

# Eleutheros Newsletter

November 2015

## As We Approach Thanksgiving

*For the Lord is good; His mercy is everlasting; and His truth endureth to all generations ([Psalm 100:5](#)).*

The world we occupy today is full of negative news. Virtually every day we hear or read about moral failing, horrific natural disasters, political upheaval, and people with dire physical problems.

Sometimes we become so distraught by all these things that we lose sight of Who God is and how wonderful He really is. In other words, it is very easy for us to look at circumstances rather than the God Who has the solutions.

Notice some of the wording in Psalm 100. David, writing under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, exhorts *all ye lands ([verse 1](#)) to make a joyful noise unto the Lord*. He says essentially the same thing in [Psalm 145:3](#), *Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; and His greatness is unsearchable*.

David goes on to declare that we should *Serve the Lord with gladness: come before His presence with singing ([Psalm 110:2](#))*.

He gives a number of reasons for taking this kind of attitude: 1. *He is God!* We do not worship a stone or some dead religious leader! 2. *It is He that hath made us!* He is all-powerful; He knows every one of us; and He knows all our needs. 3. *We are His people, and the sheep of His pasture!* He loves us intimately! 4. *He is good!* God is not a "cosmic kill-joy" Who wants His people to be miserable: He tells us in His word "*And these things write we unto you, that your joy may be full ([1 John 1:4](#))*". 5. *And His truth endureth to all generations!* God cannot make a promise and then fail to keep it!

When we consider these great truths we do well to say with David, *Enter into His*

*gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise: be thankful unto Him, and bless His name ([Psalm 100:4](#))!*

## **The Filling of the Holy Spirit**

### Part 2

*And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess, but be filled with the Spirit ([Ephesians 5:18](#)).*

In last month's newsletter we saw a number of things about the filling of the Holy Spirit: 1. Although there are many things that *automatically* happen when a believer is saved, the filling of the Holy Spirit is a command made to believers *after being saved*. 2. The believer has a song in his heart when he is filled with the Holy Spirit ([Ephesians 5:19-20](#)). 3. The believer has a submissive attitude when he is filled with the Holy Spirit ([Ephesians 5:21](#)). 4. Marriages work as they should when a couple is filled with the Holy Spirit ([Ephesians 5:22-33](#)). 5. Children get along well with their parents when they are filled with the Holy Spirit ([Ephesians 6:1-3](#)). 6. Parents also get along well with their children when they are filled with the Holy Spirit ([Ephesians 6:4](#)).

There are other blessings that come from the filling of the Holy Spirit:

**1. Servants have a good relationship with their masters when they are filled with the Holy Spirit.** The closest equivalent we have today is the employer/employee relationship many have in their places of work. Notice how the Apostle Paul approaches this matter:

*Servants, be obedient to them that are your masters according to the flesh, with fear and trembling, in singleness of your heart, as unto Christ; Not with eyeservice, as menpleasers; but as the servant of Christ, doing the will of God from the heart ([Ephesians 6:5-6](#)).*

**2. Masters have a good relationship with servants when they are filled with the Holy Spirit.** In today's terms, this means that employers have a responsibility to be honest and reasonable in their dealings with employees: *And ye masters, do the same unto them, forbearing threatening: knowing that your Master also is in*

heaven; neither is there respect of persons with Him ([Ephesians 6:9](#)).

Thus we see that a Spirit-filled believer enjoys good relationships in all aspects of his life. God's plan is that Christians enjoy their walk with Him!

*I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly ([John 10:10b](#)).*

**3. Unity results when a group of believers is filled with the Holy Spirit.** *And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the Word of God with boldness. And the multitude of them which believed were of one heart and one soul... ([Acts 4:31-32](#)).*

**4. The filling of the Holy Spirit produces discernment and prophecies of truth.** Read [Acts 13:8-12](#). In this passage we can see that Paul was given discernment; i.e., the ability to see and react well to the wicked ways of Elymas very quickly.

Also, Paul, through the power of the Holy Spirit, was able to predict the blindness of the sorcerer.

**5. The filling of the Holy Spirit produces evangelism and boldness to preach and serve the Lord.** *Howbeit many of them which heard the Word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand ([Acts 4:4](#)).*

*Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marveled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus, And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it ([Acts 4:13-14](#)).*

A few things should be said in conclusion. The *command* to be filled with the Holy Spirit is in the present tense in the Greek. The main idea is that it should be a *continual* state. Believers should be always yielding to His control, not just occasionally or in some insincere way.

The world certainly does not understand a truth like this! Their general attitude is that each has "rights," and nobody (not even the Holy Spirit) should tell anyone what to do, what to be, or what to believe. This attitude, of course, is basically rebellion and produces discord, heartache, and a lack of spiritual discernment (among other poor results).

The Spirit-filled Christian knows better and lives his life for the glory of his Savior in the power and joy of the Holy Spirit!

**Have Thine Own Way, Lord!**

Adelaide A. Pollard

*Have Thine own way, Lord!  
Have Thine own way!  
Thou art the potter,  
I am the clay.  
Mold me and make me  
After Thy will,  
While I am waiting,  
Yielded and still.*

*Have Thine own way, Lord!  
Have Thine own way!  
Search me and try me,  
Master today!  
Whiter than snow, Lord,  
Wash me just now,  
As in Thy Presence,  
Humbly I bow.*

*Have Thine own way, Lord!  
Have Thine own way!  
Hold o'er my being  
Absolute sway!  
Fill with Thy Spirit*

*Till all shall see  
Christ only, always,  
Living in me!*