

The Normal Christian Life

The Holy Spirit

The Spirit Indwelling

- **Rom. 8:9** - But you are not in the flesh, but in the **spirit**, if indeed the **Spirit of God dwells in you**...
 - When we see **Christ as Lord objectively**—then we shall experience the power of the Spirit **upon** us.
 - When we see **Christ as Lord subjectively**—then we shall know the power of the Spirit **within** us.
- The Corinthians had become **preoccupied** with the **visible signs** of the Holy Spirit's outpouring, making much of "tongues" and miracles.
 - At the same time their lives were full of **contradictions**.
 - The **remedy** God offered them for this is the remedy He offers His Church today—the **revelation of the indwelling Spirit**.
- **God** is present in the person of the Spirit, and **Christ** is present in the person of the Spirit too.
 - If the **Holy Spirit dwells in our hearts** we have the **Father and the Son dwelling within**.
- The trouble with the Corinthian Christians was **not that they lacked** the indwelling Spirit but that they **lacked the knowledge** of His presence.

The Treasure in the Vessel

- The Spirit who dwells within us is a **living** Person, God – the **infinite God is within our hearts**.
 - Although we are we are only **earthen vessels**, in our earthen vessel we carry a **treasure of unspeakable worth**, even the Lord of glory.
- At our conversion God came into **our heart** and made it **His temple**.
 - In **Old Testament days** God dwelt in a temple made of **stone**.
 - **Today** He dwells in a temple composed of **living believers**.
- The reason why many Christians do not experience the power of the Spirit is that they **lack reverence**.
 - The difference between victorious living Christians and defeated ones is the **recognition of the indwelling**.

The Absolute Lordship of Christ

- Once we have made the discovery of the fact that we are the **dwelling place** of God, then a **full surrender** of ourselves to God must follow.
 - When we see that we are the temple of God we shall immediately recognize that **we are not our own**.
- **Revelation** is the first step to holiness, and **consecration** is the second.
 - A day must come in our lives when we give up all right to ourselves and **submit** to the absolute Lordship of Jesus Christ.
 - From that day we are no longer our own masters, but only **stewards**.
 - Not until the Lordship of Jesus Christ is a **settled** thing in our hearts can the spirit really operate effectively in us.
- God is waiting for a settlement of all our controversies with Him.
 - If we do yield wholly to Him and claim the power of the indwelling Spirit, we need wait for no special feelings or supernatural manifestations, but can simply look up and praise Him that something has already happened.

(The Normal Christian Life – Chapter 8)