

THE POWER OF GOD – 2
OCTOBER 10, 2021

REVIEW:

- **MATTHEW 22:29** – The Sadducees were mistaken, not knowing the scriptures or the power of God.
- **1 CORINTHIANS 1:18** – The preaching of the cross is moronic to those who perish, but to believers, it's the power of God.
- **1 CORINTHIANS 2:5** – Our faith is to be in God's power, not man's wisdom.
- **2 TIMOTHY 3:5** – One can be religious, yet deny God's Power.
- **ACTS 1:8** - The church began with power (dunamis).

CONTINUE:

ACTS 4:18-33 (NCV)

The early church exalted God's power above religious form. As a result, they shook their world for Jesus. On Pentecost, 3,000 got saved. After the lame man was healed, 5,000 got saved.

ACTS 4:1-4 God set the tone for effective world evangelism. We need God's power today, just as they did then. The church needs an explosion of power today – an infusion of old fashioned, Holy Ghost power that wins the lost, impacts a community, and exalts the King of Glory!

ACTS 4:31-33

THREE THINGS REVEALED

1. Prayer. "When they prayed" **V31**.
 - A. **JAMES 5:16 (AMPC)** Nothing happened until they prayed. The power was present, but not unleashed until they prayed.
 - B. The place was shaken – prayer brings power that shakes the place – individually and corporately. (**ACTS 16:25-26**)
 - C. Boldness came along with power.
 - D. Prayer instructions: **MATTHEW 21:22 (AMPC)**, believing prayer gets results; **JOHN 16:23-24**, to the Father in the Name of Jesus; **1 JOHN 5:14-15**, according to God's will and knowing He heard us; **ACTS 12:5**, corporately.

2. Passion. **ACTS 4:32**
 - A. They were passionate about caring for one another, serving one another and loving one another.
 - B. They possessed a servant's heart that brought unity and equality among them.
 - C. Love makes us consider others, makes people more important than possessions, enables us to set aside our differences and produces a passion for the lost.

3. Proclamation. **ACTS 4:33**
 - A. Prayer and passion lead to great power to proclaim the resurrection of Christ, and great grace.
 - B. They were a preaching people that carried the greatest message to a world that desperately needed it. But to be effective, the message must be empowered. We can tell, witness and preach, but if God doesn't empower the message, people won't respond.
 - C. God's power is paramount, supreme, more important than anything else.
1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-24 (NLT)

CONCLUSION: We have many advantages over the early church, but they outdo us in accomplishments. How? They stuck to the basics and allowed God to demonstrate His power through them. That same power is available today. We must return to the basics of prayer, passion and proclamation if we want to shake our world for Jesus.