

"Your Whole Body, Spirit & Soul"

1 Thessalonians & 2 Thessalonians

July 14, 2013

C. The revelation of God requires that His children are found blameless at the Lord's return, (vs. 5: 12 – 28)

6. Blamelessness Requires That We Do Not Discount The Work Of The Holy Spirit, (vs. 19-20)

Message Emphasis: Many today either de-emphasize or over-emphasize the work of the Holy Spirit rendering the gospel of Jesus Christ ineffective. We must see the Holy Spirit rightly in order to exalt Christ.

We all tend to go to extremes; some rely only on their own preparation and look for nothing more; others, as I say, tend to despise preparation and trust to the unction, the anointing and the inspiration of the Spirit alone. But there must be no "either/or" here; it is always "both/and." These two things must go together. ~Martin-Lloyd Jones

19.1) We Must Not Shun The Work Of The Spirit As Charismatic

"Do Not Quench (Pres.Act.Impv)

The Spirit"- a) "Be angry and do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, and give no opportunity to the devil. **b)** Let the thief no longer steal, but rather let him labor, doing honest work with his own hands, so that he may have something to share with anyone in need. **c)** Let no corrupting talk come out of your mouths, but only such as is good for building up, as fits the occasion, that it may give grace to those who hear. And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption. **d)** Let all bitterness and wrath and anger and clamor and slander be put away from you, along with all malice. Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgave you." (Ephesians 4:26-32)

→ How Do I Not Quench The Spirit?

- Ensuring a Holy Spirit anger rather than faint-hearted complacency- ... *do not make my Father's house a house of trade.* His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me. (Jhn2:16-17)
- Ensuring a Holy Spirit charity rather than fleshly greed- *"For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."* (Mark 12:44, ESV)
- Ensuring a Holy Spirit grace rather than depraved corruption- *"You have heard that it was said, 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.' But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also."* (Matthew 5:38-39, ESV)
- Ensuring a Holy Spirit love rather than rotten malice- *"And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments."* (Luke 23:34, ESV)

Our hope is in no other save in thee; Our faith is built upon thy promise free;

O grant to us such stronger hope and sure; That we can boldly conquer and endure. ~ John Calvin

20.2) We Must Not Make The Work Of The Spirit Mystical

"Do Not Despise (Pres.Act.Impv) **Prophecies"-**

a) "If, therefore, the whole church comes together and all speak in tongues, and outsiders or unbelievers enter, will they not say that you are out of your minds? **b)** But if all prophesy, and an unbeliever or outsider enters, he is convicted by all, he is called to account by all, the secrets of his heart are disclosed, and so, falling on his face, he will worship God and declare that God is really among you." (1 Corinthians 14:23-25, ESV)

- The work of the Holy Spirit is not mystical

... that mystical influence which is the cause of vigour in believers... the abundance of that influence is supposed when this tree is said to be planted by the waters, and to spread out her roots by the river: whereby be intimated, that it is not without the watering of the stream that washes it from which the root may draw its juice and sap. The words therefore of God in Jeremiah contain a description of a believer who being filled with the grace of the Spirit of God brings forth the fruits of righteousness most abundantly, in the midst of adversities, and in the want of external things. ~ Herman Witsius

- The work of the Holy Spirit always leads to a Gospel centeredness in:

- Conviction
- Repentance
- Worship

→ How Can I Make Sure I Am Not Discounting The Holy Spirit?

1) "For this reason I remind you to fan into flame the gift of God, which is in you through the laying on of my hands, **2)** for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control." (2 Timothy 1:6-7, ESV)

- The Holy Spirit is a gift from God; be thankful and be a good steward.
- The gift of the Holy Spirit is not for the timid...
 - There is a powerful love that endures all things.
 - There is a powerful self-control that denies all selfishness.

Am I willing to let the Holy Spirit do His work in me although it may not be what I expect?

Holy Spirit, breathe on me, my stubborn will subdue; teach me in words of living flame what Christ would have me do.

Breathe on me, breathe on me Holy Spirit, breathe on me; Take Thou my heart, cleanse every part, Holy Spirit breathe on me. ~ Edwin Hatch

7. Blamelessness Requires That We Test All Things By God's Word & Avoid What Is Deficient, (vs. 21-22)
 8. Blamelessness Is Only Accomplished By The Sanctifying Power Of Christ Unto The Last Day, (vs. 23)
 9. Blamelessness Is A Promise That Christ Himself Has Given To Those Who Believe Him, (vs. 24)
 10. Blamelessness In Christ Is The Identifying Mark Of Those Who Love Christ & The Brothers, (vs. 25-26)
 11. Blamelessness Is Not A Secondary Issue But Must Be Primary To The Call Of God's People, (vs. 27-28)
- III We must pay much closer attention to why we must live with self discipline under God's word, (2 Ths. 1: 1-3: 18)
- A. The wrath of God is a very present reality for those who do not believe the gospel, (vs. 1: 1 - 12)
 - B. The wrath of God is a very present reality governed by the ordained decrees of God, (vs. 2: 1 - 17)
 - C. The wrath of God is a very present reality that must be avoided even in its temporal aspects, (vs. 3: 1 - 18)