

Ephesians 5:18-21 — “Be Filled With the Spirit & Observe What Spirit-Filled Living Looks Like”

The doctrine of God the Holy Spirit

- The Spirit saved you (Eph 2.4-5)
- The Spirit seals you (Eph 4:30)
- The Spirit secures/preserves you (Eph 1:13-14)
 - ✓ The **salvation** of the Spirit – he regenerated your soul & gave you life!
 - ✓ The **sealing** of the Spirit – he identifies with you & owns & possess you!
 - ✓ The **preservation** of the Spirit – he guarantees & assures & preserves you!
 - ✓ The **baptism** of the Spirit – he placed you INTO the body of Christ (1 Cor 12)
 - ✓ The **indwelling** of the Spirit – you have God living in you forever (Rom 8.9; 1 Cor 3.16)
 - ✓ The **filling** of the Spirit >> the topic we’ll look at today.

Ephesians Overview / Structure	
EPHESIANS 1-3	EPHESIANS 4-6
God’s Work In You	Your Walk In Him
Spiritual Wealth	Spiritual Walk
Christian Privilege	Christian Conduct
Your Position	Your Practice
Doctrine	Duty

Now in Ephesians 4-6 — “Walk worthily...” [see 4.1]:

- Walking worthily IN THE CHURCH (4:1-16)
- Walking worthily IN RELATIONSHIPS (4:17-32)
- Walking worthily IN THE WORLD (5:1-14)
- Walking worthily IN WISDOM (5:15-21)

v.18 - Don’t Be drunk; Be Filled with the Spirit

- Some **Mis-conceptions** about the filling of the Spirit [these are *misunderstandings*]:
 1. It is **not** just an emotional *experience*.
 2. It is **not** for just a few *elite* super-spiritual Christians.
 3. it is not synonymous with other Spirit-given graces that happen at conversion:
 1. **indwelling** of the Spirit — *Rom 8.9 - every believer has Spirit taking up residence in him!*

Ephesians 5:18-21 — “Be Filled With the Spirit & Observe What Spirit-Filled Living Looks Like”

2. **baptism** of the Spirit — 1 Cor 12.13 - at the moment of salvation: the Spirit **baptizes** us into the body of Christ (once for all, eternally, unchangeably!)
3. **sealing** of the Spirit — Eph.1.13-14; 4.30 - we are identified, possessed, owned by God the Spirit.
 - ****these all happen at the very *moment* of conversion; The FILLING of the Spirit is the regular power, the daily enablement to live for GOD’s glory.**
4. it is not optional.

Note these very helpful observations in being “Filled with the Spirit” —

1. It’s **PLURAL** – to every single believer
2. It’s **COMMUNAL** – to take place also within church community (v.19 - to one another...)
3. It’s **PASSIVE** – you must (imperative) let God fill you up (he does the action): a command for you to let God control you!
4. It’s **CONTINUOUS** – you must daily be being filled; you must continually do this (v.20 - always)
5. It’s **WORD-SATURATED** – you must have the “Word of God dwell within you” (Col.3.16; 1 Pet 1:25-2:2; John 17:17)
6. It’s **CHRIST-HONORING** – you will live in the “fear/reverence of & honor For Christ” (v.21b)

Summary of Some of the Results of Spirit Filling in Acts

- **Power for service**—Acts 1:8,
- **Boldness** to soul winning—Acts 4:8-12, 31-32
- **Generosity/giving** to others—Acts 4:31-32
- Godly **leaders/deacons** —Acts 6:3, 8
- **Dying** well (Acts 7.55)
- **Exaltation** of **Christ**—Acts 9:17-20
- **Power** over **Satan** & powerful preaching— Acts 13:9-11
- **Joy** —Acts 13:52

THESIS — God calls you, Christian, to be “Spirit-filled” — so what does the Spirit-filled life look like? What is it marked by? What describes it? What are the sure results/the inevitable marks of a Spirit-filled Christian?

I. SPEAKING TO ONE ANOTHER PUBLICLY (19a)

1. **Psalms** — *psalmos* - the psalms; to pluck a string/instrument
2. **Hymns** — *hymns; poetic pieces recited/sung to God*
3. **Spiritual songs** — *songs/odes of praise/joy to God.*

A few observations about singing *to one another* in the corporate worship

- there are two audiences — ultimately GOD; and other saints.
- there is diversity of music “forms” — psalms, hymns, songs.
- they must be marked by “spiritual” truth — in harmony with the Word pointing to Christ and instilling reverence/fear for Him.

John Wesley’s directions for singing:

1. **Sing corporately** — see that you gather as frequently as you can to sing with the people; if it’s a cross & a sacrifice for you to gather publicly, carry it & bear it up; it’ll be a blessing to you.
2. **Sing heartily** — Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength= God deserves your best
3. **Sing modestly** — Don’t seek to be distinct/pronounced from the rest of the congregation, that you may not destroy the harmony; but strive to unite your voices together, so as to make one clear melodious sound. *We have unity in singing!*
4. **Sing in tempo.** — whatever time and speed its sung, sing it together, joyfully, heartfully; and stay closely to the voices.
5. **Above all, sing spiritually.** — Have an eye to God & a heart toward Christ in every word you sing; think of Scripture

II. SINGING (19b)

1. We sing to obey God!
2. We sing to praise God!
3. We sing to remember Truth!
4. We sing to fortify our souls!
5. We sing to suffer well!

III. MAKING MELODY IN YOUR HEART (19c)

1. **Devotion** - *in your hearts* —

2. Destination - to the LORD —

IV. THANKING GOD! (20)

when?

for what?

how?

to whom?

'Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voices
Who wondrous things had done In whom His world rejoices.
Who, from our mother's arms, Hath led us on our way
With countless gifts of love And still is ours today
(Martin Rinkart, written as a family worship hymn for his kids)

V. SUBMITTING (21)

Ephesians 5:18-21 — “Be Filled With the Spirit & Observe What Spirit-Filled Living Looks Like”

- This text does not teach mutual submission; Rather it teaches that you must be willingly placing yourself in the submissive ordered relationship that God has called you to be in (*wives, children, workers*).
- He will talk about **submission** in 3 spheres:
 1. The **wife** *must submit* to her husband — (22-24)
 2. The **children** *must submit* to their parents — (6:1-4)
 3. The **workers** *must submit* to their masters — (6:5-9)

“Establish my footsteps in your Word [promise]; and do not let any iniquity have dominion [control] over me!”
— Psalm 119:133