

# The Holy Spirit

## Lesson 20 – The Holy Spirit & Evangelism

Outline By: Mark Knowles 11/10/19 AM

### Introduction

*“Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth. “As You sent Me into the world, I also have sent them into the world. (John 17:17-18)*

*It is a trustworthy statement, deserving full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners, among whom I am foremost of all. (1 Timothy 1:15)*

*“I have come as Light into the world, so that everyone who believes in Me will not remain in darkness. (John 12:46)*

Based on these scriptures why do you suppose that Christians have abandoned our duty to seek and to save lost sinners? Why is it that our church is witnessing like they did in Acts? Why is this not our first priority as individuals and as a congregation?

The issue is the absence of emphasis on the transforming power of the Holy Spirit! Evangelism will arise only out of “who we see ourselves to be,” not on a mistaken sense of duty or some magic formula by some church growth expert. We have been searching for answers in the wrong places – it is found by the divine expert the Holy Spirit.

### The Spirit's Fire

*Do not quench the Spirit; (1 Thessalonians 5:19)*

The Spirit's fire is the key missing ingredient that is missing from our evangelistic efforts. The fire is a s burning sensation in our souls. Like to two walking from Jerusalem to Emmaus after the death of Jesus on the cross. It brings an irresistible urge to share our faith with the lost, to go down on our knees and pour out our hearts in confession for failing to call people to repent and follow Jesus.

*“Is not My word like fire?” declares the Lord, “and like a hammer which shatters a rock? (Jeremiah 23:29)*

*But if I say, “I will not remember Him  
Or speak anymore in His name,”  
Then in my heart it becomes like a burning fire  
Shut up in my bones;  
And I am weary of holding it in,  
And I cannot endure it. (Jeremiah 20:9)*

## **Provoking Our Spirit**

*Now while Paul was waiting for them at Athens, his spirit was being provoked within him as he was observing the city full of idols. (Acts 17:16)*

*They said to one another, "Were not our hearts burning within us while He was speaking to us on the road, while He was explaining the Scriptures to us?" And they got up that very hour and returned to Jerusalem and found gathered together the eleven and those who were with them, saying, "The Lord has really risen and has appeared to Simon." They began to relate their experiences on the road and how He was recognized by them in the breaking of the bread. (Luke 24:32-35)*

## **We Are A Letter**

*You are our letter, written in our hearts, known and read by all men; being manifested that you are a letter of Christ, cared for by us, written not with ink but with the Spirit of the living God, not on tablets of stone but on tablets of human hearts. Such confidence we have through Christ toward God. Not that we are adequate in ourselves to consider anything as coming from ourselves, but our adequacy is from God, who also made us adequate as servants of a new covenant, not of the letter but of the Spirit; for the letter kills, but the Spirit gives life. (2 Corinthians 3:2-6)*

## **The Holy Spirit & Evangelism**

A key ingredient in successful evangelistic efforts is recognizing that the "outpoured" Holy Spirit is involved in the convicting work which must precede penitence and conversion. "And He, (the Holy Spirit) when he comes will convict the world concerning sin." The Spirit's convicting work is witnessed in the reaction to Peter's Pentecostal sermon (Acts 2:17-21).

The convicting work of the Holy Spirit, witnessed here in Acts 2, witnesses the separate from – but always in conjunction with the words of scripture in leading people to obey the gospel. The conviction that Peter's audience experience is not due solely to Peter's words – it is due to the outpouring of the Holy Spirit on all flesh. Everywhere the scriptures go, the Holy Spirit goes. People are not led to obey the gospel apart from the revelation of Jesus in the Scriptures – either in written or spoken form – and they are not convicted or converted apart from the work of the outpoured Holy Spirit who uses the Scriptures as His sword.

*A woman named Lydia, from the city of Thyatira, a seller of purple fabrics, a worshiper of God, was listening; and the Lord opened her heart to respond to the things spoken by Paul. And when she and her household had been baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house and stay." And she prevailed upon us. (Acts 16:14-15)*

Lydia was listening to the gospel. But although the gospel may have opened her mind, it did not open her heart – the Lord did that and I say without hesitation that the power by which the Lord opened her heart was the convicting work of the Holy Spirit. He seeks to open the hearts of every person who listens to the gospel.