

The Spirit
Preparing **the Way**

Filled with the Spirit

Are you missing something in your **Christian life**?

Have we overlooked anything that every Christian needs?

How should Christians **expect the Spirit** to fill their lives?

What is life when a person obeys God to become filled with the Spirit?

“[B]e filled with the Spirit” (Eph 5:18b).

Filled with the Spirit

When was John the Baptist **filled with the Holy Spirit?**

“But the angel said to him, ‘Do not be afraid, Zechariah, for your prayer has been heard, and your wife Elizabeth will bear you a son, and you shall call his name John. And you will have joy and gladness, and many will rejoice at his birth, for he will be great before the Lord. And he must not drink wine or strong drink, and he will be filled with the Holy Spirit, even from his mother's womb.’” (Luke 1:13–15).

Why is John the Baptist being filled with the Spirit from the womb matter even as a child?

Prophesying & Miracles?

Did John the Baptist do any signs – “**miracles**”?

“And many came to him. And they said, ‘John did no sign, but everything that John said about this man was true.’ And many believed in him there” (John 10:41–42).

What about prophesying? Is that a miracle?

What did Zechariah do when he was **filled with the Holy Spirit**?

“And his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied, saying, [...]” (Luke 1:67).

Women and the Spirit

What did Elizabeth do when she was **filled with the Spirit?**

“And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, ‘Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb!’” (Luke 1:41-42).

What does it mean to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

The Spirit & Jesus's Birth

How did Mary conceive Jesus **by the Spirit**?

The angel of the Lord came to Joseph and revealed that Mary had a child “from the Holy Spirit” or “out of the Holy Spirit.”

“[B]ehold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, ‘Joseph, son of David, do not fear to take Mary as your wife, for that which is conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.’” (Matt 1:20).

Does everyone possess the same gift from the Holy Spirit?

The Spirit & Power

How did **the power** of the Most High come overshadow Mary?

“The Spirit came upon Mary. ‘And Mary said to the angel, “How will this be, since I am a virgin?” And the angel answered her, “The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy — the Son of God”” (Luke 1:34–35).

Is there are connection between **the Spirit and power** in the Scriptures (Luke 24:49)?

Exposition

What are some **observations** that Christians should make from these Scriptures?

God's power came upon humanity through the Spirit

Not everyone receives the same gifts from the Spirit — from God.

God may fill whom He chooses with His Holy Spirit even a child from the womb.

The Spirit spoke through men and women.

The Power of the Spirit

Christians can see **the power of the Spirit** through Jesus Christ.

The Scriptures are full of examples of the effective work of the Spirit.

While the Scriptures mention the Spirit less than the Father and the Son, the Spirit's work marks **every part of the Bible**.

The Spirit and Christ

The Spirit **bears witness** of Christ.

“This is he who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ; not by the water only but by the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth. For there are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood; and these three agree” (1 John 5:6–8).

Every critical academic agrees that Jesus was **baptized and died** by crucifixion.

However, unbelievers reject the Holy Spirit’s revelation of truth.

The Spirit Vindicates

How did the Holy Spirit **vindicate** Jesus?

“Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

He was manifested in the flesh,

vindicated by the Spirit,

seen by angels,

proclaimed among the nations,

believed on in the world,

taken up in glory” (1 Tim 3:16).

How was Jesus **vindicated**, justified, **in the Spirit**?

The Spirit Descending

The Spirit **descended** upon Jesus at His baptism (Matt 3:16; Mark 1:10; Luke 3:22; John 1:32).

Was Jesus **filled with the Spirit**?

“And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil” (Luke 4:1; cf. Matt 4:1; Mark 1:12).

Jesus also **returned** in “the power of the Spirit” from the wilderness (Luke 4:14).

The Words of God

How much of **the Spirit** was given to Jesus?

John the Baptist prophesied, “For he whom God has sent utters the words of God, for he gives the Spirit without measure” (John 3:34).

The Spirit was the united source for which Jesus uttered the words of God.

Jesus having the Spirit without measure demonstrates that the fullness of God in Christ (Col 1:19; 2:9).

Exposition

What **observations** should Christians make from these passages about Jesus?

Jesus's power was united with the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Spirit was in Christ without measure and the fullness of God dwelt in Jesus Christ.

Jesus's flesh did not limit Jesus from inerrantly speaking the words of God.

Application

How much should Christians desire to remain filled with the Spirit (Eph 5:18)?

The Spirit was essential and necessary for Jesus Christ.

Do Jesus's words and actions demonstrate a life full of the Spirit and Jesus's infallibility?

The unity of Christ and the Holy Spirit must give Christians confidence in the infallibility of Scripture.

How should Christians expect the Spirit to fill their lives?

Invitation

The Spirit is **active** in every salvation.

The Holy Spirit causes the regeneration when Christians are **born again** (John 3:5).

“And such were some of you. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God” (1 Cor 6:11).

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