

SIN. Sept. 14, 1969.

THE SPIRIT-FILLED LIFE

Acts 2:4, 6, 13

1 Corinthians 14:1-33

Such interest in the sermon last Sunday and prayer meeting studies - enlarging upon the charismatic movement and the gifts of tongues, following the theme of last Sunday.

1 Corinthians 14 deals with gifts - proper use of

(1) Following after love as supreme thing

(2) Seek gifts in order to speak for God!

Should we ask for the gift of tongues today? Yes, if we are in a situation where the on-going of the kingdom demands it. Offhand, I don't know of any.

V. 2 - He that speaketh in a tongue speaketh not unto men but unto God.
In the spirit he speaketh mysteries.

V. 3 - He that prophesies builds up the congregation.

V. 4 - He that speaketh in tongues edifieth himself.

V. 6 - If I do come speaking in a tongue, what good shall I do you unless my speech contains a revelation - or new knowledge or prophetic message.

V. 7 - This makes sense - even inanimate things, (without life) like a flute or harp, or piano, may give out a sound, if there is no difference in the notes sounded, how can you know the tune!

V. 8 - Trumpet - bugles sound but call not distinct, who will prepare for battle?

V. 9 - So with speech of tongues - like talking to the air. How can the message spoken by you be understood?

V. 11 - If I do not know the meaning, I am a foreigner to the man who speaks it.

V. 12 - you who are ambitious for spiritual gifts, try to abound in up-building the church.

V. 13 - The man who speaks in a tongue is under obligation to pray for the power to explain what he says!

V. 18 - I speak with tongues more than you.

V. 19 - In church rather speak 5 words with my understanding that I might instruct them, than 10,000 words in a tongue.

V. 23 - If church assembled and unbelievers are in the group and tongues are used, they will say you are crazy.

V. 27 - Let no more than one at a time speak and some one explain what he says.

V. 28 - If no one to explain - keep quiet!

V. 33 - God is God of order, not disorder in the church.

V. 34 - Women must keep quiet.

V. 40 - Everything must always be done in a proper and orderly way -
decently!

You have enough to think about until the judgment day.

Acts 2:4 - reference to languages that ~~aman~~ had not ~~studied~~ studied or acquired.

Pentecost -

Sound of the wind

Sign of the fire

Speech in tongues

Filled with the spirit - imbued

Conditions described

Waiting people

10 days since they looked on the glory of His risen face.

Penetrated - mysterious things

New consciousness - saw their own weakness

New consciousness - of His enterprise, whole world

New Consciousness of glory of His mission

All things became new - spiritual ~~xxx~~ effusion, illumination.

Daybreak of Christianity, it related to the work of Christ, all of His mission had heavenly meaning. Spirit-filled these men.

Christ had emptied himself being in the form of God, stooping, laid aside all in the interest of humanity, took on the form of men - now, they were all filled with the Holy Spirit.

He filled these men.

Show you that speaking in tongues meant to speak in a language, V. 6.

V. 9 - Man from Cyrene over in Africa, a Roman, a Cretan, Arabian, heard men speaking in tongues in which they were born.

Remember 1 Cor. 14:14 - "If I pray in a tongue . . . my understanding is unfruitful."

God gave power to Balaam's beast to speak audibly. His language was not understood by him. He spoke a language that he himself did not understand.

Another argument in favor of languages - Tower of Babel, people were of one speech, spoke same language. Speaking same tongue enabled them to hold together.

God came down confused their speech.

In this way, nations arose. They came from different tongues, languages.

Those that understood each other went together.

Pentecost, reversed - given the power to speak the language of all nations.

Example - we send missionary to foreign country and he does not know their language or speech. Needs interpreter. Paul says what good will his ~~px~~ speech do if no one understands - Latin service - how is it going to help the people, unless tell them what the Latin means?

1 Cor. 14:15 -"I will pray with the understanding also, I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with understanding also."

Good to pray, and be spiritually prompted, but you want to understand what you are praying about!

Good to sing, expert may say that is good music, if you had a book or sheet music before you - you might make out what they are trying to say.

When a person sings, I want to hear the words, not just the sound of a tongue on ascending and descending scales.

When man goes to feed a horse, he doesn't put the fodder so high that the horse can't reach it. May be good fodder to look at, but the horse had rather have it down where he can reach it.

That was one of the powers of Christ's speech. He spoke words easily understood. Illustrated with a sparrow, hen and chickens, lilies of the field, words had meaning and men understood them.

Dr. Carroll's father a preacher. Aunt Sarah told him about one the smartest Negroes, new preacher. Asked how she liked him. "Oh, he is fine." "What do you mean?" "Well, he does speak such big-sounding words." "What words did he use?" "Well, I remember the word fecundity (fe-kun'-di-ti)." "What does that mean?" "I don't know, I don't care. It's a might big word and it just thrilled me."

Her understanding not profited at all.

Being filled with the spirit is expressed in several ways. I list them.

1. Baptism of the spirit

Filling is a baptism, phrase suggested death into life.

Fact: Dying to a false life - rising to the true.

Dying to sin - rising to holiness.

Dying to the world - rising to life with God.

Baptism - a symbol, passing over from death into life.

Pentecost - the church, antitype in tabernacle and temple, new house built by our Lord Jesus was filled by the Holy Spirit. 120 were baptized in one Spirit, into the church.

John the Baptist said "I indeed baptize you in water. He that cometh after me is mightier than I, shall baptize you in the Holy Spirit." Jesus administrator of the baptism of the Holy Spirit.

In conversion the Spirit is the agent and the sinner the subject.

In baptism, of the Holy Spirit, Jesus is the administrator, the Spirit is the element, and the object is to confer power for the good of others to do credit.

Acts 1:8 - Tarry ye - ye are a church, organized, commissioned, waiting.

This baptism came - crowds from every nation gathered. Every man heard the praise of God ~~spoken~~ spoken in the tongue he was born in.

Received not as individuals, but ~~unto~~ the church - in order to attest and accredit that church.

Acts 8:14-24 - Philip preached, baptized. No ~~miracles~~ miraculous power of Holy Spirit. Apostles laid hands on - baptism of Holy Spirit.

Acts 10:44-47, 11:15-17 - Peter preached Gentiles - Holy Spirit fell on them, glorified.

Acts 19:6 - Paul found 12 men Ephesus, knew nothing about Holy Spirit.

1 Cor. 12, 13 14 - Members of church - misunderstood, misused, abused it. A diversity of gifts, all from one spirit, all being accredit to the church. Love is greatest gift.

Yielded to Christ wholly, the spirit takes control of your life - spirit life. Farther than John's baptism in water.

Were I to go from pew to ~~pew~~ pew and speak individually to man, woman, and child, Do you believe in Jesus? Did you receive the Holy Ghost when you believed? Acts 19:2.

Hardened - bondage - ideals of Jesus all right - halted, truth faith not expressed in Christ.

Living Christ has come - the spirit has been poured out.

Some are still waiting in speculative inquiry - the spirit has come.

Reason you do not feel this thrill is that you have never believed in Jesus Christ.

Signs - they spake with tongues and prophesied. Gifts of ecstatic utterance, in praise, in prayer, in gladness. The Spirit of God is here. Yield is the one ~~word~~ word.

Open your heart to Jesus Christ. Not by believing Christ is a perfect example. Trust and receive.

Tragic thing - leave first love - passion, spiritual power - repent and do thy first works, change - get back where you stood.

2. Anointing

As those baptized of the Spirit for service.

Word coming from the Old Testament reminding us of that appointing for priestly function and all holy service.

Spirit baptizes into life.

Spirit annoints for service.

3. Sealing

This filling is also a sealing.

The seal is a sign of a covenant. A covenant between man and God.

Belonging to God entirely.

Paul "He that is joined unto the Lord is one Spirit." This is the mystic side of Christianity which we must not lose.

Who is the Christian man? The man who is living one life with the Lord of

Not the man who admires it - or who sentimentally in agreement with the purposes of Jesus.

But the man who in this mystery does live one life with the Lord of Glory.

4. Multiplication

This filling brought New visions of themselves, of the world, of God.

Their eyes were illuminated.

Their minds were illuminated - wonderfully

They had the mind of Christ by the filling of the Spirit.

Christ was able to touch men and travel through Judea and Samaria to the uttermost parts of the earth.

They joined the local body of the Lord and thereby ~~multiplied~~ multiplied a hundredfold and this multiplication has continued through the centuries.

Don't miss this - every man, woman, boy, girl, won into a relationship with Him, has become a new body for Jesus. In which he lives, speaks and travels.

These men were filled with the Spirit and lived one life with the Son of God.

First principle of their life is that of self-emptying.

If I affirm that I have been filled with the Spirit and still live a self-centered life, I blaspheme against the Holy Spirit.

Your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit.

That is the meaning of Pentecost - a capture of the bodies of men and women - principle continues.

Peter meant this in describing the church - "Ye are an elect race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for God's own possession, that ye may show forth the excellencies of Him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

The life filled is an instrument for the multiplication of the works of God. Sharing with the suffering.

Vision of missions.

5. Communication

Filled with the Spirit - able to communicate

John - out of his inner life shall flow rivers of living waters.

There is no power for Christian service that does not consist in the communication of Spirit to others.

Media of communication.

Pentecost then is perpetual river of life from throne of God to saints, overflowing to others.

Great work expressed - wind, springs of water, and fire - great elements of force.

Wind - element of life.

Water - brings satisfaction - renewal every day.

Fire - searching purification - perpetual energy.

These symbols give understanding to the work of the Spirit.

Mysterious forces capable destroying life.

Hurricane - sweeps over land and sea

Floods - destroy

Fire - leaves desolation.

Filled with the spirit these forces become a privilege ~~of~~ and responsibility.

Wind - breath of God, live in this heights

Water - drink of living waters - fresh in service

Fire - dwell in it - be purged of self.

Discover the ~~law~~ laws of the Spirit and obey them.

As we obey, we increase the power of our influence.

Pentecost may be dim to you because it happened many years ago.

The winds of God are blowing.

The river of God is moving.

The fire of God is burning.

Then ask the gift ~~of~~ and receive.

If your life is dim and weak - yeild more to the Spirit, open the ~~eastern~~ eastern window - unlock the door.

Members had personal experience with Christ.

Members comprised a spirit-filled community.

Members awareness of forgiveness of sins.

Members placed no emphasis on anything, ~~but~~ ^{that} did not contribute to their fellowship and stewardship.

Thomas Henry Huxley, distinguished English scientist.

Serving on Royal commission, stranded one weekend in small country town.

Sunday morning - said to one of his associates, "I suppose you are going to church. Why don't you stay home and tell me about your religion?"

"No," replied the other. "I am not clever enough to answer your arguments."

"But," continued Huxley, "Why not tell me simply what religion has done for you?"

The man agreed and for the whole morning talked about what he had seen in his religion and what religion had done for him.

Finally Huxley said, "I would give my right arm if I could believe like that."

(Donald Macleod)

Human to do things backwards.

We always get the cart before the horse.

We pray and want power - need it - but you are blind.

Spiritual power comes to thankful heart.

Disciples were in fellowship, praising Jesus, 2:42, 46, 47

Phillipi - power came after singing and praising God.

Do you long for increased power to serve the Lord? Then ~~ask~~ thank God,
for what you already have. Key is praising, thanking Jesus.