

## **GOD WANTS A FAMILY 9 - THE FULLNESS OF THE SONS OF GOD**

**NAOMI** - *"I WENT OUT FULL AND I CAME BACK EMPTY"* Ruth 1:21 paraphrased

### **I. UNDERSTANDING THE FULLNESS OF JESUS CHRIST**

**John 1:1** *In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup> He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup> All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. <sup>4</sup> In Him was life, and the life was the light of men.*

**A. JESUS IS ALWAYS FULL - (EVEN WHEN TIRED HE RELEASED LIFE)** He is the **LIGHT** - In Him was **LIFE** - He (God) is **LOVE**

#### **1. HE GAVE US AUTHORITY TO BECOME CHILDREN OF GOD**

**John 1:10** *He came into the very world he created, but the world didn't recognize him. <sup>11</sup> He came to his own people, and even they rejected him. <sup>12</sup> But to all who believed him and accepted him, he gave the right to become children of God. <sup>13</sup> They are reborn—not with a physical birth resulting from human passion or plan, but a birth that comes from God.*

- **EXOUSIA** - RIGHT, AUTHORITY, PRIVILEGE, BENEFIT, ACCESS TO

#### **2. ALL SONS RECEIVE FULLNESS - BUT NOT ALL SONS STAY FULL**

**John 1:16** *And of His fullness we have all received, and grace for grace (one gracious blessing after another - NLT).*

**3. FULLNESS IS CONTINUALLY CULTIVATED THROUGH ENCOUNTER AND ABIDING - THE APOSTLES THROUGHOUT BOOK OF ACTS ARE CONTINUALLY RE-FILLED** - Acts 2:4; 4:8; 4:31; 9:17; 13:9; 13:52

**D.L. MOODY** was once asked why he constantly urged millions of Christians to be filled with the Holy Spirit. ... **"Well," he said, "Because I leak!"**

### **II. WE ARE MADE FOR FULLNESS - FULLNESS IS OUR DEFAULT SETTING**

- **ABIDING IN HIS FULLNESS RELEASES JOY**

**John 16:24** *Until now you have asked nothing in My name. **Ask, and you will receive, that your joy may be full.***

**Acts 2:28**      *You have made known to me the ways of life; You will make me **full** of joy in Your presence.'* (PSALM 16:11 - PRESENCE/HOLY SPIRIT)

## **A. WHAT FULLNESS LOOKS LIKE**

### **1. FULLNESS DESCRIBES BEING FULL OF GOD (ENTHUSIASTIC)**

**Eph. 1:23** [THE CHURCH] which is His body, the **fullness** of Him who fills all in all.

**Eph. 3:19** to know the love of Christ which passes knowledge; that you may be **filled with all the fullness of God**.

**Eph. 4:13** till we all come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to a perfect man, to **the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ**

**Col. 1:19** *For it pleased the Father that **in Him all the fullness should dwell**,<sup>20</sup> and by Him to reconcile all things to Himself, by Him, whether things on earth or things in heaven, having made peace through the blood of His cross.*

### **2. FULLNESS DESCRIBES OUR RELATIONSHIP TO HOLY SPIRIT - MAKE SURE HOLY SPIRIT FULLNESS IS ON YOUR RESUME**

**Acts 6:3** Therefore, brethren, seek out from among you seven men of *good* reputation, **full of the Holy Spirit and wisdom**, whom we may appoint over this business

### **3. FULLNESS DESCRIBES COMPLETION = WHOLENESS (NO LACK)**

**Col. 2:9** *For in Christ lives all the fullness of God in a human body.<sup>a 10</sup> So you also are complete through your union with Christ, who is the head over every ruler and authority.*

### **4. FULLNESS DESCRIBES PATIENCE - FULLNESS TAKES TIME**

**James 1:2**      *Dear brothers and sisters, when troubles of any kind come your way, consider it an opportunity for great joy.<sup>3</sup> **For you know that when your faith is tested, your endurance has a chance to grow.**<sup>4</sup> So let it grow, for when your endurance is fully developed, **you will be perfect and complete, needing nothing***

### **5. FULLNESS DESCRIBES WISDOM - UNDIVIDED LOYALTY TO TRUTH**

**James 1:5**      ***If you need wisdom, ask our generous God, and he will give it to***

you. He will not rebuke you for asking. <sup>6</sup> But when you ask him, be sure that your faith is in God alone. **Do not waver, for a person with divided loyalty is as unsettled as a wave of the sea that is blown and tossed by the wind.** <sup>7</sup> Such people should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. <sup>8</sup> Their loyalty is divided between God and the world, and they are unstable in everything they do.

## 6. FULLNESS DESCRIBES SPIRIT POWER - ALL RESOURCES OURS!

**EPH 5:18** *And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but **be filled with the Spirit***

**ACTS 1:8 NLT** *But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you. And you will be my witnesses, telling people about me everywhere—in Jerusalem, throughout Judea, in Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.”*

## 7. FULLNESS DESCRIBES BEING A CONTINUAL RESOURCE OF LIFE

**John 7:37** *On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, “**If anyone thirsts**, let him **come to Me and drink.**” <sup>38</sup> He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, **out of his heart will flow rivers of living water.**” <sup>39</sup> But this He spoke concerning the Spirit ...*

## B. MATURE SONS PURSUE A LIFE OF FULLNESS

**JOHN 10:10** *The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come **that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.***

### 1. GOD’S CHARACTER IS REVEALED IN ABUNDANCE NOT WANT

**Psa. 65:11** You crown the year with Your goodness, And Your paths drip with **abundance.**

**Psa. 16:11** You will show me the path of life; In Your presence is **fullness** of joy; At Your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

**Psa. 24:1** The earth is the LORD’S, and all its **fullness**, The world and those who dwell therein.

**Psa. 36:8** **They are abundantly satisfied with the fullness of Your house,** And You give them drink from the river of Your pleasures.

**Psa. 65:9** You visit the earth and water it, You greatly enrich it; **The river of God is full of water ...**

**Psa. 104:16** **The trees of the LORD are full of sap,** The cedars of Lebanon

which He planted

### C. LIVING FROM FULLNESS RELEASES PRACTICAL GENEROSITY

#### 1. **LIVING IN FULLNESS IS LIVING FROM ABUNDANCE. A CONTINUAL, MOMENT BY MOMENT RECEIVING OF SPIRIT LIFE AND SUPPLY**

**Phil. 4:11** Not that I speak in regard to need, for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: <sup>12</sup> I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. <sup>13</sup> I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

**Phil 4:17** Not that I seek the gift, but I seek the **fruit that abounds to your account.** <sup>18</sup> **Indeed I have all and abound. I am full,** having received from Epaphroditus the things sent from you, a sweet-smelling aroma, an acceptable sacrifice, well pleasing to God. <sup>19</sup> **And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.**

#### 2. LIVING FROM FULLNESS SOWS PRACTICAL LIFE INTO OTHERS

**2Cor. 9:10** Now may He who supplies seed to the sower, and bread for food, **supply and multiply** the seed you have sown and increase the fruits of your righteousness, <sup>11</sup> while you are enriched in everything for all liberality, which causes thanksgiving through us to God.

#### 3. **IF WE STEWARD MATERIAL THINGS WELL, THEY CAN PRODUCE SPIRITUAL BENEFIT FOR OURSELVES AND FOR OTHERS**

**PSALM 144:9** I will sing a new song to You, O God; On a harp of ten strings I will sing praises to You, <sup>10</sup> The One who gives salvation to kings, **Who delivers David** His servant From the deadly sword. <sup>11</sup> **Rescue me and deliver me from the hand of foreigners,** Whose mouth speaks lying words, And whose right hand is a right hand of falsehood— <sup>12</sup> **That our sons may be as plants grown up in their youth; That our daughters may be as pillars, Sculptured in palace style;** <sup>13</sup> **That our barns may be full, Supplying all kinds of produce; That our sheep may bring forth thousands And ten thousands in our fields;** <sup>14</sup> **That our oxen may be well laden; That there be no breaking in or going out; That there be no outcry in our streets.** <sup>15</sup> **Happy are the people who are in such a state; Happy are the people whose God is the LORD!**