

Dr David Platt

A CHURCH MIGHTY IN THE WORD Acts 18:23-20:16

The Word and the Holy Spirit...

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The Word and Evil Spirits	
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The Word and the World	
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The Word and our Worship	
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Acts 18:23-20:16

The Word and the Holy Spirit...

- What the Bible isn't teaching...
 - o After you come to faith in Christ, you need to be **baptized** by/in/with the Spirit.
- What the Bible is teaching...
 - o Baptism by/in/with the Spirit occurs at **conversion**.
 - o Questions...
 - But what about Pentecost?
 - Jesus' disciples were living in a time of covenant transition.
 - Regarding Jesus, they understood the <u>new</u>covenant (they believed in an ascended Messiah).
 - Regarding the Spirit, they still lived in the <u>old</u> covenant (they had an incomplete experience of the Spirit).
 - At Pentecost, disciples with an old covenant experience of the Spirit became disciples with a <u>new</u> covenant experience of the Spirit.
 - But what about other "second baptisms" in Acts?
 - None of these experiences mention"baptism by/in/with the Spirit."
 - The new covenant realization of the Spirit is simply following the advancement of the gospel to new **territory** (Acts 1:8).
 - o Conclusions...
 - Be **confident** in your baptism.
 - Beware of **two**-class Christianity.
 - Be active in seeking the Spirit!
 - Be biblical in talking about experiences with the Spirit.
 - Look for the **fruit** of the Spirit.
 - Focus on the filling of the Spirit.

The Word and Evil Spirits...

- What the Bible isn't teaching...
 - o Get training to talk with demons.
- What the Bible is teaching...
 - There is no direct command in Scripture to do <u>deliverance</u> ministry (i.e., cast out demons).
 - Scripture commands us not to have <u>anything</u> to do with evil spirits or their mediums.
 - Scripture **nowhere** prescribes a strategy for naming or binding evil spirits.
 - There are numerous direct commands in Scripture to do <u>personal</u> ministry (i.e., call people to salvation).
 - **Revere** Jesus.
 - Repent of sin.
 - Rest in the Word.

The Word and the World...

- What the Bible isn't teaching...
 - o Opposition to the gospel will eventually be **<u>quieted</u>** in this world.
- What the Bible is teaching...
 - o Proclamation of the gospel will always be **challenged** in this world.

The Word and our Worship...

- What the Bible isn't teaching...
 - o You will <u>die</u> if you fall asleep in church.
- What the Bible is teaching...
 - o When the church gathers, we soak in the Word.
 - o When the church scatters, we **spread** the Word.
 - Jesus has conquered sin and defeated death!

The Bottom Line...

We are in the midst of a spiritual <u>war</u>, and we have <u>all</u> been filled with the Holy Spirit to spread God's Word throughout this world, no matter what it <u>costs</u>.