

The Ultimate Priority - Worship . . . Part 5

WORSHIPPING THE HOLY SPIRIT Galatians 5:22-26

STIMULATE

** Last week in Part 4 of our worship series, we learned five things that prevented the Pharisees from "**Worshipping the Son**", let's recall them together!

- 1) Spiritual arrogance
- 2) Lack of integrity
- 3) Unable to see that Jesus was the Light
- 4) Not recognizing Him as Lord of the Sabbath
- 5) Not knowing that Jesus was sent from God

** How have you done in avoiding those same pitfalls?

MOTIVATE

** As we embark upon part five of "**The Ultimate Priority -Worship**", we are going to learn what Scripture has to say about "**Worshipping the Holy Spirit**". Of all that we have seen in this series, this study will be the most practical of all, in the matter of "the rubber meeting the road" in our spiritual journey through life. How can I best worship the Holy Spirit? How can I know that my life is worshipfully following His lead?

Join me in Paul's letter to the Galatians, chapter 5, verses 22-26 and we will learn the answer.

Read Passage (V.22-23) (V.24-26)

Opening Prayer

Worshipping the Holy Spirit

INVESTIGATE

** When it comes to the Holy Spirit of God, there is much to study and learn, for He too is Holy, Holy, Holy. Our goal for today is to learn how we can best worship Him and not to learn everything that God's Word has to say about Him. However, before we start, let's look at some examples from God's precious Word that show us something about this third person of the Trinity.

The Holy Spirit's role in:

Creation - Genesis 1:1-2, Isaiah 45:18

Baptism - Matthew 28:19

Help - John 14:16-17, 25-26

Conviction - John 16:7-11

Fellowship - 2Corinthians 13:14

Seals - Ephesians 4:30

Understanding that the Holy Spirit has a vital role in our lives, let's see how we can best worship Him...

As the apostle Paul penned this marvelous epistle, he was dealing with those who named the name of Christ, but were trying to add to the finished work of Jesus with their own ability to keep the Law. Let's read Galatians 3:1-3 together.

Now, on our way back to 5:22, let's stop at Galatians 5:16-18.

V.16 ** What will completely, even totally, keep us from carrying out the desires of the flesh?

If we will only and always "walk by the Spirit".

V.17 ** But what is the problem we face, as we strive to do just that?

The flesh won't give up! It "sets its desire against the Spirit..." There is a war going on inside all of us, even inside the apostle Paul. cf. 1Corinthians 9:26-27

V.18 ** Saying it a different way, what removes us from being under [the curse of] the Law?

If we "are led by the Spirit..."

** What added dimension does this affix to the concept of walking by the Spirit?

The fact that He is God, and as such is leading us, and we are expected to follow His lead!
cf. Romans 8:3-4, 14

Alright then, let's worship the Holy Spirit by following His lead into the very holiness of God as it is being produced in us each day of our lives!

Galatians 5:22-26

V.22 ** How many fruits does the Holy Spirit produce in us?

One! This is a package deal. We get all or none! Unlike the deeds of the flesh in verses 19-21, in which we may only partially partake, here the word for "fruit" (karpos) is singular and implies we get it all in one package.

** How did Jesus feel about us producing fruit?

He wanted us to produce much fruit and by it we would glorify our Father in heaven.
cf. John15:8

** If there is only one fruit, how many manifestations of that fruit are listed here?

Nine. As a footnote, who's fruit is this, ours? NO! Only the Holy Spirit can produce this in us!

** What is the first manifestation of His fruit?

1) Love - "agape" this reflects a personal choice, a willing, self-giving service.
cf. Romans 5:8, John15:13

As is true of each of these manifestations, they not only display the reality of our salvation, they are commanded in Scripture. cf. Ephesians 5:2

** What is the next manifestation of the Holy Spirit?

2) **Joy** - "chara" happiness that is based on spiritual realities. Nehemiah 8:10, 1Peter 1:8

** Next is peace, how does that relate to joy?

3) **Peace** - Joy is the condition of the heart, **Peace** refers to the tranquility of the mind set on Christ. Both have no relationship to circumstances. cf. Romans 8:28

** What's fourth in our list?

4) **Patience** "makrothumia" this one is heavy! It carries the idea of "tolerance and longsuffering that will endure injuries inflicted by others, it is the calm willingness to accept situations that are irritating or painful". (John MacArthur)

Can you see why this cannot be our fruit, but only the Holy Spirit's as He brings glory to the Father?

** What is next?

5) **Kindness**, this is a tender concern for others, like that which our Lord displayed. cf. Matthew 11:28-29, 2Timothy 2:24-25

** Goodness follows kindness and could be confused as being the same thing, how is it different?

6) **Goodness** - "agathos" has to do with moral and spiritual excellence that displays itself in active kindness towards others. cf. Galatians 6:10

** Seventh, and the last one in this verse, is what?

7) **Faithfulness** - This is life-long trustworthiness for the child of God. cf. 1Corinthians 4:1-2, Revelation 2:10

V.23 ** What is eighth in our list of the manifestations of the Holy Spirit's fruit?

8) **Gentleness** - lit. "meekness", it is the humble, gentle attitude that is patiently submissive in every offense, while being free of any desire for revenge or retribution. It is power under control! cf. 1Timothy 6:11, Colossians 3:12

** Finally, how else is the Holy Spirit's fruit made manifest in us?

9) **Self-control** - restraining passions and appetites. Jesus did this when tempted by Satan in Matthew 4:1-11.

We are to do the same, as God's children. cf. 1Corinthians 9:25, 2Peter 1:5-7

** Is there anything raised up by man or God that would make this type of behavior unlawful?

No, "against such things there is no law". Even the unsaved of this world can recognize the benefit of this lifestyle, although some would say it betrays a sign of weakness, they would never think it to be harmful or unlawful.

V.24 ** This lifestyle belongs to someone who can produce the fruit of the Spirit. How is that person described in verse 24?

As someone "who belongs to Christ..." cf. 1Corinthians 6:19

** What have we done, according to this verse?

In our salvation, we "have crucified the flesh with its passion and desires."

** How can that best be understood?

Crucified meant to execute! The flesh was killed at the cross of Jesus Christ and is dead in the sense that it no longer reigns over us, nor can it hold us in inescapable bondage.

cf. Romans 6:5-7

"Like a chicken with its head cut off, the flesh has been dealt a death blow, although it continues to flop around the barnyard of earth until the last nerve is stilled." (John MacArthur)

V.25 ** What practice then, must accompany our claim that we indeed live by the Spirit, if we wish to worship the Holy Spirit in our daily lives?

We must "...walk by the Spirit..." or Walk Worthy!

cf. Colossians 1:10, 2:6-7, Ephesians 4:1, 1Thessalonians 2:12

V.26 ** If we truly worship the Holy Spirit by allowing Him to produce in us His fruit to the glory of our heavenly Father, what types of people must we avoid becoming?

1) Boastful - God is opposed to the proud (1Peter 5:5)

2) Challenging - Instead, we should accept each other (Romans 14:1)

3) Envyng - Instead, we should rejoice with our brothers and sisters (Romans 12:15)

EXTRICATE

** If I hope to worship the Holy Spirit of God, what must I be willing for Him to produce in me?

His fruit! All nine manifestations of it!

DELINEATE

** What practical steps can I take to prevent my "crucified" flesh from trying to dominate my life?

Walk by the Spirit... (V.25)

** How can we do that?

1) Be prayerfully aware of the nine manifestations of the Holy Spirit's fruit in my life, and then pursue with a vengeance the glory of the Father in the displaying of that fruit!

2) Avoid, or run from, any form of the deeds of the flesh, found listed in Galatians 5:19-21.

EVALUATE

** Do I try to avoid becoming boastful, challenging and envious in my daily walk with the Lord? Is my life pleasing to Him as I try to worship the Holy Spirit?

Am I willing to recognize that Jesus said, "You are my friends, if you do what I command you" and that my only acceptable response to this study is for me to strive to see the Holy Spirit's fruit produced in my life in even greater measure in the future. (cf. John 15:14)

ACTIVATE

** As we bring our study to a conclusion, please take some time now to silently express from your own heart, your appreciation for having learned the importance of "**Worshipping the Holy Spirit**" by manifesting His fruit every day of our lives. As our God has been faithful to teach us His Word, may we be faithful to live it.

Closing prayer