



## **WOW: Word Of the Week**

**Wind**

**March 15, 2023**

### **Getting Used to the Wind!**

I grew up in Kansas. The wind always blows—well, almost always. It blows all day and continues all night. It finds its way into the corners of the house and whines eerily in the darkness. When one is not used to the sound of the wind gushing around and through a house, the sound catches and holds one's attention. One can imagine all kinds of things. But as one who grew up in Kansas, I can tell you that you get used to it.

The word for **wind and spirit** are the same in Hebrew and in Greek. One of the problems the church today has with the Holy Spirit is that we have not become used to his presence in our lives. We do not expect his continuing presence. We are impressed by those times when we noticeably experience him, see his presence. We pray without thinking of his intercession in prayer. Many consider his presence and action unusual rather than common. We are seeking some big thing, some evidence, something spectacular, impressive.

Jesus said that after his departure he would send the Holy Spirit who would be his presence among his people. The Bible describes the Holy Spirit as Exhorter, Consoler, Presence, Advocate, and Helper – **a wind constantly blowing!**

Jesus said that the Holy Spirit would testify concerning Him. The words of the Holy Spirit were received from Jesus. The words of Jesus were the words of the Father. Reread John 14-16. The Holy Spirit does not testify about himself, he testifies about Jesus. Are we listening? **Do we hear the wind?**

The Holy Spirit is Exhorter. Why do so many expect special guidance rather than depending on the daily exhortation and urging of the Spirit. The word of God is described as the sword of the Spirit. By the Holy Spirit, Christians put to death carnal desires. Lifestyle is evidence of God's Holy Spirit leading.

The Holy Spirit is active in the world, convicting the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment (John 16). The world must receive the Holy Spirit message.

When we are baptized, we receive the gift of the Holy Spirit (Acts 2). Or, as Paul describes it in 1 Cor. 12, we are baptized by or in the Spirit. God gives the Holy Spirit to all who obey (Acts 5:32) so that the Spirit dwells within us, at the same time enabling the indwelling of God (Eph. 2:22). Yet, in addition, the Bible speaks of baptized believers who at some time after their baptism for "filled with the Spirit." Do we understand? Are we studying, thinking? (Incidentally, those who were filled with the Spirit then talked about Jesus.) Is God's Spirit Wind empowering our words and breath?

The testimony of the Holy Spirit coupled with the testimony of our own spirit bears witness to our filial relationship with God. To whom does our spirit bear witness? Does our spirit bear witness to us? Read, study Galatians 3-4 in context. Make Bible teaching second nature in your life.

Here is a great challenge. **God, help us get used to the wind!**