



Be Wide-awake and Filled with the Spirit

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Images of EMPTY (out of gas, unplugged, exhausted, burnt out, spent, wasted, spinning wheels)

Jeremiah 2:13 “My people have committed two sins: They have forsaken me, the spring of living water, and have dug their own cisterns, broken cisterns that cannot hold water.”



Invitation to FULLNESS (Fulfilled + Fruitful = Fit)

*In this hour of all-but-universal darkness one cheering gleam appears: within the fold of conservative Christianity there are to be found increasing numbers of person who **religious lives are marked by a growing hunger after God Himself**. They are eager for spiritual realities and will not be put off with words, nor will they be content with correct “interpretations” of truth. They are athirst for God, and they will not be satisfied till they have drunk deep at the Fountain of Living Water (A.W. Tozer, 1948, Preface to *The Pursuit of God*, p. 7).*

[Matthew 23; John 3-4]

John 4:13, 14 Jesus answered, “Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but **whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst**. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.”

John 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may **have life**, and **have it to the full**.

State of Your Soul: Empty or Full? Carnal or Spiritual

The Scriptures distinguish between the “spiritual” and the “carnal” (1 Cor 2:9-3:4); those who “walk in the Spirit,” and those who walk “according to the flesh” (2 Cor 10:2; Gal 5:16); those who walk “in newness of life,” and those who do not (Rom 6:4); those who “abide in Christ,” and those who do not (John 15:1-11); those who walk “worthy of the Lord,” and those who “walk as men” (1 Cor 3:3; Col 1:10).

Ephesians 5:13-21 But everything exposed by the light becomes visible, ¹⁴for it is light that makes everything visible. This is why it is said: "**Wake up**, O sleeper, rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you." ¹⁵**Be very careful**, then, how you live--**not as unwise but as wise**, ¹⁶making the most of every opportunity, because the days are evil. ¹⁷Therefore do **not be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is**. ¹⁸Do **not get drunk on wine**, which leads to debauchery. **But instead, be filled with the Spirit**. ¹⁹*Speak* to one another with psalms, hymns and spiritual songs. *Sing and make music* in your heart to the Lord, ²⁰always *giving thanks* to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹*Submit to one another* out of reverence for Christ.

Wake Up to Pay Attention

- From darkness, fruitless evil and shameful disobedience **to** light, pleasing fruitfulness (goodness, righteousness & truth), and life (vs. 8)
- From sleep and death **to** wide-awake and careful living (Christ shining on you)

Three Not-Buts . . .

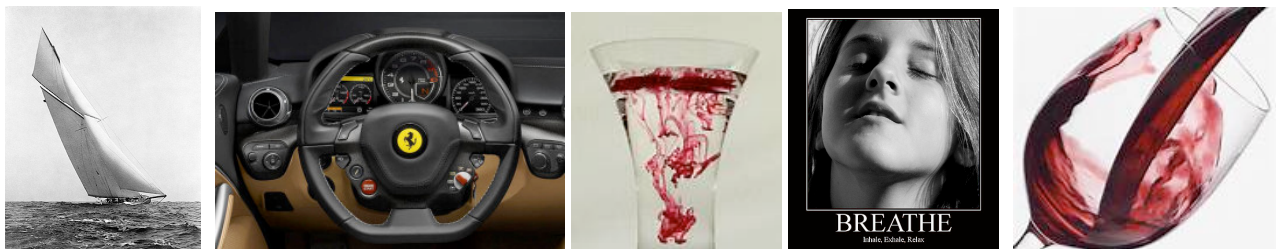
- Not unwise but wise such as to make the most of every opportunity
- Not foolish but understanding the Lord's will
- Not drunk with wine but filled with the Holy Spirit

Indwelling and Filling

The filling of the Spirit is contrasted to the indwelling of the Spirit as all Christians are indwelt from the moment of salvation (Rom 8:9), while the filling of the Spirit is found only in some Christians. The question is NOT do I have the Spirit but rather does the Holy Spirit have me?

Keith's version: "Don't get wasted through the temporary control of wine but, all of you, keep on being filled with the Holy Spirit so that your lives are ruled by the indispensable and intimate working of God."

Five Common Analogies: Wind, Driver's Seat, Infusion, Breathing and Wine (Influence & Control)



Yielding to the Person of the Holy Spirit

- We are temples of the living God. The Holy Spirit took up residence in our lives when we became Christians.
- Being filled with the Holy Spirit is a supernatural and transformational action not done by object (me) but by the subject (Holy Spirit). The Holy Spirit is the Actor, we are passive, inviting, willing and cooperative but we cannot fill ourselves. God is our source. Being filled by the Holy Spirit is a divine activity that requires our joyful participation and willingness.
- "The Holy Spirit works within and with us but not against or without us" (John Owen); therefore, we must not place barriers before Him (sin). We must not quench nor grieve Him. We must align with Him and yield to the Spirit. Give yourself to Him – so he can work freely in every aspect of your life.

A yieldedness to the will of God is a matter of having taken the will of God as the rule of one's life. To be in the will of God is simply to be willing to do His will without reference to any particular thing He may choose. It is electing His will to be final, even before we know what He may wish us to do. It is a question of being willing to do *anything*, when, where and how, it may seem best in His heart of love. It is taking the normal and natural position of childlike trust that has already consented to the wish of the Father even before anything of the outworking of His wish is revealed. Yieldedness to the Spirit includes submission to the plain teachings of the Word of God, obedience to the guidance of the Spirit, and acceptance in faith of the providential acts of God. All of these are a part of the moment-by-moment experience of living in the will of God with an indwelling Spirit who is unquenched. (Lewis Sperry Chafer, *He That Is Spiritual*, p. 113).

Some Marks of Being Filled with the Holy Spirit

- Speaking
- Singing
- Making music
- Gratefulness/thankfulness
- Humble servanthood – submission on to another

Essence and Application of Message

The Christian life is not difficult; it is impossible without the Holy Spirit. The human spirit fails unless the Holy Spirit fills. We are commanded to be awake and to continually yield to the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives, both as individual persons and as the Body of Christ.

Ephesians 3:14-21 ¹⁴For this reason I kneel before the Father, ¹⁵from whom every family in heaven and on earth derives its name. ¹⁶I pray that out of His glorious riches He may **strengthen you with power through His Spirit** in your inner being, ¹⁷so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith. And I pray that you, being **rooted** and **established** in love, ¹⁸may **have power, together with all the Lord's holy people**, to **grasp** how wide and long and high and deep is the love of Christ, ¹⁹and to **know** this love that surpasses knowledge—that you may **be filled** to the measure of all the fullness of God.

²⁰Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us, ²¹to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever! Amen.