

Indwelt and Empowered by the Holy Spirit

Author: Terry Tramel

- The two most prominent human writers of the New Testament were Paul and Luke.
- Each of them emphasized a distinct work of the Spirit in the life of the believer in Christ.
- Paul emphasized the wonderful truth that the Holy Spirit *indwells* every Christian!

“...if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Christ.”
(Romans 8:9)

It is impossible for a Christian not to have the Holy Spirit living in their heart.

(Romans 8:16; 2 Corinthians 1:22; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 1:13, 14)

Therefore, it is wrong to conclude, “I got Jesus when I was saved, and then I received the Holy Spirit later.”

The fruit of the Holy Spirit begins to be produced in our hearts the moment we are saved. (Galatians 5:22, 23)

However, Luke wrote of another aspect of the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives

- Luke emphasized the wonderful truth that the Holy Spirit can *empower* every Christian!

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses...” (Acts 1:8)

Every follower of Jesus may receive an outpouring of the Spirit upon them for the purpose of giving them power to more effectively witness for the Lord.

(Acts 2:39; Acts 8:14-17; Acts 9:15-17; Acts 10:44-46; Acts 19:1-6)

Therefore, every Christian may be both *indwelt* and *empowered* by the Holy Spirit.

Final Thought:

- (1) It is not an arrogant, prideful thing to be empowered by the Spirit. Such persons are not to presume that they are first class Christians, and all others are second class.
- (2) When you are filled with the Spirit according to the pattern in Acts, it does not mean that you have more power than those merely “indwelt” by the Spirit. It

does mean that you now have more power than *you* did before receiving the experience.