

November 10, 2013

## The Disciple's Spirit Filled Life

*Colossians 3:15-17*

I believe that being filled with the Word of God is synonymous with being filled with the Spirit of God. The New Testament teaches that when the Word of God dwells in you richly the Spirit of God flows out of you richly. I do not believe that a disciple can be filled with the Spirit apart from the Word of God.

### Three Witnesses of the Spirit Filled Life:

#### I. The Peace of God

##### A. What is the peace of God?

- **Philippians 4:7 (ASV)** *And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall guard your hearts and your thoughts in Christ Jesus.*
- The peace of God is an attitude of rest and security that can accompany the believer, especially when one is under deep stress and pressure.

##### B. How do I receive the peace of God?

- **Romans 5:1 (ASV)** *Being therefore justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.*
- The peace of God is not simply God's provision; the peace of God is God Himself.

##### C. What does the peace of God accomplish for me?

- **Colossians 3:15a (ASV)** *And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts...*
- A.T. Robertson:  
"The peace of God describes the activity of an umpire arranging the activities of our life."
- Two Factors to Consider When Making Decisions:
  1. Is this decision consistent with Jesus Christ?
  2. Will this decision leave me with a deep abiding peace in my heart?

- Two Words About Peace:
  1. Peace calls the disciple to **unity**
    - ❖ **Colossians 3:15b (ASV)** *And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to the which also ye were called in one body...*
    - ❖ A Spirit-filled disciple lives in harmony and unity with His brothers and sisters in Christ.
  2. Peace compels the disciple to **character**
    - ❖ **Colossians 3:15c** *...and be thankful.*
    - ❖ The character of a Spirit-filled disciple starts with thankfulness and overflows into gratitude. It is impossible to be thankful and not be generous.

## II. The Word of God

### Three Characteristics of a Word Filled Disciple:

#### A. The Word of God resides in him

- **Colossians 3:16 (ASV)** *Let the word of Christ dwell in you...*

#### B. The Word of God brings about a rich value to him

- **Colossians 3:16b** *Let the word of God dwell in you richly...*
- The word “richly” means *to highly prize something*. I am of the deep conviction that the average Christian does not highly prize the Word of God.

#### C. The Word of God brings results

1. In teaching
  2. In admonishing
  3. In singing
- When a disciple gets under the control of the Spirit of the living God he will become a worshipping disciple. Singing and celebration isn't a Baptist thing, it's a Spirit thing.

### III. The Name of God

#### A. A name represents identification.

- **Colossians 3:17 (ASV)** *And whatsoever ye do, in word or in deed, do all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.*
- In Western culture we pay very little attention to a person's name, but in the Bible a person's name was of great importance. In the Old Testament, God changed a person's name because of some special experience they had. Jacob's name was changed to Israel. Saul's name was changed to Paul. Likewise, as Christians we now bear the name of Christ. The word Christians is found only three times in the New Testament.

#### B. A name represents authority.

- **John 14:13-14** *Whatever you ask in My name, that will I do, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If you ask Me anything in My name, I will do it.*
- Warren Wiersbe:  
"All that a disciple says and does should be associated with the name of Jesus Christ. We must do and say everything on the authority of His name and for the honor of His name. Bearing the name of Jesus is a great privilege, but it is also a tremendous responsibility."