

#1



What it means to be full of the Holy Spirit, Part 1

What does the Bible say about this?

The Church had been born in Acts 2, when the Holy Spirit descended on them in power.

120 men and women were baptized in the Holy Spirit and spoke in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Thousands of believers were added to the church that day as they witnessed the work of the Holy Spirit.

By the time we get to Acts 6 the numbers of believers had dramatically multiplied.

The entire region had witnessed the power of the Spirit in signs, wonders, and miracles.

Entire cities had witness their sick and oppressed people healed and delivered.

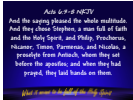
The work of the ministry was progressing and leaders were needed to help the Apostles.

#2



Acts 6:3-8 NKJV ""Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business; "but we will give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the word."

#3



And the saying pleased the whole multitude. And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, and Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas, a proselyte from Antioch, whom they set before the apostles; and when they had prayed, they laid hands on them.

#4



Then the word of God spread, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests were obedient to the faith. And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and signs among the people."

#5



#6



Acts 7:55 NKJV "But he, being full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God,"

What does it mean to be full of the Holy Spirit?

When these words were spoken, it was about 7 or 8 years after the day of Pentecost.

Many wonderful things occurred since the resurrection of Christ.

Acts gives us the historical account of the early church.

The Epistles continue where the book of Acts stops.

1 Corinthians 15:6 tells us that more than 500 of His followers had witnessed the Resurrection of Christ.

By infallible proofs Christ demonstrated His resurrection.

For forty days, He had been with them walking, talking, eating, and instructing.

He was alive.

He told them to wait in Jerusalem for the promise of the Father.

That promise was the Holy Spirit.

He said the Spirit would descend upon them, and dwell within them.

Ten days after He had ascended to the Father the Holy Spirit was poured out.

The Church was born in the power of a great Holy Spirit outpouring.

Their hearts were aflame with the Resurrected Savior.

Jesus was alive.

He arose from the grave and they witnessed Him ascend to the Father in heaven.

They were excited about the gospel message.

If that were not enough, the Holy Spirit was being poured out upon them, and they were full of the Holy Spirit.

The Power of the Holy Spirit gave them new boldness and joy in the Lord Jesus Christ.

There was only one explanation for their joy and boldness; ***they were filled with the Holy Spirit.***

#7



In Acts 2, it was the day of Pentecost.

The text says: "They were all filled with the Holy Spirit."

Everyone who remained with them was baptized in the Holy Spirit.

That Holy Spirit baptism gave them power to be a living testimony of the resurrected Jesus Christ.

Full of the Holy Spirit, Peter stood up and proclaimed that God had raised Jesus Christ from the dead.

3,000 souls were added to the church that same day.

Everyone that saw their boldness and power were overwhelmed.

None of them had the natural abilities or talents to accomplish those results.

They were full of the Holy Spirit.

One day, after that, Peter and John went up to the temple at the hour of prayer.

They were still full of the Holy Spirit.

They came upon a lame man who asked them for money. Peter said to him, "Silver or gold I do not have, but what I have I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, walk." Acts 3:6

They had something that was of greater value than silver or gold.

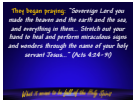
They were still full of the Holy Spirit.

With boldness and the power of the Holy Spirit, Peter helped the man stand up.

Immediately the man's feet and ankles became strong
He jumped to his feet and began to walk.

Then he went into the temple courts walking and leaping and praising God.

#10



They began praying: ***“Sovereign Lord you made the heaven and the earth and the sea, and everything in them... Stretch out your hand to heal and perform miraculous signs and wonders through the name of your holy servant Jesus...” (Acts 4:24-31)***

We must learn to pray with one mind in accord.

When they had finished praying something happened.

#11



The Scripture tells us that when they prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together.

Then something powerful happened, they were all filled with the Holy Spirit...

The multitude of them that believed was of one heart and of one soul.

With great power the apostles gave witness of the resurrection of the Lord.

Great grace was upon them all.

Then the Scripture says believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of men and women.

#12



The extent of their witness and power is evidenced in the results.

They brought the sick into the streets and laid them on beds and mats.

They had hope that even the shadow of Peter might pass over some of them.

They expected something to happen.

The people had faith that God was going to do it in the streets of the city.

Multitudes came from the cities around Jerusalem bringing the sick and those vexed with unclean spirits.

Then the scripture says they were all healed.

This kind of activity continued to occur.

They were full of the Holy Spirit.

#13



Satan resisted and people opposed them.

They maintained a full testimony of the resurrected Christ.

Some 7 or 8 years has passed.

The church was massive.

Now, they needed additional leaders in the church.

The church had multiplied in size repeatedly.

The apostles said that these leaders should be of honest report, full of the Holy Spirit, and wisdom.

In Acts 2, they had to cast lots to find someone to serve the Lord.

Now, they knew from the evidence that was before them those who qualified.

They had to people who were full of the Holy Spirit.

They knew these were full of the Holy Spirit.

#14



Acts 6:3 NKJV "Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of good reputation, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business;...And they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit,"

In the Greek, the word for 'honest report' means 'one who has a good report, has evidence that they have experienced something, has this testimony'.

By interpreting the Word of God with the Word of God, Acts 6:3 is explained by Acts 1:8.

Jesus said the Holy Spirit would cause them to be witnesses.

They were to seek out individuals who had a testimony of being full of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit gave them their witness.

Jesus told the disciples to wait for the promise of the Father and then they would be His witnesses.

#15



Luke 24:49 says they would receive "power from on high."

In this verse, the word for power is δύναμις 'dunamis'

The Word of God does not explain what "power from on high" is.

We now know that "power from on high" is the Omnipotent, inherent power of God that emanates from God's own Spirit.

It is the Omnipotent power of God.

That Omnipotent power of God has the inherent power to produce.

Christ was telling them that they would receive "Power From On High".

This is the might and inherent power of the Holy Spirit Himself.

The force, power, and energy of the Holy Spirit would energize them.

As a new creation in Christ, they would be given power and authority as the Holy Spirit was poured out upon them.

#16



They would be filled with the Holy Spirit.

When the testimony came back that Stephen was a man of honest report, the Scripture was not referring to his business dealings.

The report that was important was the power of the Holy Spirit rested upon his life.

#17



The first two believers recorded to be of honest report are Abel and Enoch.

These two are listed among those whom the Holy Spirit says, ***"God is not ashamed to be called their God."***

They obtained a good report before their God.

That is the kind of report the Church was looking for.

Not only was Stephen of good report, he was full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom.

He had a testimony of the power of God.

#18



If we are full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom:

Psalms 111:10 says we will fear and worship the Lord

Proverbs 3:5,6 says we will trust in the Lord with all our heart

Proverbs 3:7 "we will fear the Lord and depart from evil"

#19



James 3:14-16 we will not be envious or full of strife
 Colossians 3:16-17 says we will allow the Word of Christ to dwell in us richly
 Colossians 1:9-10 says we will maintain the spirit of prayer

***Because we are full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom:
 We do not cease to pray.
 We maintain that relationship with God.
 We are people who walk with God.***

#20



Stephen was a man of honest report, full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom.

The Scripture adds that he was full of faith and of the Holy Spirit.

He was a man whose whole being was based on, lived in, and swallowed up by Christ.

The church must have people who have a powerful testimony of Christ.

In the New Testament, this powerful testimony is found in individuals who are full of the Holy Spirit and power.

We must walk with one hand in the hand of God and the other in the hand of man.

While living in the world, we must be full of heaven's grace, glory, and power.

What does it mean to be full of the Holy Spirit?

It means to have power in prayer.

It means to be anointed in service.

It means to have glorious worship.

It means victory over Satan's devices.

It means the gifts of the Spirit.

#21



It means a living, dynamic testimony of the resurrected Lord.

The church cannot survive without individuals who are full of the Holy Spirit.

We must have more than a touch of God.

We must have more than a theological education.

We must have more than showers of blessing.

We must have more than people filling positions.

We must have people who are full of the Holy Spirit.

Oh, God fill your Church with the Holy Spirit and power.