

BE FILLED WITH THE SPIRIT
(Ephesians 5:18-21)

- I. The COMMAND to Be Spirit Filled (Eph. 5:18; cf. Ps 1)
 - A. Contrasted with DRUNKENNESS
 - 1. Drunkenness is WASTEFUL
 - 2. Drunkenness is DESTRUCTIVE
 - 3. Drunkenness is IRRESPONSIBLE
 - B. Characterized by DISCIPLINE
 - 1. It is BENEFICIAL
 - 2. It is PRODUCTIVE
- II. Some CLARIFICATIONS on Being Spirit Filled
 - A. It is not a state of ADVANCED SPIRITUALITY
 - B. It is not DOING OUR BEST on OUR OWN
 - C. It is not simply POSSESSING the INDWELLING Spirit
 - D. It is not the same as the BAPTISM of the Spirit
 - E. It is not the same as being SEALED by the Spirit
 - F. It is not a PROCESS of receiving MORE of the Spirit

- G. It is a COMMAND that we be CONSTANTLY submissive to the Spirit's CONTROL

III. The CHARACTERISTICS of Being Spirit Filled (Eph. 5:19-21)

A. A JOYFUL heart (5:19)

1. Expressed in SONG
2. An EDIFYING fellowship among BELIEVERS
3. A CONTROLLED exuberance expressed to the LORD

B. A THANKFUL heart (5:20)

1. "ALWAYS giving thanks..."
2. "...giving thanks FOR ALL THINGS"
3. Expressed to GOD in the name of the LORD JESUS CHRIST

C. A HUMBLE heart (5:21)

1. In general, placing others AHEAD of ourselves (cf. Phil. 2:3)
2. In particular RELATIONSHIP categories (5:22- 6:9)
3. The motivation is REVERENCE for the Lord
 - a. The PURPOSE of the Spirit's filling is that we CAN obey
 - b. The EVIDENCE of the Spirit's filling is that we DO obey