

Walking in Fullness of Life and Power Through Christ – Part 1

Holy Spirit Power: Resurrection Life and Receiving Christ's Gifts Through Faith

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

- We explored how the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit each engage with us in unique ways.
- We examined the doctrine of the Trinity, where God is one and is three persons, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, highlighting their individual roles in both creation and the believer's life.
- We discussed why Christ's ascension was essential for the Holy Spirit to come, and the significance of this for believers.
- We also discussed the believer's union with the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

2. Walking in Fullness of Life and Power Through Christ with help from the Holy Spirit.

- a) Continuing from our last discussion, I want to dive deeper into how believers have full access to the Holy Spirit who is in every believer from the moment they believed in Christ. This taps into the same power that resurrected Christ from the dead, empowering believers to live beyond their natural capabilities, into a life of spiritual victory and fulfillment.
- b) When we place our faith in Christ Jesus, we are called to walk in the newness of life. This transformation is not merely symbolic but a profound spiritual rebirth, as described by Paul when he speaks of being "raised with Christ" to "walk in newness of life." This new life is characterized by the resurrection power of Jesus, a power that not only raised Him from the dead but also operates within us to make us new creations. **Eph. 2:4-10 (AMPC); Rom. 6:4 (AMPC).** *"He made us alive together in fellowship and in union with Christ"* The Holy Spirit gives us full access to the *"glorious [power] of the Father"* that raised Christ from the dead.
- c) It is the same power that enables God to do immeasurably more than all we can ask or imagine. This divine power (the Holy Spirit) at work within us, empowers us to live beyond our natural capabilities, into a life of spiritual victory and fulfillment. **Eph. 3:20 (AMP).**
- d) Let's read Paul's beautiful prayer for believers in Ephesians. The Holy Spirit empowers believers to understand and fulfill the prayer Paul makes in **Eph. 3:16-19 (NASB/AMP).** *"Strengthened and spiritually energized with power through His Spirit, fully capable of comprehending His love, filled up to all the fullness of God."* This is only achievable by yielding to the Holy Spirit.
- e) **Col. 2:9-10 (NASB)** "For in Him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in Him, who is the head of all rule and authority." - Emphasizes that believers are filled in Christ who embodies the fullness of God.
- f) **Col. 1:19 (AMP)** *"For it pleased the Father for all the fullness [of deity—the sum total of His essence, all His perfection, powers, and attributes] to dwell [permanently] in Him (the Son)."* This indicates that the fullness of God dwells in Christ, which believers partake in.
- g) **2 Pet. 1:4 (ESV)** *"His divine power has granted to us [believers] all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire."*

3. Receiving Christ's Gifts through faith - When we believe in Christ we receive the following.

Let's read through and discuss the following scriptures:

- **He gives us (believers) His peace:** not as the world gives, ensuring an inner tranquility that withstands all storms (**Jn. 14:27**).
- **He gives us (believers) His joy:** His joy remains in us, making our joy complete (**Jn. 15:11**).
- **He gives us His glory:** We (believers) share in His glory which He gave that we might be one as He and the Father are one (**Jn. 17:22**).
- **He gives us (believers) His love:** His love is poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit (**John 17:26; Rom. 5:5**).
- **Believers have the promise of joy and strength from the Lord: The joy of the Lord is our strength, shield, stronghold, song, and refuge. (Neh. 8:10; Psa. 28:7; Psa. 16:11; Isa. 12:2-3)**
- **He gives us (believers) His Spirit, the Holy Spirit:** The Spirit Himself is our guarantee, the seal of our inheritance until redemption's fulfillment (**Eph. 1:13-14**). The Holy Spirit is called "The Promise" **Eph. 1:13-14; Lk. 24:49; Acts 2:38-39**. The promise of the Holy Spirit to be received through faith.
- **He gives us (believers) new abundant and eternal life:** Abundant life we can experience now here on earth and eternal life we can experience with Him forever! (**Jn. 5:24, 10:10**).
- **He makes us alive together with Christ:** Raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus (**Eph. 2:5-6**).
- When we believe in Christ we receive His peace, joy, love, and power!

Homework: The believer's relationship and union with the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit

- **Christ in us** - Jn. 14:20-23; Gal. 2:20, 3:26-28; Eph. 3:17; Col. 1:26-28; 2 Cor. 13:5; 1 Jn. 4:13
- **Us in Christ:** 1 Jn. 4:13, 15 (NLT), Eph. 2:5-6 (AMP)
- **The abundant life** - Jn. 10:10, 2 Cor. 3:6, Jn. 6:63, 1 Cor. 15:22 (AMP)
- **Union with Christ** - Eph. 2:6 (NLT), 1 Cor. 6:17 (NASB), Eph. 3:16-18 (AMP), Col. 3:3 (NLT)
- **The Holy Spirit Dwells in Those Who Believe in Christ** - 1 Cor. 3:16, 6:19-20, 2 Cor. 6:16, Ezek. 36:27, 2 Tim. 1:14, Eph. 5:18, Rom. 8:9, 8:11, Jn. 16:13, Gal. 3:5-8, 5:18, 1 Jn. 2:27 (NLT)
- **The kingdom of God within you!** - Lk. 17:20-21 (NKJV)

"Finding Treasure in the Word" RiverLife Fellowship Life Link – Meeting 31 - 02/18/25

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Deeper Study:

Note: Below is an A.I. response to my challenging question and is pulling from the entire text of the Bible in these versions AMP, AMPC, ESV, KJV, NASB, NIV, as well as many commentaries, it is always wise to dig into the Word of God yourself and read the scriptures in full context while allowing the Holy Spirit to teach you as you dive in. Ask this same question yourself and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal truth as you dig into the word for the answers. Use the question and answer below for deeper study.

Question:

Eph. 2:5 *“Even when we were dead (slain) by [our own] shortcomings and trespasses, He made us alive together in fellowship and in union with Christ.”* (AMPC). How does this scripture reconcile with unbelievers not being in fellowship and in union with Christ because of unbelief and the idea of fellowship with Christ starting at salvation through faith? Such as: John 1:12; 3:18, 36; Rom. 5:1; 8:9; 1 Cor. 1:9; 6:17; 2 Cor. 6:14-15; Gal. 2:20; Eph. 2:12-13; 3:17; Col. 1:27; 1 Jn. 1:3, 6-7; 2:23; 5:12;

Answer:

Ephesians 2:5, in the Amplified Classic Edition (AMPC), emphasizes God's merciful initiative: while humanity was spiritually dead due to sin, He sovereignly acted to make believers alive in vital union and fellowship with Christ. This "making alive" is not applied to unbelievers in their state of unbelief but describes the transformative moment of salvation for those who respond in faith (as clarified in Ephesians 2:8–9: "For by grace you have been saved through faith"). The verse highlights the prior condition of death in sin ("even when we were dead"), but the union and fellowship begin at the point of believing and receiving Christ, aligning seamlessly with the provided scriptures. For instance, passages like John 1:12 and Romans 5:1 show access to sonship and peace with God through faith; Romans 8:9 and 1 John 5:12 affirm that without the Spirit of Christ (received at salvation), one does not belong to Him; and Ephesians 2:12–13 contrasts the pre-faith alienation of unbelievers with the nearness brought by Christ's blood upon belief. Thus, Ephesians 2:5 celebrates God's grace awakening the dead to life in Christ exclusively through faith, without implying pre-faith union for unbelievers.