

# God's Plan for the Ages Series

## Lesson #020

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Dean Bible Ministries

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**GOD'S PLAN**  
FOR THE **AGES**  
**DISPENSATIONS**

**SPIRITUAL LIFE OF THE  
CHURCH AGE**

# GENTILES

# ISRAEL

*Perfect Environment*

*Conscience*

*Human Government*

*Patriarchs*

*Mosaic Law*

*Messianic Age*

*Church Age*

*Tribulation*

**Creation Covenant**

Gen. 1:28-30;  
Hosea 6:7

**Adamic Covenant**

Gen. 3:14-19

**Noahic Covenant**

Gen. 9:1-17

**Abrahamic Covenant**

Gen. 12:1-3

**Mosaic Covenant**

Ex. 20-40

**Logos**

**New Covenant Applied**

## Responsibility

**Fulfill the Covenant:**  
Gen. 1:26-28;  
2:16-17

**Animal Sacrifice**  
Gen. 3:21

**Fill the earth**  
Gen. 9:7

**Stay distinct people**  
Gen. 7:14

**Obey the Law**  
Ex. 19:3-8

**Accept Messiah**

**Faith alone in Christ alone**

## Failure

**Ate fruit**  
Gen. 3:1-6

**Evil and Wickedness**  
Gen. 6:5-6

**Built Babel**  
Gen. 11:1-4

**Assimilated**  
Gen. 34

**Disobeyed**  
2 Chron. 36:14

**Reject Messiah**

**Most reject Christ**

## Divine Judgment

**Sp. Death**  
Gen. 3:7-19

**Flood**  
Gen. 6—9

**Confusion of Languages**  
Gen. 11:5-9

**Egyptian Bondage**  
Ex. 1:8-14

**Diaspora**  
Deut. 28:63-66

**Cross 5th Cycle**

**Tribulation**

# BIBLICAL DISPENSATIONS

**Rom. 6:3, “Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?”**

**Rom. 6:4, “Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.”**

**ETERNAL  
REALITIES**

**TEMPORAL  
REALITIES**



**ACTS 16:31**

**IN CHRIST**

**Baptism by the  
Holy Spirit**

A black arrow originates from the bottom of the red cross and points towards the white circle, indicating a transition or connection between the temporal and eternal realms.

# **The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:**

**1. The Holy Spirit does five things for every believer at the moment of salvation.**

**a. Regeneration (Titus 3:5; John 3:6–8)**

**Titus 3:5, “not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit,”**

# **The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:**

**1. The Holy Spirit does five things for every believer at the moment of salvation.**

**a. Regeneration (Titus 3:5; John 3:6–8)**

**John 3:6, “That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.**

**John 3:7, “Do not marvel that I said to you, ‘You must be born again.’”**

**John 3:8, “The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear the sound of it, but cannot tell where it comes from and where it goes. So is everyone who is born of the Spirit.”**

# **The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:**

**1. The Holy Spirit does five things for every believer at the moment of salvation**

**b. Indwelling. (1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Timothy 1:14; Romans 8:9, 11)**

**1 Cor. 6:19, “Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own?”**



# **The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:**

**1. The Holy Spirit does five things for every believer at the moment of salvation.**

**b. Indwelling. (1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Timothy 1:14; Romans 8:9, 11)**

**2 Tim. 1:14, “That good thing which was committed to you, keep by the Holy Spirit who dwells in us.”**

# **The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:**

**1. The Holy Spirit does five things for every believer at the moment of salvation.**

**b. Indwelling. (1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Timothy 1:14; Romans 8:9, 11)**

**Rom. 8:9, “But you are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if indeed the Spirit of God dwells in you. Now if anyone does not have the Spirit of Christ, he is not His.”**

**Rom. 8:11, “But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.”**

# **The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:**

**1. The Holy Spirit does five things for every believer at the moment of salvation.**

**c. Sealing (Ephesians 1:13; 4:30).**

**Eph. 1:13, “In Him you also trusted, after you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation; in whom also, having believed, you were sealed with the Holy Spirit of promise,”**

**Eph. 4:30, “And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, by whom you were sealed for the day of redemption.”**

# **The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:**

**1. The Holy Spirit does five things for every believer at the moment of salvation.**

**d. Baptizing (1 Corinthians 12:13; Acts 1:5; 11:15–17)**

**1 Cor. 12:13, “For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body—whether Jews or Greeks, whether slaves or free—and have all been made to drink into one Spirit.”**

# **The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:**

**1. The Holy Spirit does five things for every believer at the moment of salvation.**

**d. Baptizing (1 Corinthians 12:13; Acts 1:5; 11:15–17)**

**Acts 1:5, “for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”**

# **The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:**

**1. The Holy Spirit does five things for every believer at the moment of salvation.**

**d. Baptizing (1 Corinthians 12:13; Acts 1:5; 11:15–17)**

**Acts 11:15, “And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them, as upon us at the beginning.**

**Acts 11:16, “Then I remembered the word of the Lord, how He said, ‘John indeed baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit.’ ”**

# **The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:**

**1. The Holy Spirit does five things for every believer at the moment of salvation.**

**d. Baptizing (1 Corinthians 12:13; Acts 1:5; 11:15–17)**

**Acts 11:17, “If therefore God gave them the same gift as He gave us when we believed on the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could withstand God?”**

# **The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:**

**1. The Holy Spirit does five things for every believer at the moment of salvation.**

**e. Giving spiritual gifts (1 Corinthians 12–14; see especially 1 Cor. 12:7, 11).**



# The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:

1. **The Holy Spirit does five things for every believer at the moment of salvation.**
  - a. **Regeneration** (Titus 3:5; John 3:6–8)
  - b. **Indwelling** (1 Corinthians 6:19; 2 Timothy 1:14; Romans 8:9, 11)
  - c. **Sealing** (Ephesians 1:13; 4:30).
  - d. **Baptizing** (1 Corinthians 12:13; Acts 1:5; 11:15–17)
  - e. **Giving spiritual gifts** (1 Corinthians 12–14; see especially 1 Cor. 12:7, 11).

**ETERNAL  
REALITIES**

**TEMPORAL  
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**ACTS 16:31**

**IN CHRIST**

**Baptism by the  
Holy Spirit**

**REGENERATED  
SEALED  
INDWELT**

**FILLED BY  
THE  
HOLY SPIRIT**

**“Walking by the  
Holy Spirit”**

# **The Unique Spiritual Life of the Church Age:**

- 2. Spirituality and carnality are mutually exclusive (1 Cor. 3:1–3; Gal. 5:16–18), therefore absolutes in the Christian life. The spiritual believer walks in the light; the carnal believer walks in darkness (1 John 1:6–7).**

**1 Cor. 3:1, “And I, brethren, could not speak to you as to spiritual people but as to carnal, as to babes in Christ.**

**1 Cor. 3:2, “I fed you with milk and not with solid food; for until now you were not able to receive it, and even now you are still not able;**

**1 Cor. 3:3, “for you are still carnal. For where there are envy, strife, and divisions among you, are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?”**

**1 John 1:6, “If we say that we have fellowship with Him, and walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth.**

**1 John 1:7, “But if we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.”**

**3. The Christian is not subject to the Mosaic Law, but is under the higher law of spirituality (Galatians 5:18, 23; Romans 6:14–15; 8:2–4; 10:4; 1 Corinthians 9:21).**

**4. The Holy Spirit produces in the believer the character of the incarnate Christ (Galatians 4:19; 5:22–23; 1 John 2:5, 6).**

**5. The Holy Spirit is God and cannot sin, therefore the believer filled with the Spirit cannot sin under the status of spirituality apart from human volition or ignorance (1 John 3:9). Therefore the spiritual believer magnifies Christ in his inner life (2 Corinthians 3:3; Philippians 1:20–21).**



**6. Production of the Christian way of life depends on the filling of the Spirit. When the Holy Spirit is filling him, his production is gold, silver, and precious stones; when controlled by the sin nature his production is called wood, hay, and stubble. At the Judgment Seat of Christ all human good – wood, hay, and stubble – is burned (1 Corinthians 3:11–15).**

## **7. The results of the filling of the Spirit:**

**a. Imitation of Christ (Ephesians 5:1; Galatians 4:19; Philippians 1:20)**

**b. Glorification of Christ (John 16:14; 7:39; 1 Corinthians 6:19–20)**

**c. Understanding of the Word (John 14:26; 16:12–14; 1 Corinthians 2:9–16)**

**d. Power for witnessing (Acts 1:8;  
2 Corinthians 3–5)**

**e. Assurance (Romans 8:14–16; Galatians  
4:5–6)**

**f. Worship (Philippians 3:3; John 4:24)**

**g. Prayer (Ephesians 6:18 cf., Psalms 66:18)**

**h. Helping other Christians (Galatians 6:1)**

- i. Fulfills the righteousness demanded by the Law (Romans 8:2–4; 10:4; 13:8)**
  
- j. Produces transformed character as “fruit” (Galatians 5:22–23)**

**8. Emotion or ecstasies are not characteristic of the filling of the Spirit during the Church Age or any other dispensation (2 Corinthians 6:11, 12; Romans 16:17, 18; cf., tongues in 1 Corinthians 12:13, 30).**

**9. The culmination of the spiritual life of the church is at the judgment seat of Christ to prepare the Bride for the Marriage of the Lamb.**

**Rev. 19:7, “Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready.**

**Rev. 19:8, “And to her it was granted to be arrayed in fine linen, clean and bright, for the fine linen is the righteous acts of the saints.**

**Rev. 19:9, “Then he said to me, ‘Write: “Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!” ’ And he said to me, ‘These are the true sayings of God.’ ”**