

LESSON 14

The Works of the Holy Spirit-I

Objective : To submit before the Holy Spirit by understanding the depth and greatness of its activities.

Bible Portion : Psalms: 104:10-30, Lk. 4:1-8

Memory Verse : 2 Pet. 1:19-21

And so we have the prophetic word confirmed, which you do well to heed as a light that shines in a dark place, until the day dawns and the morning star rises in your hearts; knowing this first, that no prophecy of Scripture is of any private interpretation, for prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke *as they were* moved by the Holy Spirit.

Introduction :

What is the will of God in the creation and redemption of mankind? 2 Thess. 2:14, 2 Cori. 3:18. It is the will of God that man must be transformed into the likeness of God and also achieves the glory of

God. The redemption of mankind was done by the holy sacrifice of Jesus Christ. Holy Spirit transforms the redeemed ones into the likeness of God. We need to pray so that the transforming power of the Holy Spirit works in each one of us. Let us learn the work of the Holy Spirit in different times.

I. In Eternity

As the word was there in the beginning, the presence of the Holy Spirit also was there. The Holy Spirit is the breath of God and it gives life and continuation of all living beings (Ps. 104:10-14,21,27,30)

II. In the Old Testament

- 1) The words of God were written not in the will of men. They were the words spoken by men the power of the Holy Spirit (2 Pet 1:19-21, 2 Sam. 23:2). The prophets wrote and spoke the oracles given to them by the Holy Spirit (Is. 1:4, Ez 1:3, Heb 1:1).
- 2) The Holy Spirit revealed the prophesies through the servants of God in different times . The birth, sufferings, ascension, and future glory of Christ were revealed to the prophets early (1Pet.1:10-12, Is.53, Ps. 22, Is 7:14, Ps. 16:10 -11). In the Old TESTAMEN TIME, God revealed the future of Israel and other nations. (Dan. 4:18, 2 Chr. 15:1-2, Ez. 11:24).
- 3) The history of the Old Testament said that some were possessed by the Holy Spirit to do certain specific functions. For the building of tabernacle, God give sufficient knowledge to Oholiab and Bezalel. Ex. 31:3. Joseph (Gen. 41: 38), Jephthah (Jud. 11:29), Samson (Jud.14:6) and SAUL (1Sam. 11:6) were filled with the Holy Spirit (It is different from the anointing of the Holy Spirit in New Testament). They did mighty things.

III. In Jesus Public Ministry

- 1) Jesus was born by the Holy Spirit (Lk. 13:5, Mt. 1:18)
- 2) The Holy Spirit dwells in Jesus directly at the time of Baptism (Mt. 3:16, Mt. 1:10). Jesus took Baptism in water and also received the Holy Spirit. We are also in need of them

- 3) He led to the wilderness by the Holy Spirit (Mt. 4:1, Mk. 1:12, Lk. 4:1). We are also led by the Holy Spirit. (Rom 8:14).
- 4) Jesus ministered with the power of the Holy Spirit. He taught and healed the sick with the power of Holy Spirit (Lk. 4:4-18, Act. 10:38). Is our ministry with the power of the Holy Spirit?
- 5) Jesus' resurrection was by the power of the Holy Spirit (Rom 8:11). Ours also will be with the power of the Holy Spirit.

IV In the Church period

During the time of church period, the works of the Holy Spirit was wonderful and different. Act of apostles is description of the work of the Holy Spirit in the life of apostles. The receiving of the power by 120 members was the fulfillment of the Holy Spirit in the day of Pentecost (Act 2:1). It will be continued till the end of the age of the church (Joel 2:28, 29, Jn. 14:16, 26, 16:7, 13, Act 1:15, 1:8). The aim of the Holy Spirit in the age of the church is to uplift Jesus Christ and prepares the blameless bride in the form of church. In the coming lessons, we will learn the work of Holy Spirit related to this. Before that we can learn the Old Testament similes or examples.

The Marriage of Isaac (Gen. 24)

Abraham had sent his chief servant, Eleazar to bring a suitable bride for Isaac. He was successful in bringing Rebekah as Isaac's wife. (Read the story from the Bible). Through this event Abraham, Isaac and Eleazar stand for the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit respectively. Sarah stood for the church of Israel and Rebekah for New Testament church. Let us learn some comparisons from the Bible.

1. As Eleazar was chief servant of Abraham, Holy Spirit works as the counselor of God (Jn. 14:16, 26).
2. As Eleazar was sent to bring bride for Isaac, the Holy Spirit was sent to prepare the bride for Christ (Eph. 5:26, 27). The endeavor of the Holy Spirit began at the day of Pentecost and three thousand people joined the church same day (Act. 2:41).
3. Eleazar was sent after Isaac had been tied as a sacrifice in the place

- of worship. The Holy Spirit was sent to the world after the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Gen. 22:1-2, Act. 2:1-2).
4. Eleazer was sent to the relatives of Abraham (Gen. 24:4). The Holy Spirit had been sent to the one twenty who loved and followed Jesus Christ.
 5. In spite of talking about himself, he talked about Isaac (Gen. 24:35-38). The Holy Spirit also talks about Jesus Christ (Jn. 16:13-14).
 6. Eleazar did his job quickly while the Holy Spirit does its duty quickly (Gen. 24:35,36, 2:41).
 7. As Rebekah made herself obedient to Eleazer, the church also is obedient to the Holy Spirit (Gen. 24:58, Act. 2:4-12). She decided to go with Eleazer without asking the permission from parents. Paul, while receiving the call of God, started without asking the permission from the blood relations, but was obedient to the Holy Spirit (Gal. 2:16).
 8. Eleazer gave Rebekah the gifts he took from the abundance of Abraham. She wore it happily (Gen. 24:22, 30,53). The Holy Spirit blesses the church with the clothes of justice and gifts of grace (Ps. 45:13-14, Eph. 4:7-8, 1 Cori. 12:4-10).
 9. As Rebekah had separated herself from the relatives for Isaac, the church should separate itself from the world for Christ (Gen. 24:58-59, 2 Cori. 6:14-17, Act. 2:40).
 10. On the way to Isaac's house, Rebekah learnt more about Isaac from Eleazer. The church also learns from the Holy Spirit and grow in the knowledge of Christ (Eph. 3:16-19).
 11. Eleazer takes Rebekah to Abraham's house. Isaac greeted her in an open place and invited to home. At the end of the church age, when the Holy Spirit takes the church to the clouds the Christ himself came down to the clouds and receives the church into heaven (Gen. 24:63-67, 1 Thess. 4:16-17, Rev. 19:6-8). Let us prepare ourselves for the blessed day to abide with the Lord as a bride in heavenly chamber, and also fed the continuous filling and leading of the Holy Spirit.

Questions

1. What is the objective of the works of the Holy Spirit in the church age ?
2. What was the work of the Holy Spirit in the beginning?
3. How did Holy Spirit work in the time of Old Testament?
4. The Holy Spirit was creative at the time of Jesus' public ministry. Make the statement clear ?
5. Compare and explain the objectives and works of the Holy Spirit in the church age with the wedding of Isaac.