

The Spirit of the Lord Is Upon Me

By J.P. Timmons

April 1, 2011

© 2011 CCI Publishing
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED

**“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he
Hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the
Poor, he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted,
To preach deliverance to the captives, and
Recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty
Them that are bruised.”**

■ **Luke 4:18**

While I was reading the Word on March 30, the Holy Spirit impressed this verse of scripture upon me even though I was not reading it at the time. The longer I live the more I am in awe of the Word of God and its power. But one verse of scripture can keep a person from receiving of the Lord and fulfilling His perfect plan and will for their life. One verse of scripture kept most of the Pharisees and religious leaders of Jesus’ day out of Heaven.

This is such a scripture for us the Holy Spirit said, *if* we want to fulfill our ministry call and God’s perfect will for our lives. Let’s remember the setting—Jesus had been baptized in the Jordan by His cousin the prophet John and the Spirit of the Lord descended upon Him “in bodily form like a dove.” Jesus could not begin His ministry before He had been baptized and anointed (*Christ Messiah*) for what the Father had called Him to do. Notice the Bible says in 4:1, “Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the desert” then in v.2 we learn something that has not been preached—“*where for forty days he was tempted by the devil.*” (italics added for emphasis) Jesus was led by the Spirit during this time of 40 days to fast; however, the devil didn’t just tempt Him a few times—I believe only the major ones are

recorded in Scripture. But the point is—Jesus the sinless Son of God required the Holy Spirit—He had to “be full of the Spirit” in order to withstand the temptations of the flesh by the devil. How much more true is this of you and I today!

The Lord spoke to me in 1980 while I was reading the Word after midnight one night and He said, “Those temptations were real.” I replied, “Yes, Lord, I know they were real.” Many people, especially liberal theologians, don’t believe they were real or if they were that Jesus, because He was the Son of God and Divine, could not have yielded to them; however, this line of “non” reasoning is easily refuted because they would not be genuine temptations if He could not have yielded to them.

But the point the Holy Spirit wants you to realize from this teaching is this—the only way for you—you personally—to withstand Satan’s temptations and fulfill God’s perfect will for your life is to also be “full of the Spirit.” He impressed me that one of the main reasons most Spirit-filled Christians never heal the sick, cast out devils, and do mighty miracles like Jesus did is because they don’t understand this fact—and it is a FACT! If you’ve been baptized by the Spirit like Jesus was then you should be doing the works that Jesus did. Jesus “returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit” and then He goes to Nazareth—His home town—and He went “into the synagogue” and He read from Isaiah 61 the text that we are using for this teaching. But now I want you to understand one important fact that the Lord said to me in Montana when I preached a message about the Resurrection one Easter. I hadn’t intended to preach on the Resurrection at all but rather had planned to finish *The Spirit of Elijah* messages that the Lord had given me a few weeks before. But while praying during the night the Lord spoke to me the message titled, *Revelation on the Resurrection*, Easter of 2005, and I’d encourage you to hear this revelation message because it will help you.

The Lord revealed to me that He had to *find* these scriptures in the Word that pertained to Him—He had to find these scriptures in Isaiah 61 concerning Him and that is why He read these that day at

the synagogue. But the point is—like you and me—He had to *find* His ministry in the Scriptures from the prophecies about Him.

Now the reason this is important is because Jesus is the Head of the Church and if you're a Christian then you're a part of the Body of Christ—you're supposed to follow the Head and *be* a demonstration of the Gospel of the Kingdom just like Jesus was. This week the Holy Spirit revealed to me that most Christians never heal the sick, cast out devils, perform works of power, and raise the dead *because* they never understand that, just like Jesus, you too are "anointed by the Holy Spirit." That means you need to understand that the Holy Spirit has anointed you and He's waiting for you to do something—to allow Him to be poured out through you to people who need healing, deliverance, etc.

Now I want you to change this in your own life. I want you to confess over and over again for 7 days this verse of Scripture, Luke 4:18, over yourself by saying over and over again—commit it to memory:

“The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he
Hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the
Poor, he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted,
To preach deliverance to the captives, and
Recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty
Them that are bruised.”

■ Luke 4:18

Lately I've been reading Paul's theology of the New Testament. Most Christians don't realize that Paul's letters were the first written books of the New Testament. First Thessalonians is the first but all of Paul's letters and writings were circulated and read in the early Church years before the Gospels were ever written. Therefore, we can understand why the Lord Jesus gave Paul all the *revelation* He did concerning the things of the Spirit. Paul, perhaps more than any other New Testament writer, understood the importance of the Holy Spirit and being "full of the Spirit." If you read and meditate in his inspired writings you will understand an important fact—the more you can stay "full of the Spirit" in your fleshly body like Jesus

did when He walked the earth, the easier it will be for you to fulfill God's plan for your life.

It's only as we are able to be "full of the Spirit" and stay "in the Spirit" that we are able to withstand the temptations of the devil and to be in God's perfect will. The two things that will help you the most in accomplishing this are: (1) meditating in the Word each day to renew your mind to think the way the Spirit does, and (2) spend much time praying in the Holy Spirit. In 1980, the Spirit of the Lord said to me, "Spend much time praying in (by) the Spirit and as you pray in the Spirit you will walk in the Spirit and spiritual things will become more real to you."

This week the Holy Spirit wants you to come to the realization that God lives inside of you and that "He has anointed you" just like He did Jesus when He occupied a body of flesh 2000 years ago. Spend some time during the next 7 days confessing Luke 4:18 over yourself and then, like Jesus, begin to act like it. Praise God! You will see a difference in your life and the Holy Spirit will be pleased with you that you have taken Him and His anointing seriously. Write us and tell us you've made this commitment and then let us know what He does as a result of your commitment.