

“Spirit of the living God fall afresh on me!”

1. Intro:

- 1.1. Did you know that if you have a **milk cow** it *isn't more considerate* to milk her less! - The only thing that happens is **the less** that is demanded of her, **the less** milk she provides. **The more** milk you take **the more** that is produced.
 - 1.1.1. It is also true of **the Christian life!** – If you only turn to God when in need, you'll miss the real joy that flows from a **daily infilling of His Spirit.**
- 1.2. **Intro:** They saw/heard Jesus pray; they asked how to do it; they were taught a model; Jesus ended with the most important prayer point (H.S. vs.13)
 - 1.2.1. We learned we should of course pray for **material things, health, & finances;** but this *isn't* the **highest form** of praying.
 - 1.2.2. **We must** graduate to the highest level of praying, asking for the **blessings of the Spirit of God** that result in Christian **Character & conduct** that glorify the Lord.

2. THE SECRET OF POWER OVER DEMONS! (14-26)

- 2.1. **THE MIRACLE!** (14)
- 2.2. Miracles do not **convict** people of sin **or give them faith** for salvation.¹
 - 2.2.1. Even here some **marveled**(14), & some **accused** Jesus of being in league w/the devil(15).
- 2.3. **THE PROBLEM!** (15-20)
- 2.4. **2 Attacks on Jesus:** (15,16)
 - 2.4.1. **1st Attack** – “You get your power from Satan!”
 - 2.4.1.1. **Van Halen's song “Running with the devil”** comes to mind. Yeah, that's what they were accusing Him of!
 - 2.4.2. **2nd Attack** – “We want a sign from you.”
 - 2.4.2.1. **1st** is answered in vs.17-26.
 - 2.4.2.2. **2nd** is answered down in vs.29-32.
- 2.5. A false statement of the secret of His power.
 - 2.5.1. **Beelzebub** (Lord of the **flies**; from 2 Kings 1:1-3)
 - 2.5.2. **Beelzebub** (Lord of the **house**) [better translation here]
 - 2.5.2.1. *Lord of the house* relates to **vs.18-26.**

- 2.6. (17-19) Jesus shows how illogical it would be for Satan to fight against himself.
- 2.6.1. Satan does have a kingdom, & Jesus has invaded it & conquered it.
- 2.6.1.1. Eph.2:1,2 “you were dead in your transgressions and sins, in which you used to live when you followed the ways of this world and of **the ruler of the kingdom of the air**, the **spirit** who is now at work in those who are disobedient.” (NIV)
- 2.6.1.2. Col.2:15 “Having disarmed principalities and powers, He made a public spectacle of them, **triumphing over them in it.**”(cuz Cross)
- 2.7. (20) **With the finger of God** –
- 2.7.1. Matthew’s account gives different wording, “*by the Spirit of God*”. [12:28]
- 2.7.2. By using this **synonymous term**, Jesus says he is in league with **the Holy Spirit of God**.
- 2.8. **THE ANALOGY!** (21,22)
- 2.9. The **strong man is the Devil**; & Jesus is **stronger than he!**
- 2.9.1. And this is how He is able to cast the demon out.
- 2.9.2. **And what was the secret of His superior power? The Spirit of God, the finger of God!**
- 2.10. This is Jesus complete mastery over Satan.
- 2.11. **INDECISION!** (23)
- 2.12. More dangerous than **open hostility is attempted neutrality**.
- 2.13. You can **receive** Christ, or **reject** Him, but you can’t **ignore** Him!
- 2.13.1. “The same sun **melts ice & hardens clay**, though it **merely shines** on both.”
- 2.14. **PART WAY IS NO WAY!** (24-26)
- 2.15. The **imperfect cures** of the Jewish Exorcists.
- 2.15.1. If you expel a demon, you must replace it w/a more powerful source of strength.
- 2.16. Reformation is not Regeneration!
- 2.16.1. A pig that cleans himself up a bit is still a pig!
- 2.16.1.1. He needs a new nature to no longer be a pig.
- 2.16.2. **We are all born with a corrupt nature**(it is corrupt in its **thoughts, affections, & its will**)
- 2.16.2.1. So the spiritual rebirth gives a new **nature**, a new **mind**, a new **intellectual nature** that is no longer blind to the truth of God.
- 2.16.3. We get new **tastes**, new **loves**, instead of loving the things that displease God, we now love what pleases God.
- 2.16.3.1. God imparts His own nature into man.
- 2.17. Again, it’s a Spirit issue.

3. THE SECRET OF KINSHIP WITH GOD! (27-28)

- 3.1. **PHYSICAL RELATIONSHIP VS. SPIRITUAL!**
- 3.2. Blessed, or “oh how happy” is **your mom!** – Yes she is, but **more than that** how happy is anyone who **hears Gods words & puts them into practice!** 😊
- 3.3. Matthew tells us this is the occasion when His mother came, & wanted to persuade Him to go home.
- 3.3.1. This is probably what prompted this woman to say this about Mary.
- 3.4. When debating about Mary with friends, don't put Mary down, simply raise all believers up, as Jesus does here.
- 3.5. Wow, **kinship** with You is supreme! – **No**, more important is relationship created by the Spirit.
- 3.5.1. It is a higher relationship which creates closer ties than even family.

4. THE SECRET OF INTERPRETATION OF THE SPIRIT! (29-32)

- 4.1. **SIGN SEEKERS!** (29,30)
- 4.2. Now He answers vs.16. – And it is a **rebuke** for asking for a *material* or *spectacular* sign which only proves their unbelief & refusal to accept the evidence.
- 4.2.1. Such seeking proves **this generation** is evil!
- 4.3. **One sign** – “as Jonah was 3 days and 3 nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be 3 days and 3 nights in the heart of the earth”^{Mt.12:40}
- 4.3.1. Why was His *death, burial & res* such a powerful sign?
Better yet, **when** did this become such a powerful sign?
- 4.3.2. Actually it wasn't until **after** his death, & **after** His resurrection.
- 4.3.3. His **cross** scattered them; His **resurrection** gathered back again.
- 4.3.4. But they never really came to a place of complete comprehension until what? - **Pentecost**, until **the Spirit came**, did they really understand this sign.
- 4.4. Next He challenges His hearers that He is greater than one of their prophets (Jonah) & one of Israel's most important characters in Jewish history, the monarch under whom their nation had reached its zenith among world powers. “greatest king, smartest man (wrote Prov.1-29), & wealthiest king”.
- 4.5. **GREATER THAN SOLOMON; GREATER THAN JONAH!** (31,32)
- 4.6. Solomon & all of his Fame, Wisdom, Wealth, & Influence was not enough.
- 4.7. Jonah & all of his **preaching** was not enough.
- 4.8. *Queen of Sheba* is in **1 Kings 10:1-13**.
- 4.9. If **Gentiles** like the *Queen of Sheba* & the *people of Nineveh* believed on the basis of the message God gave them...**how much more** should *the Jews of that day* repent, having seen all He did & heard His messages.

- 4.9.1. Nineveh heard, “yet 40 days & Nineveh shall be overthrown.”
 4.9.1.1. Nineveh heard the “bad news” & repented; this generation heard the “good news” & won’t???
- 4.9.2. Privilege always brings about responsibility.
- 4.10. So why should this generation stand condemned? – What was their sin? Indifference. They wouldn’t repent at Jesus’ preaching!
- 4.11. **END:**
- 4.12. In all 3 of these incidents the central ingredient is *The Holy Spirit*.
- 4.13. [1] **The Spirit** is the secret of **Jesus’ power!**
- 4.14. [2] **The Spirit** is the central ingredient for having **relationship** with Him!
- 4.15. [3] **The ultimate sign** is given by the interpretation of **The Spirit!**
- 4.16. They saw Him pray & they **desired the secret;**
 He gave them **the model** & showed them that the ultimate in prayer is the **reception of the Spirit** initially & continuously;
The Holy Spirit is the secret of power over demons; the secret of kinship w/God; & the secret of the greatest sign.²
- 4.17. You & I, **if** we have **spiritual relationship** with God, **have** the most **powerful** of Spirits; & also spiritual **understanding** & **illumination** into the things of life & godliness!
- 4.17.1. Paul asked an important question to a dozen disciples in Ephesus, “**Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?**” (Acts 19:1-7)
- 4.18. Remember the milk cow in the beginning? – *Milk away!*
- 4.18.1. The Holy Spirit loves providing all you need for life & godliness.
- 4.18.2. **Be Careful!** – He is intensely sensitive against sin (you can grieve Him)
- 4.18.3. **Know!** - Every time we read our bible it is possible to have this Divine Person, the author of the book, to interpret it to us, & to teach us its real & innermost meaning.

² G. Campbell Morgan; Luke; pg.145.