

**TOUCHED
BY THE
POWER
OF
GOD**

*'For the kingdom of God is not a
matter of talk, but of power.'
(1 Corinthians 4:20)*

**A MESSAGE BY EVANGELIST
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THE REALITY OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

I was invited to a weekend Christian camp and a man was preaching about how God saved him out of a life of drugs and crime. As he was preaching, I felt a pressure come upon my chest that made me feel that I had to go forward for prayer. I realized that this was the time when God was calling me. The feeling became stronger and stronger, and I found myself crying for no apparent reason. It was the most I have ever cried.

Something strange was happening. My eyelashes were blinking incredibly fast and when I closed my eyes it looked as if I was seeing a bright light. When the preacher came and prayed for me something like an electric shock of power and warmth went through my body like a wave. That's the best way that I can describe it. It was like a big, powerful, but gentle, electric shock that went through me. When I looked around most of the people who had been prayed for had fallen to the ground.

From that day my priorities in life were changed and my heart was filled with a burning desire to know God. I knew that there is a greater meaning to life and that God's power is real. I had new enthusiasm to study the Bible and it came alive to me. Having been touched by God's power I was awakened to the reality of the Holy Spirit and that just as we can know God as our Father and Jesus as our Saviour, we can know the fellowship of the Holy Spirit (2 Corinthians 13:14).

Jesus promised that when the Holy Spirit comes upon us we will receive power to witness for Him. This is why I have travelled the world as a missionary and an evangelist, telling people about the love of Jesus and why they should follow Him. The Holy Spirit convicts us of our sins so we will realize that we need to take Jesus as our Lord and Saviour. The same power that rose Jesus from the dead is at work in us and through us as we believe (Ephesians 1:18-20).

“But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth” (Acts 1:8).

POWER OVER EVIL SPIRITS

After God's power touched my life, I also saw the devil's power like never before. A young man fell to the ground and somehow something took over. Suddenly his hands twitched up in a distorted way. He went a funny red colour and an evil voice began to speak through him in a foul language. It was talking so fast that the possessed person was foaming at the mouth and his body twisted as the demon was fighting inside of him.

There was an evil presence and the Christians were praying for him, saying, "In the name of Jesus I command you to come out." The demon didn't want to leave, but he had to go and peace was restored. There is an evil spirit called Satan, who is the leader of the demons and they work to destroy lives. The devil uses alcohol, drugs, lies, hatred, and many other things to destroy people and stop them from having faith in the one true God. Many times I have prayed for people and felt evil spirits leave them.

'And these signs will accompany those who believe: In my name they will drive out demons...' (Mark 16:17).

BREAKING CURSES

The whole world is under the curse of sin and the primary reason that curses are still operating in people's lives is that they are not doing what God says. They are living in rebellion towards Him and rebellion towards God is likened to the sin of divination and witchcraft (1 Samuel 15:23). The sin of witchcraft includes sorcery, interpreting omens, palm reading, lucky charms, horoscopes, hypnosis, casting spells, the wrong use of drugs, voodoo, white and black magic, being a medium or spiritist and consulting the dead, etc.

God gave His people the choice of seven blessings or seven curses. 'The LORD's curse is on the house of the wicked, but he blesses the home of the righteous' (Proverbs 3:33). The seven blessings are in the areas of being: 1) Exalted; 2) Reproductive; 3) Healthy; 4) Prosperous and successful; 5)

Victorious; 6) Leading the way; 7) At the top. The seven curses are: 1) Humiliated; 2) Barren; 3) Sicknesses of every kind; 4) Poverty and failure; 5) Defeat; 6) Behind; 7) At the bottom (Deuteronomy 28).

Demonic powers operate through curses and that is why we must drive out demons in Jesus' name. Curses are what stop people from receiving the power of the Holy Spirit, yet Jesus took all the curses of sin upon Him when He died for us so that through faith we might receive the promise of the Spirit (Galatians 3:13-14). By faith in Jesus, the power of the Holy Spirit drives the evil spirits out. Demonic attacks can be behind nightmares, depression, fear, anxiety and many things that rob people of the peace of God.

To be released from a curse you should: 1) Confess to God any known sins on your own part or of your ancestors; 2) Forgive others; 3) Commit yourself to be obedient to God and to do what He says; 4) Renounce witchcraft on your own part or on the part of your ancestors; 5) Renounce the curse in the name of Jesus Christ; 6) Command any demonic power to go in Jesus' name and to never return.

'She kept this up for many days. Finally Paul became so troubled that he turned around and said to the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ I command you to come out of her!" At that moment the spirit left her' (Acts 16:18).

MIRACLES OF HEALING

I had a lump growing in my ear, so I went to the doctor and he said that he would have to cut it out. Then I had some large red spots appear all over my stomach. At that time there was a Christian group running a programme for children and I asked one of the leaders to pray for me. After he prayed I didn't feel anything, but I thanked him for the prayer. When I woke up the next morning the lump in my ear had gone and all the red spots had disappeared. I believe in supernatural healing through the power of Jesus Christ.

While I was working as a missionary in Africa, I was taken to a lady who was just skin and bone lying in bed, but after the

prayer of faith she began to recover. Jesus constantly worked mighty miracles of healing when He walked this earth almost two thousand years ago, and even today Jesus continues to heal the sick.

'Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective' (James 5:14-16).

KEYS TO HEALING

- 1) Put God first in your life.
- 2) Forgive those who have sinned against you.
- 3) Honour your father and mother
- 4) Give your cares and concerns to God
- 5) Make sure you are prepared to go to Heaven
- 6) Overcome fear with faith
- 7) Look to Jesus, for He is the Healer.

The key to ministering God's power is to wait continuously upon the Lord and seek to be led by the Holy Spirit. The divine power of God can flow through us as we yield to God. When we proclaim the word of God with absolute faith, knowing that God answers prayer, we can expect the presence of God to be manifested and for people's lives to be touched. Expect the power of the Holy Spirit to fall upon you and upon those who are being prayed for. Remember your authority in Christ and command the sickness or demonic power to leave.

DREAMS AND VISIONS

God loves to speak to people through dreams and visions. As I was preaching the gospel in Africa, I received this dream. I could see a room with a man sitting down to listen to the word of God. A word of knowledge (one of the nine spiritual gifts)

came that was so powerful that the man was stunned and he knew that God had spoken to him. A second man lifted up his hands to praise God, saying, "The revival has come."

I looked back at the man sitting down and he was shaking his head as if to say, "No, no." Then I knew that it was actually a demon power that was shaking the man's head and the demon was thinking, "This can't be true. It can't happen." The word of knowledge and prophecy from God was so amazing that the demon was very worried. Because of the demon power I felt a strong spirit of fear try to attack men and I woke up calling out, "Jesus is Lord!"

We are living in the last days, a time when both the works of the devil and the works of God can clearly be seen. Every person has to choose which side they are on. The devil is fighting to keep this world in darkness, but he will not be able to stop the working of God's power. The Lord Jesus has sent His followers to turn people from the power of Satan, unto the power of God (Acts 26:18). It is time for revival and for the world to know the power of Jesus' name!

'In the last days, God says, I will pour out my Spirit on all people. Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams. Even on my servants, both men and women, I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy' (Acts 2:17-18).

MAKE SURE OF YOUR SALVATION

There is mighty power in the name of Jesus Christ because He is the Saviour of the world. It is true that He had to leave Heaven and come to this earth to show us the way. Sin brought death to this world and the devil held the power of death. To pay the price for our sins and to break the devil's power, Jesus had to die on the cross and then rise from the dead. No doubt you have heard both the Christmas and the Easter story many times, but it's not until you really put your faith in the message of Christ and have an encounter with God that you are saved. To enter the kingdom of Heaven a person

must repent of their sins and put their faith in the Lord Jesus Christ.

Repentance From Sin + Faith In Jesus = Salvation

Sin includes sexual immorality, adultery, prostitution, homosexuality, pornography, drunkenness, greed, stealing, swindling people of their money, hatred, murder, unnecessary abortion, jealousy, fits of rage, causing fights, malice, causing unnecessary divisions and quarrels, strife, deceit, filthy language, coarse joking, foolish talk, slander, gossip, lying, selfish ambition, arrogance and folly.

Sin also includes evil thoughts, disobedience to parents, bitterness, envy, being faithless, heartless, ruthless, ungrateful and unforgiving, being cowardly about following Jesus, denying the Sovereign Lordship of Christ, false cults and false religions, making idols and worshipping man-made gods, atheism and the sin of backsliding.

WHO IS JESUS?

“I told you that you would die in your sins; if you do not believe that I am [the one I claim to be], you will indeed die in your sins.”

“Who are you?” they asked.

“Just what I have been claiming all along,” Jesus replied’ (John 8:24-25).

- 1) Our Creator (John 1:3; 1 Corinthians 8:6).
- 2) Our Judge (John 5:22; 2 Corinthians 5:10).
- 3) The One Who Came Down From Heaven (John 6:41-42).
- 4) The Light Of The World (John 8:12).
- 5) The Saviour Of The World (John 4:42; 1 John 4:14).
- 6) The Forgiver Of Sin (Mark 2:5-12).
- 7) The Giver Of Eternal Life (John 3:36; 10:28).
- 8) The Ruler Of God’s Kingdom (John 18:36-37).
- 9) The Only Way To God (John 10:7-9; 14:6).
- 10) The Eternal Son Of God (Matthew 26:63-64; Hebrews 7:3).

11) One With God And Equal With His Heavenly Father (John 5:18,21,23; 8:58; 10:30-33).

12) The Second Person Of The Holy Trinity (Matthew 28:19; 2 Corinthians 13:14; 1 Peter 1:2).

13) Mighty God (Isaiah 9:6; John 1:1; 20:28).

14) The King Of Kings And Lord Of Lords (Revelation 19:16).

15) The Christ (Anointed One), Who Baptizes Us With The Holy Spirit (John 1:32-33; 11:27).

16) The Healer And The Deliverer Who Casts Out Evil Spirits (Acts 10:38).

Many people seek after sin more than they seek after salvation. But I hope that you are going to think seriously about what you are going to do. Faith in Jesus is what grants us eternal life (John 20:30-31). Why don't you open your heart and allow Jesus to touch you with the power of God? The things of this world will pass away, but whoever does the will of God will live forever. If you are unsure where you stand with God, repeat the following prayer and confess your sins to Him:

THE PRAYER OF A LOST SINNER FOR SALVATION

“Lord Jesus, I need You to save me. I know that I have sinned, but I don't want to be lost. Thank You for dying on the cross and paying the penalty for my wicked ways. I confess these sins to You now..... (name those sins).

I turn from them and I look for You to help me to walk the path of righteousness. I realize that my evil deeds are to blame for Your painful crucifixion, so I am truly sorry and I ask You to forgive me.

I believe the good news that You rose from the dead and that You are alive forever. I believe that You are watching me at this very moment, so I open the door of my life to receive You as my Lord and Saviour.

Come into my heart, take away my sins, and make me the kind of person You want me to be. I want to be Your friend. Fill me with the power of the Holy Spirit and let me overcome all the works of the devil. Come Holy Spirit.

Thank You for saving me and giving me assurance of a place in Heaven. I give all praise, honour and glory to Your holy name. Amen.”

‘If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness’ (1 John 1:9).

**I have decided to follow Jesus
all the days of my life!**

Yes

No

For God so loved the world that He gave His one and only Son, that whoever (your name) _____ believes in Him shall not perish but have eternal life (John 3:16).

Date of birthday into God’s family: _____
(The day you accepted Jesus as your Saviour)

WELCOME TO THE FAMILY OF GOD!

When you receive Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, you have made the most important decision of your life. I pray that you will become stronger and stronger in your faith, so that you will be overwhelmed by the glory of Christ. Here are a few simple steps that you should take as a Christian so that you really develop an intimate walk with God:

- 1) Become Strong In Prayer
- 2) Study God’s Word (The Holy Bible)
- 3) Fellowship With Other Believers
- 4) Be Baptized In Water And With The Holy Spirit
- 5) Share The Good News Of Salvation With Others

‘The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace’ (Numbers 6:24-26).

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GOD’S POWER IS FOR TODAY!

