

“Therefore:” The Logical Lifestyle of a Hopeful Minority

Therefore, Be Filled With the Holy Spirit!

Ephesians 5:18–21

Page 978 in the Chair Bible

The Lord’s Day Morning

Palm Sunday - April 9, 2017

On this Palm Sunday, it is important to remember that in Ephesians 1–3, Paul teaches us all that Christ accomplished in that first Holy Week when he died on the cross. From the cross, Jesus cried out, “It is finished!” What was finished? His work of our “redemption through his blood,” (Eph. 1:7). God saves us by his grace alone, through faith alone, and not at all as a result of our good works (Eph. 2:8,9). Consider the words of Bill Hybels:

“Religion is spelled 'D-O', because it consists of the things people do to try to somehow gain God's forgiveness and favor. But the problem is that you never know when you've done enough. But thankfully, Christianity is spelled differently. It's spelled 'D-O-N-E', which means that what we could never do for ourselves, Christ has already done for us. To become a real Christian is to humbly receive God's gift of forgiveness and to commit to following His leadership.”

So now the logical response (“therefore”) to what God has done for us in chapters 1–3 is set forth by Paul in chapters 4–6. Among these responses is the command to be filled with the Holy Spirit. But how do we do this? What must we do to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

1. _____: Joyfully sing the Holy Spirit’s words about what God has _____!
2. _____: Gratefully acknowledge to God what he has _____!
3. _____: Humbly follow Jesus’ example who yielded to God-ordained authority to get his work _____!