

Australind Vineyard Christian Fellowship

from the Pastor's heart



The Sword of the Spirit the Word of God



The Holy Spirit and you

The covenant promise and purpose of the Spirit. *Gal 3:13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree: Gal 3:14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. Gal 3:15 Brethren, I speak after the manner of men; Though it be but a man's covenant, yet if it be confirmed, no man disannulleth, or addeth thereto.*

It is evident from these verses that a promise was made by God to Abraham in the form of blessings and he received it by faith. **This promise included the Lord Jesus and the Holy Spirit.** This promise was subsequently covenanted through an act of God before Abraham in a supernatural way. God appeared as a fire (our God is a consuming fire) passing through the sacrifice of animals. *Gen 15:17 And it came to pass, that, when the sun went down, and it was dark, behold a smoking furnace, and a burning lamp that passed between those pieces. Gen 15:18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram.....* The promise was also to make Abraham the father of all nations through an heir whose loins would release the Saviour of the world. What is equally important about this covenant is the giving of God's Spirit to all who would believe. This meant that ordinary man would contain God Himself inside of him for eternity and be like God.

The birth, death and resurrection of Jesus the Saviour of the world was not just to save us but to fill us with God as Spirit. God is a Spirit and those who worship Him must worship Him in Spirit and Truth. Many worship God but not in Spirit and truth. This is the essence of false worship, when a person worships God in any other form. Idolatry stems from this kind of worship which deifies creation as God in the form of wood, stones, sun, moon and stars. Added to this, is the form of worship that comes from the intellect and knowledge which is false worship because it does not contain the Spirit or truth in it. The modern Church deifies music and entertainment in Church and calls it worship. Nice words and music do not make up true worship. Only what is done in the Spirit and truth is accepted in heaven. *Joh 4:20 Our fathers worshipped in this mountain; and ye say, that in Jerusalem is the place where men ought to worship. Joh 4:21 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, believe me, the hour cometh, when ye shall neither in this mountain, nor yet at Jerusalem, worship the Father. Joh 4:22 Ye worship ye know not what: we know what we worship: for salvation is of the Jews. Joh 4:23 But the hour cometh, and now is, when the true worshippers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the Father seeketh such to worship him. Joh 4:24 God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth.* The Church needs to learn what this means and practise it.

To further exemplify the giving of the Spirit we see the parallel of the dry bones of Ezekiel's vision and prophecies exemplify the coming together of a human being as a vessel of God's habitation by His Spirit.

First the dead bones would come together which can be exemplified as receiving Jesus as our Saviour. *Eph 2:1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;*

Then, the flesh and sinew came on the bones which could exemplify the coming together of the body as one through the fivefold ministry *Eph 4:11 And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; Eph 4:12 For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Eph 4:13 Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ: Eph 4:16 From whom the whole body fitly joined together and compacted by that which every joint supplieth, according to the effectual working in the measure of every part, maketh increase of the body unto the edifying of itself in love.*

Finally, there is the infilling of the Spirit into the body, which is made ready for the habitation of God through the Spirit. *Eph 2:20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; Eph 2:21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: Eph 2:22 In whom ye also are builded together for an habitation of God through the Spirit.*

It never ceases to amaze me as to how one can find the connection between the Old Testament prophecies and what is taking place in the New Testament through the scriptures. The Old Testament and New Testament complement each other seamlessly.

God is raising an army all around the world that will stand for Him. Through the centuries many battles have been fought but none like what is happening now. The difference about the battles of today is the permanent indwelling of the Holy Spirit in man to make him strong in battle. The army is even more equipped now than it has ever been. We have the word, the gifts, the fruit and above all The Spirit of God who oversees all these wonderful attributes of God in us. We are not left Comfortless or in other words as orphans.

Maybe, you are wondering what is going on in AVCF with the kind of teaching I am bringing and the visitations of the Holy Spirit. Since I came, we have been having regular manifestations of the Holy Spirit who has been coming and doing His work. I said

from the very beginning that I would be giving the pre-eminence to the Holy Spirit. I meant it and acted upon it. It was not a popular decision as it destroyed a lot of sacred cows and made uncomfortable a lot of comfort zones in people. Yet, it has had its desired effect. Many of you have openly confessed that you have grown as a result. Now, you must begin to understand the Holy Spirit in you and how to love Him and work with Him. There is so much more in Him that we must explore, receive and release. This is just the beginning. When it drizzles, it does not mean it is raining or going to rain. Sometimes we satisfy ourselves with the drizzle when we should be thirsty for the deluge of rain. As a result, we often slip back into comfort zones and apathy. It is thirst that will bring the deluge which will overflow us causing us to go under water in the river of the Lord's move. I urge you to desire this move of God not only for yourselves but for the nations of this world and especially Australia where we live.

The origin of the promise of the Holy Spirit to man is critical to understand. Whenever we speak of the promise to Abraham we are speaking of a certain kind of people who walk by faith. In God's estimate, only those who are of the faith of Abraham would be considered for salvation and the infilling of God's Holy Spirit. *Act 13:26 Men and brethren, **children of the stock of Abraham**, and whosoever among you feareth God, **to you is the word of this salvation sent**. Rom 9:7 *Neither, because they are the seed of Abraham, are they all children: but, **In Isaac shall thy seed be called**. Gal 3:7 Know ye therefore that **they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham**.**

In the last days, which we are in now, many will come saying they are filled with the Holy Spirit but it will not be true. We need discernment to know the difference. Speaking in tongues is only an initial sign of the entry of the Holy Spirit into a person. However, subsequent proof that the Holy Spirit exists in a person is only discerned by determining that person's character and behaviour and the operation of faith in them that results in works. Many lose their way on the journey of life because of the journey itself.

The consummation of salvation (coming together as one) is in receiving Jesus the Christ and the Holy Spirit so that we could enter heaven. *Joh 3:5 Jesus answered, Verily, verily, I say unto thee, Except a man be born of **water and of the Spirit**, **he cannot enter into the kingdom** of God. Joh 3:6 *That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.* What enters heaven is Spirit not flesh, spirit that is born of God's Spirit. Human genetics can never duplicate God's Spirit in a person. This is where man will fail in his knowledge. Please note; God gives all science and knowledge for good but man is using it to elevate himself. Pride will be his downfall, just as it was satan's.*

Without God's Spirit in a person, there is no eternal life. One can receive Jesus mentally, theologically and in the flesh but without His Spirit in them, there is no life. So, many see the kingdom of God but cannot enter. It is useless to put our trust in flesh at any time because it is Spirit that rules. If we have accepted Jesus we are re-created as spirits who are given a quickened body. *Rom 8:11 But if the Spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwell in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also **quicken your mortal bodies** by his Spirit that dwelleth in you. **Rom 8:12 Therefore, brethren, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live after the flesh.***

Now it is evident that we have a soul, (will, intellect & emotions), spirit and body but in addition to that, we also have God as The Spirit living in us. This is the fourth part of our being, which is critical to life. The Bible says, Jesus was anointed to receive the Spirit of God in Luke 4:18. Yet he died in the flesh. God's Spirit raised Him from the dead to show all creation both visible and invisible that Jesus had overcome death. This was achieved by God's Spirit working on His flesh from inside and outside of His body.

Now, the purpose of God in us is to build a habitation for Himself through His Spirit. We must allow this to happen so that we can be completed. *Eph 2:18 For through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Eph 2:19 Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints, and of the household of God; Eph 2:20 And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner stone; Eph 2:21 In whom all the building fitly framed together groweth unto an holy temple in the Lord: Eph 2:22 In whom ye also are builded together **for an habitation of God through the Spirit.***

The purpose of the Holy Spirit in us can be described as follows:

1. *To be God in us*
2. *To be the power of God in us to make us witnesses (say & do what Jesus did)*
3. *To make us into a habitation of God*
4. *To teach us, instruct us, guide us, lead us into all truth and reveal God to us*
5. *To empower our speech so that we can reveal Jesus*
6. *To comfort us*
7. *To give us identity so that we know we are the sons and daughters of God*
8. *To seal us as children of God*
9. *To go before us in every way so that we can know the plans and purposes of God for our lives*
10. *To empower us with gifts of the Spirit*
11. *To teach us how to walk in the fruit of the Spirit*
12. *To perfect the Church as the spotless bride for Jesus*

Now is the time to submit to the Holy Spirit and let Him lead us to completion.

With love

Pastor Noble

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