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# From the Depth of My Heart...

Dearly beloved in Christ,

Greetings in the wonderful name of our Lord Jesus Christ!

We thank you so much for your fervent prayers and faithful support for this ministry. God is debtor to no one. You will reap your harvest according to His riches in glory in every area of your life.

God demands a life of sacrifice from His people. This He doesn't do because He has any need you could supply, but in order to bless you, His new creation. This is the eternal principle of sowing and reaping. As God Himself became Abraham's Reward for all his sacrifices, He became your Reward. Rejoice!

We had a very powerful mighty move of the Holy Spirit in the Healing and Miracle School. People were stirred up in the spirit to carry the burden of the Holy Spirit to do the ministry of Jesus with His character and power. We are very sure mighty nation shakers from this batch are going to go and change the nations with signs, miracles and wonders. Continue to pray for them as they are going into their harvest field.

We will conduct our 11th batch of School of the Holy Spirit for Ladies, 1st March onward. We are overwhelmed to see the lives changed through this life transforming school. We are receiving so many testimonies of powerful ministry, family transformations and reunion, miracles, signs and wonders from our dear ladies. You are still in time to apply. Get ready and come to the place of encounter with God.

We are happy to announce special good news for you. A long awaited book on marriage series by my wife 'Toward Marriage' and 'Why Marriage' with deep truth, much fun and heavy anointing is released in our Apostles and Prophets seminar in midst of our trainees

## School of Holy Spirit for Women

### 1st - 31st March, 2017

### PLAN! PRAY! PREPARE! PARTICIPATE!!



with a roaring hit on sales too. Almost our first prints are sold and the blessing reports are started pouring in. We also released 'Like Jesus' written by me in this seminar. These books will transform your lives and families for sure. Contact our office NOW for your copies!

We have our 'Supernatural Lifestyle Seminar' in Pune in the month of April following by the School of the Holy Spirit for Men and Couple. Keep visiting our website [www.ezekiahfrancis.org](http://www.ezekiahfrancis.org) for further details.

We also have our one month School of the Holy Spirit, May 1st onward in Bethul, Madhya Pradesh. We need special prayers for this school. Pray for the miracle workers to be raised through this school and to make history in North India.

We earnestly covet your sincere prayers for all our programs and for God's strength to accomplish it. Please remember God will never forget what you do for His ministry and vision. Expect prophetic rewards this year as never before.

Kindly pray for, me and my wife; all our leaders and partners; staff and family as we enter into this New Year with new vigor, vision and adventure.

Your brother in Christ



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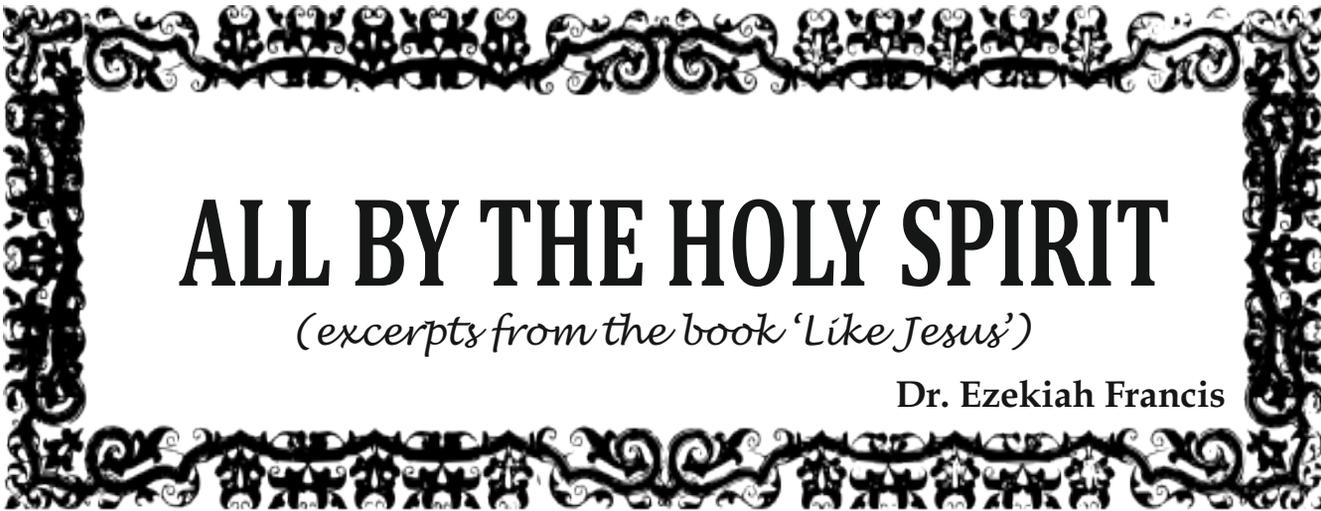
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# ALL BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

*(excerpts from the book 'Like Jesus')*

Dr. Ezekiah Francis

Jesus lived totally by the Holy Spirit. It was the Holy Spirit who helped Him to be holy unto the Lord and to maintain His devotional life. It was the Holy Spirit who constantly reminded Jesus that He was to live a life of total consecration. It was the Holy Spirit who helped Him to recognize and to cut immediately any soul ties whenever the devil tried to trap Him.

It was the same Holy Spirit who took Him to the wilderness to pray and fast. He is the One who taught Him the Word of God and made it real in His life. He is the One who cried through Him in His earthly life (Heb. 5:7).

Imagine you could interview Jesus and ask Him about His earthly ministry. You would ask, "Lord, how did You cast out the demons so easily?" He would say, "I never cast out even a single demon with my own power. If I had done it, I could have delivered thousands even before I was twenty-nine years old. I had to wait for the endowment of the Holy Spirit power before I could start that ministry." If you would ask Him, "How did You live a holy life?", He would clearly reply, "It is all only by the power of the Holy Spirit, not by My natural strength or ability."

His message to you today is this: "Everything I have ever done is only by the power of the Holy Spirit. I have sent the same Holy Spirit to take My place in your life. You can do what I did and even more than what I did just by depending on the Holy Spirit as I depended on Him" (Jn. 14:12).

In His earthly walk, the Holy Spirit lived in the

Body of the Lord Jesus, but now He came from His Body into your body. It is the same Spirit, but the body is different. He literally changed His residence and moved in to you. None of His power and glory diminished as He entered into your body now. The Spirit of God that moved and guided Abraham is the same who guided and guarded David. The One who filled David is the same who filled John the Baptist from his mother's womb. The same Holy Spirit that was in Jesus is working in and through you right now. Look to Him for the ability to live a life of separation and a life of Word and prayer.

Will you confess with me right now? Say it out loud: "The Holy Spirit who filled Jesus with His fruits and gifts is living in me, producing His fruits and gifts in me. As Jesus hosted Him in His Body, now I am hosting Him in my body."

## **Fellowship with the Holy Spirit**

Jesus treated the Holy Spirit as a real Person, the third Person of the Godhead, and cultivated intimate fellowship with Him. All the great men and women of God who were mightily used by God to touch the lives of thousands were living in deep fellowship with the Person of the Holy Spirit.

Pastor Paul Yonggghi Cho who built the largest church in the world attributed the secret of his great success to his fellowship with the Holy Spirit. He literally practiced the Presence of the Holy Spirit all the time in practical ways. In His church building, he used to put two chairs, one for him and another for his Senior

Partner, the Holy Spirit. Every morning, he used to greet the Holy Spirit with the words, “Good morning, Holy Spirit.” Before taking any step or meeting anyone, he used to consult with the Holy Spirit. Before preaching his message, he used to say something like, “Holy Spirit, now I am going to preach Your Word, stand with me”. And after a powerful sermon, he would congratulate the Spirit, saying, “Very good, Holy Spirit, You did a very good job today.” Such small practices deepened his intimacy with the Holy Spirit. He could boldly declare that the Holy Spirit was the closest Person to him, closer than his wife or anyone else. What a challenge!

We have heard much about the great miracle worker Kathryn Kuhlman. Hundreds and thousands of miracles happened regularly in all her meetings. Blind eyes opening, tumors disappearing, lame walking, deaf hearing, all these were common occurrences in her meetings. She also had an unusual fellowship with the Holy Spirit. If anyone in the crowd would doubt the work of the Holy Spirit, she would immediately sense it in her spirit. She would point out her long finger toward the exact location and say with tears, “Please don’t grieve the Holy Spirit. He is all I have in this world”. Wow! What a relationship!

Do you long to be used by the Lord in such a measure? Will you treat the Holy Spirit as a Person and treasure Him as your most beloved Friend? All those who were used by God with signs and wonders had seen Him as their Senior Partner, their great Helper and their dearest Friend. Will you make Him so?

### **Born by the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit was Alpha and Omega in the life of our Lord Jesus. He was born by the Spirit of God. ***“Now the birth of Jesus Christ was as follows: After His mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, before they came together, she was found with child of the Holy Spirit... 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””*** (Mt. 1:18, 20). Jesus Christ is the child of the Holy Spirit. Mary conceived Him by the Holy Spirit. When the Holy

Spirit came upon her and the power of the Highest overshadowed her, the Seed of God entered into her womb.

The same miracle of the birth of Jesus happened in your life when you accepted Him as your personal Savior. When you heard and yielded to the Word of God, you were born again by the Spirit of God. ***“Having been born again, not of corruptible seed but incorruptible, through the Word of God which lives and abides forever”*** (1.Pe. 1:23). Your spirit was made alive by the Holy Spirit, just as Jesus said: ***“Whatever is born of the Spirit is spirit”*** (Jn.3:3-6). By the Word and the Spirit you became a totally new creation. Now you are a child of the Holy Spirit. Let Christ grow and be fully formed in you as you constantly walk in the same Spirit (Ga.4:19; 5:16).

### **Baptized by the Holy Spirit**

When His time of ministry came, Jesus went straight to the river Jordan to be baptized in water and the Spirit. He knew He needed the power from on high before stepping out into His earthly ministry. ***“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”*** (Mt.3:16).

We have seen in the previous chapters that His life of separation and His devotional life were the foundation for our Savior’s ministry. For 29 years, He lived holy and humbly before God. He fulfilled all the righteous demands of His Father God. Why didn’t He start His ministry earlier since He was living such a holy and righteous life? It is evident that a holy life is not enough to enter into God’s ministry. How about His Scriptural knowledge? As a Jewish boy, He was taught the Scriptures so thoroughly that at the age of twelve, He astonished the Bible scholars with His unusual insight into God’s Word. Why then didn’t He begin His ministry earlier? Why should He wait soooooo long to launch out into His most needed, unique ministry?

This explains beyond any shadow of doubt that there is no ministry for the Lord without the power and the Presence of the Holy Spirit. God’s ministry must be done by God’s power! Consecrated life and devotional life are enough to keep your life blessed and to reach

heaven safely, but they are in no way enough to do a Spiritual ministry.

I see a deep hunger in the heart of God's children to serve the Lord and to minister to the multitudes, as David said, ***"Your people shall be volunteers in the day of Your power"*** (Ps.110:3). As the End Times approach where God will arise with a war cry against His enemies, His people will be like living sacrifices spilled out before God. Thank God for such a passion for reaching the world for God. But all this avails nothing without the clear baptismal power of the Holy Spirit (Ac.1:8).

Soon after His baptism, Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, straight away entered into spiritual warfare against the strong man of the world (Lk.4:1). Jesus knew that entering into the ministry is entering into the spiritual battle. He needed the Presence and the power of the Holy Spirit to combat and conquer satan, the arch enemy of God and man.

After winning the battle, He victoriously returned to Galilee and Nazareth in the power of the Holy Spirit. Before His departure, He gave that very same instruction to His apostles: ***"Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high"*** (Lk.24:49). By this, He made it clear that there is no effective ministry without the endowment of power from on high.

Do you remember His first sermon at His home town and how He unrolled the scroll to read, ***"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 of the LORD"*** (Lk.4:18-19).

The entire ministry of the Lord Jesus was summed up in this one passage. After expounding it, He boldly declared, ***"Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing"*** (Lk.4:21). Wow! From the very first day, He could boldly declare that the Spirit of the Lord God was upon Him in His entirety. In one of His appearances to Kenneth E. Hagin, Jesus said that every time He preached in a synagogue, He started with this

proclamation.

Dear preacher, can you say with confidence that every time you begin to minister, you have this assurance? Can you boldly proclaim like Jesus, ***"The Spirit of the Lord is upon me. He has anointed me to preach"***? Without this confidence and fullness of the Spirit it is vain to stand on a pulpit. The great evangelist Billy Graham never went to his evangelistic crusades without literally feeling the clothing of the Spirit upon him. The great healing evangelist Oral Roberts used to wait till he felt the electric current of the anointing passing through him. That explains the reason for the great and unusual exploits they could do for God's Kingdom.

Once in a great gathering, a famous artist was giving his performance by reading the 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm with high expertise. The whole congregation erupted in high applause and was amazed at his tone of voice and his excellent skill. After a long time of roaring praises, an elderly man walked to the podium to read the same 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm. Before He could finish that Psalm, everyone in the auditorium began to shed tears and cry uncontrollably. At the end, the artist asked the old man curiously why people broke into tears when he read. The old man softly answered, "You read that psalm, but I lived it."

Beloved, it is not your eloquence, intellectual sermons, anecdotes or your humor that is going to transform the people. It is the rivers of living waters flowing from your inner most being (Jn.7:37). I have seen many young people copying the style and the substance of successful men of God without the anointing that was upon those great men. There is a great difference between your beautiful voice and an anointed voice. The anointing cannot be imitated but should be coveted and imparted (1.Cor.13:9; 14:1; 1.Ti.4:14; 2.Ti.1:6; 2.Ki.2).

There were two great men of God who were mightily used with signs and wonders in India during my college days. One man of God was operating in high levels of revelatory gifts, calling the names of people and giving all the details about them before many thousands. There were mighty healings and miracles. I used to greatly admire him and cry to God to use me like him. One day, I had a private time with him to ask him the secret of his power. He smiled and said,

“Boy, every morning I take time to be heavily anointed by the Holy Spirit and loudly pray in the Spirit. You must be so filled and pray in the Spirit with all liberty every morning just like you do in my meetings.” Yes, in his meetings hundreds of hungry souls used to be so filled and intoxicated by the Holy Spirit that they were literally rolling and screaming in tongues uncontrollably.

In those days, my father was against my radical Christian life. Many times, I was beaten for crying and praying loudly. When I heard this counsel from the great prophet, I was very sad and told him that it was not possible for me to be so filled in my house. I was amazed to see his face suddenly change. He said sharply, “I can’t give you any other alternative,” and he left me there without any further word. His words are still ringing in my ears. Right there, I understood one of the great secrets of these mighty champions of God.

Another man of God was exercising unusual authority in deliverance ministry. I have ministered with him a few times and have admired from my teenage. If thousand people stood in a queue to receive prayer from him, more than nine hundred would manifest demons in his Gospel meetings. During those days, I saw him eating only one meal per day. Just before his evening meeting, he would pray in tongues very loudly for an hour. He used to jokingly tell me, “Son, everywhere I go I want to see the manifestation of God’s Word. At least one demon must fall prostrate and scream, if not, at least a rat must fall. Otherwise my heart will not be satisfied to leave the place.” What zeal! All the miracle workers expected desperately the demonstration of God’s power, so they patiently waited upon the Lord to be endowed with power from on high (Lk.24:49).

### Preaching by the Holy Spirit

Jesus began His ministry saying that He was anointed to preach good news to the people (Lk.4:18; Isa.61:1-2). The difference between anointed preaching and normal preaching is the difference between heaven and earth. One shows divinity, the other shows humanity. When people were amazed at the Scriptural knowledge of our Lord, He explained the Source of His teaching: **“My doctrine is not Mine, but His who sent Me”** (Jn.7:15-18). How did He receive His

doctrine from the One that sent Him? The answer is found in John 3:34: **“For He whom God has sent speaks the words of God, for God does not give the Spirit by measure”**. Every Word He ever spoke was by the measureless anointing of the Holy Spirit. Yes, the anointing upon you speaks and teaches.

In my preaching ministry of almost 50 years, I have preached thousands of messages. I can confidently say that almost all of my messages were given to me by the Holy Spirit as I spent hours in His Presence before every meeting. I know the power of preaching under the anointing of the Holy Spirit. If I couldn’t flow freely in the Spirit, I increase my prayers or declare a fasting till I see a breakthrough.

The great apostle of faith Smith Wigglesworth used to teach young ministers, “When you go to the pulpit you must go full of the Spirit, singing and making melody unto the Lord and totally intoxicated by the new wine of Pentecost.”

When you preach or teach under the unction of the Holy Spirit, your words will be fully prophetic. They will be the words for the season. Everyone who hears you will know by instinct that God Himself speaks to

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them directly through His servant. Such Spirit-filled messages will charge the atmosphere with the glory of God. There is a scarcity of God's specific, prophetic, anointed messengers in these days. Will you allow the Holy Spirit possess you without limit and make you His mouth piece?

### **Deliverance ministry by the Holy Spirit**

Jesus healed the broken-hearted and delivered the captives by the anointing of the Holy Spirit who rested upon Him. Peter summed up Jesus' ministry in a single verse: ***"How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him"*** (Ac.10:38).

Listen, it was Jesus of Nazareth anointed by God with the Holy Spirit and power. The village Nazareth was despised by others but Jesus was called after such a poor place. The anointing and the power of the Spirit made Him the Savior of the entire world. The same anointing of God is upon you to honor and use you, no matter from what background you come. God has chosen the weak and the despised people to confound the strong and the noble by the power of the Holy Spirit (1.Cor.1:27). It is the Spirit of God who lifts your head and makes you a blessing to thousands.

Jesus proclaimed liberty to the captives and preached to the prisoners, 'you are set free' by the dynamite power of the mighty Holy Spirit. Remember, till He was filled with the Holy Spirit, He didn't cast out even a single demon in the synagogues. Only after He returned in the power of the Spirit to Galilee, demons recognized Him and trembled before Him and left people screaming. Even now, watch those who do such deliverance ministry consistently, and you will easily find out that they all had the Pentecost experience. Reinhard Bonnke said, "Preacher, don't just deliver a sermon but deliver people". This is what your role model Jesus did everywhere. Mark summed up His ministry with one sentence, ***"And He was preaching in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and casting out demons"*** (Mk.1:39).

Jesus' ministry was so much involved in casting out demons that religious folks of His day called Him demon-possessed and doubted the source of His delivering power. To them, Jesus answered, ***"But if I***

***cast out demons by the Spirit of God, surely the Kingdom of God has come upon you"*** (Mt.12:28). If Jesus casted out demons by the Spirit of God, why not you? Don't you have the same Spirit of God upon you? How could you ever replicate the life of Jesus without casting out demons and healing the sick? Being transformed into the image of God's Son includes doing the miracle ministry of the Lord Jesus.

When the Holy Spirit's manifest Presence rests upon you, you can discern the spirit world accurately. The spirit world is more a real than the physical world we live in. Unless we see the spirit behind people and world events, we will be grossly deceived. Luke calls the Holy Spirit the finger of God: ***"But if I cast out demons with the finger of God, surely the Kingdom of God has come upon you"*** (Lk.11:20). As the finger of God, the Holy Spirit will point out and locate the hiding demons. When He begins to operate through you, you will sense or see clearly the presence of darkness anywhere.

Such a gift of the Spirit is urgently needed as we approach the Last Days of this world. Unless we recognize what kind of spirits operate in people and nations we cannot clearly minister to them according to their need. With the help of the Holy Spirit, Jesus recognized the demons and casted them out. One time, He even saw satan operating through the life of His own trusted disciple Peter when he reprimanded Jesus to stop Him from going to the cruel cross. Anyone in the place of Jesus would be flattered with such an affectionate disciple, but not Jesus who discerned satan behind Peter's so-called care. See the sharp rebuke and discernment of our Spirit-filled Savior. ***"But He turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind Me, Satan! You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men'"*** (Mt.16:23).

Dear co-worker, as you minister in the power of the Spirit, many will shower extraordinary love and affection. At such times you should lift up your spiritual antennas and discern their motives. Like the Apostle Paul, you must find out the evil spirit of divination behind those who flatter you and your ministry (Ac.16:16-18). Such discernment will save your life and ministry from deception. As the day of the Lord is coming nearer, we will encounter deceiving spirits

deceiving nations and people, if possible even the elect (Mt.24:24). How much we need this gift of discerning of spirits! That is why God is challenging you to seek the life of the Spirit with all your heart. Be LIKE JESUS!

Consciously focus your attention on Christ in you, the hope of glory, and the Holy Spirit upon you as the pillar of cloud and fire (Col.1:27; Ex.13:21-22). Thank Him all the time. Every time the enemy comes against you, the Spirit of God in you will readily lift up His banner over you as Jehovah Nissi (Ex.17:15). Speak to yourself that the Spirit of the Lord God is upon you and that He has anointed you to continue the ministry of Jesus according to Luke 4:18-19. Confessing such words will greatly built up your faith to live the life of an overcomer like your Lord Jesus.

### **Death by the Holy Spirit**

Not only His life and ministry, but even the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ were done by the power of the Holy Spirit. Only by the power that we received when the Holy Spirit came upon us we can live and die as martyrs for the Lord. When God moves on this earth, the enemies of the Gospel will get greatly agitated and kill God's people. Martyrdom is going to be common in the days to come. To face such a blessed death, we need the power and energy of the Holy Spirit very much. Your Savior went to the cross like a bold champion only by the supernatural strength of the Holy Spirit. ***“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?”*** (Heb.9:14).

Jesus shed all His Blood and offered Himself up as the perfect sacrifice to God through the eternal Spirit of God. The same Holy Spirit is strengthening you now to bear your cross and to suffer for the Kingdom. In this world, we will have tribulations and we must go through many of them to enter the Kingdom of God (Jn.16:33; Ac.14:22). When the angry mob stoned the first martyr Stephen, the Spirit of God covered Him like a cloud and strengthened him. The same Holy Spirit, the Divine Strengtheners, will stand by your side at the time of your crisis and persecutions. You can sing your way to heaven to enjoy your eternal

bliss. Cheer up!

### **Resurrection by the Holy Spirit**

The Holy Spirit who helped our Lord Jesus from His birth to His death is the same who raised Him from His death and grave and exalted Him to the highest throne with His Father. ***“But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you”*** (Ro.8:11). On the day of resurrection, the Holy Spirit entered mightily into the dead Body of the Lord Jesus and victoriously raised Him with His resurrection life. The Holy Spirit in you is the Spirit of resurrection even today. As He raised Jesus from death and decay, He is raising every cell of your body and breathing His resurrection life into it. This is a great promise and blessing for those who suffer pain and sickness in this mortal body. Many times I have received healing just by quoting and proclaiming this Scripture.

When Jesus commanded, “Lazarus, come forth”, the Holy Spirit rushed into that stinking dead body, instilling new life and throwing him out of that grave like a ball. It is clearly implied that he was thrown out with all his grave clothes, hands and feet totally bound, face wrapped. Jesus had to tell them, ***“Loose him, and let him”*** (Jn.11:44). See the power of the Holy Spirit! Truly, the Holy Spirit is the almighty God who has total power over satan, sickness and death. He is not only the gentle Dove but also the mighty wind and the fierce fire of heaven. We are yet to see the aggressive power of this great Person of the Godhead.

If the Holy Spirit could deliver dead Lazarus and throw him out of the grave, how much more can He do it for you. When the Holy Spirit is living in you, you are not bound to death, sickness or even your carnal nature. ***“Therefore, brethren, we are debtors - not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh”*** (Ro.8:12). It is true that in our flesh absolutely no good thing dwells. All our own righteousness is filthy rags before God (Isa.64:5). This very mortal body of ours can overcome our sinful nature because of the indwelling Presence of Christ, the Anointed One, by the power of the Holy Spirit.

One of the most important prayers in the Bible is

found in Ephesians 1:17-23: *“...that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know... what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”*

The best and most effective way for us to pray is simply taking the prayers of New Testament saints and make them our own. Here Paul was not praying for extra power or might to be given to us. Instead, he asked God to illuminate our eyes to see that the greatest power of resurrection, the very power, strength and energy of God that raised Christ from the dead and made Him sit on the throne far above all demonic kingdoms is working in our lives all the time.

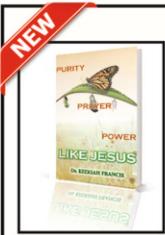
This single truth, if prayed repeatedly, will do wonders in our lives. Many mighty servants of God prayed this prayer hundreds of times and received great and mighty revelation knowledge from God. It is a tragedy that many of God’s prayer warriors don’t

take time to pray this kind of New Covenant prayers.

### **Glorified by the Holy Spirit**

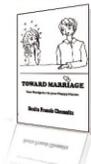
The Spirit of God who raised Jesus from the dead raised you and gave you His life when you were dead in trespasses and sins, totally subdued under the powers of darkness. The mighty works He did in Christ He continues to do in your life even today. He made you co-ruler with Christ and seated you at the right hand of the Father God. All the powers of darkness are far below your feet. You have all the victory and authority over all demonic powers now. You never need to be defeated in life. This knowledge will save you from destruction. Please take these prayers of Paul and proclaim them from today onwards!

Practicing the Presence of God will lead you to sure victory over every temptation and all the enemy’s arrows. Constantly see the mighty Holy Spirit in and around you and totally dispel doubt and unbelief. A Sunday school teacher once asked a boy what he would do when satan knocked at his door. The simple child instantly said, “If satan knocks at my door, I will ask my Jesus to go and open the door”. That child understood that Christ lives in him by the power of the Holy Spirit. Just imagine how such consciousness will transform us into Christ image! Be more conscious of Christ and the Holy Spirit in you than of the demons that stay outside of you (1.Jn.4:4).



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# God's Heart for Your Nation - To pray or not to pray...



**Rev. Benita Francis**

Does God love you? Oh yes... He loves you so much that He sent His one and only innocent Son to a cruel cross to die for YOUR sins! Hallelujah!

Does God want to use you to bless other people? Oh yes... He gave you all His power and authority to heal the sick, cast out demons, cleanse the lepers and even raise the dead (Mt.10:1,7-8; Lk.10:19). Hallelujah!

Does God love your nation? Oh yes... He loves it so much that He created nations and gave them clear boundaries, that means borders. See here:

26 And **He has made** from one blood **every nation** of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, **and has determined** their preappointed times and **the boundaries of their dwellings,**

27 **so that they should seek the Lord,** in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us (Ac.17:26-27)

See: These boundaries are not restrictions! They are meant to keep people living in peace so that they can concentrate on seeking God. Can you see God's beautiful heart here?

Our loving Heavenly Father desires nothing but our peace and happiness. That's why He admonishes us New Testament believers to keep praying **FIRST OF ALL** to pray for kings... kings??? What does that mean today? Kings are national leaders, our modern presidents, heads of state, prime ministers... and all who are in authority, who are they? They include anyone who leads others, from the king down to the husband and father, who is the authority for his household. Wow! Seems we have a lot of people to pray for!

1 Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,

2 for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence (1.Ti.2:1-2)

Throughout the Old Testament, God describes the borders of nations, the borders of lands allotted to specific people groups. The trouble starts when others trespass these borders and want to grab land, motivated by their greed and lust of money (1.Ti.6:9-10). This is how wars with all their horrors are created.

Is God silent toward those who grab land and rob innocent people? Now way! There is a strong curse on those who remove their neighbors' land marks to grab their land:

17 'Cursed is the one who moves his neighbor's landmark.' And all the people shall say, 'Amen!' (Dt.27:17)

Of course, as you know, the curse destroys everything and everybody in your possession:

33 The curse of the LORD is on the house of the wicked, but He blesses the home of the just (Pr.3:33)

4 "I will send out **the curse,**" says the LORD of hosts; "**It shall enter the house of the thief and the house of the one who swears falsely by My name. It shall remain in the midst of his house and consume it, with its timber and stones**" (Zec.5:4)

Wooow!!! Even the timber, even the STONES of the house of a thief and a liar shall be consumed, means completely destroyed! WOOOOW!!! Better make sure no curse can touch your life! You can learn more about curses in my book “How to break cruel curses”, available at [www.ezekiahfrancis.org](http://www.ezekiahfrancis.org).

There is even more: God says, because His people of Judah refused to listen to His prophets He kept sending to them,

6 “then I will make this house like Shiloh, and **will make this city a curse to all the nations of the earth**” (Jer.26:6)

Shiloh, a place of rest, a city of Ephraim, “on the north side of Bethel,” is now modern Seilun, the Arabic name for Shiloh, meaning a “mass of shapeless ruins.” Can you see it? If we as God’s people refuse to listen to His Word, even our cities can become a curse to all the nations of the earth!!! Shocking, isn't it?

Praise God, they can also become a blessing if we use our mouth correctly and understand the power in our tongue as New Creations in Christ (Pr.18:21; Mt.12:31-34; 2.Co.5:17):

9 **The hypocrite with his mouth destroys his neighbor**, but through knowledge the righteous will be delivered.

10 When it goes well with the righteous, **the city rejoices**; and when the wicked perish, there is jubilation.

11 **By the blessing of the upright the city is exalted**, but it is overthrown by the mouth of the wicked (Pr.11:9-11)

So we have seen that God wants to use you to bless individuals and even nations (Ge.12:2-3). Does He also want to use entire nations to bless other nations? Oh yes, definitely! See here the promise of God to an entire nation, to His people Israel:

1 Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey

the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.

12 The LORD will open to you His good treasure, the heavens, to give the rain to your land in its season, and to bless all the work of your hand. You shall lend to many nations, but you shall not borrow (Dt.28:1,12)

This is the promise of one nation blessing the entire world! Did you know that God’s Old Testament covenant people Israel have that desire very deeply ingrained in their DNA? Did you know they are constantly working on fulfilling this command, this promise? Did you know that many important inventions that bless the world come from Israel - like computer chips, USB sticks, smart phone technology, water desalination plants, drip irrigation systems and many more? Oh yes, a nation can and SHOULD bless other nations!

What happens, however, when nations lose their identity, when their ancient landmarks, their borders, are removed, when people are uprooted from their culture, from their families, from their way of life? Invariably, great human suffering and agony is the result of such situations.

Have you ever asked yourself WHO and WHY removes these God-given boundaries around national entities? Let God’s Word speak for itself:

12 Therefore it shall come to pass, when the Lord has performed all His work on Mount Zion and on Jerusalem, that He will say, “I will punish the fruit of **the arrogant heart of the king of Assyria, and the glory of his haughty looks.**

13 For he says: By the strength of my hand I have done it, and by my wisdom, for I am prudent; Also **I have removed the boundaries of the people, and have robbed their treasuries; So I have put down the inhabitants like a valiant man.**

14 **My hand has found like a nest the riches of the people, and as one gathers eggs that are left, I have gathered all the earth; and there was no one who moved his wing, nor opened his mouth with**

even a peep” (Isa.10:12-14)

Can you see it? God may allow satan and his people to chastise God’s disobedient people for a while, but He will surely punish the instrument He used for His discipline and correction.

But let’s look a little more closely at the arrogant, haughty king of Assyria. How he boasts and brags about his easy victories, his success in destroying all the inhabitants, his looting of people’s riches and treasures! How he glories in his success, how he marvels and mocks at the total absence of resistance! What was his first step to all this success? REMOVING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE PEOPLE!!!

Isn’t it a tragedy? Isn’t it a shame that nobody rose up to stop him? Isn’t it shocking that everybody simply allowed this destruction, this looting of their nation??? And isn’t this still happening today???

Will YOU rise up to stop it? Can God count on YOU to protect His creation? Did you know that He will destroy those who destroy the earth (Rev.11:18)?

YOU can stop that destruction! YOU are the salt of the earth, the light of the world (Mt.5:13-14)! YOU can pray! YOU can live a righteous life! Jesus told me very clearly this year, THE NATIONS ARE YOURS FOR THE ASKING!

YOU are an heir of God and a co-heir with Christ Jesus (Ga.3:29; 4:7; Ro.8:17; Eph.3:6)! YOU can inherit the nations and have them as your possession:

8 Ask of Me, and I will give You The nations for Your inheritance, and the ends of the earth for Your possession (Ps.2:8)

Don’t allow satan and his people to steal, kill and destroy! Rise up in intercession and action! Claim God’s Word for your nation! My favorite prayer for nations is God’s promise in Jeremiah 3:15:

15 And I will give you shepherds according to My

heart, who will feed you with knowledge and understanding.

Can I tell you why many nations are in such disarray, plundered and destroyed by corruption and greed? It is because there was no righteous one, nobody willing to rise up and take responsibility, willing to take the nation on his heart! This selfishness of His people was God’s great dismay even in Old Testament times:

16 He saw that there was no man, and wondered that there was no intercessor. Therefore His own arm brought salvation for Him; and His own righteousness, it sustained Him (Isa.59:16)

What does that mean for you today? Remember, YOU are the Body of Christ, YOU are His Arm, YOU are His righteousness (Ro.12:4-5; 2.Co.5:21)!

In Old Testament times, God raised up people to do His will. Just study the Book of Judges and see how many times God raised deliverers at His people’s bidding. God’s Spirit came upon people to deliver nations. Stuttering Moses confronted and defeated the most powerful nation and leader on earth. Young Joshua led God’s people to victory after victory and into their promised land. Sinful Samson won repeated victories for God’s people. Fearful Gideon delivered the entire nation.

All these OT-heroes had God’s Holy Spirit coming and going for the purpose of God’s ministry. They were servants in the House of God like Moses of old.

You, however, are God’s beloved child (1.Jn.3:1-2). God’s glorious Holy Spirit doesn’t come and go. He abides in you forever, strengthening you and leading you into all truth (Jn.14:16-17; 16:13-14). If they could deliver nations, WHAT MORE CAN YOU DO!?!?!?

Arise and shine for Jesus and for the nations TODAY! Your light HAS come, and the glory of the Lord IS risen upon you! Gentiles and kings will come to you! Hesitate no longer. Your time is to bless and possess nations is NOW!