



GOING DEEPER WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT Published by Bookmark Publishing Dallas, Texas

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## INTRODUCTION

friend once told me an unforgettable story about his great-grandparents. For years they eked out a living on a farm in Kentucky then finally gave up and moved to Oklahoma because they heard it was the land of opportunity. The farm they'd sold and left behind in the Bluegrass State had been unproductive.

The new owner of the land discovered oil and became incredibly wealthy. Ironically, the reason the land hadn't produced for the previous owner was that it was so saturated with petroleum that nothing would grow.

Think of it! For years those dear people lived in poverty while beneath their feet lay all they needed. If they had understood anything about petroleum engineering or could have somehow found out about the resources nestled below the surface of the hard-rock soil, they could have tapped into these rich oil deposits and enjoyed financial success beyond their wildest dreams! Instead, they moved farther west and continued living in poverty and lack.

In much the same way we have the great resources of the Holy Spirit available, yet too many believers live on the surface, experiencing only spiritual poverty and frustration, not tapping into the spiritual riches just below the surface. We simply need to go deeper. The Holy Spirit stands ready to provide guidance, strength, and energy to carry out His plans: "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you" (Acts 1:8).



## Deeper with the Holy Spirit

We need to recognize that the Holy Spirit is much more than a representative of God, the Supreme Being. He is the Spirit of the Yahweh we worship, the Spirit of I AM, the Spirit of the Lord of heaven and earth. This title for the Holy Spirit, the Spirit of the Lord, is used repeatedly in both the Old and New Testaments.

I challenge you to go deeper with the Spirit of God. I encourage you to make sure you are enjoying the deepest possible level of freedom and abundance by the Holy Spirit. If you are not, all you need to do is ask. He is your Helper, and He longs to unleash blessings upon you and your family.

A fresh anointing of the Holy Spirit will change your life and impact others through your walk with the Lord. As a result, you will be consumed by your longing to be used of God and to know His presence in a greater dimension than ever before.

The Holy Spirit wants to anoint you with His power, to give you victory over temptation, to instruct you in God's Word, to fill you with wisdom and revelation, and to equip you for ministry. Above all, He longs to have fellowship with you and to bring you into the presence of God Almighty.

And it is the Holy Spirit who makes the Father and His Son, the Lord Jesus, so real in our hearts and lives. That is why the apostle Paul earnestly desired for all believers to experience "the fellowship of the Holy Spirit" (2 Corinthians 13:14, NIV). The more we know Him, the more we know the Father and the Son. And the Holy Spirit never exalts Himself but always glorifies and magnifies the Lord Jesus. The Lord Jesus said of the Holy Spirit: "He will glorify Me, for



#### INTRODUCTION

He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you" (John 16:14, NKJV). The Holy Spirit does not seek His own glory, nor does He want to draw attention to Himself, but to Jesus.

I like what R. A. Torrey said: "If the Holy Spirit is thought of as an impersonal influence or power, as so many do, then we rob Him of the worship that is His due, of the love that is His due, and of the faith and confidence and surrender and obedience that are His due." This same Holy Spirit longs to reveal Jesus to you and empower you to love Him with all your heart, soul, and strength. But for that to happen, you must welcome Him into your life.

There is no greater way to express our love to the Lord than to surrender to His Holy Spirit every day. In fact, it is absolutely essential if you are to know the Person of the Holy Spirit intimately and experience His work profoundly. But surrender is only possible through prayer and brokenness before the Lord.

People often ask me, "Can anyone experience the Holy Spirit in such a deep way? Can anyone see the Holy Spirit do miraculous things?" The answer is absolutely yes! There is no special gift involved, only brokenness and surrender. So the question is not, do I have the gift? The question is, can I surrender all to Him?

Here is how the process begins. As you get to know the Lord, He begins to manifest Himself and His love for you. And a fellowship begins that grows and intensifies until you get to the place where you will say, "Lord Jesus, I give You my life, my mind, my heart, my dreams, my emotions, my thoughts; I give them all to You. I surrender spirit, soul, and body. Do with me as You will."

And as you surrender to Him, it is then that the Holy



Spirit begins to teach you, not just about yourself, but about all that the Father has for you. It is then that He imparts to you His strength and His living faith. For as Isaiah declared, "In quietness and in confidence shall be your strength" (Isaiah 30:15).

Everything about the Word of God now becomes stronger, and everything about prayer now becomes richer. A passage of Scripture you have read many times becomes more powerful than ever because of the presence of the Holy Spirit. And a peace and tranquility will come into your life, and for the first time you will understand what the Lord Jesus meant when He said, "My peace I give unto you" (John 14:27). All that becomes yours because of the Holy Spirit.

The Holy Spirit is a Gentleman. He will not intrude into our lives or force His presence upon us. But He will stay ever so close to those who desire His company. We need to welcome the Holy Spirit into every area of our daily lives by allowing Him to do His work in us and through us—at home, on the job, in school, at church, wherever we are. His wonderful presence should grace our prayer closets, our Bible studies, our worship, and our relationships with other people.

He longs to become your closest Companion and Helper. But it is up to you to extend the invitation. You must welcome His presence in your life.

## A Deeper Walk

You cannot appreciate a person's work until you understand who they are. The same is true of the Holy Spirit. The better you understand who He is as a Person, the more you will be able to understand, experience, and carry out His great



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work. My prayer for you as you read this book is for you to understand the Holy Spirit more deeply through a study of His nature, His names, and His work. I also pray that you will learn how to move into a deeper relationship as He anoints your life more and more to accomplish the will of God, the Father.

The Word of God in John 16:7 declares, "But I tell you the truth: It is for your good that I am going away. Unless I go away, the Counselor will not come to you; but if I go, I will send him to you" (NIV). Imagine that! You have been given a Counselor

R. A. Torrey said, "I take this as one of the most precious promises in the Word of God: that another Person just as divine as Jesus . . . is by my side always."<sup>2</sup>

Join me now as we discover how to experience a deeper relationship with the blessed Holy Spirit. You can have an intimate relationship with Him starting today.







The
PERSON
of the
HOLY
SPIRIT





# #DEEPER DIMENSION

raveling around the world, I'm convinced that the church has never experienced such hunger for a deeper move of God than what we are seeing today. I have been ministering for over three decades, and I have never seen such a desire on the part of so many believers for the presence of the precious Holy Spirit.

According to everything I have read in the Word of God, hunger is the greatest sign of spirituality, and Jesus promised us that if we are hungry, He will fill us. In fact, Master Jesus said: "Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness: for they shall be filled" (Matthew 5:6). Not only did He call those who are hungry "blessed," but He promised to fill them and use them.

I believe with all my heart that hunger for the presence of God is what brings revival and change, not only for each of us individually, but collectively for the church of Jesus Christ. It's the answer for the world, for until people know how much we care, they don't care how much we know. Caring begins with a life dedicated to service—to God and to others. The deeper the desire for service, the greater impact believers will see.

In fact, I heard a story once of a woman who came to a pastor and asked, "I really want to know God, and I want to



be used by Him. Will you please tell me what consecration to Christ and service for Him means?" The pastor reached over to a nearby shelf for a blank piece of paper. Holding it up for her to see, he said, "It is to sign your name at the bottom of this blank sheet, and throughout your life to let God fill in the page as He wants."

How many of us are willing to do that? I believe that sort of deeper dimension of service can only happen when we are hungering and thirsting after God.

## Spiritual Hunger

Many years ago I heard that the day you quit being hungry is the day you begin to die. This is true even in the physical realm. So as long as we are hungry, we are alive. Hunger is a sign of life. There are three things we need to consider about spiritual hunger:



- Only God can birth true hunger in the spirit. It cannot be manufactured by the flesh.
- Hunger drives believers to deeper dimensions of service to God and others. It enables us to come into a stronger relationship with Him, and as we become closer to Him, we become more like Him.
- Spiritual hunger creates great expectations. It causes us to have a better understanding and vision for what God is doing all around us.

This is happening today, perhaps more so than at any time in the past. I see the Lord is giving His children a deeper hunger than at any time in my life. He is doing a mighty work among those who are seeking to be used by Him.

Why?

#### A DEEPER DIMENSION

He is doing this to bring forth a new manifestation of the Holy Spirit and to touch more people than ever with His salvation and miracle-working power. God has called us to be part of this Great Commission.

### **Getting Started**

God declared, "Call to Me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things, which you do not know" (Jeremiah 33:3, NKJV). In that powerful verse God promised three results to a man or woman who seeks more of God:

- **Revelation** ("I will answer you.")
- Vision ("I will . . . show you.")
- **Knowledge** (". . . great and mighty things, which you do not know.")

How would your life change if you had a greater revelation of God's purpose in your life?

How would your heart be transformed if you possessed more of His vision for reaching the world with the Gospel?

Can you imagine how effective you could be in doing God's will if you were filled with more and more of His knowledge?

It is possible for you to go deeper with the Holy Spirit. In fact, look at that passage in Jeremiah 33 again, and you will see that revelation, vision, and knowledge (verse 3) are just the beginning. Continuing, the Lord also offers these promises to believers who seek His face:

- I will bring health (verse 6).
- I will cure them (verse 6).
- I will reveal peace and truth (verse 6).
- I will pardon all their iniquities (verse 8).

