

*"I've to the Father on my side, Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit and 2/3rds of the angels. What do you think I'm going to do? Sit down and cry?"*

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Prayer Study #278

## **THE WORK OF THE HOLY SPIRIT**

### **Part One**

First Love Ministries, Inc. of Perry, Georgia

### **IN THE LIFE OF JESUS**

**(the information below came from High Point Church in Macon, Georgia)**

*"As the Father hath sent Me, even so send I you."*

John 20:21

*"It is enough for the disciple that he be as his Master."*

Matthew 10:25

A believer can never be the same once the concept of Jesus as the Pattern Son lays hold upon him. For example, we read that we're to look *"unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith"* (Hebrews 12:2). The word *author* here does not mean originator as most people think. It rather means the prince-leader or the one who goes before to set the example or pattern or demonstrate the way. Hence Jesus walked upon this earth in a human body in a life of faith fully dependent upon His Heavenly Father for everything. The New Testament refers to Jesus far more frequently as the Son of Man than as the Son of God. Not only did he walk by faith, but *all* He did, He did not as God but as a man by the Spirit of God. And we have the same Spirit-though without doubt, not the same measure.

Let's us look at the analogy between the life of our Lord and the lives of His people.

1. **HE WAS BORN OF THE SPIRIT:** Matthew 1:18-20: *Now the birth of Jesus was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit. Then Joseph her husband, being a just man, and not wanting to make her a public example, was minded to put her away secretly. But while he thought about these things, behold, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream, saying, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take to you Mary your wife, for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Spirit. By the Spirit the Son of God*

became the Son of man and by being born of the same Spirit the sons of men become the sons of God. There is no spiritual life apart from the Spirit of God for he came to us with quickening grace when we were quite literally dead in trespasses and sins and not at all seeking Him. Having been born of the Spirit as a man, He learned obedience through the things which He suffered, and though by 12 years of age He knew a real sense of His mission, it was not until he was thirty years old that the Holy Spirit who was in Him came upon Him.

**2. THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO WAS IN HIM CAME UPON HIM:**

Matthew 3:13-17: *Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him. And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?" But Jesus answered, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness."* Then he allowed Him. When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and He saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him. This calls to mind that after Jesus had breathed the Holy Spirit into His Disciples in John 20:21-22 (So Jesus said to them again, "**Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.**") And when He had said this, He breathed on them and said to them, "**Receive the Holy Spirit.**") and had given them their commission to go into all the world to preach the Gospel He told them to wait in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came "upon them," which experience would give them power to witness. Jesus in a unique way identified Himself with sinful man at His baptism and afterwards experienced the Spirit of God coming upon Him. It seems from Acts 2:38 (*Then Peter said to them, "Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit."*) that this is the normal pattern.

**3. SHORTLY AFTER THIS, HE WAS LED BY THE SPIRIT INTO THE WILDERNESS TO BE TEMPTED OF THE DEVIL:**

Matthew 4:1: *Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil.* I believe that every true baptism in the Spirit is followed quite shortly by a testing at the hands of Satan. It has its purpose and is allowed of God, and, if we walk in dependence upon His power within us and in obedience to His Word, God will bring us out even as Jesus who "returned in the power of the Spirit."

**4. NEXT WE SEE HIM MOVING INTO THE MINISTRY HIS FATHER HAD SENT HIM TO DO:**

LUKE 4:18-19: For in the

synagogue He stood up and said, *“The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, because He has anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed; to proclaim the acceptable year [ an allusion to the Old Testament Year of Jubilee] of the LORD.”* He did not receive His call from men but from His Father. He did not come from the schools of religion but people heard Him with astonishment for He spoke with authority and power. True spiritual authority and power can never originate with man but must come from God.

5. **EVERY WORK OF POWER (MIRACLES, HEALINGS, ETC.) HE DID AS A MAN BY THE SPIRIT** (Matthew 12:28: *“But if I cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the kingdom of God has come upon you.”*) **EVEN TO THE TIME OF HIS DEATH WHEN “THROUGH THE ETERNAL SPIRIT HE OFFERED HIMSELF WITHOUT SPOT TO GOD”** : Hebrews 9:14: *How much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God?* Surely our Lord walked in great wisdom and in such dependence upon the Holy Spirit that there were no mistakes and no regrets.
6. **THE SPIRIT WAS HIS WISDOM:** His commandments to the Apostles were given “through the Holy Spirit” (Acts 1:2: *...until the day he was taken up, after He through the Holy Spirit had given commandments to the apostles whom He had chosen.*) Surely we have a greater need of the Spirit for wisdom in the service of God than His need could have been.

In this analogy, let us note the significant fact that many of the titles given to the Pattern Son are given to believers:

**He is the Son of God:** Galatians 4:4-*But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law.*

**We are the sons of God:** Galatians 4:5-*To redeem those who were under the law, that we might receive the adoption as sons.*

**He is the Servant of God:** Isaiah 42:1-*Behold! My Servant whom I uphold, My Elect one in whom My soul delights.*

**We are the servants of God:** Romans 6:22-*But now having been set free from sin, and having become slaves of God, you have your fruit to holiness and the end, everlasting life.*

**He is The Witness:** Isaiah 55:4-Indeed I have given Him as a witness to the people, a leader and commander for the people.

**We are witnesses:** Acts 1:8-*“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the end of the earth.”*

**He is The Light of the World:** John 8:12-*Then Jesus spoke to them again, saying, I am the light of the world. He who follows Me shall not walk in darkness but have the light of life.”*

**We are the light of the world:** Matthew 5:14-*“You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden.”*

**He is The High Priest:** Hebrews 3:1-*Therefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, consider the Apostle and High Priest of our confession, Christ Jesus...*

**We are priests unto God:** Revelation 1:5-6-*and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth, to Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever, Amen.*

**He is The Lamb:** John 1:29-*The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him and said, “Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!”*

**We are lambs:** Luke 10:3-*“Go your way; behold, I send you out as lambs among wolves.”*

**He is The Branch:** Zechariah 6:12: *“Then speak to him, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD of hosts, saying: “Behold the Man whose name is the BRANCH!”*

**We are the branches:** John 15:5-*“I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.”*