

GOD'S SPIRIT WITHIN



S54A 0619 22P

Today, it is more important than ever to ask for and accept God's Holy Spirit within. Satan is very subtle, and he tries hard to deceive even the very elect if he can through his false Christs and false prophets as Matthew 24:24 tells us, *"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect."*

The decisions we make, the way we speak, our attitude to others, our appearance, will all show if the Spirit is dwelling within. We need God's Holy Spirit within, to inspire, and direct our every thought, word, and action.

We need to ask ourselves, what is the message I am giving to others by the clothes I wear, by the way I speak, the words I use. Am I drawing attention to myself, or is it God-glorifying? Am I dressing, as one would say, because it is comfortable, not caring about the message it gives about oneself?

When we fail to take advantage of this tremendous power that is available to us, we are allowing the devil to take advantage of us. Satan is very subtle, and he desires to make wrong seem right and to make it as difficult as he can to know right from wrong.

It all starts from within the home. The children are very vulnerable to what is before them. When the parents set the example on the proper attire, the words we use, what we read, and the things we view, it is much easier for the children to follow the example.

When we ask for God's Holy Spirit to dwell within our heart and accept it by faith, we must take full advantage of that Spirit to guide us in every decision, plan, or action we take.

Just as Jesus tells us in the book of John. When we love God and keep His commandments, or to be Christlike in all our ways, thoughts, words, and actions, He will send His Holy Spirit to abide with us forever, even the Spirit of Truth that the world cannot receive. That is God's promised Holy Spirit.

John 14:15-17, *"If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever; Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you."*

It is the serious sin of sloth to allow oneself to follow the world's way of appearance or the use of abusive or profane words in our talking with others. We need to separate ourselves from those who refuse to follow instructions from God's Holy Word.

2 Corinthians 6:17, *"Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you."*

God's Spirit is the third person in the Trinity. We have God the Father, Jesus Christ the Son, and the Holy Spirit. We have three distinct Persons, as One, to form the Trinity. To actually have the existence of God as a Spiritual being, dwelling within our hearts, to control our every thought, word, or action we take, how could anyone tolerate any questionable thought or appearance of following the world in any of the actions that they would take?

We are to present ourselves holy and acceptable unto God, not following the ways of the world, in the matter of appearance, the things we view, or the language we use. We are to show that that is good, acceptable, and perfect, which is the will of God.

Romans 12:1-2, *"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service. And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God."*

When we fail to take advantage of that tremendous power that is dwelling within our hearts, Satan will take full advantage of the opportunity to slip in, unaware to us, and that old evil nature will regain control.

We must take advantage of this Divine control, that is available when God's Spirit is dwelling within our hearts, and then take action to see that our decisions on the various things in our lives, are in agreement with God's Will and Word.

Jesus promised that He would ask His Father to send His Holy Spirit to abide with us forever. When His Spirit is dwelling within, He will convict us of attitudes and all appearance of worldly ways and desires. We will be set apart as being different, not following the ways and appearance of the world. Because we will be under the control of God's Holy Spirit.

John 16:8, *"When He, the Spirit of Truth, is come, will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:"*

Jesus paid a tremendous price for our life and wants to lead us to that ultimate reward of Eternal Life with Him on high, but if we keep straying off onto the wide road of sin, Satan will make it harder and harder to get back onto that straight and narrow path.

Matthew 7:14, *"Straight is the gate, and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life, and few there be that find it."*

The Holy Spirit is with us, but when we tolerate worldly ways and attitudes, we grieve God's Spirit. If we wouldn't tolerate bad language in the home, then we shouldn't use it in the workplace either.

Paul advises us in Ephesians 4:29-30, *"Let no unwholesome words ever pass your lips, but let all your words be good for benefiting others according to the need of the moment, so that they may be a means of blessing to the hearers. And beware of grieving the Holy Spirit of God, in whom you have been sealed in preparation for the day of Redemption."*

If God's Spirit is not controlling our words and actions, then Satan is. We are either following the

world in our tolerance for attention, or we are following Jesus who spoke strongly against worldly appearance and wrong attitudes.

Everyone's actions or inactions are controlled either by God's Holy Spirit or by the devil's power. These powers are directly opposite to each other, and they prove that by opposite actions and appearances.

If God's Spirit is controlling our ways, we would have no tolerance for objectionable things and desires that Satan will influence the world to long for.

1 John 5:19, *"We know that we are children of God and that the world around us is under the control of the evil one."*

Until one is filled with the Holy Spirit, they cannot know how much they were controlled by the devil. Anyone who hasn't allowed God to enlighten them, will act, decide, and tolerate ways that are opposite to the Word of God.

If we are not careful to watch and pray always, Satan will slip in unawares and cause a person's actions to be against God's will, and they will start tolerating unscriptural attitudes and appearances.

When we have God's Spirit dwelling within, He will guide us into all Truth. As one learns more about God's Truth, they will also learn how wicked Satan's ways are and will be ever so thankful for God's Spirit within.

Paul gives us some great advice in Philippians 4:8, *"Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."*

When God's Spirit is controlling us, He will remind us of what Jesus told us, on how we are to live and act. John 14:26, *"But the Comforter, which is the Holy Ghost, whom the Father will send in my name, he shall teach you all things, and bring all things to your remembrance, whatsoever I have said unto you."*

With God's Spirit in control of our every thought and attitude of the heart, He will open our minds to understand what His Word is telling us and

will influence us in all we say, and every impression we make will be according to His Will and Word.

Paul tells us in Galatians 5:16-17 (TEV) from The English Version, *"Let the Spirit direct your lives, and you will not satisfy the desires of the human nature. For what our human nature wants is opposed to what the Spirit wants, and what the Spirit wants is opposed to what our human nature wants. These two are enemies..."*

God's Spirit wants to deliver us from any action, attitude, or toleration of sinful ways that would be harmful to ourselves or to anyone we come in contact with. God's Spirit will cause our ways to be opposite to the world's ways. His Spirit wouldn't want us to influence anyone in a wrong way.

God's Spirit causes us to show fruits of the Spirit. (Verses 22-23) *"But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law."*

When the Spirit is in control, we will be able to discern right from wrong. Anyone can have control of another person when that person will give their consent. We should consent only to right ways, wholesome language, and scriptural appearance.

When there is a group who is controlled by God's Spirit, they will always want to walk in the light of God's Word. Since His Spirit wrote the Bible, then each one would want their appearance and actions to always be in harmony with Bible teaching and advice.

Romans 6:16 tells us, *"Don't you know that when you offer yourselves to someone to obey him as slaves, you are slaves to the one whom you obey---whether you are slaves to sin, which leads to death, or to obedience, which leads to righteousness?"*

When one is willing to read God's Word and act upon it, they will receive God's Spirit. It is simply choosing what is of God and rejecting what is of Satan.

When God's Spirit is in control, we will not tolerate worldly appearance and actions, godly ways will be followed, and right decisions will be made. We will make the effort to find the good and reject the wrong.

Jesus said in Mark 10:29-30, *"I tell you the truth, any one who has left" (or we could say, rejected or will not tolerate anything) for me and the gospel, will... receive a hundred times as much in this present age. And then He said, "they will receive eternal life."*

That is great spiritual profit for those who follow that scripture, 'Eternal Life.' But, along with that, it says, *"with them persecutions."* We may be called names or left out at times, but standing up for what is right, will always be the right thing to do and will also be worth it. The reward?? "Eternal Life." It is only the control of Satan that would allow anything a person would say or do to stand between them and their Eternal Life.

Galatians 6:8, *"The one who sows to please his sinful nature, from that nature will reap destruction; the one who sows to please the spirit, from the spirit will reap eternal life."*

Do our decisions, our activities, our appearance, or choice of words please the Spirit, or are they pleasing to the eyes of the world??

Satan is in back of every careless word spoken or any appearance that follows the trends of the world. We need to cooperate with God's Spirit; He who wants to empower us to be Christlike in all our ways and do all things for the glory of God.

God's Spirit is within us and will help anyone who wants to be helped, but we need to reject the world's way and accept the right way. If we don't do this, we only grieve God's Spirit, which will allow Satan to take advantage of us, just because we refused to take advantage of God's Spirit to enlighten us and to empower us to do all things, *"for the glory of God."*



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