

☞ **The People of the Holy Spirit**

☞ **Review: We need the Holy Spirit**

- **The Promise of the Holy Spirit** – Jesus promised this gift to his followers after his death and resurrection. God is a gift-giver and God is always good.
- **The Presence of the Holy Spirit** – the Holy Spirit is with us and in us. **His presence with us is going to produce spiritual fruit.**
- **The Power of the Holy Spirit** – the Holy Spirit grants gifts to believers. These are supernatural **abilities of Comprehension, Capability, and Communication.**
- **The Pursuit of the Holy Spirit** – as a believer the Holy Spirit is with you, but there's more. We should also look for a significant event of **being baptized in the Holy Spirit.** Then, because we leak sometimes, and other times the Holy Spirit flows out through us, we need to **keep on being filled.** We need the Holy Spirit.

☞ **To be People of the Holy Spirit simply means that we are filled with him; we are growing spiritual fruit; we are operating in the gifts that he gives; and we keep on pursuing more of the Holy Spirit's influence in our lives.**

☞ **Isaiah 11:2-3**

The Spirit of the Lord will rest on him — the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord — 3 and he will delight in the fear of the Lord.

Jesus operated in the power of the Holy Spirit and was anointed for ministry. He is always our ultimate example. Since we are to become more and more Christlike we should also operate in the power of the Holy Spirit and be anointed for ministry.

v. 2 describes the Spirit – we want these same things as the Spirit continues to fill us:

☞ **Attributes of People of the Spirit**

The Spirit of wisdom = discerning; making right choices at the right time.

Don't you wish you could make excellent choices every time? You need the Holy Spirit, because he helps us discern what is right. He gives us wisdom to make right choices.

--J.I. Packer... *Wisdom is the power to see and the inclination to choose the best and highest goal, together with the surest means of attaining it.*

--Bill Gothard... *Wisdom is seeing life from God's perspective.*

The Holy Spirit has the mind of the Lord, so he helps us see from that perspective.

Words of wisdom:

- *Never wrestle with a pig. You will both get all dirty--and the pig likes it.*
- *It's better to sleep on what you plan to do than to be kept awake by what you've done.*
- *If it ain't broke, don't fix it.*

- *A stiff neck usually supports an empty head.*
- *Genius has limits; stupidity does not.*
- *Learn from the nail--its head keeps it from going too far.*
- *If fifty million people say a foolish thing, it is still a foolish thing.*

A wise man learns from the mistakes of others. Nobody lives long enough to make them all himself.

☞ **The Spirit of understanding = insight; knowledge**

1 Corinthians 2:14

The person without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God but considers them foolishness, and cannot understand them because they are discerned only through the Spirit.

There are some things that we can only understand by the Spirit. There are spiritual matters that only make sense if you're filled with the Spirit. Knowing God's will comes through the Spirit... Colossians 1:9 says, ...we have not stopped praying for you and asking God to fill you with the knowledge of his will through all spiritual wisdom and understanding.

--John Powell... God gives the believer a new set of inner eyes to see what he could not see before, a new set of inner ears to hear what he could not hear before.

☞ **The Spirit of counsel = making good decisions; giving good advice.**

As people of the Spirit we should be good resources of advice to our friends and family.

The trouble with good advice is that it usually interferes with your plans.

Now, here's some good advice about giving advice: Advice is like snow--the softer it falls, the deeper it goes.

☞ **The Spirit of power = strength; valor; bravery**

Psalms 46:1-3

God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble. **2** Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea, **3** though its waters roar and foam and the mountains quake with their surging.

The disciples ran in fear when Jesus was arrested and crucified. But after being baptized in the Holy Spirit they were brave and bold, and others took note. The Spirit enables us to live victoriously and reminds us of Christ's ultimate victory over the enemy.

--Bernard of Clairvaux... Only by desertion can we be defeated. With Christ and for Christ victory is certain.

1 Corinthians 15:57

But thanks be to God! He gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

God wants you to be a victor--not a victim. The Spirit gives us power and bravery.

☞ **The Spirit of knowledge = perception; skill**

I believe that Christians ought to be skilled workers. We ought to know or perceive what our boss or clientele needs. Since we know we are in reality working for God and not men, we ought to be powerfully motivated to be excellent in all we do. I think it is a worthy goal to be the most skilled person in your profession.

☞ **The Spirit of the fear of the Lord = reverence; awe.**

Delight in the fear of the Lord (some translations... quick in understanding...)

Literally, has to do with the sense of smell... to catch a scent, like a hound dog. Following the analogy, hounds are the first to be aware of something because of their keen sense of smell. And when they catch a strong scent, they get excited to go after it. People of the Spirit ☞ should be like that. **Catch the scent of the Holy Spirit and then joyfully pursue him.** This grows out of our fear and reverence of the Lord.

The Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of power, the Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. With this kind of Spirit, we follow the example of Christ.

☞ **Isaiah 61:1-3** was quoted by Jesus in Luke 4:18-19

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, ²to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance of our God, to comfort all who mourn, ³and provide for those who grieve in Zion— to bestow on them a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of a spirit of despair.

Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is on me... we want God's Spirit to be on us as well. Again, we want to be more like Jesus, so we ought to be doing what he did...

☞ **Activity of the People of the Spirit**

Proclaim Good News = talk with authority about salvation and the Kingdom of God.

If you're a believer, you know how good God is and you will want to tell others about that. In fact, the Holy Spirit will compel you tell the Good News.

--*Ralph Washington Sockman... A preacher is one who leads men from what they want to what they need.* (People need the Lord!)

Preach the gospel at all times; use words if you have to. (True, but definitely use words!)

☞ **Bind up the brokenhearted = emotional healing.**

Psalms 34:18

the Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

Cf. verse 2-3: comfort those who mourn; gladness instead of mourning; praise instead of despair.

There are many problems out there, but Jesus is the answer to them all. He can do more in a moment than doctors and therapists can do in years. As Spirit-filled believers we can introduce people to Jesus who is the ultimate healer.

☞ **Proclaim freedom for captives = deliverance from enemy's control**

Romans 8:2

through Christ Jesus the law of the Spirit of life set me free from the law of sin and death.

People don't have to live a miserable life of sin and be destined for hell. They can be set free. We can show them the way.

John 8:36

So if the Son sets you free, you will be free indeed.

People need to understand that Christianity is not about a set of strict rules or boring rituals. Rather, it's about a vibrant relationship & adventure with Jesus Christ, and that is freeing.

☞ **Release from darkness = spiritual sight**

People's eyes can be opened to the truth... This world is not as it was meant to be. The enemy wants to keep people in darkness and thinking that this life is all there is. 2 Corinthians 4:4 says he has blinded the minds of unbelievers. The truth is that Jesus came to rescue people from the darkness that has overtaken this world. (Colossians 1:13) Even believers need more light on the subject of God's kingdom. In Ephesians 1:18 Paul prays that our hearts would be enlightened to know the hope and the inheritance that we have in God's kingdom. Daniel 7:27 says that the saints will be running the whole place! 1 Peter 2:9 declares that as believers we are called out of this spiritual darkness and that we are actually royalty. The Spirit reminds us of these truths and enables others to see the truth as well.

☞ When Jesus quoted this in Luke's gospel he said **Releasing the oppressed = healing.**

Luke 4:40 (after the anointing in v. 18...)

...the people brought to Jesus all who had various kinds of sickness, and laying his hands on each one, he healed them.

This includes not only the freedom of the gospel which we preach, but deliverance from physical ailments. We should expect to see real healings when we minister and pray with people because the Holy Spirit is in us.

1 Corinthians 2:4-5

My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power, 5 so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.

☞ Proclaim the year of the Lord's favor = God's grace and mercy; salvation.

We can tell them and show them his love, his grace and his mercy.

Exodus 34:6-7 (one of the most common descriptions of God)

And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, "The Lord, the Lord, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness, 7 maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin.

Isaiah 61:2 – notice the contrast: the “year” of the Lord's favor vs. the “day” of vengeance. People need to know what God is really like and the Spirit helps us to show that to them.

As Spirit-filled believers we called to do the same things that Jesus did.

☞ Let's be people of the Spirit!

**People who are baptized with, filled with, anointed with and walking with the Spirit.
People with wisdom and understanding; with wise counsel; with supernatural power; with knowledge and skill; people who fear the Lord.**

Then, with these spiritual attributes, let us follow the example of Christ:

☞ Let's be people of the Spirit!

**People who tell the Good News in word and action.
People who heal the brokenhearted.
People who offer freedom to those in bondage.
People who open blinded minds to the truth of the Kingdom.
People with spiritual power for healings and miracles.
People who proclaim in speech and in action who God really is.**

We need the Holy Spirit! Let's be people of the Spirit!

Song: Consuming Fire