



“Snapshots of a New Creation”- Part 3

Acts 4:31-5:13 ♦ Pastor Jim Lennon

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Introduction – *After those who believed in Jesus were filled with the Holy Spirit, their lives were changed. Four things stand out in their lives as a new creation in Christ.*

I. Serving God Consistently.

- A. When things got difficult for believers they didn't stop serving the Lord.
- B. The first mark of a Christ-changed, Spirit-filled life is serving Jesus consistently in good times and bad.

II. Praying Personally and Biblically.

- A. When Peter and John are released from prison, they joined other believers in prayer to God.
- B. In their prayer, they focus on the character of God they learn from the Word of God.
- C. The second mark of a Christ-changed, Spirit-filled life is praying in a personal relationship with God, responding to what He has said in His Word.

III. Speaking God's Word Boldly.

- A. The third mark of a Christ-changed, Spirit-filled life is speaking God's word with boldness.
- B. The Holy Spirit uses God's Word to accomplish His work in our lives and in others.

IV. Reflecting God Generously.

- A. The fourth mark of a Christ-changed, Spirit-filled life is being generous, like God is.
- B. One reason we are not more generous is not only greed, but fear.
- C. Being filled with the Holy Spirit eliminates fear.
- D. Luke mentions the example of Barnabas, where we see that generosity and encouragement go together.
- E. In Luke's example of Ananias and Saphira we see the antithesis of being filled with the Holy Spirit and generous.
- F. The lesson: We must be aware of, and guard against, the schemes of the devil.
- G. What it means to “test the Lord.”

Conclusion.