

## The Holy Spirit, Sanctification and the Eternal Security of Believers

### The Filling of the Spirit (Eph.5:8-21)

#### Context:

1. We have completed considering the central theological aspects of the **Christian** faith in **Romans, chapters 1-8**, which are:
  1. The universality of human sinfulness (**Rom.1:18-3:20**)
  2. Justification by faith alone in Christ alone (**3:21-4:25**)
  3. Sanctification; the Holy Spirit; assurance of glory and the security of believers (**5:1-8:39**)
2. Last week I considered **Rom.9:1-5** which was a further development of a theme already addressed in **Rom.8** which involves, election and predestination
3. Today I want to pick up and develop another theme from **Romans 8**; which is the work of the **Spirit**, and in particular, "**The filling of the Spirit**"
4. Now to help us do this, I am going to refer to **Ephesians** which is in many ways a summary of **Romans**; but, in **Ephesians**, Paul gives us some important details on, "**the filling of the Spirit**"

1. The Bible teaches that every Christian has the Spirit and that the Christian is the temple of the Holy Spirit both individually, and corporately (1Cor.6:19-the individual; 1Cor.3:16-the Body of Christ; Rom.8:9b)

2. A command to every Christian without exception (Eph.5:18)

3. The nature of being, "filled with the Spirit"

1. Consider some verses where the word, "filled" is used (Lk.5:26; Jn.16:6; Gal.5:25)

2. An illustration

3. It is a repeatable experience (Eph.5:18)

4. Why does the "filling" need to be a repeatable event?

1. Christians grieve the Spirit through disobedience (1Thess.5:19; Eph.4:30-32)

2. Christians grieve the Spirit through being complacent about our spiritual walk (1Cor.3:1-3)

3. Christians grieve the Spirit when they believe that the "filling of the Spirit" is a once-off experience

1. When Christians believe that they were "filled with the Spirit" when they were converted, and ~~they~~ believe that no further filling is necessary

2. When Christians believe that the filling of the Spirit refers to the "second blessing" (or the "release of the Spirit" or the baptism of the Spirit) and therefore for them, it is a once off experience

**4. Christians need the “filling” as a special equipping for a particular ministry (Acts 2:4; 4:8) (See too Paul, Acts 9:17-20; 13:9,52)**

**4. The consequences of being “filled with the Spirit” (Eph.5:19-21)**

**1. Fellowship (5:19a)**

**2. Worship (5:19b)**

**3. Gratitude (5:20)**

**4. Submission (5:21)**

**5. Sanctification: The fruit of the Spirit (Gal.5:22-23)**

**6. Christian service (Acts 4:31) See too Paul (Acts 9:17,20)**

**5. The Christian responsibility to be “filled with the Spirit”?**

**1. Two important things to remember**

**1. It is a sovereign work of God**

**2. We are also responsible (1Cor.6:19-20)**

**2. How can we be “filled with the Spirit”?**

**1. Petition God, that in His grace, He would be merciful and grant our request (Lk.11:13; Acts 4:31)**

**2. Confession of sin (1Jn.1:9)**

**3. The “filling of the Spirit” is related to our being yielded to God in trust and obedience (1Cor.6:19-20); (See “slave” Rom.1:1; Phil.1:1; Col.1:7; 4:12; Titus 1:1 in NASB)**

**Conclusion**