

The Spirit in Worship
Psalm Appeal – Part 7
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Ephesians 5:15-21

In ancient times, a symposium meant a group of Greek fraternity elites gathering to get drunk *while singing to their gods*. In Ephesians 5, Paul exhorts the church to gather to sing psalms to God, the Father, Son and Spirit, as they were being filled by the Spirit.

- The Epistle to the Ephesian Church describes the Normal Christian Life. (See the book by Watchman Nee and also his *Sit, Walk, Stand*)
- Ephesians 5 marks the second section of that normal Christian life: 1. Sit with Christ, 2. Walk with Christ, and 3. Stand with Christ.

¹⁵ Pay careful attention, then, to how you walk—not as unwise people but as wise— ¹⁶making the most of the time, because the days are evil. ¹⁷ So don't be foolish, but understand what the Lord's will is. ¹⁸ And don't get drunk with wine, which leads to reckless actions [sends everything to wreck and ruin], but be filled by the Spirit:

- Recall the promise of Jesus to the Samaritan woman at Jacob's well (John 4:14b): "The water I give him will become in him a spring of water welling up to eternal life."
- The Spirit-filled Christian produces two kinds of fruit: the inner fruit of the redeemed character (Gal. 5:22) and the outer fruit of praise and service. This life blends ecstasy and ethics, worship and mission.

¹⁹ speak to one another in psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs,

sing and make music from your heart to the Lord,

²⁰ give thanks always for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ,

²¹ submit to one another in the fear of Christ.

- Worship leaders have two tasks.
 1. To lead people outside of faith to step into trusting Christ. "You have been adopted into the family circle of God and can say with a full heart, 'Father, my father.' The Spirit himself endorses our inward conviction that we really are the children of God." Romans 8:15-16 Phillips
 2. To lead Christians living in disobedience to be restored to Christ. The carnal person is an anti-worship agent. 1 Jn. 1:9; Eph. 4:30, 5:18; 1 Thess. 5:19

- **Thesis: The greater the proportion of Spirit-filled believers in the assembly, the greater the experience of God's saving power.** (Jess Moody) Why? The magnetism of the inner and outer fruit of the Spirit-filled believers. This magnetism in the spiritual realm correlates with super conduction in the realm of physics.
- Yes, but how can I live being filled by the Spirit? How can someone live guided and energized by the Spirit of Christ?
 1. Practice a daily coronation of Christ as your Lord.
 2. Keep confessed and forgiven.
 3. Devote daily time in the Word asking for illumination.
 4. Live humbly with acts of kindness and words of boldness.

My Next Step today is to...

☐ _____.