

POWER: IT'S BETTER THIS WAY

1. The Holy Spirit Reveals Christ to the Believer

Matthew 16:15-20, 15 “But what about you?” he asked. “Who do you say I am?” 16 Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah (anointed one), the Son of the living God.” 17 Jesus replied, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven. 18 And I tell you that you are Peter and on this rock, I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it. 19 I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” 20 Then he ordered his disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

2. It Is Impossible to Stand for Christ without the Holy Spirit's Power

Matthew 26:69-75, 69 Now Peter was sitting out in the courtyard, and a servant girl came to him. “You also were with Jesus of Galilee,” she said. 70 But he denied it before them all. “I don’t know what you’re talking about,” he said. 71 Then he went out to the gateway, where another servant girl saw him and said to the people there, “This fellow was with Jesus of Nazareth.” 72 He denied it again, with an oath: “I don’t know the man!” 73 After a little while, those standing there went up to Peter and said, “Surely you are one of them; your accent gives you away.” 74 Then he began to call down curses, and he swore to them, “I don’t know the man!” Immediately a rooster crowed. 75 Then Peter remembered the word Jesus had spoken: “Before the rooster crows, you will disown me three times.” And he went outside and wept bitterly.

3. The Promise of the Holy Spirit is for YOU!

Acts 2:38-39, And Peter said to them, “Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. 39 For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are afar off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to Himself.”

Purpose and Necessity for the Baptism with the Holy Spirit:

1. **Power for service** (Acts 1:8): This power for special service is the distinct result of having been filled with the Spirit. The disciples were transformed into different men after the Holy Spirit came upon them at Pentecost. In John 20:19, they are seen huddled together behind closed doors "for fear of the Jews." That very same group of men could

not be kept behind closed doors after the Day of Pentecost (Acts 5:17-20), and they became as bold as lions before the Jewish authorities in the power of the Holy Spirit.

2. **Power of overflow (Discipleship)**: The Lord is looking for those whom He can so fill with His presence and power that they will flow over to others. The only real blessing we can bring to others is that which is the overflow of our own experience with God. It is not how much we can hold, but how much we can overflow. Die empty. John 7:37-39.
3. **Power for ability**. Power from on high is ability from heaven. God-given ability to do God-given tasks and to carry out God given commissions. It is the ability of the Spirit who abides within.
 1. Ability to follow divine guidance into fields known only by God. (Faith)
 2. Ability to respond to divine providence. (Submission)
 3. Ability to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ. (Lift High)
 4. Ability to love divinely as Jesus loved. (Unconditionally)
 5. Ability to preach Christ with conviction and persuasion. (Evangelism)
 6. Ability to exercise spiritual gifts for the edification of the Church. (Service)
 7. Ability to suffer persecution for the Lord's sake. (Stand)
 8. Ability to live a holy life above the standards of the world. (Worship)
 9. Ability to work lovingly for God, willingly, faithfully, and untiringly. (Sold Out/Committed)
 10. Ability to work until Jesus comes or until Earth's race is run. (Endure)