

THE POWER OF GOD – 3
OCTOBER 17, 2021

REVIEW:

- Jesus emphasized knowing the scriptures and the power of God.
- The early church began with knowing and experiencing God's power.
- On Pentecost, 3,000 were saved. After the lame man was healed, 5,000 men were saved.

CONTINUE:

ACTS 4:31-33 – Three things are revealed.

1. Prayer. V31

- A.** Prayer brings power that shakes the place (**JAMES 5:16 (AMPC)**). Tremendous power is generated when God's people pray corporately.
- They acknowledged God's creative powers (**ACTS 4:24**)
 - They acknowledged what He said through David (**ACTS 4:25-28**).
 - They stated the threats of the people and made their request (**ACTS 4:29-30**).
- B. ACTS 16:14-26** Learning to pray effectively saved their lives. It shook the foundation of the prison and delivered every captive.
- The church at Philip demonstrates the gospel is for every class. Lydia represents the wealthy class. She owned her own business selling purple clothes worn only by the rich and royalty. Remember the rich man being clothed in purple and fine linen? The jailer represents the working class. Lydia's clientele was the wealthy, his was thieves, murderers and lawbreakers. They lived in the same town, but were miles apart socially. They demonstrate the power of the gospel to save men and women, rich and poor, and high and low classes. They could've been sitting together when Paul's letter was read in church.

2. Passion. ACTS 4:32

- A.** They were of one heart – passionate about serving God and one another in love, and promoting unity and equality among the people. No wonder the enemy wants division.
- B. PSALMS 63:1-3** David was passionate about experiencing God's glory and power. We must be the same and refuse to settle for mediocrity.

3. Proclamation. ACTS 4:33

- A.** Prayer and passion produced great power and great grace. Power to witness about the resurrection of Jesus and great grace to empower them to overcome the challenges they would encounter.
- B. 1 CORINTHIANS 1:18-24 (NLT)** God's power is paramount – supreme, and more important than anything else.

CONCLUSION:

The power that shook the meeting place and prison then, is available to us today. If we want to shake our world for Jesus today as they did then, we must return to the basics of prayer, passion and proclamation, so that great power and great grace rest upon us as it did them!