

MY HELPER #14
QUENCH NOT THE SPIRIT

1Thes. 5¹⁹ Quench not the Spirit.

1Thes. 5¹⁹ Do not put out the Spirit's fire;

Webster's Dictionary defines the word *quench* as follows:

1. To extinguish: such as withdrawing fuel.

Because one of the symbols for the Holy Spirit is fire, it is interesting that this definition is given.

Whatever fuels the fire when it is withheld will extinguish it.

- Prayer
- Study of the Word
- Worship
- Jesus not being lifted up
- Being involved in ministry

2. To cool by immersion: such as hot metal being immersed in water.

- Carnal discernment cools the Spirit:

The Pharisees attributed the works of Jesus to that of the devil.

Matt. 12

1Co. 2¹⁴ The man without the Spirit does not accept the things that come from the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him, and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually discerned.

NIV

- Verbal criticism cools the Spirit: The voice of others speaking against the will of the Spirit.

III. David when he is preparing to defend the name of God by facing Goliath is verbally criticized by his brother. This was David's destiny unfolding before him. This event would take him to the palace. His brother is not speaking the mind of God.

III. Jesus- Matt. 16 ²¹ From that time on Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things at the hands of the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life.

²² Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. "Never, Lord!" he said. "This shall never happen to you!"

²³ Jesus turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a stumbling block to me; you do not have in mind the things of God, but the things of men." NIV

III. Jesus is questioned by Martha at Lazarus' tomb.

John 11 ³⁹ "Take away the stone," he said.

"But, Lord," said Martha, the sister of the dead man, "by this time there is a bad odor, for he has been there four days." NIV

- When we question what has happened to us in the Spirit it will cool the Spirit.

Paul warns the Galatians against attempting to find solutions by carnal reasoning.

Gal. 3 You foolish Galatians! Who has bewitched you? Before your very eyes Jesus Christ was clearly portrayed as crucified. ² I would like to learn just one thing from you: Did you receive the Spirit by observing the law, or by believing what you heard? ³ Are you so foolish? After beginning with the Spirit, are you now trying to attain your goal by human effort? ⁴ Have you suffered so much for nothing—if it really was for nothing? ⁵ Does God give you his

Spirit and work miracles among you **because you observe** the law, **or because you believe what you heard?** NIV

We can talk ourselves out of what the Spirit has just done for or in us.

Ill. Gerrard, a pastor in Ireland received the Baptism in the Holy Spirit in at a Full Gospel Business Men's meeting. He was not asking for the Spirit it just hit him. The next day he was outside and he lifted his hands to worship God. He began to question what had happened to him. He asked God, "If what happened to me was really you give me a sign?" While his hands were raised a dove lit in the palms of his hands and flew away. He said to God, "Lord it that was not an accident would you have that dove come back and light on my hand?" It did. He never questioned again.

Don't reason yourself out of an experience with God!

- Losing our first love

Rev. 2 ⁴ Yet I hold this against you: You have forsaken your first love. ⁵ Remember the height from which you have fallen! Repent and do the things you did at first. If you do not repent, I will come to you and remove your lampstand from its place. NIV

- Lifeless deeds

Rev 2 ¹⁵ I know your deeds, that you are neither cold nor hot. I wish you were either one or the other! ¹⁶ So, because you are lukewarm—neither hot nor cold—I am about to spit you out of my mouth. NIV

3. To bring to and end typically, dampening, cooling, or decreasing.

- There were some in Thessalonica that questioned spiritual gifts. 1Thes. 5: 19,20
- Excessive abuse of the gifts causes others to cool off. 1Co. 14 was written to bring order to the worship and use of spiritual gifts. Many have been “turned off” because of what they have Experienced in a service when someone got in there “own spirit” and hindered the service. Perhaps a pastor did not keep order and the move of God ends in confusion. Perhaps a person had a group on there home and some “weird” spiritual something happened that was not explained or controlled by the spiritual authority of the house.

4. To eliminate

- Paul warned the church not to stop the gifts of the Spirit in the service but rather to keep them in order.

1Co. 14 ³⁹ Therefore, my brothers, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid speaking in tongues. ⁴⁰ But everything should be done in a fitting and orderly way. NIV

There are some pastors today that are not allowing the exercise of the Spirit gifts.

- Any church that has downplayed the role of the Holy Spirit has lost growth in church history.
- We must make room for the Holy Spirit!