

The Normal Christian Life

The Holy Spirit

- **Rom. 5:5** – And hope does not put us to shame, because the **love of God** has been **poured out** in our hearts **through the Holy Spirit**, who has been **given to us**.
- **Rom. 8:9** – But you are **not in the flesh**, but **in the spirit**, if indeed the **Spirit of God dwells in you**. Yet if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not of Him.
 - God does not give His gifts at random.
 - If those blessing which are ours in Christ are to become ours in experience, we must know on what ground we can appropriate them.

The Spirit Outpoured

- **Acts 2:33** and **36** show that the **Holy Spirit was poured out** because the **Lord Jesus was exalted**.
 - The outpouring of the Spirit has **no relation to anyone's merits but the Lord's**.
- Because the Lord Jesus **died on the Cross**, I have received **forgiveness of sins**.
- Because the Lord Jesus **rose from the dead**, I have received **new life**.
- Because the Lord Jesus **has been exalted**, I have received the **outpoured Spirit**.
 - The Holy Spirit has not been poured out on you or me to prove how great we are, but to **prove the greatness of the Son of God**.
- We can know that Jesus did not die a **martyr's death** but is at the **Father's right hand in glory** because He has poured out His Spirit upon us.
 - Enduement of the Holy Spirit becomes ours by our putting our **faith** in what the Lord has **already done**.

Faith is Again the Key

- As soon as we **see** the Lord Jesus on the Throne, we **know** the Holy Spirit has been poured out upon us.
 - The **basis** upon which we receive the enduement of the Holy Spirit is **not our praying and fasting and waiting**, but the **exaltation of Christ**.
 - Christ has been **glorified**, therefore we have been **endued** with the Holy Spirit.
- All spiritual blessings are given on a **definite** basis.
 - God's gifts are **freely** given, but there are **conditions** which must be fulfilled on our part before we can receive them.

- Acts 2:38 – And Peter said to them, Repent and each one of you be baptized upon the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.
- The conditions to be fulfilled to have forgiveness of sins and the gift of the Holy Spirit are repentance and baptism.
- Repentance is a change of mind. Baptism is an outward expression of an inward faith.
- If we have fulfilled the conditions, we are entitled to two gifts, not just one.

The Diversity of the Experience

- We cannot and must not stipulate what particular form the Holy Spirit falling upon God's people will take. However, each one upon whom the Spirit of God falls will know it.
 - The outward evidences may be many and varied, and we have to admit that occasionally they are strange; but the Spirit is one, and He is the Lord.
 - Some will receive new vision, others will know a new liberty in soul-winning, others will proclaim the Word of God with power, and yet others will be filled with heavenly joy or overflowing praise.

(The Normal Christian Life – Chapter 8)