

**“DUI of What Spirit?”**

**Ephesians 5:18**

Big Idea – God wants every believer to always be controlled by the Holy Spirit.

You may wonder, why does this matter? So what if I’m not? Maybe I don’t want to be religious or spiritual all the time?

Understand, it’s not about being spiritual – it’s about having the energy and power to make wise decisions in all areas of life.

Actually, it’s about having supernatural wisdom that comes from God.

Read the text:

Ephesians 5:18 Do not be drunk with wine, which will ruin you, but be filled with the Spirit.

19 Speak to each other with psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs, singing and making music in your hearts to the Lord.

20 Always give thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

1. The commands

Don’t be drunk with spirits/alcohol

Paul first contrasts it with wine/alcohol – Bible doesn’t forbid drinking alcohol, it forbids drunkenness.

Proverbs 23:29 “Who has trouble? Who has pain? Who fights? Who complains? Who has unnecessary bruises? Who has bloodshot eyes? 30 It is people who drink too much wine, who try out all different kinds of strong drinks. 31 Don’t stare at the wine when it is red, when it sparkles in the cup, when it goes down smoothly. 32 Later it bites like a snake with poison in its fangs. 33 Your eyes will see strange sights, and your mind will be confused. 34 You will feel dizzy as if you’re in a storm on the ocean, as if you’re on top of a ship’s sails. 35 You will think, “They hit me, but I’m not hurt. They beat me up, but I don’t remember it. I wish I could wake up. Then I would get another drink.”

Do be filled with the Spirit of God

2. What Spirit-filling does not mean:

Not just having the Spirit

Romans 8:8 Those people who are ruled by their sinful selves cannot please God. 9 But you are not ruled by your sinful selves. You are ruled by the Spirit, if that Spirit of God really lives in you. But the person who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Christ.

1 Corinthians 6:19 “Don’t you know that your body IS the temple of the Holy Spirit of God who is in you?”

Not the baptism of the Holy Spirit

1 Corinthians 12:13 “By one Spirit we were ALL baptized into one body...”

There are 7 references to the “baptism” of the Holy Spirit in the Bible, but not one of them is a command.

Not speaking in tongues

“Do all speak with tongues?” rhetorical question with “no” answer

Can a believer ever lose the Holy Spirit?

Possible to grieve the Spirit (Eph. 4:30), quench the Spirit (1 Thess. 5:19), but I can never lose the Spirit

Not like OT where psalmist said in Psa. 51:11 “Do not take your Holy Spirit from me”

John 14:16 “...He will give you another Helper Who will abide with you FOREVER”

He takes up permanent residence in us as NT believers in the age of grace

This is a command: “...be filled with the Spirit”

3. What does it mean?

The tense of the Greek verb “pleroo” a present, passive, imperative literally means “be being kept continuously filled by the Spirit”

It means being totally controlled by the Holy Spirit, being under the influence of the Holy Spirit,

Total Control

My words

My thoughts

My actions

My prayers

My decisions

4. How do I get filled by the Holy Spirit?

Surrender – yield completely everything to His control. Die to selfish desires and wants. Be crucified with Christ (Gal. 2:20)

Turn the switch on – so power can flow through

Saturate your mind/heart with the Word of Christ

Who wrote the Bible, the Word of God? – the Holy Spirit

(Eph. 5:18ff & Col. 3:16ff are identical results)

We conclude then, that the filling of the Spirit is not some ecstatic emotional experience. It is simply taking the Word of Christ (Scripture) and letting it indwell and infuse every part of our being. To be filled with God's Spirit is to be filled with His Word.

As we are filled with God's Word, it controls our thinking and actions, and we become more and more under the Spirit's control.

Charles Spurgeon said, the Christian's blood should be "bibline," bleeding Scripture wherever he may be pricked or cut.

Live every moment like Jesus is in your presence – He is.