



Releasing the Power of the Holy Spirit

I. Welcoming the Holy Spirit

A. Holy Spirit and Power

Judges 14:6 (NIV)

⁶ The Spirit of the LORD came upon him (Samson) in power so that he tore the lion apart with his bare hands as he might have torn a young goat.

Luke 4:14 (NIV)

¹⁴ Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside.

2 Timothy 1:7 (NIV)

⁷ For God did not give us a spirit of timidity, but a spirit of power, of love and of self-discipline.

B. Holy Spirit in You

1 Corinthians 6:19-20 (NIV)

¹⁹ Do you not know that **your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit, who is in you**, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; ²⁰ you were bought at a price. Therefore honor God with your body.

Romans 8:11 (NIV)

¹¹ And if the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead is living in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through his Spirit, who lives in you.

II. Jesus' Instruction RE: the Holy Spirit

Acts 1:4-9 (NIV)

⁴ On one occasion, while he was eating with them, **he gave them this command**: "Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about. ⁵ For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

⁶ So when they met together, they asked him, "Lord, are you at this time going to restore the kingdom to Israel?" ⁷ He said to them: "It is not for you to know the times or dates the Father has set by his own authority. ⁸ But **you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you**; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth." ⁹ After he said this, he was taken up before their very eyes, and a cloud hid him from their sight.

III. 3 Responses of Cooperation

A. Prayer

1 Corinthians 14:18 (NASB)

¹⁸ I thank God, I speak in tongues more than you all;

Romans 8:26-27 (NIV)

²⁶ In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groans that words cannot express. ²⁷ And he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints in accordance with God's will.

Ephesians 6:17-20 (NIV)

¹⁷ Take the helmet of salvation and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸ And **pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests.** With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the saints. ¹⁹ Pray also for me, that whenever I open my mouth, **words may be given me** so that I will fearlessly make known the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it fearlessly, as I should.

Jude 1:20 (NIV)

²⁰ But you, dear friends, build yourselves up in your most holy faith and **pray in the Holy Spirit.**

Luke 18:1-8 (NIV)

¹ Then Jesus told his disciples a parable **to show them that they should always pray and not give up.** ² He said: "In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared about men. ³ And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, 'Grant me justice against my adversary.' . . . ⁶ And the Lord said, "Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸ I tell you, he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?"

B. Expectancy

Luke 2:38 (NASB)

³⁸ At that very moment she came up and *began* giving thanks to God, and continued to speak of Him to **all those who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.**

C. Honor God's Word

Luke 2:25-35 (NIV)

²⁵ Now there was a man in Jerusalem called Simeon, who was righteous and devout. He was waiting for the consolation of Israel, and **the Holy Spirit was upon him.** ²⁶ It had been **revealed to him by the Holy Spirit** that he would not die before he had seen the Lord's Christ.

²⁷ **Moved by the Spirit,** he went into the temple courts. When the parents brought in the child Jesus to do for him what the custom of the Law required, ²⁸ Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying:

²⁹ "Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you now dismiss your servant in peace. ³⁰ **For my eyes have seen your salvation,** ³¹ **which you have prepared in the sight of all people,** ³² **a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."**

³³ The child's father and mother marveled at what was said about him.

³⁴ Then Simeon blessed them and said to Mary, his mother: "This child is destined to cause the falling and rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be spoken against, ³⁵ so that the thoughts of many hearts will be revealed. And a sword will pierce your own soul too."

Isaiah 9:2 (NASB)

² The people who walk in darkness Will see a great light; Those who live in a dark land, The light will shine on them.

Isaiah 49:6 (NASB)

I will also make You a light of the nations So that My salvation may reach to the end of the earth."

Isaiah 51:4 (NASB)

⁴ "Pay attention to Me, O My people, And give ear to Me, O My nation; For a law will go forth from Me, And I will set My justice for a light of the peoples.

Prayer

Heavenly Father, pour out your Spirit upon my life. I offer myself as a living sacrifice, yielded to you. I want to know you in the power of your truth. I choose the truth for my life, turning away from all deception. May the words of my mouth and the meditations of my heart be pleasing in your sight, in Jesus' name, amen.