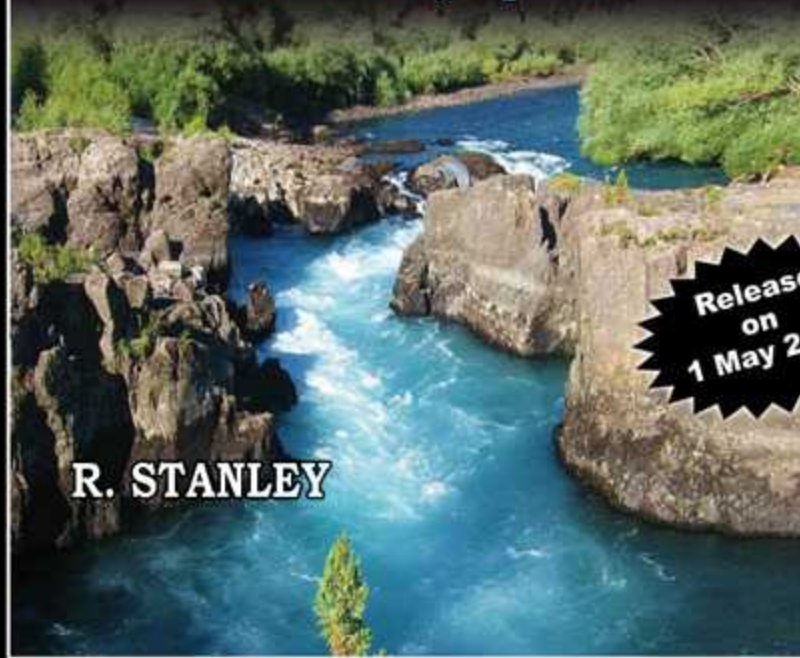


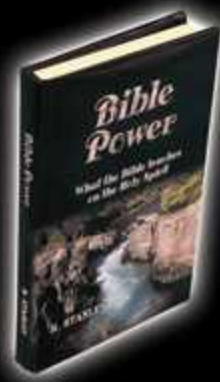
Bible Power

**What the Bible teaches
on the Holy Spirit**



R. STANLEY

Release
on
1 May 2018



2250 Bible References
50 Chapters
320 Pages
Available in Tamil also.

A thorough study!

Bible Power

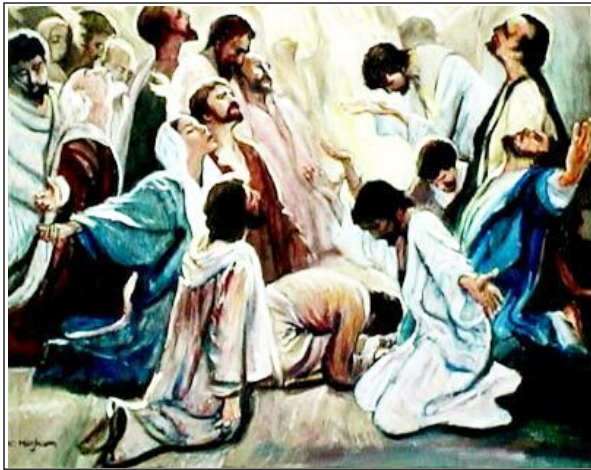
This book is about the Power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit is a Person in the Trinitarian Godhead like God the Father and Jesus Christ His Son. He is mentioned atleast 350 times in the Bible. A deficient knowledge of the Holy Spirit is the root cause of all the major ills in the Church of Jesus Christ today. The material in this book serves rich spiritual food both to the Pentecostals and non-Pentecostals.

*There are totally 50 Chapters in this book
divided under three categories:*

- (A) Articles*
 - (B) Study Notes*
 - (C) Questions & Answers*
- Scripture Index included.*



R. STANLEY
13 Church Colony, Vellore 632 006, India
Tel: 00 91 98437 07600, 98430 11943
<stanleyonbible@hotmail.com>
<evangeline@stanleyonbible.com>
www.stanleyonbible.com



The last words of Jesus to His disciples
before His ascension:
*“You shall receive power
when the Holy Spirit comes on you!”*
(Acts 1:8)

About this book ...

Bible Power

This book is about the power of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit of God is mentioned at least 350 times in the Bible, 100 times in the Old Testament and 250 times in the New. Apostle Paul refers to the Spirit of God 112 times in his Epistles. A deficient knowledge of the Holy Spirit is the root cause of all the major ills in the Church of Jesus Christ today. We worship our structures and systems, but God has no respect for them if they are “void of the Spirit” (2 Tim 3:5; Jude 19).

The very mention of the Holy Spirit is allergic to many Christians because they associate it with the Pentecostal denominations. They don't realize that the Holy Spirit is a Person in the Trinitarian Godhead like God the Father and Jesus Christ His Son. The Holy Spirit is a real Person and not an impersonal force or influence. He is Omnipresent (Psa 139:7-13), Omnipotent (Lk 1:35-37) and Omniscient (1 Cor 2:10,11). He is not suddenly introduced in the New Testament. We meet Him on the very first page of the Bible (Gen 1:2). He was involved in Creation (Job 26:13; Psa 104:30). He guided the people of Israel in the wilderness (Neh 9:20). The Holy Spirit is equal with God the Father and God the Son as seen in the baptismal formula (Mt 28:19,20) and the trinitarian benediction (2 Cor 13:14).

Even though Jesus was coequal with God in Heaven, He emptied Himself of His divine glory when He came to

the earth (Phil 2:6,7). The work of the Holy Spirit in the life of Jesus is amazing. He was sent to the earth both by the Father and the Holy Spirit (Isa 48:16). His conception in the womb of virgin Mary was by the Holy Spirit (Mt 1:20; Lk 1:35). The Holy Spirit came on Him like a dove when He was baptized by John at River Jordan (Mt 3:16). It was the Holy Spirit who led Him into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil (Mt 4:1; Lk 4:1). After the fierce temptations He returned from the wilderness in the “power of the Spirit” (Lk 4:14). He was anointed by the Spirit to preach the Gospel and deliver the captives (Lk 4:18,19; Acts 10:38). God anointed Jesus with the Holy Spirit to minister to the Gentiles (Mt 12:18-21). He cast out demons by the Spirit of God (Mt 12:28). He rejoiced in the Spirit over the ministry of His disciples (Lk 10:21). He offered Himself to God on the Cross through the Eternal Spirit (Heb 9:14). He was resurrected by the Holy Spirit (Rom 8:11a; 1 Pet 3:18). He was vindicated by the Spirit (1 Tim 3:16). His post-resurrection commandments to His disciples were given through the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:2). If the sinless Son of God depended so much on the power of the Holy Spirit, what about us His followers? This book is meant to help you in this direction.

The first 120 members of the early Church were those who were filled with the Holy Spirit (Acts 1:15; 2:4). They taught the next 3000 members how to receive the Gift of the Holy Spirit (2:38,41). The Holy Spirit empowered them to witness for Christ (1:8; 5:32). He gave them new boldness following fresh infillings (4:31). He encouraged the believers for edification and multiplication (9:31). Pastors and leaders were appointed by the guidance of the Holy Spirit (20:28). He guided them in doctrinal matters (15:28). He directed their evangelistic and missionary endeavours (8:29;

10:19,20; 13:2,4; 16:6,7). He prepared them ahead for persecution (20:23). He filled them with joy when they were persecuted and expelled from certain regions (13:50-52). He filled the first martyr enabling him to see the glory of Heaven (7:55). He continues speaking to the Churches (Rev 2:7,11,17, etc.). Shall we give Him the due place and listen to Him? The 5th book of the New Testament namely the “Acts of the Apostles” can be more appropriately called the “Acts of the Holy Spirit!”

I was born and brought up in a high Anglican background in a small town called Nazareth in South Tamilnadu. I repeated from my age of ten the statement, “I believe in the Holy Spirit,” every time I recited the Faith Confession in our Sunday Services. But it was in 1963 when I was praying with a group of college students in a red sandy desert that God filled me with His Holy Spirit. I was sixteen then. This experience totally revolutionized my life. I fell in love with the Bible. Prayer became my delight. Holiness became my watchword. I could not stop witnessing for Christ. The Holy Spirit implanted a passion in my heart to burn out for God. I have written in this book what I learned from the Bible about the Holy Spirit and experienced in my life and ministry during the last 55 years. I cannot think of a Christian life without the fullness of the Holy Spirit.

We experienced mighty visitations of God’s Spirit in the prayer gatherings in our Engineering College Campus in Karaikudi in 1960s. Several students got filled with the Holy Spirit. One of them was Mr. A. Lionel Paul who was two years junior to me as a collegemate. God mightily anointed him with His Spirit. In course of time I sensed that God had specially gifted him to lead the thirsty souls to receive the Holy Spirit. I encouraged him to lay hands on

earnest seekers. The rest is history. Over the years he has been unusually used of the Lord to lead several thousands into the glorious experience with the Holy Spirit. Many of those who had been “tarrying” for years to receive the Holy Spirit got filled instantly when they were taught, “You don’t need to tarry for the Holy Spirit; He has already come; just receive Him by faith!” I graduated in Civil Engineering, and Brother Lionel in Electrical Engineering. People use to humorously but rightly say that he electrifies the buildings I construct!

I thank God who has graciously used me over the years to teach His Word faithfully both from Pentecostal and non-Pentecostal pulpits. I have ministered to anti-Pentecostal groups also! This is a rare privilege. I “speak the truth in love” so all the children of God may “grow up in all things into Christ who is the Head” (Eph 4:15). In all my preaching and writing I endeavour to balance between the “Word of God” and the “Spirit of God” (Mt 22:29). You may ask what my theological position is. I stress equally the sovereignty of God and the responsibility of man. After studying the writings of both Calvinistic and Arminian theologians, and comparing them with the Scriptures, I have come to the conclusion that Calvinism and Arminianism are simply the two sides of the same coin. May be you can call me a Calvinistic Arminian and an Arminian Calvinist! Confusing? We will witness the greatest Revival ever in Church history when Pentecostals and non-Pentecostals, or Charismatics and Evangelicals, would be united in holy matrimony! Have you noticed that I have dedicated this book to three authors of Study Bibles, one a Brethren, the other a Methodist, and the next one a Pentecostal? Over the years I have used these Study Bibles more than any other.

God has His own ways of leading us to do what He has purposed. Mr. C. Suthakar, one of my close prayer partners from Nazareth, was asked to address a Boys Camp of the Blessing Youth Mission (BYM) in January 2018. He was to speak on the Holy Spirit. While preparing for this assignment, he had been referring to my articles and studies on this subject. He told me, “Brother, you yourself may not be aware how much you have written on the Holy Spirit! Each article is written from a different angle. There’s not much of repetition. Praise God who has led you thus. I suggest that you compile all your Articles, Study Notes, and Questions & Answers on this subject and release them as a book. It will be a boon to the readers.” I sensed that this was God’s leading. Here’s the outcome. Since there’s no strict order or continuity in the arrangement of these Chapters, you can start anywhere. There are “fifty” Chapters in this book to give you a wholesome understanding of the Holy Spirit who came on the “fiftieth” day after the Resurrection of Jesus. The Scripture Index with its 2250 references (pages 303-316) will be handy for serious study. This book will also serve as a “manual” for those who desire to help others experience the power of the Holy Spirit.

These Chapters contain material that I wrote over a period of 40 to 50 years. Some are quite old whereas others were written recently. But I find there’s consistency throughout and no apparent contradiction between one article and the other. I prostrate before God and praise Him for leading me in the “straight highway” and through “straight streets” all these years (Isa 40:3; Acts 9:11; Psalms 5:8).

May you experience abundantly in your life, work and ministry the power of the Holy Spirit which I call the *Bible Power!*

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