

Title: "Calming Troubled Hearts – The Peace of Christ" (part 15)

Text: John 14:25-31

- 1) He was actively involved in creation
- 2) He was actively involved in revelation and inspiration
- 3) He was actively involved in the lives of God's people in the Old Testament
- 4) He was actively involved in the life & ministry of Jesus
- 5) He was the empowering force and leader of the early church in the book of Acts
- 6) He is the sovereign agent of salvation for all who believe
- 7) He is the agent of sanctification for all who believe**
- 8) He indwells every believer as a result of baptism in the Spirit
- 9) He seals every believer and is the down-payment of our inheritance

- 10) He empowers every believer for Christian living

2 specific purposes for miracles:

1. To introduce a new era of revelation
2. To authenticate the messengers of revelation

1 Kings 17:23-24 When the widow's son was raised from the dead, she said, "Now by this I know that you are a man of God, and that the word of the Lord in your mouth is the truth."

John 10:24-25 "If You are the Christ, tell us plainly. Jesus answered them, "I told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in My Father's name, they bear witness of Me."

Acts 2:22 Peter said that Jesus was "a Man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders, and signs which God did through Him in your midst..."

Acts 14:3 Paul & Barnabas were "speaking boldly in the Lord, who was bearing witness to the word of His grace, granting signs and wonders to be done by their hand."

Hebrews 2:4 Speaking of both Jesus and the apostles, "God also bearing witness both with signs and wonders, with various miracles, and gifts of the Holy Spirit, according to His own will."

B.B. Warfield wrote: "Miracles do not appear on the pages of Scripture vagrantly, here, there, and elsewhere indifferently, without assignable reason. They belong to revelation periods, and appear only when God is speaking to His people through accredited messengers, declaring His gracious purposes. Their abundant display in the Apostolic Church is the mark of the richness of the Apostolic age in revelation; and when this revelation period closed, the period of miracle-working had passed by also, as a mere matter of course."

So how does the Holy Spirit empower believers for godliness and service?

- a) Through prayer

Rom. 8:26-27 "Likewise the Spirit, also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God."

- b) Through conviction of sin & sanctification

John 16:8 "And when He has come, He will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness..."

Galatians 3:2-3 “Did you receive the Spirit by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith? Are you so foolish? Having begun in the Spirit, are you now being made perfect by the flesh?”

c) Through teaching

John 16:13-14, Jesus says “...when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.”

1 Corinthians 2:1-16

Romans 8:14-16 “For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, these are the sons of God. For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, ‘Abba, Father.’ The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God.”

Do you sense the obvious witness of the Holy Spirit affirming to you that you are a child of God?