

## **The Holy Spirit's filling ministry**

### *Thought—Counter-thought*

- I. The there is no “definition verse” for Spirit filling; however, several inferences can be made based on our study thus far:
  1. Spirit filling is not control—control filling is a different word (Eph. 5:18 *cf.* Acts 2:4; 13:9 which is the last use).
  2. The term filling has the meaning of “making up what is lacking” before the filling and a complete thing after the filling.
  3. Spirit filling is a divine enabling in opposition to attacks from our spiritual enemies, particularly the flesh (Eph. 5:1-18).
  4. Since attacks by the enemies are thoughts, Spirit filling is in the area of rational thoughts (Rom. 8:10, Jn. 3:6).
  5. The passive in Ephesians 5:18 means that the Christian cannot fill himself; it does not mean he is passive.
  6. The Christian must have a correct Family relationship in order to be Spirit filled.
- II. The Spirit's filling resulting in three facets of the fruit from the Spirit: **faith**, **joy**, and **peace** (Rom. 15:13).
- III. The Holy Spirit fills with the fullness from God (Eph. 3:13-19).
  1. The context emphasizes the role of the Father in the family of God (vv. 14-16).
    - 1) Fatherhood in heavens;
    - 2) Fatherhood on earth.
  2. The Father enables the Christian:
    - 1) With inherent power (already existing), *i.e.* eternal life;
    - 2) That the Christian can manifest power in actions.
  3. The Father provides the power through the Spirit (v. 16).
    - 1) The enabling is in the “inner man” (the person's participation in the divine nature),
    - 2) Christ will then make His home in the Christian's heart through **faith** (v. 17);
    - 3) By **love** having been caused to take root (by the Holy Spirit):
    - 4) and having been caused to lay a foundation by love.
  4. A multidimensional family relationship (v. 18).
  5. To experientially know (though practice) the **love** of Christ;
  6. That you may be filled with all the fullness from God (v. 19).