

Preparation for Being Filled With the Spirit

by Zac Poonen

To be filled with the Holy Spirit, we must study the Bible carefully, be willing to apply its teachings to our lives, and allow the Holy Spirit to guide us in our thoughts, words, and actions.

Duration: 1:09:56

Scripture: Isaiah 28:9-10, Mark 10:17-19, Luke 11:13, John 7:37-39, Romans 7:24-25, Romans 8:2-4

Topics: "Holy Spirit", "Repentance"

Description

This sermon emphasizes the importance of coming to a place of desperation and need before receiving the power of the Holy Spirit. It highlights the journey of recognizing personal sinfulness, seeking God's grace and mercy, and ultimately experiencing victory over sin through the Holy Spirit. The speaker stresses the significance of following Jesus' pattern of teaching, focusing on the commandments, repentance, and thirsting for God's presence.

Transcript

There is a verse in Isaiah 28, which I want you to see. Jesus was the best teacher that walked on this earth. And there was a pattern that he followed in teaching.

And as I have sought to follow Jesus' pattern in teaching and preaching, I have not tried to follow anybody else, no American, no anybody else is my example. No Pentecostal preacher is my example. I was in another country where one Pentecostal man asked me a question.

Brother Zach, why don't you keep saying Hallelujah in the middle of your message frequently? I said because Jesus is my example. He didn't say, blessed are the poor in spirit, Hallelujah. Anyone thirst, come to me, Hallelujah.

Come to me all you who labor and are heavy laden, Hallelujah. He never said it once, in any of his messages. Peter on the day of Pentecost, when he preached, he didn't say Hallelujah every sentence.

I said, my example is Jesus and the apostles, not all these other preachers. People ask me, why don't you take a mic and walk up and down? I said, because I can't imagine Jesus running up and down and saying, blessed are the poor in spirit. So, I am an imitator only of Jesus.

And there is a particular pattern he followed in teaching. And that is the best way for every person who preaches God's word. Isaiah 28, verse 9 and 10.

To whom will he teach knowledge? To whom will he interpret the message? Those who are just weaned from the milk, just taken from the breast. That means little babies. And how does he teach them? Order on order, order on order, line on line, line on line, a little here, a little there.

Line upon line upon line, that's how it says in English. And like that, verse 11, he will speak to the people. So, there was a particular pattern by which Jesus taught.

Even in the Old Testament it was like that. And I want to explain this to you. Let's turn first to the Old Testament law, then we will go to the New Testament.

Exodus chapter 20, here you see how this line upon line, line upon line is there. Here we read about 10 commandments. And as you read it, you will find that man without the help of the Holy Spirit can keep 9 of those commandments.

Any non-Christian, any atheist can keep 9 commandments. So, listen carefully. First is, I am the Lord your God and you shall have no other gods but me, verse 2 and 3. So many people can obey that.

Because it's external. Second, you shall not make an idol, verse 4. That also, if you want to keep it, anybody can keep it. You don't need the power of the Holy Spirit.

So many nominal Christians will keep that. Number 3, you shall not take the name of the Lord your God in vain, verse 7. That also we can keep without the power of the Holy Spirit. And Saturday, verse 8, remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy.

That means one day you take rest and think about God. That also you can keep without the Holy Spirit's help. Then number 5, honor your father and mother, verse 12.

We can keep it. Honor your father and mother. There are so many Hindus who do that.

Sometimes I think the Hindus do it better than the Christians. Verse 13, you shall not murder. So many people can do that.

You shall not commit adultery. Many people do that. You shall not steal.

Many do that. And number 9, you shall not bear false witness. That means when you go to court, you must speak the truth.

Nine commandments, anybody can keep if they want to. Now you come to the tenth commandment. You shall not desire in your heart your neighbor's house.

Oh, he's got a bigger house than me. I wish I could have that. You must not have that desire.

Or your neighbor's wife. Oh, that person has got a very pretty wife. I wish my wife could be like that.

Oh, she's such a hard working wife. I wish I had a wife like that. Oh, she's such a good cook.

I wish my wife could cook like that. You must not have it. You're not talking about touching another person's wife.

Just wishing that you could have that. Or anything that belongs to your neighbor. Your neighbor's daughter.

Every girl who walks on the road is your neighbor's daughter. You must not desire her. You must not look and lust for her.

Nobody could keep it. Nine commandments, anybody can keep. Tenth commandment, nobody could keep.

It's important to understand that. So, you see, even Jesus understood that. You read Mark chapter 10.

When one rich young ruler came to Jesus. Mark 10, 17. He asked Jesus, how can I get eternal life? Today, we would say, repent, believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and give your life to him.

But this was before the day of Pentecost. When men were under the law. So, the answer to that question is.

Verse 19. Keep the commandments. Now see which all commandments Jesus says.

Don't murder. Don't commit adultery. Don't steal.

Don't bear false witness. Don't cheat. Honor your father and mother.

Five, six, seven, eight, nine. Lord, what about number ten? Why didn't you mention, don't desire your neighbor's wife? Why didn't he mention that? Because Jesus knew nobody can keep it. He knew nobody is keeping it.

So, why mention it? So, hearing only up to number nine. He said, I have kept all these commandments. From my childhood.

If Jesus had said number ten also, he could not have said, I have kept it. This is one example of how most Christians read the word of God so carelessly. I said, Brother Zach, I never saw that till you showed it to me.

There is no angel from heaven who came and showed me this. I just read the Bible carefully. I wanted the Bible to go through me more than me go through the Bible.

This is one example. You know, some people say, I have read the Bible so carefully. Some people say, Oh, God has given Brother Zach a gift, that's why he can preach like that.

It is true, I agree. But I also believe another thing. God would never have given me this gift if he had seen me reading the Bible carelessly.

Because he saw me reading the Bible carefully, he said, Oh, I can entrust him with the ministry. And I want to tell all of you young people, if almighty God sees any of you studying the Bible carefully, ten, fifteen years from now, you will have a mighty ministry. God will give you the gift.

But if he sees you careless in reading the Bible, he will not give you a gift. So, don't excuse yourself saying, No, I can't do that, because God gave him the gift, he didn't give it to me. Do you know that God never encourages laziness? You know what God told Adam when he sinned? In Genesis 3. By the sweat of your brow, you will earn your bread.

There is bread of life here in this book. Do you know how to get it? By the sweat of your brow, as you study it, you will get it. By the sweat of your brow, as you study it, you will get it.

2 Timothy 2.6 The hard working farmer is the first one to receive his share of the crops. Consider what I am saying. The Lord will give you understanding.

What is he saying? That the hard working farmer who perspires gets the crop. The lazy farmer who is just sleeping most of the time and listening to music all the time, he will never get a crop. The lazy farmer who is just sleeping most of the time and listening to music all the time, he will never get a crop.

The great tragedy is that the young people who are studying the word of God day and night, before you get married, you must know the scriptures. After you get married, you don't have so much time. All the scriptures I know, I got before I got married.

I am talking to you young people. Before you get married, study the word of God. Don't waste your time in useless pursuits.

Some people think keeping on listening to music is a great thing. It's not good if you neglect the word of God. And if you read a book or listen to a message, make sure it is a book or a message that drives you to scripture.

Don't listen to entertaining Christian messages. People ask me what type of authors do you like to read. Authors that will drive me to the word of God.

So, that is how we can know scripture. So, nine commandments everybody could keep. See, Paul, Philippians 3, he says, verse 6, the last part, according to the righteousness which is in the law, I am blameless.

He is talking about the ten commandments. Oh, so Paul, you mean you could keep all the ten commandments? You are saying you are blameless. Paul says, no, wait a minute.

Please read what I said in Romans chapter 7 also. Then you will understand what I mean by I am blameless. He says in Romans 7, the last part of verse 7, I would not have known about coveting unless the law in the ten commandments said you shall not covet.

He is talking about the ten commandments. I did not even know that lusting is a sin. But when I read that ten commandments, I saw that is also a sin.

And then what did I discover? I found in verse 8, inside my heart, all types of lusts inside my heart. Before I read the commandments, I thought he was a holy man. When I read up to number 9 commandments, I said, I am a holy man.

1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, I am a holy man. Then I read number 10. You shall not desire.

And I found, he says, all types of lusts in my heart. Not only my neighbor's wife. This is Paul.

My neighbor's daughter. And the other girl who was walking down the street. Lord, there is all types of lusts in my heart.

This is Apostle Paul speaking. What did he do about it? He did not say, oh well, we are all human, we will do that. Many believers are like that.

What did he say? He says in verse 24. Oh, wretched man that I am. How will I be free from this? How many of you say that when you find that you are lusting in your heart? You lusted after somebody.

And you weep at night and say, oh God, what a wretched man I am. Oh, you girls may not have so much temptation with sexual lust. But you can have other desires.

You want what that person has. I wish I were as pretty as that girl. That girl found a good husband and I wish I got a husband like that.

Oh, wretched man that I am. The person who says that will get the answer. He says in chapter 8 verse 2. The law of the Holy Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set me free.

Not the ten commandments. That is the law of Moses. That could not set me free.

But the law of the Holy Spirit. What is the law of the Holy Spirit? It's not 500 commandments. It's not even one commandment.

The law of the Spirit, it says here in verse 2, is the life in Christ Jesus. That life came inside and set me free from this lust. So you see, you read Romans, it is step by step by step.

Line upon line, line upon line, line upon line. It says chapter 1. Dirty sinners in the world. Chapter 2. The religious sinners who think they are better.

Chapter 3. All are sin. Chapter 4. We need not only forgiveness but we need to be justified by faith. Chapter 5. Line upon line upon line.

We have peace with God. Now the grace of God can reign in my life. Chapter 6. Verse 14.

Sin shall not rule over you. He has gone from forgiveness to justification to victory over sin. And then he comes to Romans 7. I'm such a legalistic type of man still.

I want to be free from that. I want to be free from this coveting. How shall I be free? Line upon line.

Holy Spirit. So when does he come to the Holy Spirit? Not in chapter 1. Not in 2. 3. 4. 5. 6. 7. No. Only in 8 he says.

So when does the Lord reveal that to him? When he says oh God I'm such a wretched sinner. How can I be free? The Lord says through the Holy Spirit. Now today most people want the Holy Spirit because they want to speak in tongues.

Oh some people say I got a shock in my body when the Holy Spirit filled me. What is the use of speaking in tongues and getting an electric shock if you still lust after women? Paul was not seeking for those things. There is no mention of tongues or electric shock in any of these things.

He says the whole law of the Spirit was life in Christ Jesus. And it set me free from sin. So when I teach God's word I also try to go line upon line upon line upon line.

Some people just talk about the Holy Spirit straight away in chapter 1. See it's no use giving a medicine to a person who is not sure he is sick. He will throw it away. He won't value it.

It's a very expensive medicine. I'll give it to you free. But if you are not sure you are sick.

You will forget to take it. See some of you got serious problems with blood pressure and diabetes and things like that. And the doctor says you must take this tablet everyday.

You will never forget. Because you know this is a serious sickness. So first you have to be convinced about your sickness.

Then you will take the medicine. And that is the tragedy today in Christian preaching. Straight away they talk about the power of the Holy Spirit.

They put what should come last right at the beginning. What should come in chapter 8 they say in chapter 1. So you are telling people who don't have a sense of need About the solution to that sickness. That's why I read that verse in Isaiah 28.

Line upon line upon line. And then he says now I know the power of the Holy Spirit. What is the result? Romans 8.3 What the law could not do because of the weakness of the flesh.

What was it the law could not do? The law could help you to keep 9 commandments. The law could not help you to keep the 10th commandment. That is what he is writing here.

The law said you shall not lust. That the law could not help me. That God did.

He sent his own son. Who died on the cross for us. Gave us the Holy Spirit.

So that. Verse 4. This requirement of the law. What is that? What is mentioned in verse 4 is the requirement of the law.

The law said you shall not lust. That is you shall not lust. You shall not covet.

You shall not lust after your neighbor's daughter. Your neighbor's wife or anything that is your neighbor. That is the requirement of the law.

It can now be fulfilled inside us. The important word in Romans 8.4 is the word in us. The important word in Romans 8.4 is the word in us.

Outside I could keep all the 9 commandments. But inside I could not keep it. But now.

When I decide not to walk according to the flesh. But through the power of the Holy Spirit. It is fulfilled inside me.

What does this phrase mean? I do not walk according to the flesh. That is explained in Galatians 5.24 as the flesh is crucified. That means I take up the cross and put the flesh to death.

That means not according to the flesh. I put the flesh to death. How do I do it? By the power of the Holy Spirit.

Romans 8.13 The last part. If by the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. Why did God give this revelation of the Holy Spirit last? Because Paul was in a place of need.

And when you are so fed up of your sin. That you cry out, Oh wretched man, when will I be delivered from this dirty harvest? God will give you a revelation. It will not be just listening to a message.

I remember when my eyes were opened. That I do not have to live defeated by my sin. I do not have to be defeated by my anger or my lust or anything.

The law of the Holy Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set me free. So I do not say I got victory over sin. I say Jesus keeps me from falling.

I say Jesus keeps me from falling. My flesh is still weak. Anytime my flesh pulls me down like the law of gravity.

See there is a law of gravity here. If I leave it, it falls. Anywhere in the world it will fall.

But now see it is not falling. Why? Not because this book has got some power. The law of life in my body is keeping this book from falling.

That is the law of the Spirit. Of life in Jesus Christ keeps me from falling. So the book cannot boast saying I do not fall.

The book can say Zach's life keeps me from falling. And so that is what I also say. I do not say I do not fall into sin.

No, I say Jesus keeps me from falling. This is the secret of victory over sin. But that is not the first message you need to hear.

You need to hear about sin. You need to see the horribleness of sin. You must see how helpless you are to overcome it.

And when you come to the end of yourself and you are fed up with your life when you are fed up with your defeated life that is why I am preaching this in the last message. That is how Jesus also taught it. John chapter 7 In John chapter 7 we read that Jesus went to the feast in Jerusalem.

It was a time where John 7 verse 2 the feast of the Jews, the feast of Booths was at hand. And that was for a number of days. He talked to different people all those days.

Line upon line, line upon line, line upon line. Romans 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 Then on the last day John 7 verse 37 He comes to chapter 8 Now on the last day After you all have heard me all these days Do you have a thirst? Do you have a thirst for the type of life I just spoke about? Then come to me You cannot live this life by yourself Come to me Believe in me That is the same as drinking from me He says in verse 37 Faith is like drinking Drinking is the first thing we learn in our life Or breathing Both are a picture of receiving the Holy Spirit Breathing, as soon as the baby comes out of the womb It breathes It has never breathed till then It breathes That is like Jesus breathed on his disciples And said receive the Holy Spirit And the next thing the baby does is Drink milk So Jesus said come to me and drink You don't have to be a mature saint To breathe or drink You don't have to be a mature saint The day a baby is born It breathes and it drinks The day you are born again You can receive the Holy Spirit If you have a need And then Over a period of time From inside Like a cup filled From inside the rivers will flow And bless thousands of people Not from outside like in the Old Testament You read in the Old Testament The Spirit was upon this person Upon that person, upon this person But the Spirit was never inside any person That came on the day of Pentecost Jesus told his disciples John 14 Verse 16 First of all he said Verse 15 If you love me keep my commandments What is his commandment?

If you look with lust at a woman you have sinned If you get angry and tell somebody something You can go to hell Love your enemies Forgive everybody who hurt you When you do something good Don't let anybody know it Your commandments Lord, how in the world shall I keep it? I love you but how to keep your commandments? I am a wretched man The Lord says I will tell you I will ask the father Verse 16 He will give you a helper Helper for what? Not a helper to make me speak in tongues A helper to keep the commandments To keep all the commandments In Matthew 5, 6 and 7 Today so many people speak about the Holy Spirit Talk about the life of Christ It's all a deception Because I don't see them obeying Matthew 5, 6 and 7 They lose their temper at home with their wives They lust in their heart And they say Holy Spirit, life of Christ Oh nonsense Because they have not come to the place of saying Oh wretched man that I am How can I live this life?

So don't believe in all this deception Going on in Christianity You look in their life Have you overcome anger? Can you honestly say that? Have you stopped lusting with your mind? Are you free from the love of money? Do you speak the truth? You are not doing these things brother You need to be filled with the Holy Spirit If you don't do these things You need the life of Christ Not talk about it and preach about it But manifest it It says about Jesus In him was life And the life was the light of man John 1, 4 You see this light It doesn't make any noise The life of Jesus is like that You are not preaching, preaching, preaching It's a life Without any noise It's manifested in you And you will know it You don't have to talk about it The light doesn't talk If we talk it is to help other people To come to that light But you must have a thirst To come to Jesus Then When the Holy Spirit has come Verse 17 The world cannot receive him But now Verse 17 Read this carefully Now he is abiding with you But in that day He will come to you He will abide with you On that day You will know him Did you see the difference Now he is with you But on that day He will be in you That is the day of Pentecost And from inside the rivers of living water will flow Why did Jesus speak about this On the last day of the feast Why did he speak about the Holy Spirit On the last day before he went to the cross Why didn't he talk about it on the first day Because it is line upon line Line upon line Just like Paul Romans 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 Then you come to chapter 6 So Jesus preached, preached, preached And finally he talked about the Holy Spirit That is the pattern I have followed For 40 years That is the pattern I have followed for 40 years I learned it from Jesus And that is why In the Acts of the Apostles In the Acts of the Apostles After preaching for three and a half years After preaching for three and a half years Then he tells them In Acts 1 Acts 1 You must wait in Jerusalem now You will be filled with the Holy Spirit You will be filled with the Holy Spirit Not many days from now Verse 5 You will be baptized in the Holy Spirit You will be baptized in the Holy Spirit You turn to another passage Luke 24 He told them Luke 24, 49 You must stay in the city of Jerusalem Until you are clothed with power from on high You must stay in the city of Jerusalem Until you are clothed with power from on high When did he say that?

Not on the first day Just before he went up He was doing line upon line The last thing was You need to be filled with the Holy Spirit And that is not to everybody And that is not to everybody To those who had a sense of need in their life To those who had a sense of need in their life These disciples had heard for three and a half years And they had a sense of need And they had a sense of need This is how we have taught in CFC churches for so many years, but until you come to a place of need, what shall we preach?

We shall preach Matthew 5, Matthew 6, Matthew 7. You shall not lust, you shall not get angry, you shall not love money, you are not to be anxious, you are not to be afraid, you must not judge others, you must not let other people know what good you do, you must always speak the truth, you must do good to those who do evil to you, and you say, Lord, how can I do this? You read Matthew 5, Matthew 6 and you come to the end and say, how can I do this? The Lord says in Matthew 7, finally, Matthew 7, 7, ask, seek, and if

you being evil, verse 11, know how to give good gifts to your children, Matthew 7, 11, don't you think the Holy Spirit the Father will give good things to those who ask Him?

What is that good thing we have to ask the Father for? Read Luke chapter 11, verse 13, it's the same verse, if you being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him? The problem with a lot of preaching about the Holy Spirit and the life of Jesus nowadays in many churches, it's preaching to people who are not thirsty, people who are not saying, Oh, wretched man, I'm defeated, they put Romans 8 where Romans 1 should be, Romans 8 comes after Romans 7, 24, on the last day of the feast, he said, if you thirst, come to me, on the last day of his life on earth, he said, if you love me, keep my commandments, for three and a half years, he just preached commandments, commandments, commandments, and then he said, have you learnt now that you can't keep it?

No, I'm praying to the Father, He'll send the Holy Spirit, He will help you to keep these commandments, and Paul experienced it, and so he could say, praise God, the law of the Holy Spirit, life in Christ Jesus, like I said, has set me free from this law of gravity, that's pulling me down into sins, not me, the life of Jesus Christ, not ten commandments, the law, not of the law of Moses, the law of the Spirit, what does the law of Moses do? The law of Moses condemned me, the law of the Spirit lifted me up, life in Christ Jesus, it keeps me from falling, my dear brothers and sisters, this is what I have experienced, this is what number of brothers have experienced, but early when they came to Romans 7.24 saying, oh wretched man that I am, those who try to get a shortcut to Romans 8 from Romans 1, they get frustrated, they babble something, and say I have spoken in tongues, what's you saying all that if you are still defeated by sin?

You know that I am not against speaking in tongues, I have spoken in tongues for 40 years, that is not the mark of the fullness of the Holy Spirit, the fullness of the Holy Spirit's mark is, He sets me free from the law of sin. The other is a gift God gives, gift of preaching, gift of speaking in tongues, gift of casting out demons, praying for the sick, we have experienced all that, that is not the main thing, that is to serve other people, and all of us won't have all these gifts, but all of us can have the same life, you may never have had to speak in tongues in your life, Jesus never spoke in tongues, great men of God, John Wesley, D.L.

Moody never spoke in tongues, but they were filled with the Holy Spirit, they were delivered from the power of sin, that is the main thing, that is what we need to understand, and some of you who have been seeking God for the power of the Holy Spirit, I will tell you what you should do, before you do all that, read the commandments, take time, don't be in a hurry, read the commandments, read through the gospels, Jesus has taught them to do everything I have told you, or here is one commandment, Matthew 12, 36, it is one of those commandments most Christians don't take seriously, I say to you, every careless word men shall speak, they shall give an account in the day of judgment, and I say, oh my God, how many careless words I have spoken, how many careless words I have spoken against other believers, how much gossip I have involved in, how many things I speak to my wife and just you and I, he and she and I are together, most husbands they sin when they are talking to their wives, that's the time they sin, this is my wife, I can tell her everything, they say, you know this person is like this, and that person is like this, and the other person is like this, every careless word you speak you will give an account in the day of judgment, that is not a message of condemnation, the old testament was condemnation, but the new testament when we preach it, it is to bring you to a place of need where you will cry out wretched man that I am, it is to convince you that you can never live this life without the power of the Holy Spirit, it is to make you cry out for grace, and here is another message we have preached for 40 years, Jesus came in our flesh, the secret of godliness, 1 Timothy 3.16, he was tempted exactly like us, Hebrews 4.15, and he did

not sin, because he had the power of the Holy Spirit, Hebrews 4.15, Jesus was tempted like us, but he did not sin, and you say, so what?

Okay, that says in the next verse, so what? Therefore, let us also come to the same throne of grace Jesus came to, and when we come to the throne of grace, we need to first of all get something that Jesus did not need, mercy, mercy is because we have sinned so much, Jesus never sinned, there was no sin in him at all, so he did not need mercy, but we all need mercy, we need mercy till the end of our lives, because we will discover small areas of sin which we did not know before, sin in us is like an onion, we peel off, peel off, peel off, peel off, there is still something inside, and as we discover it, we repent of it, we need mercy, but we are not always peeling off the first layer of the onion, no, we should be making the onion thinner and thinner and thinner and thinner, like the children of Israel killed one giant after the other in the land of Canaan, they were not always fighting the same giant for 10 years, you are not supposed to be fighting with the same sin, you kill it and move on and go to the next giant, and it may take you many years to occupy the whole land of Canaan, but if you work at it, you can get there, but we need mercy, after we get mercy, mercy is for the past, now we need grace for the future, so after we get mercy, verse 16, we come to get grace, we come to get grace, through the Holy Spirit, you don't need the Holy Spirit for mercy, no, we have mercy in the Old Testament, without the Holy Spirit, the blood of Jesus takes care of our mercy, but for grace, I need the Holy Spirit, so the blood of Jesus for my past, the Holy Spirit for the future, mercy for the past, grace for the future, in my time of need, what is my time of need?

Not when I don't have enough money to buy a refrigerator or something like that, Jesus never had a refrigerator, but time of need according to verse 15 is when we are tempted like He was tempted, whenever you read the Bible, read it in its context, I told you how the devil quotes half a verse, your time of need is not when you are sick and not when you are financially poor, verse 15 is clear, when you are tempted, I am tempted and I am falling, oh Lord give me grace, grace is like when you lift up your child from falling and put him on the rock, and I don't fall, I can't boast about it, I only cried for grace, Jesus sent His Holy Spirit, and with the life of Jesus lifted me up, freed me from the law of sin and death, this is the full gospel, and like I said before, you cannot appreciate it till you first have a sense of need, that is why I always preach this last, on the last day of the feast Jesus said, if you thirst now, come to me, on the last day before He went to the cross He said, I am praying that the Holy Spirit will help you to keep my commandments, some of you have heard about the Holy Spirit on day one, you always ask, oh how can I have that, you need to hear the commandments first, you need to see how important it is to keep the commandments, you need to see, that is why at the end the Lord put the 10th commandment, you shall not lust, why didn't He put that as number one?

All the easy ones come first, then you come to number 10, God is testing people, how many people like the rich young ruler will stop at 9 and say, I have kept all the commandments, you can go, but there was another rich young man, his name was Saul of Tarsus, his father was a rich businessman in Tarsus, he was a young man and a rich man, just like the other one, but he went down to the 10th commandment, he said, oh Lord, I can keep all 9, no problem, but when it comes to the 10th, I just cannot keep it, I am desiring this, I am desiring that, I am always wanting something I don't have, that is what it means to covet, I want to ask you, how many of you, have come to that place, today?

Lord, I can do, keep many of the commandments, when it comes to the 10th commandment, even though I am such an old man or old woman, I am still desiring, I haven't got over that, am I going to die like this? Am I going to die without keeping the 10th commandment? Oh wretched man that I am! Then you will come to thirst, then the Lord says, come to me, it's easy, drink like a baby drinks, and the Holy Spirit will

come and fill you, it's very easy for people who have come to that place of need, to receive the Holy Spirit.

Why is it so many people say, oh brother Zach, I prayed and prayed and prayed for the baptism of the Holy Spirit, nothing has happened, one man told me, I prayed for 40 years, you can pray for 100 years, nothing will happen, another person receives in one day, why? Because he has come to the place, oh wretched man that I am, he is not judging other people, he is not saying, oh wretched person there, that wretched woman there, he is finished with all that, those are all gossipers, wretched woman, wretched man, wretched boy, wretched girl, he is finished with all that and said, wretched man that I am.

See in the Old Testament, Isaiah chapter 6, we read one day Isaiah, in Isaiah chapter 5, he was looking at other people, Isaiah 5 verse 8, go to that man who is adding his house and buying property after property, go to that person, verse 18, who is drawing sin like with cords, verse 20, go to those people who call evil good and good evil, verse 20, those who call evil good, verse 21, those who are wise in their own eyes, verse 22, go to those drunkards, it is all right, that person, that person, all wrong, but chapter 6, one day I saw the Lord and then I said, verse 5, no is me, I am such a wretched man, and immediately the fire of burning coal, verse 6, from the altar came and touched my lips, verse 6 and 7, when did the fire come?

Not when he was saying that person is wrong and the other person is wrong, the Christian world is full of people who will do that, let them do it, let them keep doing that till they go to hell, don't disturb them, let them keep on judging everybody and finally go to hell, let your eyes be open to see the Lord, they say, woe is me, I find all types of lusting in my heart Lord, just like the Apostle Paul, that's what Jesus said in the last day of the feast, thirst and come to me, and my brother sister, the Lord has brought you line upon line upon line upon line to this place today, and I say what Jesus said, he who has a ear, let him hear what the Spirit is saying, you see, we all have ears, yeah, here you can hear it easily, but do you have a ear in your heart, which longs to receive the

power of the Spirit to live a holy life, I am not bluffing you, in 1974, 40 years ago, I came to a place of desperation in my life, defeated, I said, Lord, I am a hypocrite, the Lord said, will you stand up in the church where you are preaching and tell people you are a hypocrite, I said, yes, January 12th, 1975, I said, today is Sunday, I will get up and say in the church, I am a hypocrite, God met with me that afternoon, but he brought me to the place of desperation through many years, it didn't happen in one day, because God had to bring me right to zero, I was preaching, I was travelling so many places when I was defeated, God said, this man is too big in his own eyes, I have to bring him down, like Moses when he was 40, Prince of Egypt, God said, I can't use you, you are too big, I

have to bring you down, down, down, down, 40 years, he came to zero when he was 80, and God said, Moses, come, now I can do the greatest work I have ever done through any Israelite till today, you will lift up your hand and the Red Sea will part, he couldn't do it when he was so strong, when he became weak, he said, Lord, I am not the man, send somebody else, God said, now you are ready, some of us think, yeah, I am the one whom God is going to use, you are not ready brother, sister, you think too much of yourself, you think you are a senior brother, senior sister, there is no hope for you, you have to come down to zero, then God will fill you, and your life will change, it happened to me, he turned my life around, filled me with the Holy Spirit, I didn't shoot up like that, but slowly I

started moving up, and 7 months later, CFC was born in our house, I didn't do it, I did not bring CFC to birth, God did it, like you know this book, what can it boast about, I can do nothing, but He keeps me from falling, or a pen, what can it boast, but if somebody uses it, he can write amazing things, I am like that pen, I

I don't resist God when he tries to write something, when I speak in a meeting, when I spoke 40 years ago, or I am speaking now, or rather 39 years ago, or now, I say, Lord, I can never do anything unless you hold me, even if I have written with this pen for 50 years, it still cannot write anything by itself, even if God uses me for 100 years, I cannot do it on my own, I have learnt the lesson, which Jesus said, without me you can do zero, some of us have not learnt it

yet, that's why we are proud, that's why we are defeated by sin, that's why you lose your temper, that's why you lust with your eyes, that's why you love money, that's why you are anxious and tense, that's why your home is more like hell than like heaven, that's why your home is more like hell than like heaven, it's not because you are weak, it's because you are strong, God wants to make you weak, and then He will fill you like that, and not only that, He will build the church through you, that's the way of brokenness that God leads everybody, there is no condemnation in Christ Jesus, condemnation is from the devil, but Jesus, there is salvation, not condemnation, so the word you heard today, is not to condemn you, not to discourage you, but to encourage you, to make you seek God, to say,

Lord I will not let you go unless you bless me, that is a favourite prayer of mine, you read it sometime in Genesis 32, Jacob prayed, I will not let you go until you bless me, God said, I will give you power right now, your name will become Israel because you got power with God, read Genesis 32 sometime, I came to that place, I said, Lord I will not let you go unless you bless me, come to God like that, let's pray, My dear brothers and sisters, God loves you far more than you realize, do you have a desire to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

Do you have a desire to have victory over sin? God has got 100 times more desire than you to give you that, don't come to him and say, I have got a desire, but you have no desire God, that is unbelief, come to God and say, Lord I have a desire, but it is a very weak desire, but your desire to fill me is a million times more, so I believe you will fill me, there is no partiality with you, what you did for Jesus, you will do for me, what you did for brother Zach, you will do for me, what you do for so many others, you will do for me, Lord I am the most needy person in this hall today, meet with me Lord, I will not let you go until you bless me, if it takes 10 days or 10 years, I am not going to give up, I assure you God will meet with you, I can give you a written guarantee that God will meet with you if you seek him like that, and God will turn you around and make you into another man, another woman, Heavenly Father, we are crawling on the ground when we should be flying, like a wounded bird, unable to fly, created to fly but crawling on the ground, have mercy upon us, fill us with the Holy Spirit, fulfill your purpose in each of our lives, thank you for these 2 days, thank you for preparing our hearts to hear your word this evening, pour out your spirit of grace upon us, in Jesus name we pray, Amen

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