

Being Filled with the Spirit

Part 4

Someone may ask how you go about being filled with the Spirit. The Ephesians were exhorted and commanded to be filled with the Spirit. That means they were *not* filled, or at least some were not, or like Rev 3:4, most in the Edah there were not filled with the Spirit, and it had been so long that they were without this fellowship with Him, that they had stained their garments. They would not. We will not see them in the Kingdom (Rev 19:7,8; 3:5). Only those who walk with Him (filled with Him, Rev 3:20) walk with Him in white garments as 1 John 1:7 says.

We all need to be continually filled when we sense our drifting from Him (James 4:8,9; Heb 2:1). We must be able to judge ourselves as to our temperature (Rev 3:14-16) — how we love, react, respond to His word, love Him with the affection due Him (1 Cor 16:22) — lest we find ourselves cut off as most of the believers in Sardis, but all the while claiming to have fellowship with Him (1 Jn 1:6; Rev 3:1), reputed to be alive by intellectual judgment only, not by spiritual judgment or discernment.

Eph 5:21 is the way we can tell if anyone is filled with the Spirit or not, or 1 Jn 3:16-17, or Phil 2:2-4, or wives Eph 5:22, or husbands Eph 5:28. When you see a demanding husband, you see one who is not filled with the Spirit. Submission is on the side of the wife to give of her own volition, not on the side of the husband to demand.

Submission as in Eph 5:21, can never be required by one human being of another. It can only be given on the basis of trust, out of the fear and reverence for Messiah. Love is expected of husbands; respect is expected of wives; both are commanded by God — so Eph 5:1-33 and on until chapter 6.

Eph 4:2-3 is how one knows if he is filled with the Spirit or not, if he can't tell any other way, like being in communion with Him. If one is deluded by another spirit, he can tell by his

actions (Gal 5:21-24) whether he is in the flesh or in the Spirit. Self-judgment is required of all disciples who are not cut off already without knowing it (1 Cor 11:26-33).

Going to minchahs without being filled with the Spirit is an abomination to God. 1 Pet 4:11 is so important, because if one speaks or serves in his own flesh, natural abilities, it is also an abomination. Our flesh is an abomination. It is worth absolutely nothing to God. It is only for the purpose of our spirits taking action against it and putting it to death.

So if we are filled with the Spirit like Phineas, we will glorify Him (Num 25:11,12,7,8,4; Pr 21;18). If you are a member of a household that a plague has come upon, maybe you are the called one to act as Phineas did that day, before God cuts off all the silent (permissive) leaders who permit it. Heb 13:17 — watch over as watchmen (or be guilty of their blood).