

A Spirit-Filled Life - Ephesians 5:18

"And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit (Eph. 5:18)." Many so-called Bible teachers and preachers will tell you that since we have the Bible there is no need for the Holy Ghost, therefore the direct operation of the Spirit has been discontinued and there is no such thing as feeling the Spirit or having Him in our lives as they did in the days of the early church. This is a false teaching aimed at sending souls out to meet God without hope. These false teachers are unable to give chapter and verse where God ever mentioned that He would withhold the Holy Ghost to the people of our age or to any other age.

Peter said that this promise is to as many as the Lord, our God shall call (Acts 2:39). At repentance we have the Spirit with us, and He will and does bless those that live for Him. Jesus told the disciples that the Holy Ghost was with them but He will be IN you (John 14:16-18). He taught them that on receiving the gift or baptism of the Spirit that they would receive power and be a witness (Acts 1:8). He also told them that the Spirit would teach them all things and bring all things to their remembrance (John 14:26).

The Holy Ghost is a Comforter (John 14:18) and He, will lead those who are obedient into all truth (John 16:13). The disciples were commanded to tarry until they were endued with power from on high (Luke 24:49). They went up into the upper room and continued in prayer and supplication, praising and blessing God in one accord (Acts 1:13-14--Luke 24:43). When the day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all in one accord and in one place. They were all filled with the Holy Ghost and began to speak with other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance (Acts 2:1-4). This is the first people to ever receive the Spirit in His fulness, and as a result they spoke in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. Jesus had told them before that signs would follow the believer of which one was speaking with new tongues (Mark 16:17). He also told them that the Holy Ghost would testify (John 15:26) and would speak (John 16:13). Here is the blessing given and the signs following. Exactly as the prophet had mentioned many years before, with stammering lips and another tongue, will He speak to the people (Isa. 28:11-12). The first Gentiles received the Holy Ghost and spake with tongues (Acts 10:45-48). The church at Ephesus received the Holy Ghost and spake with tongues (Acts 19:1-7). Friends if you have repented and been baptized in Jesus' Name then you have the promise of the Holy Ghost. May Jesus fill every hungry heart is my prayer.