

HOW TO START A REVOLUTION

True Greatness

Acts 6:8-15

The Holy Spirit launched the church and empowered the church by filling the lives of those who, having chosen to follow Jesus, yielded to the will of the Holy Spirit in their lives.

Stephen was one such person.

... choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit ...

Acts 6:3

They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; ...

Acts 6:5

Now Stephen, a man full of God's grace and power, ...

Acts 6:8

But they could not stand up against the wisdom the Spirit gave him as he spoke.

Acts 6:10

The baptism of the Holy Spirit and the filling of the Holy Spirit are two distinctly different acts of the Holy Spirit.

1. The Baptism of the Holy Spirit is a positional reality whereby every believer in Jesus is identified and brought into the family of God. It happens at the moment we put our faith in Jesus.

For we were all baptized by one Spirit so as to form one body—whether Jews or Gentiles, slave or free—and we were all given the one Spirit to drink.

1 Corinthians 12:13

2. The filling of the Holy Spirit is ours to experience as we yield to the will of the Holy Spirit in our lives. It is something we are commanded to do.

“Filling” carries three ideas:

- filling something up
- permeation

- total control.

The evidence of being filled with the Holy Spirit is seen in . . .

- The Fruit of the Spirit showing up and growing up in our lives.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Galatians 5:22-23a

- The Expression of the Spirit in our lives

... be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹ speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰ always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²¹ Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ephesians 5:18b-21

INWARD . . . Singing
UPWARD. . . Thanking
OUTWARD. . . Submitting

The filling of the Holy Spirit makes us rightly related to ourselves, our God and to others.

INWARD

... be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord,

Ephesians 5:18b-19

UPWARD

always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 5:20

OUTWARD

Submit to one another out of reverence for Christ.

Ephesians 5:21

Because we know what the Holy Spirit does in our lives we can examine our lives to see if it is evident and if so know we are filled with Him and if not make the changes that need to be made to be in a position where the Holy Spirit can fill us.