

**\*\* (Note: All Bible Quotes Are Taken From The Original King James Version)**

**Subject: Have You Received The Holy Ghost Since You Believed?**

You can only be saved under the instructions and leadership of the true prophet or preacher sent by God. There may be many other preachers, or so called prophets teaching, prophesying, and preaching the gospel, but the Holy Ghost will only come into your life when you are under the teachings of the prophet sent by God. God will only send the Holy Spirit into your life when you are being reprov'd and taught by the preacher that God ordained the Holy Ghost to be given to others through. Peter, John, and the Apostle Paul were the only apostles ordained by God to administer the Holy Spirit to others. Though Philip ministered faithfully doing many notable miracles in the city of Samaria, people did not get the Holy Spirit until Peter and John laid hands on them and prayed for them.

Acts 8:14-17 read as follows:

- Verse 14 - Now when the apostles which were at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent unto them Peter and John:
- Verse 15 - Who, when they were come down, prayed for them, that they might receive the Holy Ghost:
- Verse 16 - For as yet he was fallen upon none of them: only they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus.
- Verse 17 - Then laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Ghost.

There were also many faithful disciples at Ephesus who had been partakers of the baptism of John the Baptist yet did not receive the Holy Ghost until Paul laid hands on them and prayed. Acts 19:1- 6 reads as follows:

- Verse 1 - And it came to pass, that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul having passed through the upper coasts came to Ephesus: and certain disciples,
- Verse 2 - He said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? And they said unto him, we have

- not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost.
- Verse 3 - And he said unto them, Unto what then were ye baptized?  
And they said, Unto John's baptism.
- Verse 4 - Then said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of  
repentance, saying unto the people, that they should  
  
believe on him which should come after him, that is,  
on Christ Jesus.
- Verse 5 - When they heard this, they were baptized in the name  
of the Lord Jesus.
- Verse 6 - And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy  
Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues,  
and prophesied.

This means they testified in their own native languages.

**Subject: Are You Trying To Follow The Teachings Of Jesus  
Christ In The Flesh?**

If you are trying to follow the teachings of the gospel in the flesh, (sinful nature), you are wasting your time. The Gospel of Jesus Christ is a spiritual teaching (righteous teaching). A person who lives in the fleshly nature has tendencies or desires to live just the opposite of the way the gospel teaches. The spiritual nature and the fleshly nature are opposite or contrary to one another. It is hard to live righteous when you desire to live unrighteous. In the book of Galatians 5:17 it reads as follows:

- Verse 17 - For the flesh lusteth against the Spirit, and the Spirit  
against the flesh: and these are contrary the one to  
the other: so that ye cannot do the things that ye would.

To live in the fleshly nature means such a person minds, or thinks about pleasing the desires of the flesh; and if they are trying to follow the gospel of Jesus Christ, they will mind the things of the flesh in a very modest way. Such a person may not commit adultery, steal, lie or drink liquor, but they could be selfish or harbor

malice, envy and evil thoughts in their mind, which to them may not appear to be too bad. However, the Bible teaches, to be fleshly minded is sin though such a person may not practice open acts of sin. In Romans 8:5-8 it teaches like this:

Verse 5 - For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit.

To mind the things of the flesh is to desire to fulfill the lust of the flesh, but to mind the things of the Spirit is to desire to fulfill the will of God. So then whatever desires dominate your mind will tell you whether you have the spirit of the fleshly nature or not.

Verse 6 - For to be carnally minded (fleshly minded) is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace.

A carnal or fleshly minded person will never have any peace in their mind, though they may be trying to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ; such a person will be morally good, and sinful minded. This type of person has not gotten the Holy Spirit because they did not repent with a sincere heart or intent to please God totally. Such a person probably serves God for material benefits and not for the love of God.

Verse 7- Because the carnal mind is enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

A fleshly or carnal minded person cannot subject themselves totally to the teachings of the gospel, though they may be able to follow some things, they will ignore or not recognize the parts of the gospel that they really need. Such a person in the flesh cannot please God.

Verse 8 - So then they that are in the flesh cannot please God.

A fleshly-minded person cannot totally receive the teachings of the Spirit of God. This would be foolishness to the person in the flesh. In the book of I Corinthians 2:14 it reads as follows:

Verse 14 - But the natural man (fleshly man) receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

The teachings of Jesus Christ can only be followed, and understood by a person who is filled with The Holy Spirit. This is why Jesus used worldly parables when he taught the gospel, because he knew that those in the flesh could not understand a spiritual teaching. Jesus knew that if he could not get the people to receive his earthly parables, that there was no way they would be able to receive heavenly or spiritual parables. In St. John 3:12 it reads as follows:

Verse 12 - If I have told you earthly things, and ye believe not,  
how shall ye believe, if I tell you of heavenly things?