

The Holy Spirit And You

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The Holy Spirit And You

Chapter I - The Holy Spirit In The Life Of The Christian

We observe today a great lack in the life of many true Christians—they know all the Bible teaches; they believe all what the Bible says — and yet they have not the joy of a Christian, not the strength for their daily tasks, and there is no powerful testimony in them—What do you think is the reason of this fact?

To be a Christian means to be saved by grace. We did not work for our salvation. We believe in Jesus Christ, who took all our sins upon His own shoulders, and carried them to the cross. He paid for them all, and He offers to us the forgiveness of all our sins.

To be a Christian means that you have accepted this offer and thanked the Lord that He has given you the forgiveness of sins and a new life.

However, most Christians stop there, and they try to live the new life in their own strength, but this does not work. Therefore, you experience all the ups and downs in your life, all the weaknesses, all the disappointments in yourself and in others.

The Lord knew this before you, and, therefore, He has promised to every one who believes in Him the wonderful gift of the Holy Spirit. What is lacking today in the life of many Christians is faith in the gift of the Holy Spirit. You cannot live the new life alone. You can make it only by the Holy Spirit, who is given to you.

Many Christians say that Jesus Christ is sufficient and that He has given us a complete salvation. He really is sufficient, but now many Christians ask: Why then the Holy Spirit?

How would you explain the relationship between Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit?

We must never separate Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit. They really are one. There is one God—Father, Son and Holy Spirit; so the Holy Spirit is God. He is called in the Bible the Spirit of God.

Just think what it means: the Holy Spirit is almighty just as God is almighty !

The Holy Spirit is also called the Spirit of Christ. Therefore, when the Holy Spirit indwells you, He is Christ in you. It means so much to know this, that the fullness of the love of Christ is given to us by the Holy Spirit, who lives in us.

And now Jesus Christ says, "The Holy Spirit will glorify me!" (John 16:14) So this really is the relationship between Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit: He glorifies Jesus Christ in us. He turns our eyes

upon the Crucified and Risen and Exalted Christ, and reveals Him to us in all His beauty, and love, and glory, so that we are overwhelmed by Him.

The Bible says: "Nobody can call Jesus Lord without the Holy Spirit." (1 Cor. 12:3) Therefore, you need Him to come to know Jesus Christ, deeper, and clearer, and more personal.

If the Holy Spirit is so necessary for the life of a Christian, then everyone should know how he can get the gift of the Holy Spirit. There are many complicated answers given in our Christian literature. Can you explain in a very simple way how every Christian can get the gift of the Holy Spirit?

The Holy Spirit really is a Person. He is God, and He is the Precious Gift of Jesus Christ to everyone who believes in Him. Jesus Christ says: "Your heavenly Father shall give you the Holy Spirit." (Luke 11:13)

This is the offer! What have we to do?

We can say "No," and we lose the most precious fellowship with the Living Christ.

But we also can say "Yes," and accept this wonderful gift by faith—the gift of a Person, of God Himself, coming to live in our hearts.

Jesus made it really simple when He spoke to the woman at the well. She needed help in her personal life, and Jesus knew it all, and said to her: "If thou knewest the gift of God, and who it is that saith to thee, Give me to drink; thou wouldest have asked of him, and he would have given thee living water." (John 4:10)

She believed in His words and said with confidence, "Give me this water." (John 4:15) And Jesus gave her the great gift of the Holy Spirit, and He became in her a well of living water. She went and brought the good tidings of the Saviour of the World to her village, and many of them believed in Jesus as their personal Saviour.

We must do the same: accept The gift of the Holy Spirit by faith and pray: "Lord, I thank Thee that Thou hast given me Thy Holy Spirit."

You speak about the fullness of the Holy Spirit. Many Christians do not know what it really means in the personal experience to be filled with the Spirit. You have had this experience. Will you tell us what it meant in your personal life to be filled with the Holy Spirit?

I would like to share with you what the Lord did in my life. I became a true Christian when I was five years old. I believe it was through the influence of my godly grandmother, who was the wife of a famous pastor in Germany.

I knew that my life belonged to the Lord, and that I was called to serve Him. As soon as I finished my studies, I entered into the work of the Lord, but I really was a failure. I preached the gospel to the students in many universities, but I did not see any results. I was discouraged, and disappointed in my own life. There was no joy and no strength, no power and no love.

I always asked myself: What is lacking in my life? After many years, I met Miss Ruth Paxton, and when I saw her, I knew she had what I needed so much. What was it? I soon came to know when I spoke with her, for it was the word in Ephesians 5:18 she gave me: "Ye must be filled with the Holy Spirit ! "

But how? She said to me: "You must accept this gift by faith!" This word came like a flash of light into my heart, and I did it. I thanked the Lord by faith for this gift of the fullness of the Holy Spirit, and it really made all the difference in my life.

The Holy Spirit And You

Chapter II - The Holy Spirit and the Daily Walk Of a Spirit-Filled Christian

The Bible says clearly that every Christian has received the Holy Spirit as the wonderful gift of the exalted Christ. Now we all live on this earth. We have to fulfill our daily tasks. We have our difficulties and problems and sorrows.

Can we rely on the Holy Spirit in our daily walk? Will you share with us something about your own experience?

Many Christians live a life on two different planes. They live on a high plane for their life with the Lord. When they have their quiet time in the morning, they are on this high plane. When they study the Bible, or when they take some special time of fellowship with the Lord, perhaps on Sundays, they enjoy this high plane.

However, then they go down, and they live their daily life on the ground floor, on a lower level, where they are alone. They feel weak and empty in their heart, and, of course, they can do nothing for the Lord.

Why do you not take Jesus Christ with you downstairs, where you live your daily life with all the practical work, the sorrows, and the problems, and where you meet the people? Jesus Christ wants to be right there, where you are.

This is really the work of the Holy Spirit in us. We have Him always with us. He abides in us. He is living in us. He wants to bring Jesus Christ, the exalted Lord, down into your daily life.

Then you are always living on the highest plane, and that is heaven on earth.

We really have received a great gift of God in the Holy Spirit, and there surely must be results in our daily life. These results may be very different in various Christians. But, what do you think are the necessary results in the life of every Christian?

Where there is power, there are results of power! Where there is life, there are results of life! Where there is light, there are results of light! It is the same with the Holy Spirit in your life.

The Bible says: "God has given to us the Spirit of power and of love, and of discipline." (II Tim. 1:7)

God, the Almighty, is in the Holy Spirit. Therefore, He is power. You need this Divine Power in you! He

is the power to carry the burdens of life. He is the power to prevail over the enemy, and all his temptations. He is the power to overcome all the passion of sin, which is still in your flesh.

Jesus Christ, the Saviour, is love. He is in the Holy Spirit; therefore, He is the Spirit of love. Our love is not sufficient! You need His love. Why not let the Spirit of love work through you? You will experience what the Bible says: "The love of God is shed abroad in our hearts by the Holy Spirit, who is given unto us." (Rom. 5:5)

If you are filled with the Holy Spirit, you are filled with the love of God. His love is really sufficient for every one of us.

The Holy Spirit guides and orders our life. He knows the way. He knows what is right and what is wrong. God has given to us the Spirit of discipline. He undertakes for you. Give Him the control of your soul, of your nerves, of your ways, of your schedule for every day. What a relief to you, when you are filled with the Holy Spirit.

I think we should make one point very clear: so long as we live in this mortal body there is sin in us. Many Christians struggle with some special sins, hidden sins in their thoughts, or sins of the tongue, and they cannot overcome them. Will you give us a clear statement from the Bible and from experience if a real victory over sin is possible?

Let us first make this clear: we are not striving for the victory over sin. The victory over the devil and over the power of sin in our flesh has already been won by Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary, once for all. That is a historical fact. "It is finished . "

He has destroyed the works of the devil. He has bruised the head of the serpent. He has broken all the chains of sin.

So the victory over sin lies behind us, and we have to accept the victory of Jesus Christ by faith. That means that we have already accepted His offer: "If the Son shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed." (John 8:36)

We are free! The enemy is defeated! But now, we must practice this victory in our daily life, and we cannot do this alone.

The Holy Spirit is given to us to make the victory of Jesus Christ a constant experience in our life.

The Bible says: "The Lord is that Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty." (II Cor. 3:17) That means that we also have liberty from the power of sin. The Holy Spirit is able to hold back the desires of the flesh, and to strengthen the desires of the new spiritual life in us. That is victory over sin in our daily life.

Now there is another question in many hearts. We all are born with a very special character; it may be a quick temper, or a sudden anger, a critical mind, or even a depressive tendency. Is it really possible that the Lord can change the character? What does the Bible say about this very important point?

Our character is from God. It is our personality with all the gifts, and the talents, and the potentials that God has given to us.

However, the problem is, that our character has been under a wrong master. The devil, and the flesh, and the power of sin have formed our character. The result is what we experience daily in ourselves and in others. But when we came to Christ, we became a new creature, and we accepted a new Master, Jesus Christ reigning in us by the Holy Spirit.

If we surrender all the capacities of our personality to Him, we will experience that He uses our character as an artist uses an instrument. There will be a new song in our life. He will make us like Jesus!

The Bible says: "If any man be in Christ, he is a new creature." (II Cor. 5 :17) "Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin; but yield yourselves unto God . . . and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God." (Rom. 6:13)

If the Lord reigneth in you by His Spirit, you will experience that He changes your character. It is written: "We are changed into the same image (and that is the image of Christ) from glory to glory, even as by the Spirit of the Lord." (II Cor. 3:18)

The Holy Spirit And You

Chapter III - The Holy Spirit in the Church

The coming of the Holy Spirit on Pentecost was the beginning of the church. Today we observe a great disappointment among the Christians in the churches. Many even withdraw from their churches. They think they can do without the church. I think it is necessary to ask: What is the will of Jesus Christ for the church? Can you help me to find an answer to this question?

It is clear that the Lord Jesus Christ wants not only the salvation of the individual, but that He wants to build His church.

When Peter made the great confession given to him by the Holy Spirit: "Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God," (Matt. 16:16) Jesus answered: "Thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it." (Matt. 16:18)

Jesus Christ wants to build His church on the one foundation which He is Himself. He is the Rock of Ages, and Peter is hewn out of this Rock.

Jesus Christ wants the church today as the spiritual sanctuary on this earth. It is built of all the true believers as the living stones, upon the foundation, which is Jesus Christ.

How we need this sanctuary as a living testimony of Jesus Christ in our times.

Every true believer is a part of this true church. Paul says: "By one Spirit are we all baptized into one body." (I Cor. 12:13)

Are you a child of God? Then you belong to His church and that is a great privilege for us. Therefore, we must join a Bible-believing church, where we find spiritual fellowship, and opportunities to work for Christ.

We are living in a time of divisions in the churches on one hand, and on the other hand, we see great movements trying to unite all churches by world-wide organizations. In the midst of all these human efforts it is very difficult to find the true church of Jesus Christ. Therefore, we should show to all Christians today:

What does the New Testament say about the true church? And where do we find it?

The true church is there where the Holy Spirit is. He came at Pentecost to live in the hearts of those who became children of God by faith in Jesus Christ.

Jesus speaks about the secret of the true church, saying: "Where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I in the midst of them." (Matt. 18:20) Gathered together in the name of Jesus Christ is really the foundation of the true church. Then, of course, the church began, when the Holy Spirit came on Pentecost, and we read: "They were all with one accord in one place," (Acts 2:1) "and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit." (Acts 2:4)

The Holy Spirit on that day joined 120 people to a new organism, called the church which is the body of Christ; He Himself being the Head. The true church is one in Christ by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit.

When these true believers come together, they form the local or visible church. The New Testament speaks about these local churches, and the Exalted Christ speaks to visible churches in Asia Minor as John reports to us in the Book of Revelation. But there is a great difference between the true church and any local church. The true church has no boundaries and is not temporary but eternal. The visible churches have only value in the measure that there are true believers in their midst, members of the living body of Christ.

We may compare it with a nut: the kernel bears life, but it grows in the shell until the time of harvest, when the shell breaks and the kernel is revealed. We are working too much today to conserve the shell, and too little care for the living kernel.

We find the true church there where the model of the first church is fulfilled by the working of the Holy Spirit: "They continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers." (Acts 2:42)

We all are longing for something new in our churches, for the rushing wind of the Holy Spirit coming over us, and for the fire of the Holy Spirit in our hearts. Do you think that a revival is possible in our time, and how can it come to pass?

It is true that the church needs more power today for the great task given to her in our time. Why does she lack power? Because the Holy Spirit has not His rightful place in many believers. He is not the Lord of their life, so many who believe in Christ are not fulfilled with the Holy Spirit. This is not the will of God. Therefore, we need to repent and to ask the Lord for a true revival among the believers.

It is possible, and it is necessary, and the Lord wants to give it, but do we fulfill the conditions given already to the nation of Israel? The Lord says: "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways; then will I hear from Heaven, and will forgive their sins, and will heal their land." (II Chr. 7:14)

The Lord is faithful. He will fulfill His promise, also today in His church, if we are ready to meet the conditions.

The Holy Spirit And You

Chapter IV - The Holy Spirit In The World Today

Our time manifests the power of Satan, the prince of this world. Jesus Christ declares that Satan is the father of lies. We see the lying spirit everywhere today. Lies and crime have made our earth a dark place: unsafe, godless, unrighteous and immoral! But Christ is still the Hope of the World. Our faith in Christ must be active. Could you give us some advice? How can a Spirit-filled Christian spread the light of Jesus Christ in the darkness of our time?

God works through individuals. He does not need many. He needs one. He needs you! He prepares His instruments. You must be washed in the blood of the Lamb and filled with the Spirit of God. By the Spirit, Jesus Christ is personally present in you, and He is the Light of the World.

So you are a lighthouse in this world spreading the Light of Jesus Christ wherever you are and wherever you go. A lighthouse shining over the stormy ocean, in the middle of the night, is a great help and a comfort for the sailor seeking the way home. Therefore, Jesus Christ says to His own: "Ye are the light of the world!" (Matt. 5:14) But He also says: "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matt. 5:16)

To be the light of the world is not enough. The light must shine. Is that difficult? Oh no: we only must not hinder the Holy Spirit to work through us. Do not darken His light by your own self—go out of the way! Did you hide the light under some bushel? It may be the fear of man or the pride of your own heart. Remove the bushel and the light will shine.

We are glad to say that we observe also the strong power of God working today in this world. What does the Bible say about the working of the Holy Spirit in the world?

Of course, the working of the power of evil is strong today. Open a newspaper and you will read about revolts, crimes, terrible sins of unrighteousness everywhere. But we cannot read much about the work of the Holy Spirit today, and yet He is working, and He is mighty. Yes, He is mightier than all the power of darkness.

Ask the people who love Jesus how they found the Lord. It is a wonder in each case. Praise the Lord, that there are hundreds and thousands, who will testify that they have been freed from the power of sin by the grace of God.

But how did it happen? Jesus says that the Holy Spirit will convict the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment. (John 16:8) This is true of every generation and our time is no exception.

God speaks by His Holy Spirit, in the hearts of all men, about the sins in their lives. Everyone living on this earth knows that there is a God and that he has sinned against God. You must not teach anyone what sin is, he knows it. The Holy Spirit convicted him of his sin.

We can say that everyone knows also what righteousness means. The Bible says that the law is written in the heart of man. He knows that one day he will be judged because of his unrighteousness. The Holy Spirit convicts him of the judgment of God, as it is written: "It is appointed unto men once to die, but after this the judgment." (Heb. 9:27)

This is the working of the Holy Spirit in the world. He has engraved these truths of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment into every heart.

What have we to do now?

Our generation is prepared by the Holy Spirit for the message of salvation by the blood of Jesus Christ, who wants to seek and to save. But where are the messengers, filled with the Holy Spirit, to bring this message to a dying world?

How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? And how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? And how shall they preach, except they be sent? as it is written, How beautiful are the feet of them that preach the gospel of peace and bring glad tidings of good things. (Rom. 10:14f)

If we want to work for God and with God, we must know: what is the will of God in our time. It is not enough to do something; we must do the right thing. I would like to know what you would say after your long experience in the work in Europe: What is the will of God in our time?

Jesus Christ has left His last will to His disciples. He said to them: "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15)

This is a very clear command given not only to the disciples, but to all who believe in Jesus Christ. This is the will of God for our time.

You can do many good things, but one thing is needful: the gospel of Jesus Christ must be preached today to all those who have never heard it. We have to do it fast! Our Lord warned that the night comes when no man can work.

And, if you say, like Moses, I cannot preach, you still have many ways by which to give the true message of salvation. You can support a missionary or a preacher at home, who is faithful to the Word of God. Make somebody else your voice even as Moses spoke through Aaron to the people of Israel.

To know the will of God and not to do it is the greatest sin, because it can mean eternal death for those

who never heard the gospel.

We are living in the last time. The signs which Jesus Christ Himself gave us are being fulfilled. He said that the moral conditions in the last time will be as in the time of the flood, and it is so today. He said that the fig tree will get leaves. The fig tree is a picture of Israel, and Israel surely shows the fulfillment of this Word.

Now we would like to know: What is the work of the Holy Spirit in these last days?

Yes, we are, without doubt, living in the last time. The signs are so clear, and we can truly say: the day of Jesus Christ is at hand.

The Holy Spirit today is working in the church of the true believers. It is an amazing fact that the believers, in the East and in the West, are convinced that the appearance of Jesus Christ for His church is very near.

This is the special work of the Holy Spirit in our time. He wants to prepare the believers in all the countries of the world for the great day, when the heavens shall open and Jesus Christ will appear in the clouds.

The Holy Spirit And You

Chapter V - The Holy Spirit And The Servant of the Lord

God always had His special servants at all times through whom He worked. There were the prophets in the Old Testament, and the apostles in the New Testament. The history of the church shows us that always again the Lord raised up men and women by whom He worked in a special way.

We think of the great men of the reformation, or of the pioneer missionaries in different countries. It seems to me that we are very poor today in this respect.

Do you think that the time for the servants of the Lord, set apart for a special work, is past?

This is a very serious question which reminds us of the time after the last prophet Malachi, when the Lord was silent for 400 years. Also, in the history of the church there have been times when the word of God was hidden, and there were no messengers of Jesus Christ.

But I think that we have entered into a new time of church history, and that the Lord is preparing a new generation with a special task and a special message for our time.

During the time of the reformation, the message of justification by faith was renewed: Jesus Christ died for us.

In the time of the great revivals, beginning with Moody, the special message of the indwelling of Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit was preached with great power. It was the message which produced the great missionaries of that time.

And today the special message for our generation is: the Lord Jesus Christ will come back, in all His glory, to set up His kingdom on this earth. The prophetic truth of the Bible is revealed today by the Holy Spirit.

When Jesus came upon this earth, there was John the Baptist, the voice in the wilderness, who announced His coming. Today the Lord wants to prepare His messengers, who will announce to all the nations: the King Jesus Christ is coming back! Prepare His way!

We know that we have entered into a new time, also for the church and her work in this world. Many churches, conscious of this fact, try to bring the world into the church to make it more interesting, especially for the young people.

But we absolutely refuse to do this. We are called out of the world, but we certainly must see what the

changes in our time mean for the church and especially for the servants of the Lord.

You are active in training young people for the service of the Lord. What important lines would you emphasize in your efforts to train young people to serve the Lord today?

We must make it clear that to be a servant of the Lord is not a profession which brings money and honor and not a task which everyone can choose. There must be a call of the Lord into His service. I am afraid that many study for the ministry without having received this call of the Lord. They will be a failure.

The prophets of the Old Testament were called by name, and also the apostles of Jesus Christ were called personally. The first missionaries Barnabas and Saul were also called by the Holy Spirit, and they knew it.

If this is so, we must show to the young people, who feel called by the Lord, that there are conditions to fulfill. The Lord Jesus says: deny yourself; take up your cross and follow me!

That means that the servant of the Lord depends entirely from his Master. He has no rights of his own. He cannot do according to his own will. He has laid his life upon the altar as a burnt offering for the Lord, never to take it back again. I am afraid that not all those who want to be in the service of the Lord have signed these conditions with their name.

And, finally, we must see that the servant of the Lord must have a special message for his time. Of course, the message of salvation never changes. It is: Jesus Christ, who died for our sins on the cross, and is risen from the dead as the Lord of all.

However, the Lord has a special message for every generation. The servants of the Lord today need a new vision given to them by the Holy Spirit, who enlightens their understanding of the Bible, so that they can say: "Thus saith the Lord."

This was the secret of the great Bible teachers America produced in the beginning of our century. Where are they now?

Let us be aware of the Word of God: "Where there is no vision, the people perish." (Prov. 29:18)

Then the dead in Christ will rise first in the body of glory, and all the believers, who will be in that day on this earth, will be transformed in less than a second, and we all will be united with our Beloved Lord. He will take His church home for the great feast of the marriage of the Lamb. This is the greatest coming event in world history

If He would come today, are you ready to meet Him?: Are you washed in the blood of the Lamb? Have you gathered in a precious harvest of souls for the Lamb? You do not want to stand before Him with empty hands?

The Holy Spirit wants to fill our hearts today with a burning love for Jesus Christ, the coming Bridegroom of His church. Allow Him to do His work in you. Jesus Christ will be coming soon—perhaps today!

We see in Acts that from the beginning the Holy Spirit had the greatest part in preparing the messengers of the Lord. I have the impression that we have put more weight on the intellectual education of the servants of the Lord than on the spiritual equipment.

You have been for many years in this great work of training young people for the ministry. What is your opinion about the intellectual tendency in most of our seminaries?

Our time offers opportunities for education as no other time before. Science is a great power today and has almost become an idol of our generation. We certainly must require the best training possible for our young people who have decided for the ministry.

They must be able to understand the great questions and problems of our time. They have to preach the gospel also to the intellectuals in our churches, or to those who are still far from Christ, bound by unbiblical religions or cults. They must know how to meet them.

However, we must put first things, first. We need today a deep spiritual training if we want spiritual leadership. We need men and women who are truly born again and filled with the Holy Spirit. We must give them a real deep knowledge of the Bible; how to go deeper into the riches of God's Word; and how to pass them on.

Prayer must be the center of all education for the ministry. Prayer will be a vital part of their service. How we need prayer today to prevail against the power of the devil.

It seems strange that we have produced today one general type of servants for the ministry. They all must have the same amount of knowledge and the same degrees, if they want to be acceptable. Of course, this education is necessary and good, but do we leave any opportunity to the Holy Spirit to call whom He wants, also those without a higher education?

God called very different people with different education to be His prophets, and Jesus Christ appointed uneducated men to be His apostles. Peter and John surely did not even finish high school, and yet what a tremendous work they did.

We must be open for the call of the Lord, and for His special training for His workers. His way may differ widely from our ways of education, but we must accept them. Only if we do this the Lord can answer our prayer to give more workers into His harvest.

The New Testament teaches us that the servant of the Lord needs the strong support of the believers. In

fact the Holy Spirit addressed the church in Antioch and asked her to send out the messengers of the gospel. We see that even Paul needed the strong background of the believers to fulfill his task.

What is really the responsibility of the church today for the servants of the Lord?

We touch here one of the greatest needs in our churches. The work of the Lord rests upon the shoulders of very few Christians. The majority of Christians are not concerned about His affairs, for they are too much occupied with themselves.

At first it is very important that our Bible-believing churches produce servants of the Lord; young people, who answer the call of the Lord, and are ready to give their lives for the Lord's work. We need conversions and decisions in our churches.

Then the church must feel responsible for those who are called. We read of the church in Antioch, where Barnabas and Saul were called by the Holy Spirit, that the church was one with them: "They fasted and prayed, and laid their hands on them and sent them away." (Acts 13:3)

If the church of today would take over the responsibility for the missionaries sent out by them, how much more could we do. Why have we always to ask for money in the Lord's work?

I think the reason is that we failed to follow the commandment of the Lord saying: "Bring all the tithes into the storehouse, that there may be food in mine house, and test me now herewith, saith the Lord of hosts, if I will not open for you the windows of heaven, and pour out for you a blessing, that there shall not be room enough to receive it." (Malachi 3:10)

We cannot experience this blessing if we do not fulfill the conditions.

But, the responsibility of the church for the servants of the Lord consists not only in financial support but in spiritual help. In our day all the servants of the Lord are in great danger.

They are the target of the enemy, who wants to discourage them, to weaken them, to tempt them, and to persecute them. The church, which sends out the messengers, must be like a wall of prayer around them. Without prayer-support they are not able to do their work.

Did we fail the Lord in our responsibility — for His servants? Are we guilty that the gospel did not yet reach the ends of the world? Will the Lord ask from us the souls of so many who perish in their sin because there is no helper?

These are serious questions. Let us answer them in the light of Golgotha. There Jesus Christ says to everyone of us: "This I did for you. What do you do for me?"

The Holy Spirit And You

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About The Author



Frau Dr. Gertrud Wasserzug -Traeder of Germany and Switzerland, the woman who had the greatest spiritual influence on the lives of Dr. Billy Graham and Dr. Billy James Hargis — two of America's most noted evangelists— is in the United States as a guest lecturer at American Christian College, Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Dr. Hargis is president of the college where she now teaches. The noted teacher-theologian studied theology, philosophy and law at the University of Berlin and the University of Bonn, where she received her doctorate.

Since the mid 20s, she has been recognized as probably the world's leading woman theologian. Founder of the Bible Seminary in Beatenberg, Switzerland, where she taught Bible for more than 30 years, and where Dr. Hargis was first associated with her, she has contributed to the seminary training of over 1,000 pastors, evangelists and missionaries who have graduated from her seminary. She also founded Bible seminaries in Germany, France, Italy and Israel.

She has authored more than 50 books on theological subjects; just prior to coming to American Christian College, completed translating the "New Scofield Bible" into the German language; also translated Ruth Paxton's "Life on the Highest Plane." She served as general secretary of the World Christian Student Movement.

This German teacher assisted with the European arrangements involved in Hargis' project of sending Scriptures into Communist-occupied territories by attaching portions to gas-filled balloons in the late 40s and early 50s. This project was a forerunner of Hargis' founding of his anti-Communist ministry, Christian Crusade.

Frau Dr. Wasserzug accepted Dr. Hargis' invitation to teach at American Christian College after she retired from the seminary in 1969 because, as she explained: "I think God has called America to be the stronghold of Christianity, and I wanted to spend my last years here."

Christian Crusade Box 977 Tulsa, Oklahoma 74102

The Holy Spirit And You

By Frau Dr. Gertrud Wasserzug

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