

THE POWER OF PENTECOST

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you...ACTS 1:8

The Ministry of Jesus – Jesus demonstrated power:

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| • Over sickness and disease | Healing |
| • Over Evil Spirits | Deliverance |
| • Over sin | Forgiveness of Sins |
| • Over the Natural Order | Calming Storm |
| • Over Death | Lazarus |
| • Over lack | Multiplication of food |

Key points

- Kingdom of God manifest through power
- Authenticated His claims
- Reversed the consequences of the fall
- Exposed the work of Satan in the earth
- Touched broken humanity at every lever (body, soul, spirit)

The Ministry of the Apostles

- *Luke 9* – the 12 sent out to preach, heal, cast out demons, and proclaim the kingdom of God
- *Luke 10* – the 70 are sent out
- *Acts* – Signs and Wonders
- Peter – overview – preaching, healing, evangelizing, raising the dead, etc
- Phillip – in Samaria – preaching, healing and evangelizing
- Paul – preaching, teaching, missionary, church planter, healing, deliverance, raise the dead, etc.
- Barnabas – with Paul 1st missionary journey
- Silas – 2nd and 3rd missionary journey

Early Church – power ministry – book of Acts overview

- *Acts 2:43* – Signs and wonders taking place at the hands of the apostles
- *Acts 3:1-10* – Lame beggar healed by Peter and John
- *Acts 4:30* – Intercession for healing, signs and wonders and boldness
- *Acts 5:12 – 16*: Signs and wonders, Peter's shadow, healing, deliverance
- *Acts 6: 8* – Stephen full of grace and power performing signs and wonders

Key Points

- Church is to continue the ministry of Jesus
- Church is to be empowered by the Holy Spirit
- Signs and wonders authenticate claims of the church
- All ministry of this type brings glory to God and blesses suffering and broken humanity

The Baptism of the Holy Spirit Is Foretold In All Four Gospels

- Matthew 3:11, "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."
- Mark 1:7, "I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."
- Luke 3:16, "He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire."
- John 1:33, "The man on whom you see the Spirit come down and remain is he who will baptize with the Holy Spirit."

Jesus said He would send the Holy Spirit

- John 14:15-17, 26, "I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Counselor...."
- John 15:26, "When the Counselor comes, whom I will send to you from the Father...."
- John 16:7, 13-15, 24, "I will send Him to you."

Jesus breathed on the disciples after the resurrection so they could receive the Holy Spirit.

- John 20:22, "And with that He breathed on them and said, 'Receive the Holy Spirit.'"

Later still, Jesus told them not to go anywhere until they received (more) power. It appears that Jesus' attitude is that it takes God's power to do God's work.

- Luke 24:49, "but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high."
- Acts 1:4-5, 8, "but wait for the gift my Father promised..." ... "but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit." ... "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you."

The Promise of Jesus and Joel 2:28 is fulfilled on the Day of Pentecost

- *Acts 2* tells of tongues, prophesy, empowered preaching

Gentile Pentecost

- Acts 10:44, "The Holy Spirit came on all who heard the message."

Spirit Filled Believers

The baptism of the Holy Spirit is central to the Christian life.

Jesus said would be given to all who ask.

Jesus said He would send us the Holy Spirit which would enable us to do the things He did.

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| • Because of the Holy Spirit there are gifts given to the body of Christ for ministry. | <i>1 Corinthians</i> |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is fruit in the Christian life. | <i>12:1-10</i> |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is the power to live victoriously. | <i>Gal 5:22-23</i> |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is the ability to witness. | <i>Rom 6:10-14</i> |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is healing, evangelism, social justice, and outreach | <i>Acts 1:8</i> |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is love in our hearts. | <i>John 14:12</i> |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is guidance and revelation of Truth | <i>Rom 5:5</i> |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit there is true worship. | <i>John 16:13</i> |
| • Because of the Holy Spirit we are born again. | <i>John 4:23</i> |

- Because of the Holy Spirit we can put to death the deeds of the flesh *John 3:3-8*
- Jesus was conceived by the Holy Spirit *Gal 5:16*
- Jesus was baptized by the Holy Spirit *Luke 1:35*
- Jesus was filled with the Holy Spirit *Luke 3:22*
- Jesus ministered in the power of the Holy Spirit *Luke 4:1*
- Jesus was raised from the dead by the Holy Spirit *Luke 4:18*
- We are to be born again by the Holy Spirit *John 3:3-8*
- We are to be baptized in the Holy Spirit *Mark 1:8*
- We are to be filled with the Holy Spirit *Acts 2:4*
- We are to be led by and minister in the power of the Holy Spirit *Rom 8:14*
- We are to be raised from the dead by the power of the Holy Spirit *Rom 6:4*

The Three Levels for Ministries of Power

1. Internal or Personal Power

What Jesus had in mind was to fill us with His Holy Spirit so we could be free of our sinful nature.

- Romans 6:1-4:
- Romans 6:14

“you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes upon you.” Acts 1:8

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| ❖ The power to repent | ❖ The power over greed |
| ❖ The power to forgive | ❖ The power over lust |
| ❖ The power to love your enemies | ❖ The power over hate |
| ❖ The power overcome temptation | ❖ The power over gossip |
| ❖ The power to put off the old man | ❖ The power over fear |
| ❖ The power to resist Satan | ❖ The power to trust God |
| ❖ The power to bear witness | ❖ The power over anxiety |
| ❖ The power to pray | ❖ The power to die to self |
| ❖ The power to minister in the body of Christ | ❖ The power to control the tongue |
| ❖ The power to give | ❖ The power to hear the Lord |
| ❖ The power to worship | ❖ The power to wait on the Lord |
| ❖ The power to read and study the Bible | ❖ The power to discern the ways of the Lord |
| ❖ The power to love unconditionally | ❖ The power to walk in humility |
| ❖ The power to be honest | ❖ The power to overcome pride |
| ❖ The power to be moral | ❖ The power to be a servant |
| ❖ The power to be ethical | ❖ The power to prefer others over yourself |
| ❖ The power to walk with integrity | ❖ The power to be patient |
| ❖ The power to confess sin | ❖ The power to _____ |

2. External Power or Demonstrated Power

When Jesus walked on the earth, He modeled a very clear teaching and ministry method. He would talk or *teach about the Kingdom* of God, then He would *minister in power* to demonstrate the Kingdom of God.

Proclamation and Demonstration/Word of God and the Works of God

The primary demonstrations of power were:

- Preaching the gospel
- Baptizing those who believed
- Disciplining the newly converted
- Ministry to the poor
- healing the sick
- casting out the demonic
- Generosity towards those in need

Healing, personal transformation, deliverance, and people being set free from all sorts of problems (marriages healed, children off drugs, financial miracles, suicide averted, addictions broken, etc.) are all external demonstrations of the power of God.

3. Eternal Power and the Age to Come

This last area has to do with prayer, fasting, and intercession.

- Daniel 10 – fasting and praying for revelation
- 2 Corinthians 10:3-6; We do not wrestle against flesh and blood...
- Ephesians 6 – Spiritual Warfare and the Unseen Realm