

Empowering People to Change the World

Greater is He that is in You! Part 2

Steve Holt

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This Friday and Saturday, we will be having our Radical Resiliency Health Conference, and we will have Dr. Matthew Brock, an Internal Medicine Medical Doctor speaking to us.

- I can't think of a better lead in than the message today.
- THE most important thing you can do in your life is to work on your internal spiritual life, and the outflow of that will be emotional and physical.
- You will learn at the Radical Resiliency Health Conference about how toxins are released into your body through worry, stress, and unforgiveness.
- Today I'm speaking to control. Releasing control of your life over to Christ.

My Thesis: Greater is He (Christ) that is in You than he (Satan and demons) that is in the world.

Listen, this is important:

- If you will give God control of your entire life—spirit, body, and soul, you will be lining yourself up with the Kingdom of God laws of the universe.
- When you line up with the Kingdom laws of the universe and work within God's creative order, your spirit, soul, and your body's immune system will get healthier; and you will be more joyful, more fulfilled, and more excited about life!

- Jesus said, "Seek first the Kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added unto you."
- I'm talking about "all these things" being added unto you

Verse 18

Last week: The Spirit-filled life is about control. WHO is in control of my life?

- Paul compares the Spirit-empowered life to being drunk with wine. It's a control issue. Who's in control of your life?
- This means that when you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you are not in control. Do you think the church in Acts 2 would have done what they did if they were not filled with the Holy Spirit?
- Peter, who, just a month before, could not even admit he was a Jesus-follower to a servant girl, was now preaching the Gospel to thousands, and 3,000 got saved and baptized!
- It is in the passive mood, meaning you can't do it! Only God can do it through you!

Paul now uses three participles to explain what the Spirit-empowered life looks like...

Verse 19

• First participle is about "speaking."

1) Seasoned Speech

- Speaking of psalms, hymns, spiritual songs.
- Not gossiping, not slandering.

- Then it says, "singing" and making melody.
- Psalms are really songs!
- Anyone can sing! Not everyone can make melody <u>audibly</u>!
 But everyone can make melody in their hearts.
- These are signs of a Spirit-filled follower of Christ.

Verse 20

"Giving thanks always."

2) An Attitude of Gratitude

- All things, all the time, giving thanks. This is really difficult!
- This is not natural. We must rely upon the power of the Holy Spirit.
- It must be based in a deep hope and belief that God is working all things for good; that God is good.
- Just saying "thank you" for death, pain, disease, can only be done with the power of the Holy Spirit.

Verse 21

• "Submitting to one another."

3) A Heart of Humility

- The Greek verb means "be subject or subordinate to."
 - It has the meaning of "voluntarily yielding in love to one another."

Philippians 2:3

"Do nothing out of selfish ambition or vain conceit, but in humility consider others better than yourselves."

Philippians 2:5-7

"Your attitude should be the same as that of Christ Jesus: Who, being in very nature God, did not consider equality with God something to be grasped, but made himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness."

Matthew 20:26-28

"(Jesus said) ...' Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wants to be first must be your slave--just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.'"

- So, submission is this Kingdom principle that when we serve others, subject ourselves in humility to others, we are really worshipping God!
- o The motivation is a love and reverence for Christ!
 - In our sinful state, we would pridefully do whatever we so desired. God is now our Lord and King.
 - Divine order: we cannot submit to others until we have submitted to Christ.

- We are all filled with something:
 - Greed
 - o Lust
 - o Pride
 - Ambition
 - Driven by something
 - o Or we can be filled with the Holy Spirit

We are just about to study a series of definite articles in the Greek:

- Wives submitted to their husbands.
- Husbands submitted to Christ.
- Church submitted to Christ.
- Children submitted to parents.
- Employees submitted to employers.

All are to be mutually submitted to each other. This is God's order.

- God's order of things, not the culture's.
- Spirit-filled means controlled by the Spirit.
- Not falling for the "bait of the world" but are submitted to Christ.
- Be intoxicated with Christ.

Being Spirit-filled: Discussion Questions for Community Groups

- 1. Seasoned Speech—How is the Lord working with you on this area?
- 2. An Attitude of Gratitude—How are you doing in being more thankful, more gracious?
- 3. A Humble Heart—Submission is hard. But Jesus was submitted. Read the Bible passages again and ask yourself, how are you doing with submission in your life?

Now Paul moves into the supernatural order of things...Next week we will be having our Radical Resiliency Health Conference, and we will have Dr. Matthew Brock, an Internal Medicine Medical Doctor speaking to us.