

The Church of Christ @ Fremont

3361 W. State Street, Fremont, OH 43420

Worship Services

Sunday Bible Study 10:00 am
Sunday Worship 10:45 am
Wednesday 7:00 pm

Preachers: Ted Bowen and Sean Rizor

What Must I Do To Be Saved?

1. Learn the truth (Hear) (John 8:32; 17:17; Rom 10:14-18)
2. Believe in Christ (John 8:24; 20:31; Heb 11:6)
3. Repent of all sins (Luke 13:3; Acts 17:30; Rom 2:4; 2 Cor 7:9,10)
4. Confess faith in Christ (Rom 10:10; Acts 17:30; Matt 16:16)
5. Be baptized into Christ for remission of sins (Acts 2:38; 22:16)
6. Live faithfully (Revelation 2:10)

7 THINGS TO REMEMBER DURING THE LORD'S SUPPER!

- 1 LORD. "There is one Lord." (Ephesians 4:5)
- 2 THIEVES. "There were also 2 others, criminals, led with Him to be put to death."
(Luke 23:32)
- 3 CROSSES. (Luke 23:39-43)
- 4 PARTS of HIS GARMENTS. "Then the soldiers, when they had crucified Jesus, took His garments and made four parts, to each soldier, a part, and also the tunic." (John 19:23)
- 5 WOUNDS. His back was scourged. His head was crowned with thorns.
His hands were pierced. His feet were pierced. His side was cut open. (John 19:1-2, 34 Psalm 22:16)
- 6 HOURS of AGONY. Christ was crucified at the 3rd hour and died at the 9th hour.
(Mark 15:25-37)
- 7 SAYINGS of The CROSS. (Matthew 27:46; Luke 23:34, 43-46; John 19:26-30)

October 1, 2023

Songs : Chris Frantz

Lord's Supper : Tony Smith

Speaker : Melvin Monroe

Wednesday Bible Study

Invitation: TBA

Birthdays

4 Mason Frantz
7 Vicki Shue
20 Janet Baker
25 Cory Davis
20 Frances Northcutt
30 Josie Appelhans

Anniversaries:

24 Matt & Stacey Appelhans
27 Sean & Stephanie Rizor

Prayer List

Gen Stanley
Jean Adkins
Betty Davis
Connie Runion
Mack Stanley
Tina Smith
Ted Bowen
Richard Slattman

BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT

By Joe R. Price

(A Christian's Baptist friend wrote her asking about the Holy Spirit, to which I was asked to comment. Here is the Baptist's email, followed by my response.)

Baptist: We are in a Bible study in Ephesians. In Eph. 5:18 where it says do not ben (sic) drunk with wine by (sic) be ye filled with the holy spirit. We have a young Church of Christ and she was asking about it. She seems to want to not go into it, like just skip over that part. Can you tell me what your belief is. We belive (sic) than when you receive Christ into your heart, at that you are filled with the holy spirit and you get a whole filling. It is up to us how much of the holy spirit we let show through our life.

Response: I will first comment on Ephesians 5:18 and then address the Baptist misuse of this passage. Ephesians 5:18 is not discussing a miraculous manifestation or personal indwelling of the Spirit of God in the heart of the Christian. It is a commandment to fill ourselves with the Spirit of God. This is accomplished by letting the Spirit-given word dwell in us (Col. 3:16).

In a context of exhorting the saints to walk as children of light, the apostle says it is necessary to walk circumspectly, to redeem the time, to understand what the will of the Lord is, and to be filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:8-10, 15-18). Note, we are commanded to do each one of these things. Therefore, the question arises, How does a person obey the command to be 'filled with the Spirit?' The answer is found in Colossians 3:16 (a parallel statement to Eph. 5:18-19): Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly in all wisdom, teaching and admonishing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing with grace in your hearts to the Lord.

To be filled with the Spirit is the same as letting the word of Christ dwell in you richly, and suggests the fellowship one has with the Spirit of God by doing so.

The Spirit in Ephesians 5:18 stands for that which the Spirit provides, namely, the inspired word of God (since the Holy Spirit revealed and inspired the apostolic gospel, John 16:13; 1 Cor 2:10-13). We walk in the Spirit, are led by the Spirit, and live in the Spirit when we understand and obey the will (word) of the Lord (Gal. 5:16, 18, 25; Eph. 5:17-18). (For more on being led by the Spirit, please see www.bibleanswer.com/led_by.htm)

Christians must have an obedient faith that follows the Spirit-given word. When we do so, we are confident of our fellowship with the Spirit of God (2 Cor. 13:14; Phil. 2:1; 1 John 3:24). God the Holy Spirit dwells in the Christian in the same way God the Father and God the Son dwell in him - through his obedient faith to the revealed word of God. (For more on the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, see www.bibleanswer.com/indwell.htm).

Now, concerning the Baptist view of Ephesians 5:18, I would ask for the Scripture(s) that support your friend's conclusion. The Baptist view of receiving Jesus into their heart is an error (Acts 2:36-41). As an example, Saul was not filled with the Spirit until he obeyed the Lord and was baptized, three days after he believed, prayed, repented, and was baptized (Acts 9:6-18; 22:16). His heart was prepared, but Saul was not saved and in the fellowship with the Spirit of God until he was baptized.

Fellowship with the Holy Spirit (as well as the Father and Son) occurs when one is born again according to the direction of the Spirit-given word (John 3:3-5; 1 Pet. 1:22-23). In Titus 3:5, the renewing of the Holy Spirit reminds us of the seasons of refreshing from the presence of the Lord in Acts 3:19, and the gift of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2:38. Therefore, we conclude the gift of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2:38 is the gift the Spirit gives, that is, the blessings of salvation the Spirit promises in the word of God (Gal. 3:14; Gen. 12:2-3; 22:16-18). This is not a personal, actual, or miraculous indwelling of the Spirit any more than the Father and Son personally or miraculously dwell in the Christian (Rom. 8:9-11; 1 John 3:24; 4:12-16).

Your friend said, It is up to us how much of the holy spirit we let show through our life. She is correct in one sense. When we obey God's command to understand what the will of the Lord is (by letting the word of Christ dwell in us), evidence will exist in our lives that we are filled with the Spirit (in fellowship with the Spirit, Eph. 5:17-18; Col. 3:16; Rom. 8:16). We will bear the fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22-26). By disobeying the will of the Lord, one shows a failure to understand God's will (Matt 7:21-23). Such a person is not filled with the Spirit. That person is lost in sin without hope and no fellowship with the Spirit of God.