

# The Gospel Polemic

Acts 14:1-7

PART TWO

## Introduction

*“And the disciples were filled with joy and with the Holy Spirit.” Acts 13:52*

**In order to have *joy* without interference while we speak gospel truth in the face of opposition, we must be *filled with the Holy Spirit*.**

- † Peter was “filled with the Holy Spirit” (4:8).
- † Peter, John and the disciples “were all filled with the Holy Spirit” (4:31).
- † Stephen was “full of the Holy Spirit” (7:55).
- † Barnabas was “full of the Holy Spirit” (11:24).
- † Paul was “filled with the Holy Spirit” (13:9).

**But how is being “filled with the Spirit” different from being “baptized in” or “sealed with ” or “indwelt by” the Holy Spirit?**

The Lord Jesus sent Ananias to Paul so that he could regain his sight and “be filled with the Holy Spirit.” Acts 9:17

But the Spirit was already operating in Paul’s life.

1 Corinthians 12:3

**A Christian is “sealed” with the Holy Spirit by God at the moment of salvation:**

Ephesians 1:13-14

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

**A Christian is “baptized” in the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation:**

1 Corinthians 12:13

**A Christian is “indwelt” by the Holy Spirit at the moment of salvation:**

Romans 8:9

Ephesians 5:18

- 1) Christians are commanded to remain filled with the Spirit (Galatians 5:16-17).
- 2) The Christian is to live continually under the influence of the Holy Spirit by allowing the Word of God control his life (Colossians 3:15-17).
- 3) That means, we are to die to ourselves that we may live for Christ alone (Galatians 2:20).

**Christians who consistently pursue a Spirit filled life will be used in powerful ways for the cause of Christ.**

## **Paul and Barnabas at Iconium**

### **v1**

*"Greeks"*

*"in such way that a great number...believed."*

Being compelled to proclaim the gospel to people who may oppose you has a clarifying effect on your mind.

**Those who are called by the Holy Spirit to preach will preach boldly with power and great effect.**

### **v2**

*"unbelieving Jews"* literally, 'the Jews who disobeyed.' The verb carries a double meaning.

John 8:31; cp 1 Corinthians 15:1-2

*"poisoned their minds against the brothers"*

The Jews were willing to set aside their hatred of the Gentiles for their contempt of the apostles.

How did the apostles respond? ...

### **v3**

*"they remained for a long time"*

Paul and Barnabas knew when to retreat and when to stand firm.

*"Speaking boldly for the Lord, who bore witness to the word of his grace"*

Acts 13:46

*"speaking boldly"*

Zero fear of man. Absolutely critical to effective gospel proclamation.

We are made bold to speak for Christ because His Spirit dwells in us.

1 Thessalonians 2:2

*"the word of his grace"*

This is our evangel in concise form.

*"granting signs and wonders to be done by their hands"*

**What are our *"signs and wonders"* for today?**

- 1) Our changed lives (testimonies).
- 2) Our answered prayers.
- 3) Our responses to trials, deprivation, suffering, death, affliction, and persecution.