

“By My Spirit!”
The Importance Of Studying The Holy Spirit
Galatians 5:16

Introduction:

1. Begin A Series Of Messages On The Holy Spirit!
 - Start – The Importance Of Studying The Holy Spirit!
 - Not Only For Doctrine / Knowledge!
 - But For Practice / Living!
 - It Is Essential For The Growing Christian To Know About & Live In The Power Of The Holy Spirit!
2. Look At Galatians 5:13-25!
 - Read Passage!
 - The Context Is About The Liberty Of The Gospel & How To Live In & Realize That Liberty!
 - Focus On Galatians 5:16 - “Walk In The Spirit!”
 - “Walk” - Peripateo - Present Active Imperative!
 - A Command!
3. Why Is It Important To Study The Holy Spirit?
 - Because:
 1. ***A Believer Will Want To Obey The Lord’s Command!***
 - John 14:15 - “If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments!”
 - Then, In Verses 16-21, Explains About The Holy Spirit – The Comforter – Being Sent & Explains Some Details About Him!
 - Do You Desire To Obey The Lord’s Commands?
 - Do You Love Him?
 - Then You Will Want To Learn About His Holy Spirit!
 2. ***A Believer Will Want To Know Who The Spirit Is They Must Walk With!***
 - Amos 3:3 - “Can Two Walk Together, Except They Be Agreed?”
 - “Without Friendship There Is No Fellowship, And Without Concord No Communion!” (John Gill)
 - In Fact, Knowledge Is The Basis Of Any Relationship!
 - Knowledge Of Nature!
 - Knowledge Of Personality!
 - Knowledge Of Desires!
 - This Is Why It Is Important To Study The Holy Spirit!
 3. ***A Believer Will Want To Know What The Spirit Does!***
 - Not Just Walk “With” But “In”!
 - Because A Spirit – Any Spirit – Is Not Visible, We Must Recognize The Signs Of The Spirit’s Presence In Order To Walk “In” Him!
 - “In” His Sphere Of Communion & Influence!
 - **IE:** Walking In Fog Or Smoke - How Can You Tell? You See It! And You Can Only See What It Will Let You See! It Controls Your Vision, Movements & Plans!
 - There Are Specific Works Of The Spirit!
 - That Distinguish Him!
 - From Other Spirits!
 - Angelic / Demonic / Human Spirits!
 - There Are Specific Fruits Of The Spirit!
 - That Display Him!
 - See Galatians 5:22-23 – Reveals A Relationship & Experience With The Holy Spirit!
 - Galatians 5:23 - “If We Live In The Spirit, Let Us Also Walk In The Spirit!”
 - Different “Walk” – Here, It Means To Go In Order, Like A Soldier Following The Soldier In Front - Living Our Lives As The Spirit Lives!
 - This Is Why It Is Important To Study The Holy Spirit!

- For Us To Identify Him Through His Works!
- For Him To Reveal Himself To Us Through His Fruits! In Our Lives!

4. ***A Believer Will Want To Know Why The Holy Spirit Is So Important!***

- "The gift of the Spirit is the crowning mercy of God in Christ Jesus. It was for this all the rest was. The Incarnation and Crucifixion, the Resurrection and Ascension were all preparatory to Pentecost. Without the gift of the Holy Spirit all the rest would be useless. The great thing in Christianity is the gift of the Spirit. The essential, vital, central element in the life of the soul and the work of the Church is the Person of the Spirit!" (Samuel Chadwick)

- He Know What He Was Speaking About!

- "Samuel Chadwick was born in the industrial north of England in 1860. His father worked long hours in the cotton mill and, when he was only eight, Samuel went to work there, too, as a means of supporting the impoverished family. Devout Methodists, they attended chapel three times on Sunday, and as a young boy, Chadwick gave his heart to Christ. Listening to God's word week by week, he often felt the inner call to serve Christ. It seemed impossible, as he was poor and uneducated, but in faith he made preparations. After a twelve-hour factory shift he would rush home for five hours of prayer and study. / At the age of 21 he was appointed lay pastor of a chapel at Stacksteads, Lancashire. It was no dream appointment! The congregation was self-satisfied. / Yet Chadwick threw himself in with great optimism. He had been trained to prepare well-researched and interesting sermons as the sure way to bring in the crowds. He recalled later: / "This led unconsciously to a false aim in my work. I lived and laboured for my sermons, and was unfortunately more concerned about their excellence and reputation than the repentance of the people." / Soon, however, his sermons were exhausted and nothing had changed. Staring defeat in the face and sensing his lack of real power, an intense hunger was kindled within him for more of God. At this point he heard the testimony of someone who had been revitalised by an experience of the Holy Spirit. So, with a few friends he covenanted to pray and search the scriptures until God sent revival. / One evening he was praying over his next sermon, when a powerful sense of conviction settled on him. His pride, blindness and reliance on human methods paraded before his eyes as God humbled him to the dust. Well into the night he wrestled and repented, then he got out his pile of precious sermons and set fire to them! The result was immediate: the Holy Spirit empowered him. In his own words: / "I could not explain what had happened, but it was a bigger thing than I had ever known. There came into my soul a deep peace, a thrilling joy, and a new sense of power. My mind was quickened. I felt I had received a new faculty of understanding. Every power was vitalised. My body was quickened. There was a new sense of spring and vitality, a new power of endurance and a strong man's exhilaration in big things." / The tide turned. At his next sermon seven souls were converted ("one for each of my barren years"), and he called the whole congregation to a week of prayer. The following weekend a revival began to spread through the valleys. In the space of a few months, hundreds were converted to Jesus, among them some of the most notorious sinners in the area!"

- The Sending Of The Holy Spirit Was One Of Christ's Great Aims For His People!

- John 14:16-18, 26 / 15:26!

- Through The Holy Spirit We Are Comforted, Experience His Presence & Are Taught!

- Are You Convinced That The Holy Spirit Is Important In Your Life As A Christian?

5. ***A Believer Will Want To Know The Truth About The Holy Spirit!***

- At Times The Holy Spirit Was Ignored & Neglected!

- Now, It Seems, That The Holy Spirit Is Abused!

- See John 16:13!

- Are You Ready To Spend Time To Learn The Truth?

6. ***A Believer Will Want To Know How He Can Obey & "Walk In The Spirit" & What That Truly Means!***

- In His Person / Power / Gifts!

- Zechariah 4:6 - "Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the word of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD of hosts!"

- "Until the Holy Spirit is again given His rightful place in our hearts, thoughts, and activities, there can be

no improvement. Until it be recognized that we are entirely dependent upon His operations for all spiritual blessing, the root of the trouble cannot be reached. Until it be recognized that it is "‘Not by might, (of trained workers), nor by power (of intellectual argument or persuasive appeal), but by MY SPIRIT,’ saith the Lord" (Zech. 4:6), there will be no deliverance from that fleshly zeal which is not according to knowledge, and which is now paralyzing Christendom. Until the Holy Spirit is honored, sought, and counted upon, the present spiritual drought must continue!" (Arthur Pink)

Conclusion:

1. Do You Desire:
 - To "Walk In The Spirit"?
 - To Learn About The Spirit?
 - To Be Led By The Spirit?
2. Then The Study Of The Holy Spirit Is Important, Necessary & Crucial!
 - Be Ready To Respond To The Work Of The Spirit As You Learn More About Him!

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