

A Word Study by Pastor Melissa Scott, Ph.D.

“To Fill” and related words

Adapted from the *Theological Dictionary of the New Testament*
(Copyright © 1968, Eerdmans. Pages 128–134.)

Word Group: *pimplemi*

Rather strangely, the two main senses “to fill” and “to satisfy” are in the New Testament cleanly divided between the simple and compound forms. The content is always in the genitive.

1. *pimplemi* is used spatially in Lk 5:7, Mt 22:10, 27:48

It is also used of intellectual and spiritual processes. Reactions to the words and works of Jesus....

Within the writing of Luke, the Spirit of prophecy causes Elisabeth (1:41) and Zacharias (1:67) to magnify the fulfillment of God’s promise of salvation in the sons of Mary and Elisabeth. The same Spirit is promised to the Baptist from his mother’s womb, 1:15. In Acts, πλησθῆναι describes the work of the Holy Spirit in Christians. The primary reference here is not to the receiving of the Spirit of prophecy but to the fact that filling with the Spirit conveys the power of preaching, e.g., to Peter before his address in Acts 4:8, to all believers prior to their witness at the prayer meeting in 4:31 . . . to Paul before his sermon in 13:9.

In 2:4 the receiving of the Spirit brings the gift of tongues.

Of the other Word Group: *pleerōma*,

which is used in Ephesians 1:23, denotes the *soma*, the body, with this use directly linked to Christ as He alone is the bearer of the divine fulness in whom God hath reconciled His enemies.

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Strong’s #4137 – *pleeroō*

Ephesians 1:23

Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

πλήρωμα

NNNS

(noun nominative neut. sing.)

πληρουμένου

VPPMGM-S

(verb participle present middle genitive masc. sing.)

Ephesians 3:19

And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, that ye might be filled with all the fulness of God.

πλήρωμα

NANS

(noun accusative neut. sing.)

πληρωθήτε

VSAP-YP

(verb subjunctive aorist passive 2nd person pl.)

Ephesians 4:10

He that descended is the same also that ascended up far above all heavens, that he might fill (fulfill) all things.

πληρώση

VSAA-ZS

(verb subjunctive aorist active 3rd person sing.)

Ephesians 5:18

And be not drunk with wine, wherein is excess; but be filled with the Spirit

πληροῦσθε

VMPP-YP

(verb imperative present passive 2nd person pl.)

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Strong’s #4137 – *pleeroō* (continued)

Matthew 1:22 Now all this was done, that it might be fulfilled

πληρωθῆ

VSAP-ZS

Matthew 2:15 that it might be fulfilled

πληρωθῆ

VSAP-ZS

Matthew 2:17 Then was fulfilled

ἐπληρώθη

VIAP-ZS

Matthew 2:23 that it might be fulfilled

πληρωθῆ

VSAP-ZS

Matthew 3:15 it becometh us to fulfill all righteousness

πληρῶσαι

VNAA

(verb infinitive aorist active)

Matthew 4:14 might be fulfilled

πληρωθῆ

VSAP-ZS

Matthew 5:17, 8:17, 12:17, 13:35, 13:48, 21:4, 23:32, 26:54, 26:56, 27:9, 27:35

Mark 1:15, 14:49, 15:28

Luke 1:20, 2:40, 3:5, 4:21, 7:1, 9:31, 21:22, 21:24, 22:16, 24:44

John 3:29, 7:8, 12:3, 12:38, 13:18, 15:11, 15:25, 16:6, 16:24, 17:12, 17:13, 18:9, 18:32,
19:24, 19:36

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Strong’s #4137 – *pleeroō* (continued)

Acts 1:16, 2:2, 2:28, 3:18, 5:3, 5:28, 7:23, 7:30, 9:23, 12:25, 13:25, 13:27, 13:52, 14:26, 19:21,
24:27

Romans 1:29, 8:4, 13:8, 15:13, 15:14, 15:19

2 Corinthians 7:4, 10:6

Galatians 5:14

Ephesians 1:23, 3:19, 4:10, 5:18

Philippians 1:11, 2:2, 4:18, 4:19

Colossians 1:9, 1:25, 2:10, 4:12, 4:17

2 Thessalonians 1:11

2 Timothy 1:4

James 2:23

1 John 1:4

2 John 12

Revelation 3:2, 6:11

Strong’s #4138 – *pleerōma*

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English: furnished, filled, accomplished

Thayer’s 4130 πλήθω – *pleetho* see
πιμπλημι – *pimpleymi*

KJV Matt 22:10 (b) and the wedding was furnished with guests

ἐπλήσθη
VIAP-ZS

Matt 27:48 a sponge and filled it with vinegar

πλήσας
VPAANM-S

Luke 1:15 he shall be filled with the Holy Ghost

πλησθήσεται
VIFP-ZS

Luke 1:23 were accomplished

ἐπλήσθησαν
VIAP-ZP

Luke 1:41 was filled with the Holy Ghost

ἐπλήσθη
VIAP-ZS

Luke 1:57 Now Elisabeth’s full time had come

ἐπλήσθη
VIAP-ZS

Luke 1:67 was filled with the Holy Ghost

ἐπλήσθη
VIAP-ZS

Luke 2:6 were accomplished

ἐπλήσθησαν
VIAP-ZP

Luke 2:21 when the eight days were accomplished

ἐπλήσθησαν
VIAP-ZP

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Luke 4:28 And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath

ἐπλήσθησαν

VIAP-ZP

Luke 5:7 They came, and filled both the ships

ἔπλησαν

VIAA-ZP

Luke 5:26 and they were filled with fear

ἐπλήσθησαν

VIAP-ZP

Luke 6:11 And they were filled with madness

ἐπλήσθησαν

VIAP-ZP

John 19:29 filled a sponge with

(and full appears here too; both are not Thayer’s 4130, but μεστόν)

Acts 2:4 all filled with the Holy Ghost

Acts 3:10 they were filled with wonder

Acts 4:8 Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost

Acts 4:31 they were all filled

Acts 5:17 were filled with indignation

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Acts 9:17 filled with the Holy Ghost

πλησθῆς

VSAP-YS

Acts 13:9 filled with the Holy Ghost

πλησθεῖς

VPAPNM-S

Acts 13:45 filled with envy

ἐπλήσθησαν

VIAP-ZP

Acts 19:29 filled with confusion

ἐπλήσθη

VIAP-ZS