

The Holy Spirit

by Zac Poonen

Zac Poonen emphasizes the necessity of being filled with the Holy Spirit for effective Christian living and ministry.

Scripture: Acts 2:38, Galatians 5:22

Topics: "Holy Spirit", "Empowerment for Ministry"

Description

Zac Poonen emphasizes the necessity of being filled with the Holy Spirit to live a victorious Christian life and serve God effectively. He explains that forgiveness of sins and the Holy Spirit are immediate gifts for all who repent and believe, contrasting the early church's experience with the modern delay in receiving the Holy Spirit. Poonen stresses that no extra qualifications are needed beyond repentance and faith, and that the fullness of the Holy Spirit brings the fruit of the Spirit and equips believers for effective ministry. He highlights that even Jesus required the anointing of the Holy Spirit to fulfill His ministry, and encourages believers to seek daily filling of the Holy Spirit for ongoing empowerment.

Transcript

It is impossible to live a victorious Christian life or to serve God effectively, if we are not filled with the Holy Spirit.

Forgiveness of sins and the Holy Spirit are the two gifts that God offers to all repentant sinners AS SOON AS they turn to Him.

There is no need for anyone who turns to the Lord and receives forgiveness of sins to wait for even a single day before he receives the Holy Spirit. That is how it was in the early days of Christianity. In those days, as soon as people repented and believed, they were baptized in water and then received the Holy Spirit at once. That was part of their initial experience. But nowadays, we find believers waiting for years before being baptized in water and then waiting for many more years before receiving the Holy Spirit.

What every believer needs to know is that there is no need for any extra qualification in order to receive the Holy Spirit, other than what is required for the forgiveness of sins - namely, repentance from sin and faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. It is due to ignorance of this fact that many, many believers are not baptized in the Holy Spirit. If only they knew the truth, they would not be deceived by Satan any longer.

To try to be worthy enough to receive the Holy Spirit is as foolish as trying to be worthy enough to receive the forgiveness of sins.

The fulness of the Holy Spirit will primarily bring the fulness of the fruit of the Spirit in our lives - fulness of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control (Gal.5:23).

Secondly, it will equip us to be powerful witnesses for Christ and effective members of His earthly Body.

The anointing of the Holy Spirit is the prime requisite for being an effective member of Christ's Body. Without this, however holy our lives may be, we will be limited in our usefulness to God for His work on earth.

Although Jesus lived a pure and holy life for 30 years, He still needed to be anointed with the Holy Spirit, before He could have the supernatural gifts necessary for Him to fulfil His ministry.

God wants to equip us in the same way today, so that we can carry on that ministry, as the Body of Christ on earth. Those who either despise or don't believe in these supernatural gifts will of course not have them. Thus their service for the Lord will also be limited.

We need to be filled with the Holy Spirit DAILY, for this is not a once-for-all experience that takes care of our need forever.

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