

## **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)