

THE ONE YEAR BIBLE CLUB

WITH TEACHING COMMENTARY BY NICK BOORK

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October 12 – 1 Thessalonians 5:4-28

But you, brethren, are not in darkness, so that this Day should overtake you as a thief. ⁵You are all sons of light and sons of the day. We are not of the night nor of darkness. ⁶Therefore let us not sleep, as others do, but let us watch and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk are drunk at night. ⁸But let us who are of the day be sober, putting on the breastplate of faith and love, and as a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, that whether we wake or sleep, we should live together with Him. ¹¹Therefore comfort each other and edify one another, just as you also are doing.

¹²And we urge you, brethren, to recognize those who labor among you, and are over you in the Lord and admonish you, ¹³and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. Be at peace among yourselves. ¹⁴Now we exhort you, brethren, warn those who are unruly, comfort the fainthearted, uphold the weak, be patient with all. ¹⁵See that no one renders evil for evil to anyone, but always pursue what is good both for yourselves and for all.

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸in everything give thanks; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies. ²¹Test all things; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely; and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be preserved blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful, who also will do it.

²⁵Brethren, pray for us.

²⁶Greet all the brethren with a holy kiss.

²⁷I charge you by the Lord that this epistle be read to all the holy brethren.

²⁸The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. Amen.

OKAY, HERE'S MY TEACHING COMMENTARY

In verse 19 Paul says do not quench the Spirit. What does this mean? The word quench means to extinguish, put out a fire, resist or suppress fire. What Paul was saying was be careful not to quench or resist the workings of the Holy Spirit in your public worship services. This is why he adds in the next sentence do not despise prophecies but test all things. We find several places in the New Testament where the church was started in a blaze of Holy Spirit fire manifesting the presence of God through spiritual gifts freely flowing.

In Acts 2 when the church was born it says that the Holy Spirit came like a rushing mighty wind, manifesting his presence in the form of fire upon the heads of all present including the apostles, Mary the mother of Jesus, his brothers and other disciples about 120 that we're gathered. The Holy Spirit filled everyone in the house and they all began to speak with other tongues. This is how the church was born in the power of the Holy Spirit.

In Acts 4 the believers were persecuted but they prayed and were all filled with the Holy Spirit again and spoke the Word of God boldly. This time the Holy Spirit filled them with the fire of zeal for Jesus and it manifested by preaching the gospel with great boldness accompanied by signs, wonders and miracles.

In Acts 10 after Peter preached the gospel at Cornelius home the Holy Spirit fell on all of the people present and they began to magnify God by speaking in tongues.

Acts 19 when Paul traveled to the city of Ephesus he shared the gospel with a group of 12 men and he baptized them in water. As they came out of the water Paul laid his hands on them and they all began to speak with tongues and to prophesy.

When Paul was teaching in 1 Corinthians 14 about how public worship services should function he said they were to **“let”** two or three prophets speak and that the gifts of prophecy along with the gift of tongues followed by the interpretation of tongues should be a common part of their worship services. If you are going to let spiritual gifts manifest in your church service then you have to allow them and you cannot quench or resist them. He actually encourages the church to seek for the Holy Spirit's manifestation, especially through the gift of prophecy saying in verse 39-40 Therefore, brethren, desire earnestly to prophesy, and **“do not forbid”** to speak with tongues. Let all things be done decently and in order. Notice that he says DO NOT FORBID for to speak with tongues, in other words, do not quench the gift of tongues and interpretation in the worship service.

In 1 Corinthians 14:26 Paul instructs believers to come to church ready to participate using spiritual gifts. “How is it then, brethren? Whenever you come together, each of you has a psalm, has a teaching, has a tongue, has a revelation, has an interpretation. Let all things be done for edification.” So the purpose of spiritual gifts is to build up the church. However if we quench the working of the Holy Spirit by not allowing spiritual gifts to manifest the opposite effect will also be true which is depriving the church of the spiritual graces that minister to it and build it up.

Some leaders have quenched the working of the gifts of the Holy Spirit. How does this happen? Sometimes it's out of pure ignorance because the leadership has never experienced the baptism of the Holy Spirit and so they do not expect the working of the Holy Spirit in church services. Others fear that if they allow spiritual gifts to manifest then things will just get out of hand but that's not necessarily true because leaders are supposed to be able to discern the

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truth from the false and test all things to see if they line up with the written word of God. Another reason is because some have embraced the teaching that the gifts of the Holy Spirit have passed away after the New Testament was written. Nowhere in the Bible does it say that the Holy Spirit was ever removed from the church but if you go to some churches today it seems like there is no manifestation of the Holy spirit during the worship service. This is exactly what the apostle Paul was warning not to allow happen by saying do not quench the Spirit and do not despise prophecies.

WHAT'S THE BOTTOM LINE?

- 1) Quenching the Holy Spirit is resisting and not permitting his gifts to manifest in the local church.
- 2) The Holy Spirit desires to speak, heal, deliver and manifest the power of God in the church but it's a partnership with the people of God that allow Him to move.
- 3) Pastors should lead and teach the church to cultivate and experience gifts of the Holy Spirit.
- 4) Pray that God begin to move in your church afresh through spiritual gifts.
- 5) The Holy Spirit will move in church services in response to faith where there is a hunger for the presence of God and believers sincerely seeking to be used in spiritual gifts.

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