

HOLY SPIRIT: PURPOSE IN SPIRIT

“...Paul purposed in the spirit...to go to Jerusalem, saying after I have been there I must also see Rome”
(Acts 19:21 KJV).

To purpose in spirit means to settle it, to make a commitment. That is what Paul did. The NKJV capitalizes spirit, but the KJV doesn't. It refers to the human spirit. Paul knew in his spirit that the Holy Spirit was directing him to go to Jerusalem when everyone else was warning him not to go. As it turned out Paul was arrested in Jerusalem and imprisoned, just as his friends had feared. After a series of appeals to Roman officials, Paul ended up in Rome appearing before Ceasar, preaching to judges and governors on the way, and preaching the Gospel in Rome where he had always hoped to go. Paul purposed in his spirit to obey God. The appeals of preachers and friends could not change his decision, because he was sure of what God wanted him to do. Sometimes God tells us to do something that seems to make no sense to others, maybe even to ourselves. But when God speaks His will into our spirit, we must obey. And when we are committed to obey His will, He can reveal it in our spirit. Once God has revealed His will in our spirit, we can move ahead in faith that God will fulfill His purpose in us, because His purpose has become our purpose.