



Insights On The Power Of The Holy Spirit

Sunday February 13, 2005

THE POWER OF THE HOLY SPIRIT – IN THE LIFE OF JESUS

Luke 4:14,18-19, Acts 10:38, Matthew 12:28, Romans 1:4

The Lord Jesus carried out His earthly ministry through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Power Gr. "*dunamis*" = force; specifically miraculous power, ability, might, strength,

Insight #1: The Holy Spirit releases His power through human vessels. Luke 4:18,19

Mark 5:24-34 Luke 8:45,46

Insight #2: The Holy Spirit releases His presence and power through human vessel in a manner such that His power "flows" out of the human vessel into others effecting a change. Mark 5:30 Luke 6:19

Insight #3 : The Spirit of God uses material substances as points of contact for people to experience His presence and power, e.g. cloth, oil, bones Mark 5:28 Acts 19:11,12 2 Kings 13:20,21

This woman touched the hem of Jesus' garment and yet power flowed into her.

Insight #4: The flow of the Spirit's power is recognizable (to the human spirit) and may be tangible to the five senses. Mark 5:30 Luke 8:46

Insight #5: The Holy Spirit releases His power in response to faith. Luke 8:48

Insight #6: The Holy Spirit can envelope an entire space with His presence and power. Luke 5:17 Genesis 1:1,2 Acts 5:11,16

Insight #7 : The power of the Holy Spirit results in mighty signs and wonders, i.e. including, but not limited to healings, miracles, deliverances. Romans 15:18,19

Samson – did amazing feats of strength. Judges 13:25; 14:6,19; 15:14; 16:3

Elijah – ran faster than a chariot of horses. 1 Kings 18:45,46

Insight #8 : Worship and music brings an increased manifestation of the presence and power of the Holy Spirit. 2 Chronicles 5:13,14 2 Kings 3:14,15

SOME UNUSUAL MANIFESTATIONS

1. Shaking and trembling
2. Falling under the power or being slain in the Spirit
3. Strong Emotions
 - a) Laughing in the Spirit
 - b) Being drunk in the Spirit
 - c) Weeping and crying
 - d) Groaning and grieving
 - e) Holy compassion
 - f) Holy Anger, agitation in the spirit
4. Physical sensations – warmth, fire, tingling, garment covering, temporary blindness, dumbness



5. Unusual methods of ministering – blowing, waving, etc.

Don't seek after these unusual manifestations. But be open and yielded to the Lord if He does move upon you in some unusual ways.

A. Biblical Occurrences

1. Shaking and trembling

- Daniel 10:7-11 Habakkuk 3:16 Acts 7:32 Acts 9:6 Job 4:12-14
- In the above examples, **the shaking and trembling is involuntary**, in response to the presence of God. It is not a voluntary, fleshly, made up manifestation.

2. Falling under the power or being slain in the Spirit

- 1 Kings 8:10,11 Ezekiel 3:23,24 Daniel 10:7-11 John 18:4-6 Acts 9:4; 22:7 Revelation 1:17
- This is an **involuntary collapsing when encountering the presence and power of God**. This is different from the voluntary bowing down out of reverence to God.
- There is much abuse of this in Christendom today. Preachers are guilty of using the “push and shove” technique to get people to “fall” just to have some sort of credibility or reputation of having spiritual power. A lot of Christians are “preprogrammed” or “mentally conditioned” to respond this way. Perhaps 90% of the “falling under the power” that we see today in meetings and on TV is NOT GENUINE, but rather a “push and shove” or a “mentally conditioned” response! God still puts up with all of this! God is gracious!!
- We don't need “catchers” to catch and lay people on the floor. If the Holy Spirit is going to knock them off their feet, He is more than able to make sure that they don't get hurt when they hit the floor! Paul fell to the ground, but didn't get hurt!
- Let's not be discouraged by the abuses. Rather **let us be open to the GENUINE work of the Spirit**.

3. Strong Emotions

- a. Laughing in the Spirit Acts 13:52 Hebrews 1:9 Psalm 16:11. God fills us with joy by His Spirit. Some times, this joy could manifest in laughter, great rejoicing, etc.
 - b. Being drunk in the Spirit Jeremiah 23:9 Acts 2:13-15 Ephesians 5:18
 - c. Weeping and crying Nehemiah 8:8,9 2 Chronicles 34:27 Isaiah 6:1-5 Ezra 10:1 Luke 7:36-38
 - d. Groaning and grieving Romans 8:26
 - e. Holy compassion Matthew 14:14 (several others)
 - f. Holy Anger, agitation in the spirit John 2:13-16 Acts 17:16
4. Physical sensations – warmth, fire, garment covering, envelope Jeremiah 20:9; Luke 24:49
 5. Unusual methods of ministering – spit, spit and mud, blowing, etc. John 9:6 20:22,30,31; 21:25. God could lead any of His ministers at times to minister in unusual ways and we must be open to this.

B. Occurrences in Church History

There are several historical records of unusual manifestations during times of great revival and outpourings. Here are just two examples:

John Wesley (1703-91)

- A Church of England clergy
- Records several manifestations in his *Journal*



- 1739, a meeting in London along with Charles Wesley and George Whitefield: *"about three in the morning, as we were continuing instant in prayer, the power of God came mightily upon us, in so much that many cried out for exceeding joy, and many fell to the ground. As soon as we recovered, a little from the awe and amazement at the presence of his majesty, we broke out with one voice, 'We praise thee, O God, we acknowledge thee to be Lord' "*.
- A frequent occurrence was that Wesley's listeners would cry aloud or fall down as if dead.
- When preaching at Weavers Hall, Bristol : *'a young man was suddenly seized with a violent trembling all over, and, in a few minutes, the sorrows of his heart being enlarged, sank down to the ground'.*
- On another occasion (April 25) while he was preaching: *'Immediately one, and another, and another sank to the earth; they dropped on every side as if thunderstruck'.*
- Here are other records from his Journal recorded at different occasions:
 - *'My voice could scarce be heard amidst the groanings of some, and the cries of others, calling aloud to "him that is mighty to save" .*
 - *'Just as we rose from giving thanks, another person reeled four or five steps, and then dropped down'*
 - *'twenty-six people were stricken down under conviction of sin. Some sunk down and there remained no strength in them...others exceedingly trembled and quaked; some were torn with a kind of compulsive motion in every part of their bodies.'*
 - May 1740 Wesley reported that as he and his brother were about to sing together *'he burst out in a loud laughter. I asked him if he were distracted; and began to be very angry and presently after began to laugh as loud as he. Nor could we possibly refrain, though we were ready to tear ourselves in pieces, but were forced to go home without singing another line.'*

Jonathan Edwards

- Outstanding theologian in American history
- Used greatly during the "Great Awakening" a powerful revival in 1740-1745
- In *"Account of Revival of religion in Northampton, 1740-1742"* he wrote: *"It was a very frequent thing to see outcries, faintings, convulsions and such like, both with distress and also admiration and joy."*

Guidelines as you yield to the work of the Spirit

1. The God who created my emotions has a right to touch my emotions in unusual ways. I just yield to Him when He does.
2. The God who created my physical senses has a right to touch my physical senses in unusual ways. I just yield to Him when He does.
3. God touching my emotions or physical senses in unusual ways is purposeful. He does not do it just to entertain. It is usually to reveal Himself to me, to heal me, to change my heart, etc. The accomplishing of that purpose is MORE important than the experience itself.
4. My objective is to seek HIM not some unusual experience or manifestation. However, IF God does touch me in an unusual way, I lay aside my pride and yield to what He is doing.
5. Everything must be done as an yielding to God, not for personal attention or recognition.
6. Everything must be done with reverence and recognition of who God is.
7. Everything must be done to glorify God.
8. Exercise self-control.

There have been many theologians and others who question the unusual manifestations of the Spirit. Many have been very vocal in their opposition and several books have been written. The problem is that they are attempting to fit God into their finite understanding and reasoning. The natural man cannot understand the things of the Spirit (1 Corinthians 2:14).



While it is true that there have been excesses, we cannot deny the genuine!

Remember that even Jesus was called “a deceiver” (Matthew 27:63) and was accused of being in alliance with the devil (Matthew 12:24). His ministers of today won't be treated any better!

Guidelines as you judge the manifestations

1. Just because it does not fit into our pattern of thinking, does NOT mean it is wrong! Our understanding/reasoning (or the lack thereof) does not dictate what God can do or cannot do!
2. Does it glorify God? (or does it just bring attention to the preacher or the individual)
3. Are lives being changed? Is there a deep internal work of the Spirit? (as opposed to frivolous entertainment)
4. Is there lasting fruit? (as opposed to just having a nice experience)

THE PURPOSE OF POWER

Glorify Jesus John 16:14

Get souls saved Acts 1:8

It is more important for a soul to be saved than to experience some sort of emotional high.

It is more important for a sick person to be healed, than to have him fall under the power.

THE PRICE FOR BEING A CHANNEL OF HIS POWER

There is a great price to pay to be an instrument that God can use to manifest His power on the earth. Very few take this road. However, we must walk this path.

“The disciple should not be above His Master, but he shall be like his Master! But if we are to be like Him in power, we must also be like Him in holiness, consecration, meekness, and compassion. We must be like Him in prayer and fellowship with the Father. We must be like Him in faith. We must be like Him in fasting and self-denial. If it were possible for the servant to be like Him in power without paying the price He paid, then the servant would be above his Lord.” – Evangelist A.A. Allen (1911-70), was greatly used by the Lord to work mighty healings and miracles.

YOUR INDIVIDUAL RESPONSE

Why should I desire to see the power of the Holy Spirit flow through me ?

1 Corinthians 2:4

- Out of a desire to see lives changed. Intellectual arguments can only go so far to set a person free. Beyond that one HAS to become a channel of His power to that life! It takes more than nice words to destroy the works of the devil, break bondages, etc.
- Out of compassion for the sick and suffering.

OUR CORPORATE RESPONSE

Psalm 63:1-2

Let us expect the Spirit of God to demonstrate His power amongst us and through us so that lives can be changed, the sick can be healed, and God can be glorified!



USEFUL RESOURCES



Watch our online Sunday Church service live stream every Sunday at 10:30am (Indian Time, GMT+5:30). Spirit filled, anointed worship, Word and ministry for healing, miracles, and deliverance.

YOUTUBE: <https://youtube.com/allpeopleschurchbangalore>

WEBSITE: <https://apcwo.org/live>

Our other websites and free resources:

CHURCH: <https://apcwo.org>

FREE SERMONS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/sermons>

FREE BOOKS: <https://apcwo.org/books/english>

DAILY DEVOTIONALS: <https://apcwo.org/resources/daily-devotional>

JESUS CHRIST: <https://examiningjesus.com>

BIBLE COLLEGE: <https://apcbiblecollege.org>

E-LEARNING: <https://apcbiblecollege.org/elearn>

WEEKEND SCHOOLS: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/weekend-schools>

COUNSELING: <https://chrysalislife.org>

MUSIC: <https://apcmusic.org>

MINISTERS FELLOWSHIP: <https://pamfi.org>

CHURCH APP: <https://apcwo.org/app>

CHURCHES: <https://apcwo.org/ministries/churches>

WORLD MISSIONS: <https://apcworldmissions.org>