

THE URGENT NEED TO PROMOTE THE HOLY SPIRIT**31/8/08**

The following scriptures make a clear case for the church to promote the anointing of the Holy Spirit as its first and most urgent priority. Many today are being sidetracked by the need to have 'spiritual experiences', while the bible is more interested in getting people filled with Spirit of God. Jesus Christ died and was resurrected so that the human race could have access to the life giving powers of God. Jesus himself could not begin his ministry till he had the same experience that is the prime focus of the gospel... the infilling power of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus directed men and women to preach the salvation message to those who didn't know the truth.

MAR 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

+19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God. *What was his first observation?*

20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen. *Notice how God proves his word... not with feelings, but with supernatural signs.*

Jesus also reveals the significance of the Holy Spirit, as opposed to himself and to God.

MAR 3:28 Verily I say unto you, All sins shall be forgiven unto the sons of men, and blasphemies wherewith soever they shall blaspheme: *You can overcome all blasphemies except one!*

29 But he that shall blaspheme against the Holy Ghost hath never forgiveness, but is in danger of eternal damnation: *The Holy Spirit is actually set above God and Christ; in this context... the context of salvation.*

Paul discusses some of the reasons why people fail as Christians... then reveals why.

2THE 2:10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; **because they received not the love of the truth**, that they might be saved. *A love of the truth is the most vital part of our overcoming.*

11 And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie:

12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

13 But we are bound to give thanks alway to God for you, brethren beloved of the Lord, because God hath from the beginning **chosen you to salvation through sanctification of the Spirit and belief of the truth:**

14 Whereunto he **called you by our gospel**, to the obtaining of the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

15 Therefore, brethren, stand fast, and hold the traditions which ye have been taught, whether by word, or our epistle. *Many get tired of the gospel and want deeper experiences. We are not here to focus on personal thrills... we are here to preach the gospel... that is where the real glory of Christ is found; by saving souls.*

We have been placed in a family of Christians for a purpose... there is a specific job to be done.

1COR 7:20 Let every man abide in the same calling wherein he was called. *It is not about you...*

21 Art thou called *being* a servant? care not for it: but if thou mayest be made free, use *it* rather.

22 For he that is called in the Lord, *being* a servant, is the Lord's freeman: likewise also he that is called, *being* free, is Christ's servant. *God has a job for you to do... how are you going to find out what it entails?*

23 Ye are bought with a price; be not ye the servants of men. *Not through natural understanding.*

24 Brethren, let every man, wherein he is called, therein abide with God. *God will make the changes.*

An appeal by Paul to use the powers of the Spirit for the good of all men.

1COR1:4 I thank my God always on your behalf, for the grace of God which is given you by Jesus Christ;

5 That in **every thing ye are enriched by him, in all utterance, and in all knowledge**; *The Corinthian church was barely two and a half years old at this point... there is only so much that can be learned in such a short time. Paul makes this relevance the key to all knowledge and wisdom. It should be no surprise that the ministry of God is a signs following ministry. Is it any surprise that these priorities should also be ours?*

6 Even as the testimony of Christ was confirmed in you: *Christ said that signs, miracles and wonders would follow his true gospel. This calls for personal motivation, personal commitment and acts of faith.*

7 So that ye come behind in no gift; waiting for the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ: *This challenge is to all of us. It cannot happen unless we have an understanding of what we have been called to do. What is the power for, if it is not to be used for the furthering of the gospel and the building up of the church?*

8 Who shall also confirm you unto the end, *that ye may be blameless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. Just as Christ promised at the beginning. If we are living the gospel, it will show!*