



March 2, 2013

"I pray that out of his glorious riches He may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being"

Ephesians 3:16

I. The Root of Emptiness

- A. We are made into a new creation in Christ. (2 Cor. 5:17) [tricycle to Maserati]
- B. The Holy Spirit is given at the time of salvation. (Eph. 1:3)
- C. But we must regularly be filled with the Spirit. (Eph. 5:8)
- D. The practice of ministry/faith expends spiritual energy. (Luke 8:46)
- E. Without regular refueling, people begin to feel empty.

II. The Results of Emptiness

- A. Emptiness is dangerous to the spiritual life. ("lose heart" - 2 Cor. 4:16-18)
- B. The fruit of the Spirit (Gal. 5:22,23) depend upon an ongoing relationship with the Holy Spirit. (like "remaining" in the vine - John 15:5)
- C. Common indications of emptiness:
 1. Becoming impatient with God and people. (2 Tim. 1:7 - "power of love...")
 2. Becoming judgmental due to lack of grace. (grace is "gift" from God - Eph. 2:8)
 3. Becoming vulnerable to temptation. (Gal. 5:16 - "walk the spirit...lust of flesh")

III. The Root of Refueling (Eph. 3:16)

- A. **Receive** something from God.
 "out of" = kata - According to His "glorious riches"
 "Strengthen" = kratous - Passive acceptance to be able to overcome.
- B. **Submit** to something from God's Holy Spirit
 "Power" = dynamis - The ability to accomplish supernatural ministry
- C. **Concentrate** on the "inner man"
 Focusing on being rather than doing.

REFUEL = Receive, Submit, Concentrate