

Theme: God wants to fill His people with His Spirit, and this is primarily done as we consistently participate in faith with the means of grace He has ordained for His people.

I. Intro – The Work of the Spirit

- A. Trying to learn more about being filled w/ Spirit
- B. Trying to learn more on walking w/ Spirit
- C. How does He work?
- D. Where and how do we meet Him?
- E. Is revival done through unusual means?
- F. Is revival unusual blessing of normal means?

II. The Spirit Filled Life

- A. This text is meant to describe the Spirit filled life
 - 1. The 120 filled with Spirit (Acts 2:4)
 - 2. The promise of the Spirit (Acts 2:38-39)
 - 3. The promise fulfilled (Acts 2:41)
- B. Brief description of Spirit filled life (v42)
 - 1. Describes what being filled w/ Spirit looks like
 - 2. Describes how to maintain fullness of Spirit
 - 3. Shows how to be filled if empty

III. The Spirit, the Word, and the Means of Grace

- A. The Spirit and the Word (v42)

1. Word & Spirit on Day of Pentecost

- a. V42 – 1st thing mentioned
- b. 2:16ff – promised, interpreted; causes preaching
- c. More from Psalm 16, 110 in sermon
- d. Acts 4:31 – filled with Spirit – spoke Word
- e. Eph 5:18-20 – filled w/ Spirit
- f. Col 3:16 – Word dwell richly = Spirit filled

2. Word is primary means of grace/Spirit's work

- a. Spirit still speaks through Word – Heb 3:7
- b. Packer quote on Spirit and Word

B. The Spirit and the church (v42)

- 1. V42 – Spirit filled includes fellowship
- 2. Acts 2:1-4 – together, Spirit comes & fills
- 3. Acts 2:41,47 – added to their number
- 4. Acts 2:46 – met together; formal, informal
- 5. Acts 4:31 – meeting together, all filled again
- 6. Eph 5:8-21 NAS – one sentence; plural verbs

C. The Spirit and prayer

- 1. V42 – prayer
- 2. Acts 1:14 – constantly together in prayer
- 3. Acts 4:31 – prayed, filled

D. The Spirit and the Supper

1. V42, 46 – breaking bread
2. 1 Cor 10:16-17 – participation, unity
3. Sacraments made effective by Spirit
4. God has PROMISED to meet us here

IV. Conclusion & Summary

A. Do we see God has revealed how to be Spirit filled?

1. God has laid this out CLEARLY in the Word
2. God does not change methods – not bored!
3. Spirit meets us in normal means of grace
4. Revival – unusual blessing of normal means
5. Revival is not the blessing of unusual means!

B. Do we see there is no tension between Spirit & means?

1. Spirit not in tension with means – His means
2. Spirit met through means not apart from them
3. Those positing this tension are being misled
4. Those claiming filling apart from means deceived
5. Spirit leads into Word, Church, etc – not away!!!

C. Are we meeting the Spirit in the means?

1. Are we in the Word – corporate and personal?

2. Are we in prayer – corporate and personal?

3. Are we building into the community?

4. Are we expecting to meet God at the Table?

D. Communion – participation via God's Spirit

The Spirit, the Word, and the Means of Grace

Acts 2:42

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Communion

Hebrews 13:20-21

⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:4

No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel: ¹⁷ "In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people..." Acts 2:16-17

After they prayed, the place where they were meeting was shaken. And **they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God boldly.** Acts 4:31

¹⁸ Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, **be filled with the Spirit.** ¹⁹ Speak to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. Sing and make music in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Ephesians 5:18-20

¹⁶ **Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly** as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom, and as you sing psalms, hymns and spiritual songs with gratitude in your hearts to God. Colossians 3:16

⁷ So, as the Holy Spirit says: "Today, if you hear his voice, ⁸ do not harden your hearts as you did in the rebellion, during the time of testing in the desert..." Hebrews 3:7-8

"There is, then, a correlation between the Holy Spirit and ... God's Word Written. Each teaches by means of the other. Apart from the Spirit, there is no true learning of divine things from Scripture, and supposedly "spiritual" thoughts not founded on the Word are godless flights of fancy... So those who would live under the authority of the Spirit must bow before the Word as the Spirit's textbook while those who would live under the authority of Scripture must seek the Spirit as its interpreter." JI Packer, *Keep In Step With the Spirit*, 191.

¹ When the day of Pentecost came, **they were all together in one place.** ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ **All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. Acts 2:1-4

³¹ After they prayed, the place where they were **meeting** was shaken. **And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit** and spoke the word of God boldly. Acts 4:31

¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is dissipation, **but be filled with the Spirit,** ¹⁹ **speaking to one another** in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord; ²⁰ always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father; ²¹ and be **subject to one another** in the fear of Christ. Ephesians 5:18-21 NASB (Note that all verbs are plural)

¹⁴ **They all joined together constantly in prayer,** along with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brothers. Acts 1:14

³¹ **After they prayed,** the place where they were meeting was shaken. **And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit** and spoke the word of God boldly. Acts 4:31

¹⁶ Is not the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks a **participation** in the blood of Christ? And is not the bread that we break a **participation** in the body of Christ? ¹⁷ Because there is one loaf, **we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf.** 1 Corinthians 10:16-17