

22 THINGS THE HOLY SPIRIT IS DOING

And so much more too.

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All scriptures are NKJV unless noted otherwise.

Warm greetings and shalom to all of you hearing or reading this message.

I hope you're enjoying our **new website design**, making it easier to find sermons with the search button. And be sure to watch the 3 minute video on the left side of the website so you can maximize your opportunities on this site. Also check out the BLOGS – and be sure to click on “Continue Reading” at the bottom right corner of the blog as you come down.

Today's sermon was given as a group discussion on the Feast of Pentecost here in our home, called *Shavuot* in Hebrew, meaning “Weeks”. We know this Feast day pictures many things, probably best known in the New Covenant as the **giving of the Holy Spirit** in the new covenant (Acts 2), among many, many other things. Please check out my sermons in 2014 and 2012 about the meanings of Pentecost. In the actual live service we held in our home, we also spent time rehearsing what else happened on this day – the giving of the Torah/the Law of God, the marriage of Israel to YHVH, the probable marriage of Ruth and Boaz; the giving of the Holy spirit; the firstfruits aspect of this holyday; and the likely future marriage of the Lamb. More and more of us believe the Wedding Supper will happen on the Feast of Pentecost. (See/hear my sermon “I go Prepare a Place for you.”)

This feast day, which pictures the firstfruits of the early wheat harvest in Israel is full of meaning. You may also want to hear my sermon in 2013 on how Pentecost was/is a rehearsal of so many things

But all that and much more is covered in other Pentecost sermons various ones of us have given on this website. Just do a search for the word “Pentecost” and they'll all pop up.

But today let's focus on the Holy Spirit. We know we need it, we know it is sent to us from God in heaven, and we know the giving of the Holy Spirit in Acts 2 is central to this day.

So today let's review together at least 22 of the BENEFITS we receive from the Holy Spirit; what the Holy Spirit is DOING. We could cover 50-60 or more – all scripturally. But for time's sake, we'll cull it down to 22. I'm hoping this study will open up the topic to you for further study on your own.

When I say “Holy Spirit”—what ONE word would pop into your mind? What do you most associate – with just 1 or a few words – with the Holy Spirit? When I asked most people, their answer was “God's POWER”. That's certainly true, but I hope after this message you will think of SO many more things than just the power of God.

Acts 1:5-8

"for John truly baptized with water, but **you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit** not many days from now." 6 Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 But **you shall receive POWER when the Holy Spirit** has come upon you; and you shall be **witnesses to Me in Jerusalem**, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

The Holy Spirit is certainly God's power. But "the power of God" also refers to:

- the gospel (Romans 1:17),
- to the cross (it the power of God to those who are perishing)- 1 Cor 1:18;
- Christ himself is called "the power of God" in 1 Cor. 1:24.
- The Spirit is also referred to as the power of the Highest –overshadowing Mary and conceiving in her the son of God (Luke 1:35).

And so the early believing men and women were told they would receive this marvelous gift, and so when the Day of Pentecost had fully come, as Acts 2:1 says, the 120 men and women assembled there were all *filled* with the spirit and spoke in other languages, miraculously. Oh how I'd like you and me to be filled with the Holy Spirit! **All 120 in the assembly on Acts 2 were filled. Even the women. It says ALL of them did.** And Peter even remarked in his sermon how the women speaking by the Spirit was a fulfillment of prophecy in Joel – when your "daughters and young maidens shall prophesy" (Acts 2:17-18). He would not have used that passage in Joel if there were no women in the audience or that the women were all not filled with the spirit and remained silent!

Verse one – "they" –goes back to Acts 1:15 – mentioning the 120 present. And if you go back to Acts 1:12-14, we clearly see women mentioned as part of the group.

Acts 2:1-4

"When the Day of Pentecost had FULLY come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the **whole house** where they were sitting. 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them. 4 **And they were ALL filled with the Holy Spirit** and began to **speak with other tongues**, as the Spirit gave them utterance."

Quick question and answer: Is the Holy Spirit "the spirit of GOD", or "the spirit of Christ"? And since both phrases are mentioned in scripture, which is it?

In one verse, Romans 8:9, the Holy Spirit is called BOTH the "Spirit of God" as well as the "Spirit of Christ".

Romans 8:9

But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed **the Spirit of God** dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have **the Spirit of Christ**, he is not His.

There is only ONE Holy Spirit, though all the billions of angels are individual spirits, the HOLY SPIRIT is ONE – **Ephesians 4:4**. It is most often referred to as God's spirit, but as I have shown here and in **1 Peter 1:11**, the Holy spirit is called "the spirit of Christ."

HOW DO WE RECEIVE THE HOLY SPIRIT?

Acts 2:38-39

Then Peter said to them, "**Repent, and let every one of you be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins; and you shall receive the GIFT of the Holy Spirit.** 39 For the promise is to you and to your children, and to all who are afar off, as many as the Lord our God will call."

The Holy Spirit is a GIFT from God. He wants us to ask for it, to ask for MORE of it. (Hear my sermon recently on "How well do we receive?")

We can grieve and lose the Holy Spirit if we go a way of life

It is one of God's great gifts (see also Acts 10:41 in reference to household of Cornelius.)

God's spirit is received through the laying on of hands by an elder ordained by God.

Acts 8:14-17

Now when the apostles who were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them, 15 who, when they had come down, prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit. 16 For as yet He had fallen upon none of them. **They had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.** 17 **Then they laid hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.**

The doctrine of the laying on of hands is one of the "basic foundational doctrines" listed in **Hebrews 6:1-2**. An ordained true minister of God would lay his hands on a person after water immersion for the receiving of the Holy spirit by faith. Hands were also laid on a person at other times: for anointing when prayer for the sick was being made; for ordinations; for blessing of the little children and for crowning royalty.

So – to receive the Holy Spirit, one must first:

- repent deeply of sin, turn from their way and start walking the Way of God in obedience;
- be immersed (baptized) in flowing water ideally,
- then have hands laid on them by a true minister of God – and then they receive God's Spirit in and by faith.

Those of the household of Cornelius in Acts 10 were an exception to that sequence, as our great God was showing that He was now also calling and accepting Gentiles as his own children. That was good news!

Paul told Timothy, a young minister:

2 Timothy 1:6-7

"Therefore I remind you to stir up **the gift of God** which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, **but of power and of love and of a sound mind.**"

RECEIVING THE GIFT OF THE HOLY SPIRIT MUST BE TAKEN SERIOUSLY

Take this all very seriously. Once given the Spirit, if we slap God's face and reject Him, walk away from the Way we have been shown, if we go back to a way of life of sin, and don't overcome, don't walk with Yeshua in obedience – there is nothing left for us but judgment.

It's very precious gift

Hebrews 6:4-6

“For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and **have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit**, 5 and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come, 6 if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.”

So with that, let's get into the 22 Things the Holy Spirit is doing in our lives. My actual list is about 60 items long, but I've selected 22.

22 Things the HOLY SPIRIT is DOING.... (In no particular order or sequence.)

Brethren, the remainder of the sermon is going to move quickly – and we'll be covering points quickly. Each point could be an entire sermon on its own, but I want to give an overview in this message. I want us all to deeply praise God and appreciate his Spirit as never before.

1. God's spirit BAPTIZES US INTO THE BODY OF Christ – 1 Cor 12:13

1 Corinthians 12:12-14

For as the body is one and has many members, but all the members of that one body, being many, are one body, so also is Christ. **13 For by ONE Spirit we were all baptized into ONE body** – whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free – and have all been made to drink into one Spirit. 14 For in fact the body is not one member but many.

Whose body are we baptized into? We were baptized into Christ – for NEWNESS of life; a life of joyfully and obediently walking with our Master. It makes us a part of what is truly the spiritual organism called “the church of God”. I do NOT refer to any man-made organization by saying that. God's true children are scattered around the world and they may attend in small house groups, or attend with a nearby local church service. God is not confined to man-made “boxes” called churches. The true assembly is composed of everyone who has God's spirit, wherever they are. More on that later. But know that we are baptized by the SPIRIT INTO the body of Christ.

The “body” is Christ. See **Ephesians 1:22-23** and **Romans 12:4-5** for more on that.

Romans 6:3-4

“Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death? 4 Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, *even so we also should walk in newness of life.*”

The true “church” is comprised of those who have God’s spirit – wherever they are. Those who have the Spirit are not to be found in just 1-2 organizations – but they are scattered throughout the world.

2 The Holy Spirit is God’s DOWNPAYMENT that secures God’s promise and intent to complete the whole payment at the resurrection.

2 Corinthians 1:21-22

“Now He who establishes us with you in Christ and has anointed us is God, 22 who also has **sealed us and given us the Spirit in our hearts as a guarantee.**”

The word “guarantee” or “earnest” in KJV, is from the Greek “arrabon” – earnest money, downpayment. The Greek word in Athens today for “engagement ring” is similar – *arrabona*. An engagement ring is a promise to marry someone you love deeply. It’s a different word, but so closely tied to the meaning of “earnest” or “guarantee”, and it ties to the fact that the called-out ones, filled with His spirit, will be the ones marrying Christ after His coming.

It’s also similar to our process of buying a house. We put down a downpayment showing we intend to finish the purchase. The Holy Spirit is our Father’s guarantee of our spiritual future with Him, as beings born of spirit (John 3:5-8) in the resurrection. At that time we shall see him as he is, for we shall be like him (1 John 3:1-2).

Ephesians 1:13-14 (Also Eph 4:30)

In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, **the gospel of your salvation**; in whom also, having believed, you **were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise**, 14 who is the **guarantee of our inheritance** until the redemption of the purchased possession, to the praise of His glory.

3 THE HOLY SPIRIT GIVES US DIVINE POWER – Acts 1:8, God’s power.

We’ve mentioned this already. How is that power manifested? In healings, miracles, gifts, fruit of the Spirit, etc. Even at the conception of Yeshua, it was described as “the power of the Highest” coming upon Mary. Yeshua’s father was God the Father – not the Holy Spirit – but the Spirit was the means for the conception: the power of God.

Luke 1:35

And the angel answered and said to her [Mary], **“The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.**

Acts 1:5-8

for John truly baptized with water, but **you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit** not many days from now.” 6 Therefore, when they had come together, they

asked Him, saying, "Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" 7 And He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority. 8 But you **shall receive power when the Holy Spirit** has come upon you; and you shall be **witnesses to Me in Jerusalem**, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

2 Timothy 1:6-7

Therefore I remind you to stir up the gift of God which is in you through the laying on of my hands. 7 For God has not given us a spirit of fear, **but of power** and of love and of a sound mind.

4 GOD SPEAKS TO US BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

I find this very interesting. In the book of Acts, a very clear message was "heard" or given to certain ones – directly from and through the Spirit. Believe this can happen and does happen. You might want to hear my sermons on hearing God's voice. Of course God's spirit spoke to the prophets of old as well. (1 Peter 1:10-12). Now notice how specific the words from the Spirit are. *This is more than just being a strong urge or feeling.* In what we're about to read, they got a very, very clear message from God's spirit. *We can too – if we ask for it and believe, and then listen.*

Acts 13:1-4

Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, **the Holy Spirit said**, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them." 3 Then, having fasted and prayed, and laid hands on them, they sent them away.

4 So, **being sent out by the Holy Spirit**, they went down to Seleucia, and from there they sailed to Cyprus.

Acts 10:19-20 (the vision of the tarp full of unclean animals)

While Peter thought about the vision, **the Spirit said to him**, "Behold, three men are seeking you. 20 Arise therefore, go down and go with them, doubting nothing; for I have sent them."

[Notice how specific the message was. It wasn't just "feelings".]

Acts 16:6

Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were **forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach** the word in Asia.

5 The spirit glories in, and always points us to --Yeshua (John 15:26; 16:14). Reveals Christ to us.

John 15:26-27 (also John 16:14)

"But when the Helper comes, whom I shall send to you from the Father, the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, **He will testify of Me.**"

A true minister will always be pointing to Christ. Always giving HIM the glory. Always minimizing the self and magnifying what HE is doing. I've heard many sermons where the focus is on the work we have to do, rather than on focusing on Christ in us working by His spirit, to HIS glory. We focus on Yeshua being our Savior. It's HIS work. He's the creator of the new creation. He is producing the fruit (Phil 1:11) in HIS body by HIS spirit. So if He's the one doing everything that counts in us, through us following and obeying His lead, then HE gets the credit and glory.

A great example of this is when Peter and John were used of God in Acts 3 to heal the lame man. When people began to look at them in amazement, Peter had this to say:

Acts 3:11-14

11 Now as the lame man who was healed held on to Peter and John, all the people ran together to them in the porch which is called Solomon's, greatly amazed. 12 So when Peter saw it, he responded to the people: "**Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?** 13 The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His Servant **Jesus**, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let Him go.

6 God's Holy Spirit WILL GUIDE US INTO ALL TRUTH; TELL US THINGS TO COME ahead of time

John 16:12-15

"I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. 13 However, when He, **the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth;** for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; **and He will tell you things to come.** 14 He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you.

When you're being guided somewhere, you don't get there all at once. There are doctrinal differences between believers. We have to learn to differentiate between what are salvational issues and what are not. We should not divide over doctrinal disputes that are not salvational. For example Paul spoke of those who decided not to eat meat vs. those who were trying to get them to eat meat. He said over and over – it's not a big deal, cut it out! See Romans 14.

Example of Agabus and others who prophesied by the spirit what would happen to Paul. See Acts 11:27-28 and Acts 21:10-11. He had the gift of foretelling.

7 The HOLY SPIRIT GIVES US GOD'S AGAPE LOVE in our hearts.

We think of the spirit giving us POWER, but the FIRST time it is used in the book of Romans, the Spirit is spoken of in context of GOD'S LOVE.

Romans 5:5

Now hope does not disappoint, because **the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit** who was given to us.

This is HUGE. We can't love the way God does without His Spirit. But we CAN, with God's spirit in us.

8 The HOLY SPIRIT SANCTIFIES US – 2 Thess 2:13; 1 Peter 1:2; Rom 15:16

2 Thessalonians 2:13

"But we are bound to give thanks to God always for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God from the beginning **chose you for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit** and belief in the truth,"

What does "sanctify" mean? The Greek word used here is also translated as "set apart for holy use" or "holiness". We have no intrinsic holiness in us, as Peter said in Acts 3.

But when our heavenly Father's Holy Xpirit comes into us, we become holy vessels set apart for divine use. We all too often still are too careless with our lives. Our lives should be living embodiments of the Christ's way of life, of obedience to God, of a life changing and resisting sin.

9 THE HOLY SPIRIT SPEAKS THROUGH GOD'S CHILDREN. It can happen to us and to you – if we believe.

2 Peter 1:21 – "Holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Spirit."

There are numerous verses that speak how David, Isaiah and many others spoke as they were moved by the spirit. Joel prophesies we will see it happening more and more in these last days. It can be you – if you believe and if God gives you that gift.

10 His Spirit LIVES IN US, MAKING US THE TEMPLE OF GOD'S PRESENCE

1 Corinthians 3:16-18

Do you not know that you are the temple of God and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 17 If anyone defiles the temple of God, God will destroy him. For the temple of God is holy, which temple you are.

2 Corinthians 6:16

16 And what agreement has the temple of God with idols? For **you are the temple of the living God.** As God has said

"I will dwell in them
And walk among them.
I will be their God,
And they shall be My people."

Ephesians 2:19-22

19 Now, therefore, you are no longer strangers and foreigners, but fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, 20 having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone, 21 in whom the whole building, being fitted together, **grows into a**

holy temple in the Lord, 22 in whom you also are being built together for a dwelling place of God in the Spirit.

The word for “temple” in 1 Cor 3 is from the Greek word “naos”, though usually representing the entire temple, in some cases refers only to the most holy inner sanctum.

11 the Holy Spirit GIVES US THE SEED, the BEGINNING of the DIVINE NATURE.

Remember Yeshua said in John 3:5=8 that we must be born again, not of flesh but of the spirit.

2 Peter 1:2-4

“Grace and peace be multiplied to you in the knowledge of God and of Jesus our Lord, 3 **as His divine power has given to us all things that pertain to life and godliness**, through the knowledge of Him who called us by glory and virtue, 4 *by which have been given to us exceedingly great and precious promises, that **through these you may be partakers of the divine nature***, having escaped the corruption that is in the world through lust.”

What nature do we have now? Human nature, which is enmity against God. Rom 8:6-7

Another way of putting it is that the HOLY SPIRIT IDENTIFIES us as children of God. It helps us identify one another. And God's spirit puts us “into the spirit”, not in the flesh any longer. I'm not “in the flesh” and sure don't want to be. I want to be IN HIM, in Christ, and I am and you are – if we have God's spirit. It baptizes us as a body part” of Christ, INTO his body.

Romans 8:9

But **you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit**, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. **Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.**

12 THE SPIRIT HELPS US TO PUT DOWN THE PULLS AND LUSTS OF THE FLESH.

Romans 8:12-13

Therefore, brethren, we are debtors — not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh. 13 For if you live according to the flesh you will die; **but if *by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body*, you will live.**

The more we learn to follow closely to our leader Yeshua, the more we study, the more we pray, the more we meditate on God's way – the more often we will feel and hear the Spirit urging us to act, to move, to resist. As we respond and obey those urges and proddings, the more active the Holy Spirit will be in us.

13 GOD'S SPIRIT LEADS US. We have to follow. It's not enough to just have the spirit, but we must obey it, be led by it, follow it's urgings and leadings.

Romans 8:14

For as many as are LED by the Spirit of God, these are sons of God.

Matthew 4:1 – Christ was LED by the spirit into the wilderness to be tested.

HOW do we hear God's spirit leading us? Sometimes through the words of others (spouse, sermons, prophets). Sometimes by verses we "happen to read" that day.

Acts 20:22-24

And see, now I go bound in the spirit to Jerusalem, not knowing the things that will happen to me there, 23 **except that the Holy Spirit testifies in every city, saying that chains and tribulations await me.**

14 GOD'S SPIRIT REVEALS WE ARE ADOPTED INTO THE FAMILY OF GOD AS HIS VERY OWN CHILDREN.

Romans 8:15-17

For you did not receive the spirit of bondage again to fear, but you received the Spirit of adoption by whom we cry out, "Abba, Father." 16 The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, 17 and if children, then heirs — heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together.

How the spirit bears witness with our spirit is a separate discussion... but why not study that.

Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of the time had come, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the law, 5 to redeem those who were under the law, **that we might receive the adoption as sons.**

6 And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into your hearts, crying out, "Abba, Father!" 7 Therefore you are no longer a slave but a son, and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

15 GOD'S SPIRIT IDENTIFIES US AS CHILDREN BY THE FRUIT OF THE SPIRIT.

We bear the fruit – if we have the Spirit and follow it. *We can't bear apples if no apple seed was first planted.* I discussed the man who wondered why he never saw any of the fruit of the Spirit. I asked him if he had repented. He had said no. So we started from the beginning – repent, be baptized, have hands laid on... and receive the gift of the spirit.

The FRUIT proves who we are – children of God with evident fruit. We know a seed was planted when we see a tree bearing fruits.

Galatians 5:22-25

But **the fruit of the Spirit is** love, joy, peace, longsuffering, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, 23 gentleness, self-control. Against such there is no law. 24 And those who are Christ's have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. 25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

Ephesians 5:8-10

For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Walk as children of light 9 (**for the fruit of the Spirit is in all goodness, righteousness, and truth**), 10 finding out what is acceptable to the Lord.

16 THERE ARE ALSO GIFTS the SPIRIT gives us – to be TOOLS to help us SERVE God and His people better. (“for the profit of all”)

1 Corinthians 12:4-11

There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. 5 There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. 6 And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. 7 **But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all:** 8 for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit, 9 to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healings by the same Spirit, 10 to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another discerning of spirits, to another different kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. 11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually as He wills.

1 Peter 4:9-11

Be hospitable to one another without grumbling. 10 **As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.** 11 If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

1 Corinthians 12:27-31

27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. 28 And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues. 29 Are all apostles? Are all prophets? Are all teachers? Are all workers of miracles? 30 Do all have gifts of healings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret? 31 But earnestly desire the best gifts. And yet I show you a more excellent way.

God's spirit continues, through Paul...

1 Corinthians 13:1-3

Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I have become sounding brass or a clanging cymbal. 2 And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, but have not love, it profits me nothing.

1 Corinthians 13:13

And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but **the greatest of these is love.**

THE GREATEST GIFT of the Spirit – is LOVE. It's also the first and greatest fruit of the spirit.

17 GOD'S SPIRIT gives us ACCESS TO GOD

Ephesians 2:18

"For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father."

WHAT A WONDROUS GIFT of God this is – that by His spirit we have a pass, the KEY, to come into the presence of our loving Abba, our Most Holy Father.

18 AFTER WE HAVE ACCESS, WE NEED TO KNOW WHAT TO SAY. The Spirit HELPS us PRAY and interact with our Holy, Holy, Holy ABBA.

Jude 20

But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit,

Romans 8:26-27

"Likewise the Spirit also helps in our weaknesses. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought, but the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groanings which cannot be uttered. 27 Now He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He makes intercession for the saints according to the will of God.

19 THE FATHER'S SPIRIT WILL TEACH US SPIRITUAL THINGS AND THEN HELP US REMEMBER THOSE SPIRITUAL THINGS.

Think of the Spirit as a KEY that unlocks the mysteries of God to us.

We may not always remember the scripture and verse, but we remember the POINT, the principles, of what the Bible says. Of course we have to "put it in to our minds" by daily Bible study first!

John 14:25-26

"These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. 26 But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you."

1 Corinthians 2:9-12

But as it is written:

**"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard,
Nor have entered into the heart of man
The things which God has prepared for those who love Him."**

10 But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God. 11 For what man knows the things of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so no one

knows the things of God except the Spirit of God. 12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, that we might know the things that have been freely given to us by God.

Ephesians 3:1-7

For this reason I, Paul, the prisoner of Christ Jesus for you Gentiles — 2 if indeed you have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which was given to me for you, 3 how that by revelation He made known to me the mystery (as I have briefly written already, 4 by which, **when you read, you may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ**), 5 **which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets**; 6 *that the Gentiles should be fellow heirs, of the same body*, and partakers of His promise in Christ through the gospel, 7 of which I became a minister according to the gift of the grace of God given to me by the effective working of His power.

Luke 12:11-12

"Now when they bring you to the synagogues and magistrates and authorities, do not worry about how or what you should answer, or what you should say. 12 **For the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say.**"

IN 1 John 2:20-22, 26-27 it says we have **an ANOINTING from the Spirit** — that should keep us aware of truth and lies spiritually.

So the Holy spirit gives SOME people the spirit of prophecy and preaching — and just as the 70 elders were given the spirit and at that time they all prophesied — even Medad and Eldad, 2 left in the camp. (**Numbers 11:24-30**)

20. WE ARE BEING TRANSFORMED INTO THE IMAGE OF Christ BY GOD'S SPIRIT

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

"Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. 18 But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror **the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord.**

21. OF COURSE THAT MEANS THE SPIRIT HAS TO BE WASHING US and RENEWING US

Titus 3:4-7

But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, 5 *not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit*, 6 *whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior*, 7 that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.

1 Corinthians 6:11

And such were some of you. But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and *by the Spirit* of our God.

Ephesians 5:26-29

that ***He might sanctify and cleanse her*** with the washing of water by the word, 27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish. 28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

THIS CLEANSING AND RENEWAL and creation of a new heart is all God's doing.

Psalms 51:10-11

**Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a steadfast spirit within me.
11 Do not cast me away from Your presence,
And do not take Your Holy Spirit from me.**

Ephesians 4:23-24

and be renewed in the spirit of your mind, 24 and that YOU put on the new man which was created according to God, in true righteousness and holiness.

22. THE SPIRIT SHOULD BRING UNITY AND ONENESS TO THE BODY

Ephesians 4:1-6

I, therefore, the prisoner of the Lord, beseech you to walk worthy of the calling with which you were called, 2 with all lowliness and gentleness, with longsuffering, bearing with one another in love, **3 endeavoring to keep the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.** 4 There is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling; 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism; 6 one God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all.

ONENESS. It's all there in God's word – from beginning to end. Though God – ELOHIM – is a plural word – HE is ONE. THEY are one. My wife and I are to be ONE. We are all to be ONE. We are all to be one IN HIM—by the Spirit.

THERE IS SO MUCH MORE THE HOLY SPIRIT DOES – AT LEAST A COUPLE DOZEN MORE POINTS COULD BE ADDED.... BUT I hope this has triggered a love for God and His Spirit in you as never before.

Want a bonus point... a teaser, of the SO MANY more points?

GOD'S SPIRIT ALSO COMFORTS US. Acts 9:31

Then the churches throughout all Judea, Galilee, and Samaria had peace and were edified. And walking in the fear of the Lord **and in the comfort of the Holy Spirit**, they were multiplied.

The early brethren, and Yeshua of course, were FILLED with the Spirit. (Matthew 4:1; Eph 5:18; Acts 2:4; 4:8; 9:17). John the Baptist was filled with the spirit from his womb. Luke 1:15.

We should ASK and PRAY for more of God's spirit. He will be happy to send us more, if we simply ask.

Luke 11:12-13

Or if he (your son) asks for an egg, will he (the father) offer him a scorpion? 13 If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, **how much more will your heavenly Father give the Holy Spirit to those who ask Him!"**

But right now, we can have JOY and PEACE in the spirit.

I pray God will fill you with His mind and spirit and bless you with every blessing from above.

In the next sermon I'll be speaking of the incredible love of God as our dear Abba. I hope you enjoy that one.