

- (3) I am an adopted son of God, and enjoy a filial relationship to God
- (4) I do not belong to myself, but to God
- (5) My body is a temple of God
- (6) I am part of the spiritual house that God is building
- (7) I am marked with a seal, God's pledge of the completion of salvation in my life. This pledge or seal is the Holy Spirit Himself.
- (8) In the Holy Spirit I have the needed resident power for the strengthening of the inner man
- (9) My unutterable groanings are expressed by the Spirit in prayer
- (10) I am enabled to understand scripture
- (11) God's love is poured out in my heart
- (12) My mortal body will one day be resurrected and transformed

Think of it! All of these wonderful effects (and more) are my portion because of the Holy Spirit's regenerating work in my life, and because of the personal, saving relationship that the Spirit sustains to me, and I to Him.

The Holy Spirit's ministry of indwelling is truly one for which we have great occasion to praise our God!

3. Filling

As far as ministries of the Spirit are concerned, it is fascinating to note that scripture has more to say about filling than about regeneration and indwelling. Yet here again, clear definitions are difficult to find.

At the outset, let us make an important distinction between filling and fullness. But before we establish the basis for this distinction, let us formulate a definition of filling. Two scriptures are particularly helpful in this regard, one in Ephesians and one in Acts.

In Ephesians 5:18 Paul contrasts getting drunk with wine with being filled with the Spirit. He writes: "And do not be getting drunk with wine, in which is debauchery, 'but rather be being filled with the Spirit (ἀλλὰ πληροῦσθε ἐν πνεύματι)!" (incidentally, debauchery is excessive indulgence of the appetites, leading to abandonment of virtue and duty).

In Acts 2:4-6, 12-18, Peter makes the same contrast. He writes:

And they were all filled (ἐπλήσθησαν) with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance. Now there were Jews living in Jerusalem, devout men, from every nation under heaven. And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together, and were bewildered, because they were each one hearing them speak in his own language And they continued in amazement and great perplexity, saying to one another, "What does this mean?" But others were mocking and saying, " They