

The Christian's heart is the Holy Spirit's home.

The Holy Spirit by Horatius Bonar - The Holy Spirit begins, carries on, and consummates in us all spiritual feeling, all spiritual worship, all spiritual life and energy. There be nothing more hollow and unreal than religion without the Holy Spirit. That which is external and superficial, that which manifests itself in mere dress, and music, and routine service may flourish without Him; no, can only flourish in His absence. But the deep and the real must be His work from first to last. The Spirit is absolutely necessary to a religion of love, and liberty, and joy. Mere 'religiousness' is at every man's command. Any man may get it up in a day. But 'spirituality' comes from above, and is the product of the Spirit dwelling and working in the heart...

Formalism, routine, and external religion, the **excitements of mysticism**- these are poor substitutes for the life, and glow, and energy of the Holy Spirit. Nothing but His own presence can avail to lift us out of the unreal religiousness into which we have fallen; to transform creeds into realities, and the bodily bowing of the head, or bending of the knee, into spiritual worship; turning the "dim religious light" into the sunshine of a heavenly noon; drawing out of our hymnals the deep 'heart music' of divine and blessed song; delivering us alike from Rationalism and Ritualism, from a hollow externalism, and from an impulsive and unreasoning fanaticism. [The Holy Spirit](#)

Vance Havner had this to say about the role of the **Holy Spirit** in the modern church...

We are not going to move this world by **criticism** of it nor **conformity** to it, but by the **combustion** within it of lives ignited by the Spirit of God. Too many people assemble at God's house who don't really believe in the power of God. **Having begun in the Spirit, we live in the flesh** ([Gal 3:3](#)) We say that we depend on the Holy Spirit, but actually we are so wired up with our own devices that if the fire does not fall from heaven, we can turn on a switch and produce false fire of our own. If there is no sound of a rushing mighty wind, we have the furnace all set to blow hot air instead. God save us from a synthetic Pentecost! Too many people assemble at God's house who don't really believe in the power of God. **Having begun in the Spirit, we live in the flesh.**

I heard of a boys' school where every morning before classes the youngsters were supposed to recite the Apostles' Creed. Each one was given a segment of the creed: "I believe in God the Father Almighty," and so on down the line. One morning they were getting along pretty well until all at once there was a dead stop and a profound silence. Then a lad spoke up and said, "The boy who believes in the Holy Spirit is not here this morning." I'm afraid that's happened in a lot of church prayer meetings these days.

Some are not filled because they must first be emptied. Even God cannot fill what is already full. **When are we going to learn that all the wonderful things we read about in the Book of Acts were simply the outflow and the overflow of the inflow of the Holy Spirit?** A keen mind and theological training are useful tools when they are sanctified but the Holy Spirit is our teacher and He who inspired the Bible is the best interpreter of it.