

Endued with Power

Pastor John Wilkinson

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Luke 24:44-49

⁴⁴ Then He said to them, “These *are* the words which I spoke to you while I was still with you, that all things must be fulfilled which were written in the Law of Moses and *the* Prophets and *the* Psalms concerning Me.”

⁴⁵ And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures.

⁴⁶ Then He said to them, “Thus it is written, and thus it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead the third day,

⁴⁷ and that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in His name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem.

⁴⁸ And you are witnesses of these things.

⁴⁹ Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

You and I will never be able to mature as Christians until we are able to take God's word as it is written; until we understand that every word in the bible has power. That even every name in the Bible has power behind it; that every command that is written in His word has power behind it.

Psalms 33:8-9

⁸ Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him.

⁹ For He spoke, and it was *done*; He commanded, and it stood fast.

You see at just the mention of His Word, the mountains had to come up out of the ground and stand where the Creator told them to! He has authority over everything. There is nothing that is not under His command. At His command He told the sun what time it could come out in the morning. He commanded it to rise in the east and to set in the west. For He spoke, and it was done. He commanded, and it stood fast.

- At His command the birds sing in the morning
- At His command the crickets sing at night
- At His command the flowers bloom in May
- At His command the leaves on the trees die in the fall

It's the Master who controls ever season! He controls ever wind that blows! When you see the sun shining in the day it's because He told it to. When you see it raining outside it's because He allowed it! Everything is controlled by the Power of His Word.

His word is everlasting. It never changes because He never changes.

I Peter 1:24-25

²⁴ because “All flesh *is* as grass, and all the glory of man as the flower of the grass. The grass withers, and its flower falls away,

²⁵ But the word of the LORD endures forever.”

I am telling you this morning, you can take the 10 commandments off ever court house wall, you can take the word of God out of every school across America, you can burn ever Bible in the world, but it will not change not one word that God SPOKE!

Once God’s Word goes out it will not return void, no matter what people say!

- Let them say that healing has passed away!
- Let them say that tongues have passed away!
- You see just by speaking His Word – blind eyes open!
- Just by speaking His Word – the deaf hear!
- Just by speaking His Word – tumors fall off!
- By His all-powerful Word – cancer can be healed!
- Just by speaking His Word the dead are raised!
- By His Word your marriage can be restored!
- Just by speaking His Word you can come out of debt!

There is power in the Word!

This Word is real. This word is the truth. This Word has the power to change your life. This Word has the power to change your situation. This Word has the power to cause a shift in your life.

This Word is not to be taken lightly. There is power in this Word.

But Church the sad thing is these days everyone wants to take God’s Word and make it fit their styles. People want to take God's Word and sift through it until all that is left is what they like; what feels comfortable to them; what feels convenient to their life; what is easy on our flesh; what is pleasant to them. We like to pick and choose the scriptures that we need at the point and time we need them.

Let me explain.

- When we are sick we want to talk about is “By His strips we are healed.”
- When we are broke we like to talk about how the bible says, “He will supply all our needs.”
- When someone does us wrong, we talk about how the bible says, “vengeance is mine says the Lord.”
- When we feel down we like, “I can do all things through Christ who gives us strength.”
- When everyone is against us we like, “If God be for me who can be against me.”
- When we feel lost we talk about. “the Lord is my Shepherd I shall not want.”

But no one wants to read the parts that say:

- “the wages of sin is death.”
- No one wants to talk about, “Love your neighbor as yourself.”
- No one wants to talk about, “Do not put any other gods before Me.”

We only want to use the scriptures that fit what is going on in our lives at that time. It seems that somewhere between our ears and our hearts is this sifter that sifts out all the commandments and all the truth of His Word, and all that we are left with is suggestions and the things that feel good.

That's why our churches today are full of spiritual babies – people that should be and could be men and women of great spiritual stature. They should have, and could have, great spiritual power and authority! But they don’t understand the power that Jesus has left us with.

You see when you gave your life to Christ, God put a power in you greater than anything you will ever face.

We are not supposed to go through life backing down or being intimidated or at a disadvantage.

Don't say things like:

- "This problem is so big."
- "This medical report is so bad."
- Or, "Those people coming against me is more than I can bear."

Romans 8:11 says:

¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

Now most of us believe that Jesus has this incredible power inside of Him, but God turned it around and says, "That same power I'm putting in you "

I am telling you, it's a power so strong that death couldn't keep Him in the grave. It was a power so strong that all the power of hell couldn't stop Him.

But here is the key this morning – the only way to activate this power is to believe.

You can't go through life thinking that everything is impossible, or saying that you will never accomplish your dreams because you have been through too much. Talking like that will keep you from your destiny.

You need to have a new perspective:

- You're not weak.
- You're not helpless.
- You're not going under.
- You're not about to lose everything.
- You're full of resurrection power.
- You may have had a few bad breaks, but you are no longer a victim but a victor!

Stop running from problems and start speaking the power that is in you.

- The enemy has no power over you!
- This sickness has no power over you!
- This depression has no power over you!
- These addictions have no power over you!
- That bad break you went through cannot hold you back!

Because there is a power that is in you that is no match for the power against you

Let me tell you Church, this should be playing through our heads all day:

- I am powerful...
- I am strong...
- I am well able...
- I will not fear...
- I will not back down...
- I will not run and hide...

- I am not intimidated...
- I am not a victim...
- The enemy cannot stop me...

Because I am full of resurrection power

I know what you are thinking: “Well pastor, I don’t feel very strong, I just feel beat up all the time.”

Let me tell you something, you can’t always go on how you feel. You have to go on what’s written in this book.

[repeat] Romans 8:11

¹¹ But if the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

You can’t go on what you feel – you have to go on what you know. Your feelings may change every hour. What you’re up against might look “bigger and badder” than you feel. It’s ok, because the bigger they are the harder they will fall.

You still have the advantage – It’s called resurrection power

Do you ever wonder why the enemy hasn’t taken you out?

He sees you as God sees you. He looks at you and doesn’t see someone weak. He doesn’t see the defeated person you see. He sees the blood of Jesus. He sees the resurrection power of Jesus Christ flowing through your body. When he sees you he is reminded of that day 2,000 years ago when Jesus cursed his head

The theory of the snake is true – he is just as scared of you as you are of him.

We have to learn how much power is in His Word

- There is healing power in this Word!
- There is resurrection power!
- There is Power to turn the sinner’s life around!
- There is also the power of the Holy Spirit in this Word.

Acts 1:4-8

⁴ And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, “which,” *He said*, “you have heard from Me;

⁵ for John truly baptized with water, but you shall be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.”

⁶ Therefore, when they had come together, they asked Him, saying, “Lord, will You at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?”

⁷ And He said to them, “It is not for you to know times or seasons which the Father has put in His own authority.

⁸ But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.”

The last command of Jesus to his followers and his disciples before his Ascension was go to Jerusalem and tarry (wait) for the promise!

Luke 24:49

⁴⁹ **...but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."**

This was not a suggestion, it was a command of the Master. That commandant has never been withdrawn. To every disciple to every follower of the Lord Jesus Christ, this commandant still stands today.

He said go to Jerusalem and stay there until you be endued with power.

Out of at least 500 people Jesus spoke those words to:

- Only 120 made it to the upper room
- That means 380 thought they had a better idea and bypassed The Upper Room

Church You cannot bypass the upper room and get this power. There is no alternative route to the power of God. You must go to the upper room and wait until the power comes.

That simply means you must agree with Jesus and never be satisfied until the power of God comes upon you.

To climb up to the upper room means, "I agree with Jesus and I will obey His Commandments. I will ask, I will wait, I will knock, I will pray, I will hunger and thirst, I will worship, and I will wait until the power comes.

"You shall receive power after the Holy Ghost has come upon you."

I hate to say it, but the church today to a large degree is powerless because they have bypassed the upper room, they have chosen alternate routes that are easier on the flesh, that don't require waiting or praying or sacrifice or self-denial. And what we're left with is a powerless Church. "A form of godliness but denying the power thereof."

120 men and women were filled with the Spirit and Power. Do you know why only a hundred and twenty? Because only 120 were willing to be emptied.

- Emptied of opinions and traditions.
- Emptied of self, of Pride.
- Emptied of religion.
- Emptied of the world.
- Emptied of prejudice.
- Emptied of carnal expectations.

And as soon as they were emptied the Spirit came and filled them.

That's why we don't have more Spirit filling today – people aren't willing to be emptied.

- They're full of pleasure
- full of self
- full of Pride
- full of tradition
- full of religion
- full of fear
- full of preconceived ideas

Psalms 138:6

⁶ **Though the LORD is on high, Yet He regards the lowly; but the proud He knows from afar.**

- I will knock
- I will pray
- I will hunger and thirst
- I will worship
- I will wait until the power comes

“You shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come up on you.”

Jesus said the church must have power and the source of this power is the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

Please understand that the war is no longer in a distant land far away overseas in another country. No it is in our country, our state, our community, our schools, our homes.

It’s a spiritual battle it cannot be won with natural flesh-and-blood weapons. It must be fought in the spirit, and the only ones they can fight on that level are those who are full of the Holy Ghost and power.

It is the will of God that every single person who has been plunged beneath Calvary’s flow and washed in his blood also be baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire.

It is not optional accessories – it is necessary equipment!

“Be filled with the Spirit,” was the command of the Apostle.

Are you full of the spirit? Or are you full of self, topped off with the Spirit?

- Are you full?
- Are you on fire?
- Does the fire of God burn in your belly?

The only church that is going to stand in these dark days is the church that walks in the light of God's Word and are filled with his Spirit and Power.

I am closing this message with Jesus words:

[Repeat] Luke 24:49

⁴⁹ ...but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high.”

The promise is unto you and unto your children and to all them that are afar off even as many as the Lord our God shall call. If Jesus were preaching this morning these are the very words He would speak to you:

Arm yourself with His Word, take His promise in hand, and make your way to the upper room – and don't come down until Heaven opens.

And you are baptized with the Holy Ghost and fire?