

Be Filled!

1 of 1 | Enduement of Power

SLIDE 1 Introduction

Today is Pentecost Sunday and there is no greater time to reemphasize our need for the power of the Holy Spirit. His fulness and gifts seems to be fading away among the Pentecostal denominations of America.

I have thought of three reasons why: 1) We have ceased to preach the Spirit's baptism, 2) Those who have experienced the baptism in the Spirit neglect its empowerment, and 3) The wisdom and ways of the world have supplanted the ways of the Lord in the church.

SLIDE 2 Show Me

The way most of us operate now is when we hear anything, we take it in and compare it with our own set of proofs. We no longer accept the fact that there are things beyond our understanding. Our minds guide us in almost everything, unless of course you are driven by totally emotional responses.

In the light of this, the Spirit's baptism is often considered unnecessary, even problematic. Some Pentecostal churches have relegated the operation of the Spirit's gifts to a personal experience, instead of a corporate one that brings life to the entire body.

On top of all this, other congregations have gotten into the habit of expecting the gifts to flow only through certain "anointed" ministers who seem to have something special from the Lord.

So let me state at the very onset of today's message: We need the baptism in the Holy Spirit and his work and gifts are for all believers.

SLIDE 3 Inward and Outward

When we receive Jesus as our Savior, his work of salvation, or what we call being "born again" begins with his Spirit indwelling our human spirits. We are three-part beings, much like our heavenly Father—spirit, soul, and body. Theologically it's called

the *Tripartite Nature* of humans.

In our original state, our spirit man is functionally dead, in that it does not know God.

Paul tells the Ephesian believers:

SLIDE 4 Ephesians 2:1-3 (NIV) *"¹ As for you, you were dead in your transgressions and sins, ² in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of the ruler of the kingdom of the air, the spirit who is now at work in those who are disobedient."*

You weren't physically dead. Nor were you mentally dead. You were born disconnected from spiritual life, living to follow the flesh that contains you—it's mental and emotional dictates.

However, without knowing it, we were also subject to the god of this world, the devil (called here, "*ruler of the kingdom of the air*").

That is the natural state of all who are born in this world. They are born after the image of their father, the original Adam.

SLIDE 5 *"³ All of us also lived among them at one time, gratifying the cravings of our flesh and **following its desires and thoughts**. Like the rest, we were by nature deserving of wrath."*

All mankind had the judgment of death levied on them by a righteous God. Yet, he planned a way of escape from this eternal punishment—salvation through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Paul continues:

SLIDE 6 Ephesians 2:4-10 (NIV) *"⁴ But because of his great love for us, God, who is rich in mercy, ⁵ made us alive with Christ even when we were dead in transgressions—**it is by grace you have been saved**."*

SLIDE 7 *"⁶ And God raised us up with Christ and **seated us with him** in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus, ⁷ in order that in the coming ages he might show the incomparable riches of his grace, expressed in his kindness to us in Christ Jesus."*

When we say he "*seated us with him*," it means we are enthroned to reign with him—

even now.

SLIDE 8 *"**8** For **it is by grace you have been saved**, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God— **9** not by works, so that no one can boast."*

SLIDE 9 *"**10** For we are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do."*

The reason I took you down this path is to show you that the baptism the Spirit is not the work of salvation, nor is salvation the work of the baptism in the Spirit.

That would be like saying, "I made my confession of faith in Jesus. Therefore I am already baptized in water."

No, these experiences are separate and distinct in their purpose and function. The one flows in while the other flows out.

SLIDE 10 **New Type of Being**

We are new creations in Christ by the indwelling of the Spirit. However, that does not mean we are filled with the Spirit or baptized in the Spirit. Let me express the dual purpose of the work of the Holy Spirit this way:

- His indwelling at salvation is for the work of sanctification. This is inward work in the believer.
- The baptism in the Holy Spirit is for our work of service. This is outward work of the believer.

Yet, just like sanctification is a continuing work after being born again, the Spirit's empowerment at baptism involves many fillings throughout our lives.

There is a continuing work in you, but there must also be a continuing work through you. The baptism in the Holy Spirit is the enduement of power for service.

Jesus said to the believers of his day:

SLIDE 11 **Luke 24:49 (KJV)** *"And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but **tarry** ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be **endued** with power from on high."*

However, we are not good at waiting on anything in our on-demand society. We think everything should be at our fingertips at any given moment.

There are two words I want to emphasize from this verse: 1) tarry, and 2) endue.

These are King James words that we don't use much, but many times this is why we miss being baptized with the Spirit, and why we often miss the continuing fillings throughout our lives.

SLIDE 12 Tarry and Endue

"Tarry" simply means to wait, but it is a deep form of waiting with expectation for something that has been promised.

"Endue" is a term that means the giving of a gift. It's similar to "endowment" in the fact that it is the result of an inheritance. In ancient times it was a ceremony where a child received the kingdom from his father after his death. To show this to everyone, there was a coronation where the child was endued with authority over the kingdom. This was symbolized by being clothed in royal robes. There was an outward adorning of his body—a clothing with power.

In the same way, the Holy Spirit that gives us an inheritance through Jesus, also adorns us with the authority to reign in this life by the power of the Holy Spirit.

SLIDE 13 Missing the Point

The main difference in my teaching about this, compared to what the church seems to want, is that I believe God wants us to walk in the power he has given us through manifestations of the Spirit's power. Most of the church seems to still call on God like we are powerless to do anything without him doing it for us.

That would not be a good way to train your children. Nor would it be a good way for God to create us in his image then not empower us with authority to rule over this life. When Jesus commissioned the church to go into all the world he said this:

SLIDE 14 Acts 1:8 (NIV) *"But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."*

Jesus finished his work and sent the Holy Spirit to begin the Spirit's work—the dual purpose of sanctifying and empowering the believer.

SLIDE 15 Altar Time

Have you received this enduement of power? Does your life manifest the authority God gave us to rule in this life? Have you neglected it? Are you calling on God when God is actually calling on you to go into all the world?