

# THE FLORAL HEIGHTS INFORMER

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Floral Heights  
Church of Christ  
1814 Buchanan  
Wichita Falls, Texas  
76309  
(940) 322 - 1650

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## Our Elders:

*Mike Chancellor*  
(322 – 6374)

*Tom Witherspoon*  
(766 – 5368)

## Deacons:

*Joe Cronin*

*Jim Hall*

*David Witherspoon*

## Preacher:

*John C. Robertson*

## Bible Facts about the Holy Spirit

Part III

### Indwelling of the Holy Spirit

#### Review of Part I (Identity) and II (Work of HS):

The Holy Spirit (Holy Ghost) is an individual within the godhead (*theios*) and recognized in the scriptures as **deity**. Though the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit are three individuals they nonetheless are one in purpose (Jn. 17:17ff). The Holy Spirit has a distinct **work** in the sanctification of man. During the OT and NT days the Holy Spirit directly endowed people with miraculous powers so that truth would be heard and understood to be of a divine origin (Mk. 16:20). The work of the Holy Spirit remains the sanctification of mankind through the revealed word of God (Jn. 16:8ff). Today's article shall examine the **indwelling** of the Holy Spirit.

#### Preliminary Statements

Let us clearly state, at the outset of this study, that when we read of the **indwelling** of the Holy Spirit in the Bible the thought is one of two events. First, the Holy Spirit filled individual was one who had been divinely endowed with abilities to heal, prophecy, speak tongues, or perform one of many miracles examined in I Corinthians 12 (see Lk. 1:67; Acts 2:4; Eph. 3:1-6). Secondly, we find that people today are commanded to be "*filled with the Holy Spirit*" apart from divine endowments of power (see Rom. 8:9-14; Eph. 5:18-19). Given that miraculous gifts have ceased to exist we are left to define the meaning of one being filled with the Holy Spirit in the year 2008 as is commanded in Romans 8:1ff.

#### Indwelling of the HS

If the indwelling of the HS is not the ability to perform miracles, speak words of prophecy, and or speak in tongues in the year 2008 then what is it? Consider the fact that Joseph was said to have the "Spirit of God" because of his knowledge (Gen. 41:39-40). Bezalel, the son of Uri, was filled with the Spirit of God in that he obtained wisdom, understanding, and knowledge in a miraculous manner (Ex.

## Local News:

### Welcome to all our visitors:

We pray that you will be edified by our service and that you will ask questions if things are not as you are accustomed to seeing. Please do come back at your every opportunity!

We are thankful to God that **Cassidy Summers** and **Missy Cronin** are doing much better this week. Keep both of them in your daily prayers.

**Bible Studies:** We now have 10 men in prison studying through the mail. We also began a new study with a man from Arkansas this week. Additionally, John is currently involved in a written debate with a Baptist preacher here in Wichita Falls. Please keep these studies in your prayers.

**Area Gospel meetings:** The Mustang Church of Christ will be having Joe Corly preach October 5-12 and Jerry Fite will be preaching at the 84<sup>th</sup> Street Church of Christ October 5 – 9<sup>th</sup>.

### New Bible class for High School and Adults:

Be sure to pick up your questions for Wednesday night in the foyer.

### Continue to pray for our shut-ins:

**Stella Davidson**  
696-1030 (Home)

**Calvin York**  
692-0489 (Home).

**Bessie Murphy**  
4600 Taft Blvd, Apt. 538

31:1ff). Balaam was able to speak divine words of prophecy through being filled with the HS (Numb. 24:1ff). Othniel, Gideon, Jephthah, and Samson were given the divine ability to judge Israel because they were “*filled with the Spirit of God*” (Judges 3:10; 6:34; 11:29; 14:6). Samuel (I Sam. 10:10), David (I Sam. 16:14), Ezekiel (Ezek. 2:2; 3:24; 36:27), Micah (Mic. 3:8), John (Lk. 1:15), Elizabeth (Lk. 1:41), the apostles (Jn. 14:17), and Jesus (Isa. 11:1-2; Matt. 3:16; Lk. 3:22; 4:1) all gained knowledge through the indwelling of the HS.

The scriptures reveal the fact that at the completion of divine revelation miracles would cease to exist (I Cor. 13:1ff). Seeing that the word of God is now complete miracles have ceased (Jude 3; II Pet. 1:3; James 1:25). If man can no longer gain divine revelation through the power of the Holy Spirit how do they receive it? The apostle Paul asked the Galatians a similar question and then answers it. Paul said, “*This only would I learn from you, Received ye the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?*” (Gal. 3:2). When the word of God was preached, heard, received, and obeyed man was receiving the Spirit of God (i.e., receiving divine words delivered by the Holy Spirit which in turn guided man into all truth). This explains why Paul commanded the Ephesian Christians to be filled with the Holy Spirit and then explains that this filling of one’s self with the Holy Spirit is none other than hearing, receiving, and obeying the word of God (see Col. 3:16). Without the Holy Spirit’s involvement in revealing truth no man could even proclaim that “*Jesus is Lord*” (I Cor. 12:3).

## Concluding Thoughts

We may now clearly identify what it means to be “filled with the Holy Spirit.” Being filled with the Holy Spirit during the days of incomplete revelation meant people were endowed with miraculous powers and knowledge. This power confirmed the divine origin of the truth being spoken (Mk. 16:20). Once all truth was delivered miraculous powers were no longer needed (I Cor. 13:1ff). The indwelling of the Holy Spirit; however, did not end. God’s people are filled with the Holy Spirit today not miraculously but by diligent study and application of divine truths learned (II Tim. 2:15). To be filled with the HS is thereby the act of hearing, studying, receiving, obeying, and being **guided** by truth. The apostle Paul conclusively defines the indwelling of the Holy Spirit as being “*led by the Spirit of God*” in all areas of life (Rom. 8:14 see also Jer. 10:23). The Holy Spirit guides man today much like a set of instructions guides one through a building project or a road map guides one to a desired destination. Those who allow the Holy Spirit to guide them through life will never be lost.

## Attitudes toward Bible Authority

### Introduction:

A person's approach, disposition, or feelings regarding religious affairs will determine their eternal abode. Preconceived religious ideas that are distinctly different than what is found in God's word will benefit no one. Jeremiah pleaded with the people of God that they might get back to the old paths when it came to their spiritual service (Jer. 6:16). Let us trust no other source of information than the Bible when it comes to our spirituality. This lesson shall examine the topic of Bible authority. When my attitude is formed by nothing but the Bible then my hope remains true.

### I. Defining Authority:

- A. "The power to command, **enforce laws**, exact obedience, or judge" (AHD 142).
- B. "**Power** or authority to do a thing" (LS 276).
- C. "Authority, rule, dominion, **jurisdiction**" (Moulton 146).

### II. Qualified Authority:

- A. Federal and civil government (power to command, enforce laws, exercises power, and occupies jurisdiction / education / experience / technical knowledge)
- B. Military
- C. Secular Business
- D. School
- E. Religion

### III. What Qualifies one to occupy a state of Authority?

- A. Civil, Secular, Military, or School.
- B. Religion:
  - 1. The Jurisdiction of Jehovah is not limited to time, location, or people (it is without bounds) (Jer. 32:27). Though many do not enter his kingdom and serve him as citizens they nonetheless are subject to his laws (Eph. 2:19ff).
  - 2. The Power of God is without measure (Jer. 32:17).
  - 3. One whose jurisdiction is all eternity and his displayed power above measure has the right to enforce laws and judge his creation (Gen. 1:1 etc.).

### IV. Sources of Religious Authority:

- A. Jeremiah said, "*O Jehovah, I know that the way of man is not in himself: it is not in man that walks to direct his steps*" (Jer. 10:23).
- B. Jesus said that a man is either directed spiritually by other men or by God (Matt. 21:23-25).
- C. God has authorized a means of living (Gal. 5:19-21) and worshipping (Col. 2:20ff).

### Conclusion:

Consider those who will not obey the laws of their land. Consider also those who are insubordinate in the military. What about unruly workers and children at school? Where do these people end up? Said people spend time in jail, the brig, unemployed, and in detention centers. Those who do not respect authority find themselves in trouble. What about the man or woman who rejects the authority of God? There is no eternal jail, brig, or detention center in God's jurisdiction. All those; however, who reject the religious authority of God will spend an eternity in hell.