

EPHESIANS – THE MYSTERY OF GOD’S CHURCH –
OUR IDENTITY, OUR WALK, OUR WARFARE
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**SERIES: Ephesians – The Mystery Of God’s Church –
Our Identity, Our Walk, Our Warfare**

TITLE: Program 52 – Make Melody In Your Heart To The Lord

TUESDAY

OPEN

I am slow glad, I, I am so glad that you tuned into this this ah, program today, cause I want to teach you the Word of God. O Beloved, what do I sound like? I sound like I’m drunk. The Bible says, “...**Do not [be] drunk with wine...**,” or with anything else, because “...**that is dissipation....**” (Ephesians 5:18a) It is a waste of your life. But instead, “...**Be filled with the Spirit.**” (5:18b) We’ll talk about it today.

PART ONE

I’ve never been drunk in my life because I couldn’t stand a drunken woman. But I will tell you that as a former nurse I’ve taken care of a lot of drunks. And it is so sad. You look at that person and you think this person is missing life. This person is destroying themselves. They’re destroying their family.

They are self-destructing. It is dissipation. It is a waste, an absolute waste. And this is why God tells us in Ephesians chapter 5, [“Don’t be drunk with wine,”] verse 18, [“but be filled, keep on being filled, with the Holy Spirit.”] (Paraphrase, 5:18) You know when I’m drunk with wine I am out of control. I mean I am out of control. I can’t walk straight and my affections are off and my speech is slurred and my thinking is crazy. It’s not right. It’s dissipation. Everything is just being squandered. But if I’m filled with the Holy Spirit then I’m living a life that’s under control. And this is what he wants to say to you in essence, [“Don’t be out of control by being drunk with wine, but be under control by walking in the Spirit.”] (Paraphrased, Ephesians 5:18) This is what it’s all about. So if I walk in the Spirit what does that walk look like? What happens in me, what happens in you when we’re filled with the Holy Spirit? And just think of filled now as being controlled by the Holy Spirit, think of a puppet on strings and you’re the puppet and God is pulling the strings so that you walk the way He wants you to walk. You talk the way He wants you to talk. You think the way He wants you to think and you have the proper emotions. This is what it is to be filled with the Holy Spirit. Well all of this expresses itself and what goes on in your heart is described to us in Ephesians chapter 5 in verse 18 and 19. So let’s look at it. **“...Do not get drunk with wine....” (Ephesians 5:18a)** This is a command. **“...For that is dissipation....” (5:18b)** It’s useless. It’s a waste. It’s neglectful. **“...But be filled with the Spirit.” (5:18c)** Now “be filled” as I told you previously is a present imperative middle form of a verb. Present tense means continuous action. We explain all this by the way, in the free study guide that you can download by going to [“preceptsforlife.com.”](http://preceptsforlife.com) That study guide shows you the different tenses and moods of verbs and voices of verbs. So present tense means continuous action in the Greek. It’s a very accurate language. The imperative is a command. It is saying I command you keep on being filled, because it’s present tense, with the Spirit. Now the voice is a middle voice. And the middle voice means this,

that the subject, which is you participates in the action of the verb. In other words it's not something that is passive which is coming upon you. It's not something that is active which you are doing all of it. But it is something that you are cooperating with. And so what he's saying in essence is this: the Holy Spirit wants to fill you. The Holy Spirit wants to control you. It is your responsibility to cooperate with the Holy Spirit. It's not to stand there and say, "Oh, I wish the Spirit would fill me. I wish the Spirit would fill me. If only the Spirit would fill me." No, the Spirit's there, just dying to go and fill you and flow all over the place. You have to cooperate. So you are cooperating by allowing the the Spirit to come up and fill you totally and completely and absolutely. All right now, let's look and see what happens because it's so neat. It says, **"...Be filled with the Spirit, speaking to one another..."**, talking to one another, sharing with one another, **"...in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody with your heart to the Lord."** (Ephesians 5:18b-19) So if I'm filled with the Holy Spirit it's going to affect my relationship in a parallel line with other people horizontally and it's going to affect my relationship to the Lord vertically. And what it's going to do is it's going to put a song in my heart. It's going to say as I speak to you I'm speaking to you in a psalm. Now what is a psalm? A psalm is truth that was sung as David wrote the Psalms and others wrote the Psalms. They were, they were truths that were sung to God. They dealt with the issues of life and they came up with God as the solution. You'll see this as you read and study the Psalms. You pour out your heart to God and then you remember the truth about God that is going to take care of that need, that pain, or that situation. So that is like the psalm and we have a whole book of psalms or songs. But not only do you speak to one another in psalms, but in hymns and in spiritual songs. So what is he saying? He's saying when I'm filled with the Holy Spirit there's going to be a song in my heart. When I'm filled with the Holy Spirit I'm going to be singing truth to you and I'm going to be joining you in singing truth. And that's

horizontally, but also, vertically I’m going to be singing and making melody in my heart to the Lord. But now watch, there’s a hard and difficult thing right here. And it says, **“Always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to God, even the Father.” (Ephesians 5:20)** So when I’m in this filling with the Spirit I’m going to find myself so to speak, walking around the house or getting in the car or just being in in kind of a quiet mode and there’s going to be a song in my heart to the Lord. You know, knowing that and understanding that it has been so sweet to me because there are times when I thought O God; I am filled with the Spirit because I’m singing and I’m making melody in my heart to You. Now what does this show you? This shows you the importance of music. It shows you the importance of singing these songs. But I want you to understand something because you know the early church got messed up because they thought that the only thing that they could sing were the Psalms, that to sing anything else would be sacrilegious. It would be against God. But if they only knew the Scriptures. This is why it’s important for you and me to know the Word of God, because it talks in this passage that [“I’m not to walk as an unwise person, I’m to walk as a wise person. I am to make the most of my time.”] (Paraphrased, Ephesians 5:15-16) Well if I make the most of my time and I make the Word of God a priority in my time then I’m going to know truth. What I want to do is I want to tell you a story and it’s the story of Isaac Watts. Now it’s comes from a wonderful book called, “Then Sings My Soul” and it’s 150 of the world’s greatest hymn stories and it’s written by the neatest man, Robert J. Morgan. And he’s a pastor and he has Precept in his church and I just so enjoyed meeting him. But I was so excited when I found out oh, you’re the one, you’re the one, because I have his book “On This Day” and now I have “Then Sings My Soul”. But he tells about Isaac Watts. Isaac Watts was a brilliant precocious child. He learned Latin at the age of 4 at Greek at the age of 9 and Hebrew at the age of 13. And he loved rhymes and he loved verse. And at the age of 7 this is what he wrote this

poem in this childish script. “I am a vile polluted lump of clay so I’ve continued ever since my birth. Although Jehovah grace did give me, as sure as this monster, Satan will deceive me. Come therefore Lord from Satan’s claws, relieve me.” Now he did this in an acrostic with his name Isaac. This young man loved to write rhymes. And he loved to write songs. He was the one that gave us the hymn, “When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died, my richest gain I count but loss and pour contempt on all my pride.” This is Isaac Watts. And yet as you read his story your heart is absolutely grieved and it’s grieved by people who said that they were led by the Spirit who thought they were right and yet they were wrong, people who did not grasp the whole teaching, the who counsel of God, people who did not understand what Ephesians 5 is saying when it says **“speaking to one another...and singing and making melody [in] your heart.... (Ephesians 5:19a, c) Singing and speaking how? Now listen, “...in psalms and [in] hymns and in spiritual songs...,” (5:19b)** not just in the psalms, but words that you have brought into your heart, words that the Spirit of God has stirred into your heart. Do you know that a man who claimed to be filled with the Spirit was used to absolutely devastate Isaac Watts when he wrote songs, like “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” and other hymns? He called him a heretic. He called him a man that was turning us away from God. And this sensitive soul, and Isaac Watts was a sensitive soul, just went into a deep depression. You know what? It was something that literally drove him from his church. And yet if Isaac Watts had clung to the Word of God he would not have ended up in that battle of depression. We’ll talk about it more right after this break.

PART TWO

I love to read the biographies of Christians because I learn so much from their lives. I watch how they lived in the light of truth and I find out what

happens when they didn’t embrace truth. And it’s a reminder to me when I fail to embrace truth to turn around and to come back and look at the Word of God and order my life accordingly. Well as Isaac Watts quietly pastored a church in London he was causing a tempest all over the world, a tempest that came across the ocean, a tempest that caused a man, a man by the name of Reverend Rankin, who was a Presbyterian, to come all the way on horseback to a meeting in Philadelphia. And this is what he said: “I have ridden horseback all the way from my home in Kentucky to ask this body to refuse the great and pernicious error of adopting the use of Isaac Watts hymns in public worship in preference to the Psalms of David.” Now listen, God said, **“speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs....,”** (Ephesians 5:19a) and Isaac Watts never intended to turn people away from the sounds. As a matter of fact he devoted his life, the remainder of his days to taking to the Psalms and putting them into language that children could understand so they would sing the Psalms. But you know what? As we look at this we see that Isaac Watts went into severe depression because of this controversy. He told the church, “Quit paying me a salary. I’m an embarrassment.” But the church thankfully did not listen. He ended up going and living with a family for 16 years. And all he did for the rest of those 16 years was put this gift, this talent to work in giving us Psalms and spiritual songs so we could sing to one another the truths, the precepts of God, and so that we could share them with others. Well this is part of being filled with the Holy Spirit. Horizontally, you’re **“speaking to one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs....”** Vertically, you’re **“...singing and [you’re] making melody [in] your heart to the Lord.”** (Ephesians 5:19) And third, what are you doing? You’re **“...giving thanks [always] for all things....”** (5:20a) Let’s look at it. In verse 20, **“Always, [always] giving thanks....”** (5:20a) Now **“speaking”** and **“singing”** and **“making melody”** and **“giving thanks”** are all present participles. So it’s not something that just happens every now and then, maybe twice a year or four times a year. It’s a

habit of life. And so what he’s saying here is if you’re filled with the Spirit, Beloved, you’re not living this desolate life that has no control to it, but rather you are so under the control of the Holy Spirit, you have so allowed the Spirit to fill you that no matter what happens you are always giving thanks. I just read a letter from a woman and she was telling me how angry she was at God. And she was angry at God because her husband lost his job. Their business went under. All of a sudden here is a man in his 50’s without any means of income. She’s angry with the Lord. She’s angry with the Lord because she followed the principle in Malachi, **“Bring [your] ... tithes into the storehouse....” (Malachi 3:10a)** She was putting them into the church and God will **“...open...the windows of heaven....,” (Malachi 3:10b)** and some other scriptures that promised her that if she would give, then God would bless. And I was trying to explain to her, you need to understand the whole counsel of God. It’s not a reason to be angry with God. Paul says, [“I know how to abound. I know how to be abased. I’ve learned whatsoever state I am, whether I am suffering need...”] (Paraphrased, Philippians 4:11-12) And that word for “suffering need” meant dirt poor. I mean down on your knees dirt poor, so poor that you can’t hold up your head, but you’ve got your hand held up. That’s how desperate Paul said, I can get. [“But I have learned whatsoever state I am therewith to be content.”] (Paraphrased, Philippians 4:11b) Paul knew that if he was filled with the Spirit he would always [“give thanks in everything, knowing that this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning him.”] (Paraphrased, 1 Thessalonians 5:18) And you find this in 1 Thessalonians and that’s what I quoted is 1 Thessalonians chapter 5, verse 18, which is our cross-reference. And you want to make sure that write it right next to Ephesians chapter 5, verse 20, 1 Thessalonians chapter 5, verse 18, **“In everything give thanks; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus.” (1 Thessalonians 5:18)** So I can know that if I am being led by the Spirit, if I am walking by the Spirit, if I am being filled with the Spirit, no matter the tragedy that comes my way I’m not going to feel

angry at God because that’s not of the Spirit. But rather, instead I’m going to understand God, You’re sovereign, God, You’re in control and God You have not left Your throne. I don’t know what’s happening, but I know Your promises. I know You promised me that **“...all things [will keep on working] together for good to those that love [You], to those [that] are the called according to His purpose.” (Romans 8:28b)** I know that [“whom You foreknew you predestined to become conformed to the image of Your Son.”] (Paraphrased, Romans 8:29) I know that this abasement, I know that this trial is going to make me like Jesus. So being filled with the Spirit, allowing the Spirit to fill me whether I feel like it or not, allowing the Spirit to fill me I’m always going to be giving thanks as he says here, **“always giving thanks for all things in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, ...even the Father.” (Ephesians 5:20)** What is Jesus Christ? Jesus Christ is the One who provides, Jehovah-jireh in the mount of the Lord it will be provided. So we find Calvary at the mount of the Lord and that’s where God provides everything that you and I need, Precious One. Well what’s the, the other thing that he shows us about being filled with the Spirit? It’s in verse 21, **“and be subject...,”** and that word **“subject”** is under orders. That word **“subject”** means to not exalt yourself, but to come under command, to walk in submission to another. And this is what it says: **“...Be subject to one another...,” “...Be subject to one another....” (Ephesians 5:21a)** Now **“be subject”** is in the present tense. So what he’s saying is if I’m filled with the Spirit of God then what I’m going to do is I’m going to not be exalting myself. I’m not going to be overriding people. I’m going to walk in this mutual submission, one to another, not looking on my own things only, but looking on the things of others. This is what it means to be filled with the Holy Spirit. When you’re drunk all you can think about and you can’t really think very well, but all you can think about is you. I mean you can’t think clearly. You can’t think rationally because you are under the control of alcohol. But if I’m under the control of the Spirit then

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I'm going to have this gentleness. I'm going to have this meekness. I'm going to have this goodness. I'm going to have this kindness. I'm going to have the fruit of the Spirit. And so I'm going to be subject to one another in the Lord. It's also going to affect my marriage. It's also going to affect my children. It's also going to impact me as an employer or as an employee. And that's what we'll look at in our next study on Ephesians chapter 5. In the meantime be filled with the Spirit.