

Valley Bible Church – Sermon Notes

Sermon Notes for March 22-23, 1997

"Do Not Quench the Spirit"

Dale Whitehead

The word "quench" means to "extinguish" or to "stifle".

The Spirit is often times pictured as a fire (Acts 2:3)

It may very well be that though the Spirit of God is indwelling us (Romans 8:9) and desires to manifest Himself, it may be that through our attitudes and actions that we put out his "flame".

The New Testament also speaks of "grieving" the Spirit" (Ephesians 4:30). Quenching is what we do to the Spirit and grieving is the personal anguish that the Spirit experiences when He is quenched.

How does the Spirit of God want to manifest Himself in our lives? He wants to manifest Himself through the fruit of the Spirit (Galatians 5:19-23).

A simpler way to answer the question, "How does the Spirit of Christ want to manifest Himself?" would be "He wants to manifest Himself in holiness".

There are a number of things that the Spirit is seeking to do in order to take us along that path.

He illuminates the Word (2 Peter 1:20-21)

In other words the only one who truly understands the scriptures is the author of the scriptures. So if we are ever to truly understand the truths of the scriptures as they have been written we need to look to the spirit (John 14:26; 1Corinthians 2:9-10)

He leads us into willing obedience.

We must come to the place in our lives where we know that continuing to act on our thoughts, on our desires, on our feelings, and on our wishes will only lead us to ruin (Proverbs 14:12)

It is the work of the spirit to bring us to this point (Ezekiel 36:27)

He seeks to provide strength

Apart from the strength that the Spirit Himself provides us we will not be able to perform the will of God (Zechariah 4:6; Ephesians 3:14-16)

He causes us to feel a closeness with God

Our obedience to God will hopefully not be characterized by cold and mechanical compliance to the God of the universe but rather a heartfelt expression of affection for our heavenly father (Romans 8:14-16; Galatians 4:4-6)

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He keeps us fixed on the goal

And what is that goal? To be like Jesus (Philippians 3:10-14; I John 3:2)

The Spirit reveals Christ (John 15:26; 16:14-15)

The Holy Spirit is progressively revealing the glory of Christ to us through the Word (2 Corinthians 3:18)