

December 8, 2021

The Gifts of Christ: The indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

Rom. 5:5 *And hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, Who has been given to us. (NIV)*

One of the beautiful statements of our LORD is that He will finish what He has started. Jesus had foretold this to His disciples in **Lk. 24:49** *I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high. (NIV)* His desire was to dwell or abide with His children and for us to abide in Him. The only way this can happen is by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Paul adds to this statement as he encourages the church at Corinth: **1 Cor. 3:16** *Don't you know that you yourselves are God's temple and that God's Spirit dwells in you? (NIV)*

The only way this could happen is that our sins must be blotted out. The temple must be pure and clean. And, that can only happen if we are justified with the Father. When that does happen, He is happy to come and make His abode in us. The tragic thing is this, our spirit does not always agree with His spirit because of our selfish nature that is still trying to direct us and to be in control. Paul reminds us of this in **Rom. 7:21-25** *So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord! (NIV)*

Thankfully, the power of the Spirit is much greater than the power of the flesh and it is easily defeated when we submit ourselves to Him. The key is the submitting, daily, moment by moment, to His will and not our own.

Dear LORD, help us to walk daily in the Spirit and not in our own flesh. We so easily fall into the selfish trap and realize many times that we have missed Your purpose and plan. We desire to walk in You today. In Jesus Name, Amen