



## Mighty in the Word

of the  
Lord  
Jesus Christ

For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness;  
But unto us which are saved it is the power of God" (I Cor. 1.18).

Edifying the Body of Christ (Eph. 4.10-16)

The Wise Still Seek Him

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## Quench Not the Spirit

**D**o not extinguish, suppress, or stifle the Holy Spirit. This is a command given to us as we endeavor to live for the Lord Jesus Christ, to walk the *Via Dolorosa*, *The Way of the Cross*. Quench not the Spirit is taken from the idea of putting out a fire, meaning we are not to extinguish the influences of the Holy Spirit in our hearts, our lives.

We need to understand that there are ways that the fire of God through the Holy Spirit can be extinguished in our lives. One way a fire can be put out is to fail to supply the source of the fire, fuel. When we fail to read the Word of God, we are quenching the Holy Spirit. When we fail to read the Word of God, we are choosing to walk in our own wilful way. When we fail to read the Word of God, we are ignoring the Holy Spirit. When we are not in the Word of God, seeking His will in our lives, we are living a goodly life for Satan – not a godly life for the Lord Jesus Christ.

Too often we walk in our own willful way while we are asking the Lord to guide us, to direct us in our daily lives. We ask, but do we ask amiss? Do we ask but fail to obey out of our not trusting the Lord Jesus Christ with our lives? Oh, we need to be fed to keep alive the working of the Holy Spirit in our lives. We need to read the Word that we might know the voice of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Do we know His voice? John Ten, verse 14:

I am the good shepherd, and know my [*sheep*], and am known of mine..

My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me (Jn 10:14, 27):

I recall many years ago when a missionary friend told me about a lad in a hospital in Jordan that was calling sheep out his hospital window. An RN went to him and asked him not to do that. The young lad laughed and said, They will not come because they know I am not their shepherd.

How much more should we recognize the voice of our Shepherd, the One Who calls us by our name, the One Who will not lead us astray. We need to move more closely to our Shepherd that we might follow Him.

When we fail to follow the leading of the Holy Spirit, when we walk contrary to His voice – we are quenching the Holy Spirit, and He will withdraw from us if we continue in sin.

Let me state clearly that the Lord God Almighty in Jesus Christ by the Holy Spirit has always been. We must know the voice of God in Christ Jesus that we might not listen nor hear another voice.

Let us be alert to the Holy Spirit that nothing will come into our lives to dampen the zeal of godliness in our soul, to diminish our feelings toward the Holy Spirit to render us cold and lifeless, in the service of God. Anything that comes into our lives to deter, to cause us to look away for just a moment is "quenching the Holy Spirit." We need to be aware that neglect of the Bible, of prayer, of assembling with the true body of Christ (Acts 2.42-47), of a careful watchfulness over the heart, of cultivating the Christian life, will do it. Worldliness, vanity, light heartedness, ambition, pride, the love of dress, or indulgence of improper thoughts, will do it.

Living a life of worldliness is quenching the Holy Spirit, and may well lead you where you do not want to go.

**Love not the world, neither the things [*that are*] in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him**  
(I Jn 2.15).

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*Co-laborers together for Jesus Christ*

*Come apart and rest (Mark 6.31).*

When we walk with the Lord by the Holy Spirit, there is a deep well of love that abides in us that cannot be quenched even by many waters. There is a zeal within, a fervency of His presence – which cannot be extinguished when walking with the Lord.

We must be faithful to walk with the Lord as we are directed by His Holy Word that we might not quench the Holy Spirit, that our faith in the Lord shall not dim, and the flame of love be abated – lest we grow cold and our zeal for the Lord becomes lukewarm, and indifferent to the the Light of the Lord grow dim. We must not neglect our prayer life, hearing the preached Word of God, communion of the saints, the coming together in the Name of the Lord to worship in the beauty of holiness.

Oh, how as I read the Book of Acts and how the the gifts of the Spirit flowed, the people of God in Christ Jesus were hungry for the Word and met daily to partake of the Word that they might grow in His love. The disciples and others went forth into the world proclaiming the message of Jesus Christ, the only Begotten Son of God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, of Israel. I long to be filled as were they. And, yet – they suffered much for the Lord Jesus Christ but let us be reminded of the love of the early followers and those all through the centuries who have said with their lives:

Yea doubtless, and I count all things *[but]* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *[but]* dung, that I may win Christ (Phi 3.8),

Perhaps another thought is that, yes, we need to be careful that we are living for the Lord, walking with Him in obedience to His commands, His teachings, His way. But let us know that there are other ways of quenching the Spirit. How many throw "cold water," speak against those who are living for the Lord Jesus Christ by speaking against their zeal for the Lord? They try to put out the fire of the Holy Spirit in people's lives, trying to restrict the work of the Holy Spirit in people's lives. I am not talking about some who use the name Jesus, meaning someone else other than the only Begotten Son of God; I am speaking of those who truly are alive and not ashamed of the Gospel of Christ for it is the power of God unto Salvation.

For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek (Rom 1:16).

And, there are those whose lives are not lived for the Lord, those who disobey the Word of God, those who refuse to follow the exhortations of those that are led by the Holy Spirit.

But, there are those who speak much about being led by the spirit. I recall one time when my colleague, Deaconess Bettie, and I were still traveling for the Lord, and we spoke of praying about what the Lord was saying to us as we realized it soon would be time to "come off the road" at our age after having travelled coast to coast for the Lord for ten years. We were in someone's home, and one of them walked looking up to the ceiling as though in a daze – then said, Hawaii. The other person said was that the spirit telling you that is where they are to go?

The Lord God Almighty does not mimic the world. The above made me think about a child's mystery book, I once read – regarding "the spirit." Beware what you hear and see; if it does not fully align with the Word of God, the Holy Bible, it is not of the Lord God Almighty in Jesus Christ. Know that following the world is to quench Holy Spirit.

Half truths are of the enemy, of Satan, regardless through whom they may come. It is important that we be in the Word of God, that we read the Holy Bible with a heart that is open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Be careful not to read excerpts to make it seem that the Bible is saying what you want it to or what someone else told you it means. Seek the Lord God in Christ Jesus as you read the Holy Bible.

To quench the Holy Spirit is to extinguish the work of the Holy Spirit in your life. Walking in the way of the Lord, being guided by the Holy Spirit is a way of life in Christ Jesus.

When we walk in the presence of the Holy Spirit with our whole being, it is to know the fire of God as did Elijah (I K 18.21-40)

1Ki 18:38 Then the fire of the LORD fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice, and the wood, and the stones, and the dust, and licked up the water that *[was]* in the trench.

1Ki 18:39 And when all the people saw *[it]*, they fell on their faces: and they said, The LORD, he *[is]* the God; the LORD, he *[is]* the God.

Quenching the Holy Spirit is to have one's life go out. We need to understand what life is. Perhaps we need to go to the Book of Job to understand life (Job 1.6-19). God and Satan have a dialogue concerning Job. Satan says:

Job 1:9 Then Satan answered the LORD, and said, Doth Job fear God for nought?

Job 1:10 Hast not thou made an hedge about him, and about his house, and about all that he hath on every side? thou hast blessed the work of his hands, and his substance is increased in the land.

Job 1:11 But put forth thine hand now, and touch all that he hath, and he will curse thee to thy face.

Then the trials come to try the servant of God.

Job 1:18 While he *[was]* yet speaking, there came also another, and said, Thy sons and thy daughters *[were]* eating and drinking wine in their eldest brother's house:

Job 1:19 And, behold, there came a great wind from the wilderness, and smote the four corners of the house, and it fell upon the young men, and they are dead; and I only am escaped alone to tell thee.

Notice Job's response:

Job 1:20 Then Job arose, and rent his mantle, and shaved his head, and fell down upon the ground, and worshipped,

The Book of Job shows us what goes on in the community, for example. Three enemies, uh – I mean three friends, approach Job and accuse him of not living for the Lord, telling him, in essence, that all that has come down upon him is because he, Job, has sinned.

However, let us go to Chapter 38. God said to Job, in essence, Where were you when I hung the stars? It is in this chapter that Job realizes that life was not about him, that life is about the Lord God Almighty. This gives Job insight to life, life itself in the Lord God. Words from a chorus: "Though none go with me, still I will follow (*Jesus Christ*), no turning back, no turning back."

Job lived for the Lord, loved the Lord; he did not neglect; he understood the need to keep the fire of the presence of the Holy Spirit in his life. He loved the Lord – not just with words, but with his life.