which can be a daunting prospect. He encourages believers to earnestly seek this filling, recognizing the profound implications it has for their spiritual journey. The sermon concludes with a heartfelt invitation for the Holy Spirit to come and fill their lives.

Transcript

And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but be filled with the Spirit. --Ephesians 5:18

Again, before you can be filled with the Spirit you must desire to be filled. Here I meet with a certain amount of puzzlement. Somebody will say, "How is it that you say to us that we must desire to be filled, because you know we desire to be. Haven't we talked to you in person? Haven't we called you on the phone? Aren't we out here tonight to hear the sermon on the Holy Spirit? Isn't this all a comforting indication to you that we are desirous of being filled with the Holy Spirit?"

Not necessarily, and I will explain why. For instance, are you sure that you want to be possessed by a spirit other than your own? even though that spirit be the pure Spirit of God? even though He be the very gentle essence of the gentle Jesus? even though He be sane and pure and free? even though He be wisdom personified, wisdom Himself, even though He have a healing, precious ointment to distill? even though He be loving as the heart of God? That Spirit, if He ever possesses you, will be the Lord of your Life! How to Be Filled With the Spirit, 42-43.

"Even so come, Holy Spirit! Amen."

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/aw-tozer/desire-to-be-filled/>

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