

Walking in Fullness of Life and Power Through Christ – Part 2

(The power of the Holy Spirit at work within the believer)

1. Brief recap from last meeting; we discussed...

- We talked about the Holy Spirit that every believer has full access to which allows us to tap into the same power that resurrected Christ from the dead, empowering us to live beyond our natural capabilities.
- We talked about how when we believed in Christ, we were *“made alive together in fellowship and in union with Christ”* and were *“delivered from judgment and made partakers of Christ’s salvation.”* Through faith in Christ, we were *“recreated in Christ Jesus, [born anew] that we may do those good works which God (planned beforehand) for us... and that we should walk in them” Eph. 2:4-10 (AMPC).* and *“We were buried with Him into death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glorious [power] of the Father, so we too might [habitually] live and behave in newness of life” Rom. 6:4 (AMPC).* ~ **Read Eph. 2:5 commentary.**
- We also talked about how becoming *partakers of Christ’s salvation*, is what allows us to: *“become partakers of the divine nature” 2 Pet. 1:4 (ESV).* But we must note the word *“may”* in this passage. *“you “may” become partakers of the divine nature.”* Let’s read through **2 Pet. 1:4 (ESV)** again. The word *“may”* indicate a choice. This is where our intentionality with our walk with God comes into play. We may choose to partake; we may choose to walk out this newness of life. Let’s dive deeper into walking out this newness of life.
- We have been made alive together in fellowship and in union with Christ, we have been delivered from judgment and have been made partakers of Christ’s salvation, we have been recreated in Christ Jesus [born anew] and are now in Him and He is in us. The same spirit that raised Christ from the dead now dwells within us, we have access to this same power, so let’s walk in this power. How do we do this?

2. Walking out this New Life

- a) We discussed in our last meeting how Christ gives believers His Joy, Peace, love, Holy Spirit, and new life; Abundant and eternal life. We also noted the phrase *“My peace I give you; not as the world gives, do I give to you.”* In **Jn. 14:27**. He also added *“Do not let your hearts be troubled, nor fearful.”* We need to remember what we have received from Christ because of our faith in Him and that He does not give as the world give.
- b) **Jn. 14:27** Believer’s Bible Commentary - *“A person who is about to die usually writes a last will and testament in which he leaves his possessions to his loved ones. Here the Lord Jesus was doing that very thing. However, He did not give material things but something that money could not buy—peace, inward peace of conscience that arises from a sense of pardoned sin and of reconciliation with God. Christ can give it because He purchased it with His own blood at Calvary. It is not given as the world gives—sparingly, selfishly, and for a short time. His gift of peace is forever. Why then should a Christian be troubled or afraid?”* This is speaking of the

peace that Christ gives. I would add to this, His gift of: Joy, Peace, love, Holy Spirit, and new abundant now and eternal life ever after with Him.

- c) Believers have received all the gifts listed above and now “have the opportunity” to choose to live out these gifts with the Holy Spirit's help. There are practical steps we should take to experience and truly live out what is described above. Yes, we have received these blessings, but we must also believe and actively live out this new life. This lines up with “*work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.*” **Phil. 2:12 (NASB/AMPC)**. But we also cannot leave out vs. **13** “*for it is God who is at work in you, both to desire and to work for His good pleasure.*” God is at work in us believers through the Holy Spirit’s presence and power in our lives. We have full access to this power. Jesus called the Holy Spirit the helper for a reason. He is in us to help us. We need to allow the Holy Spirit to help us and work through. We need to trust the Holy Spirit (the Spirit of Christ”) and not resist Him. The Holy Spirit is mentioned as “the Spirit of Christ” and the “Spirit of God” in **Rom. 8:9, Gal. 4:6** and others.

What does it mean to 'not resist the Holy Spirit,' and how can we achieve that? Discuss...

- d) We are to intentionally make sure we are properly dressed.
- **Rom. 13:12 (NLT)** “*The night is almost gone; the day of salvation will soon be here. So, remove your dark deeds like dirty clothes, and put on the shining armor of right living.*”
 - **Rom. 13:12 (AMPC)** “*The night is far gone and the day is almost here. Let us then drop (fling away) the works and deeds of darkness and put on the [full] armor of light.*”
 - Note that this scripture is telling us what we must remove before we put on the shining armor of right living. We do not want to put on the armor of right living over or on top of our dark deeds (dirty clothes). We must remove the dirty clothes first! Think of being dressed in sweaty, dirty, and smelly clothes and then putting on new fresh clean clothes on top of your nasty clothes. This would not be reasonable or wise and the dirty clothes would still be their hidden underneath and would soon ruin (corrupt) the new clothes that have been put on over the filth.
 - **Rom. 13:12** Believers Bible Commentary “*The present age is like a night of sin that has just about run its course. The day of eternal glory is about to dawn for believers. This means that we should cast off all the filthy garments of worldliness—that is, everything associated with unrighteousness and evil. And we should put on the armor of light, which means the protective covering of a holy life. The pieces of armor are detailed in **Eph 6:14–18**. They describe the elements of true Christian character.*”
 - **Rom. 13:14 (NLT)** “*Put on (clothe yourself with) the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts.*”
 - **Gal. 3:27 (NLT)** “*And all who have been united with Christ in baptism have put on Christ, like putting on new clothes.*”
 - **Eph. 4:22-24 (NLT)** “*Put on your new nature, created to be like God—truly righteous and holy.*”
 - **Eph. 6:11 (NLT)** “*Put on all of God’s armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil.*”

- **Col. 3:10 (NLT)** *“Put on your new nature (NKJV New Man) and be renewed as you learn to know your Creator and become like him.”*
 - **Col. 3:12 (NLT)** *“You must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience.”*
 - **1 Peter 5:5 (ESV)** *“Clothe yourselves, all of you, with humility toward one another, for “God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble.”* Also, read this in **AMPC**.
 - **Lk. 24:49 (ESV)** *“And behold, I am sending the promise of my Father upon you. But stay in the city until you are clothed (equipped) with power from on high.”*
 - **Ps. 30:11-12 (NLT)** *Clothed with joy!* *“You have turned my mourning into joyful dancing. You have taken away my clothes of mourning and clothed me with joy, that I might sing praises to you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever!”* Amen!
- e) This all-leads to being eternally properly dressed. i.e. being more dressed!
- **1 Cor. 15:53-54 (ESV)** – *“For this perishable body must put on the imperishable, and this mortal body must put on immortality.”* Read this in the **AMPC**.
 - **2 Cor. 5:2-4 (ESV)** *“For in this tent we groan, longing to put on our heavenly dwelling, ...not that we would be unclothed, but that we would be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life.”*
 - **Isa. 61:10 (AMPC)** *“He has clothed me with the garments of salvation, He has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.”*
- f) All of what is listed above is possible because of the believers' new relationship and union with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit, the new creation with a new nature.
- g) In our next study, we will be diving into what it means to put on this new nature as noted in **Eph. 4:22-24**.

Homework: Study in full context all of the scriptures referring to clothing yourself with the presence of the Lord Jesus Christ; put on Christ, like putting on new clothes; Put on your new nature; Put on ALL of God's armor; Put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to fulfill its lusts; clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience; Be clothed (equipped) with power from on high; He has taken away my clothes of mourning and has clothed me with joy **Rom. 13:14, 6:11; Gal. 3:27; Eph. 4:24; Col. 3:10, 12; 1 Peter 5:5; Lk. 24:49 (NLT, ESV, AMPC)**.