

THE SPIRIT FILLED LIFE.

I. "Be filled with the Spirit." What?

"But ye shall receive the power of the Holy Ghost coming upon you, and ye shall be witnesses unto me, both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth."

What a word is power! What does it mean? It throbs with undeveloped potencies. The material world has passed through two, and is now entering upon the third great dispensation. It was the wind palpitating in the ship's canvas, half a century ago, that bore our fathers and mothers over the sea. The trained ear of scientific research caught the footfall of cyclopean giants, and there was ushered in the dispensation of steam. And strange to say, man has always first rejected, then accepted the greatest boons to the race. It is said that the first steamship that crossed the Atlantic brought with it an elaborate treatise that was written to prove that steam transportation was impossible.

Now the age of electricity has dawned, and its sun is already mounting the meridian sky. The heart of this age throbs with a finer force. It is a time of tremendous import. Epochs freighted with the most wonderful significance are born and brought to the service of man, with every diurnal revolution of the earth. It is an age of submarine Argonauts and astral Aerostats. The Master of the mysteries has put into the hands of man the magic sesame of science, with which he may find access to the causes and consequences that have been hidden for centuries, and man has hunted, harnessed and hitched the electric steed to the cars of commerce, and with fabulous acceleration hurries us around the world.

So, in the development of God's dealing with the history of His people, there have been two, and we are now speeding to the sunset of the third great dispensation. In the Old Testament Dispensation it was God for us. The masses never got into close proximity to him. He spoke in the thunder and storm of judgment. The chosen people reached his heart and ear through ministering priests and mediating prophets.