

04/10 – 04/11/2021

Filled with the Spirit

Series: In Him

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Ephesians 5:15-21

¹⁵ Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise, ¹⁶ making the best use of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ Therefore do not be foolish, but understand what the will of the Lord is. ¹⁸ And do not get drunk with wine, for that is debauchery, but be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with your heart, ²⁰ giving thanks always and for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ²¹ submitting to one another out of reverence for Christ.

I thought we were filled?

Romans 8:9 “You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him.”

Ephesians 5 is not talking about the indwelling HS. There must be an ongoing experience with the Holy Spirit that comes and goes.

“**Be filled**”— Just like there are degrees of empty and full in your car’s gas tank, so there is in your spirit.

To be “filled with the Spirit” means...

1. You see the centrality and beauty of Jesus in life and the gospel (vs. 19).

To be thankful means you’ve seen something to be grateful for. It’s not just a commandment.

John 15:26 “But when the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, he will bear witness about me.”

You can be sure that churches that talk more about the Holy Spirit than they do about Jesus are not gospel-centered churches.

2. Your heart is saturated with godly affections
vs. 19 making melody to the Lord with your heart

We can mentally understand the gospel, but fail to feel it in the soul.

Galatians 4:4-7

vs. 4-5 are just truth and doctrine. We *claim* that.
 But vs. 6-7 are different. It’s an *experience*.

Do you remember when the prodigal son was kissed by the Father? **Luke 15:17-24**

There’s two kinds of knowing.
 The filling of the Holy Spirit is the kiss of the Father.

⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!”

3. His mission

His mission: To testify of Jesus

So when you're filled: You want to testify of Jesus

vs. 15 ¹⁵ *Look carefully then how you walk, not as unwise but as wise,* ¹⁶ *making the best use of the time, because the days are evil.*

This ties the work of the Holy Spirit with how we are using our time.
It says, "The days are evil."

That means they are short, cut off by death.
And it means they are full of temptation that might cause us to waste our time.

I had a physical last fall and the doc said I'm healthy. I've had several friends and acquaintances around me die over the last year. Walking out of the doc's office, this verse came to me and I was not taking for granted the gift of more time here.

"Make the best use of the time because the days are evil" means we are embracing the mission of Jesus and the purpose for which He put us on this earth.

Acts 4:31 ³¹ *And when they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken, and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and continued to speak the word of God with boldness.*

Here we see that when the Holy Spirit filled them, they were courageous and began to preach the gospel.