

# THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

## CHAPTER 18:18 - 19:7

MEDIA REFERENCE NUMBER SM 205

### TITLE:

## "How We Grow Up in Christ"

*BEING READY TO SHARE THE LORD*

### THEME:

*Acts 1:8*

*"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."*

When A Doctor Makes *his rounds...* he goes looking for vital signs of Life and improvement...

- Is there a Heartbeat
- Are The Wounds Being Healed
- Is The Appetite Increasing
- What's The Attitude of the Mind
  
- *Are the vital signs of Life and of Improvement Evident.*

Last Time vv. 18:1-17 "It's Always too Soon to Quit"

How We Grow Up in Christ

1.) By Continuing On with the Work vv. 18-22

### The Divisions of Acts

*Acts 1:8*

**Local Ministry,**  
Chapters 1-8

**Regional Ministry**  
Chapters 8-12

**Global Ministry**  
Chapters 13-28

Note This:

- In Chapters 1 to 12 *the leading minister to the local work is Peter*
- In Chapters 13 to 28 *the leading minister to the region is Paul*
- From Chapter 28 to 9/24 *the leading minister is You...*

**ACTS,  
The only incomplete book in the Bible**

**IT'S STILL BEING WRITTEN TODAY IN HEAVEN**

#A *With a Renewed Commitment* *vv.18-19*

- The Nazarite Vow..... (Numbers 6)

Possibly, His Victory *over the Depression in vv. 9-10 led Paul to vow a Nazarite Vow Unto the Lord!!!*

A Voluntary, Willful Act of Dedication  
*(Hey Everybody, I'm Dedicated to God)*

## An Act of Appreciation on Paul's Part

- Cenchrea, a seaport village of Corinth

#B *By Allowing The Ministry to Expand* *vv. 20-21*

He did not Consent

**"the coming feast"** *would have been the feast of Passover! He's in a hurry now because winter is fast approaching*

Opportunities,  
The Crowds Would Be Gathering in Jerusalem  
*A Great Opportunity to Witness to His Jewish Brothers*

#C *By Giving Them a Report* *vv.22*

Antioch was Paul's home church;

- *it was where the venture began*
- *and it was the ministry that Paul was accountable to*

## 2.) The Word of God Instructs vv. 23-28

### #A *Paul Strengthens Them thru the Word*

Paul's 3rd and Last Missionary Journey begins

- \* **Strengthening** GRK *episterizo* (ep-ee-stay-rid'-zo)  
to add support to. to reestablish or nurture: to confirm,

### #B *By Adding Servants to the Call*

Ephesus was a center for *Idolatry and for the Occult.*

One of the seven *wonders of the ancient world* was there... *the temple to Diana, They worship a (meteor) that they held sacred, having fallen from heaven*

#### Acts 19:35

"what man is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesus is temple guardian of the great goddess Diana, and of the image which fell down from Jupiter?"

Apollos was an *Alexandrian Jew well-educated, gifted speaker (philosophical)*

#### 1 Corinthians 3:6

**I planted, (the church) Apollos watered, (the church) but God gave the increase. :7  
So then neither he who plants is anything, nor he who waters, but God who gives the increase.**

The Messenger was Strong, but His message was Weak  
(Repentance, Only Nothing About Moving On)

#### Matthew 3:1-2

John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, :2 and saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand!"

Mark's Gospel Says  
That John came baptizing in the wilderness and preaching a **baptism of repentance for the remission of sins.**

**REPENTANCE... YES! POWER to move on... A MUST!!!**  
**(The preaching of John the Baptist)**

Apollos' Message wasn't insincere  
or even inaccurate,  
- *It was incomplete !*

There's No Cross, There's No Resurrection, There's No Pentecost

## Just Repent Man !!!

It's the Power of the Cross *that empowers you to repent*

It's the Power of the Resurrection *that empowers your walk*

It's the Power of Pentecost *that empowers you to live the life*

#C *To Stand On the Authority of the Word*

\* **Refuted GRK 1246 diakatelegchomai to prove convincingly.**

2 Timothy 2:15

Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.

1 Peter 3:15

Sanctify (set apart) Christ as Lord in your hearts. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect,

**APOLO-GETICS 1A**

To Present arguments and reasons for the defense of the Faith

~~~~~ **Chapter 19:1-7** ~~~~~

#A *There Were No Signs of Life*

Paul Making His Rounds  
*Notices That Something's Wrong*

A Dullness, a Dryness, A Deadness  
*even though they had come to believe.*

*even though they had been baptized in water...*  
*....They were as dry as dust*

James Says <sup>2:26</sup>  
the body without the spirit is dead,

Why didn't he ask them "Did you receive Jesus Christ"

But,  
**Did You Receive the Holy Spirit When You Believed?**

**(NOT, "WERE YOU BAPTIZED.... BUT)**

**Did You Receive the Holy Spirit  
When You Believed?**

The Key to... "How We Grow Up in Christ"

**The question**  
is as valid as if I were to ask you "have you  
received Jesus Christ"

You're to be as sure as tomorrow's sunrise that you  
have received the Holy Spirit.

**The Baptism of Jesus...  
is the Holy Spirit**

Matthew 3:11

"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance, but He who is coming after me is mightier than I, whose sandals I am not worthy to carry. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire.

**The Baptism of the Holy Spirit...  
is Salvation**

1 Corinthians 12:13 (12)

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.....:12 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.

**Is There Real Life In You, Your Body ?**

*(Ezekiel's Vision of the Dry Bones)*

**Monday and Tuesday AM. in Seattle**

*Check The Pulse, The Attitude"*

**Tuesday Afternoon at Lake Arrowhead College**

*Check The Pulse, The Attitude"*

These guys had been churched, but they had not been converted...

\* **Baptized** GRK *baptizo (bap-tid'-zo)*  
*to immerse, submerge; to BECOME overwhelmed made completely wet.*

That's the External Display of an Inward Commitment

**The Baptism of John the Baptist,  
Looked Ahead to what Jesus would do**

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**The Baptism of The Lord Jesus Christ,  
Looks Back to What He has done**

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Repentance without Redemption is Just Religion.  
Not Relationship

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John's Baptism was still waiting For  
*The Cross, The Resurrection, and The Pentecost*

1 Corinthians 1:18

For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

4.) "How We Grow Up in Christ" Is By Being Converted vv. 5

5.) "How We Grow Up in Christ" Is By Being Empowered vv. 6-7

#A *He Came Upon Them (Not In Them, but upon)*

"The Filling"

Ephesians 5:18

And do not be drunk with wine, in which is dissipation; but **be, Being filled** with the Spirit,... **THE RESULT AND EVIDENCE...** :19 **speaking to one another** in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, **singing and making melody** in your heart to the Lord, :20 **giving thanks always** for all things to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, :21 **submitting to one another** in the fear of God.

In The New Testament, The Holy Spirit has come to be *alongside* convicting, *inside* renewing & *upon* for empowering

# Why:

## You shall be witnesses to me

\* *witnesses* GRK *martus (mar'-toos)*

*martyr, to bear record. to give testimony based upon what has been seen.*

### The Holy Spirit;

- **With you,** Convicting **Para**
- **Inside you,** Renewing **En**
- **Upon you,** Empowering **Epi**

A Spirit-filled life is "en-thus-iasm" meaning "full of God, possessed by God"

Our Example;

Jesus was water baptized in water,

- and then the Holy Spirit came upon him,
- and then did His ministry begin...

Acts 2

Peter's crusade of 3,000 came after the Holy Spirit came upon him...

### #B *They Spoke With Tongues*

Is the Gift of Tongues *Valid and for today... The Biblical Answer is Yes,*

Romans 11:29

For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable.

## Jack Does it have to be tongues.... NO

...But it has to be love

the true evidence of the Holy Spirits presence



Is it Necessary to *accompany Salvation?... The Biblical Answer is No*

**1 Corinthians 12:30**

**Do all have gifts of headings? Do all speak with tongues? Do all interpret?**

**#C They Spoke With Prophecy**

**The Preaching of the Gospel, (not futuristic events)**

*To herald the News abroad and aloud*

**Check the Vital Signs Again of these Guys**

Isn't it interesting that when you go to a doctor one of the first things he does is ask you to stick out your tongue. He can tell how you're doing by the condition of your tongue...

**At Conversion:** *(The New Believer)*

**Ephesians 1:13**

**in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,**

**John 7:37-38**

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. :38 "He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."

**Are You Still Thirsty ?**

**Last Thursday Night's Converts**

everyone of them had a Bible, 5 of them had Christian T-Shirts on  
**they had never been Born Again, Converted**

**After Conversion:** *(The Growing Believer)*

**Acts 4:33**

**And with great power the apostles gave witness to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus. And great grace was upon them all.**

At Conversion: *(The New Believer)*

**John 20:21**

So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." :22 And when He had said this, He breathed on them, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

After Conversion: *(The Growing Believer)*

**Receiving the Power of the Holy Spirit**

**Luke 11:10-13**

"For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened. :11 "If a son asks for bread from any father among you, will he give him a stone? Or if he asks for a fish, will he give him a serpent instead of a fish? :12 "Or if he asks for an egg, will he 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!"

The Greatest way to experience

**"The Power of His Presence"** is to be in need of Him...

- #1 Being a Witness *at work or at home, neighborhood*
- #2 Being in Service *to his people the church*
- #3 Being in Crisis *troubles that come in life*

**Zechariah 4:6**

So he answered and said to me: "This is the word of the LORD to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by My Spirit,' says the LORD of hosts.

O' God Fill me with your power....  
I wanna sit around and watch the Angels slip from first place

## "How We Grow Up in Christ"

- We Come To The Knowledge Of Who He Is
- We Change what You Think About Him
- We Commit ourself/life to Him
- We Call upon Him for Power to live the

### 1.) By Continuing On with the Work vv. 18-22

#A *By Renewing Our Commitment*

#B *By Allowing The Ministry to Expand*

#C *By Giving Them a Report*

### 2.) The Word of God Instructs vv. 23-28

#A *To Strengthens Them thru the Word*

#B *To Adding Servants to the Call*

#C *To Stand On the Authority of the Word*

### 3.) "How We Grow Up in Christ" Is By Receiving

#A *There Were No Signs of Life*

### 4.) "How We Grow Up in Christ" Is By Conversion

#A *Making a Reasonable Decision*

### 5.) "How We Grow Up in Christ" Is By Being Empowered

#A *He Came Upon Them (Not In Them, but upon)*