

Cornerstone Church

September 11, 2016

Sermon Series: Advanced Training for Jesus' Soldiers –  
Prepping Ourselves for His Return

Today's Sermon: Tapping Into the Transforming Power  
of the Spirit – Outward Impact

Today's Passages: Zechariah 4:1-10

Introduction

Main point: Jesus promised His followers that there  
would be a constant supply of supernatural power  
available via the Holy Spirit to astound the world in its  
miraculous magnitude.

True or false? Jesus said: **"I am the vine; you are the branches.  
Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart  
from me you can do nothing. (John 15:5 ESV)**

What kind of power does the Holy Spirit provide?

1. The Holy Spirit provides the power to keep all animate  
life alive.

**When you send forth your Spirit, they are created, and you renew the  
face of the ground. (Psalm 104:30 ESV)**

**If he should set his heart to it and gather to himself his spirit and his  
breath, all flesh would perish together, and man would return to dust.  
(Job 34:14-15 ESV)**

2. The Holy Spirit provides the power to convert sinful,  
dead hearts to living, yearning hearts and in the  
process changing the very core or nature of a  
person.

**That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the  
Spirit is spirit. Do not marvel that I said to you, 'You must be born**

**again.' The wind blows where it wishes, and you hear its sound, but  
you do not know where it comes from or where it goes. So it is with  
everyone who is born of the Spirit." (John 3:6-8 ESV)**

See also John 6:63, 2 Corinthians 3:6.

3. The Holy Spirit provides the power to transform our  
earthly bodies of flesh to glorified resurrected bodies  
of immortality at Jesus' return.

**If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he  
who raised Christ Jesus from the dead will also give life to your mortal  
bodies through his Spirit who dwells in you. (Romans 8:11 ESV)**

4. The Holy Spirit empowered Old Testament believers  
with supernatural power when it was needed to  
defeat Israel's enemies.
  - Joshua was given wisdom and leadership skills  
(Numbers 27:18; Deuteronomy 34:9)
  - Othniel, Gideon and Samson were given supernatural  
abilities to defeat Israel's enemies by the Spirit.
  - David was given supernatural powers to defeat Israel's  
enemies in his day.

**Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the  
midst of his brothers. And the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon  
David from that day forward. And Samuel rose up and went to  
Ramah. (1 Samuel 16:13 ESV)**

Note: Some teach that Old Testament saints did not have the Holy  
Spirit residing within them but Scripture says that Ezekiel, Daniel and  
Micah certainly did, and if they did then certainly others did as  
well.

5. The Holy Spirit empowered(s) New Testament believers with  
supernatural power to do battle against the enemy and to  
be Jesus' power witnesses to enlarge His Kingdom.

**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you,  
and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and  
Samaria, and to the end of the earth." (Acts 1:8 ESV)**

To do miracles:

**[8] And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. (Acts 6:8 ESV)**

For I will not venture to speak of anything except what Christ has accomplished through me to bring the Gentiles to obedience—by word and deed, by the power of signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God—so that from Jerusalem and all the way around to Illyricum I have fulfilled the ministry of the gospel of Christ; (Romans 15:18-19 ESV)

And I was with you in weakness and in fear and much trembling, and my speech and my message were not in plausible words of wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power, (1 Corinthians 2:3-4 ESV)

To preach with power:

**But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. (Acts 6:10 ESV)**

**It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things that have now been announced to you through those who preached the good news to you by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look. (1 Peter 1:12 ESV)**

To serve with supernatural ability:

**All these are empowered by one and the same Spirit, who apportions to each one individually as he wills. (1 Corinthians 12:11 ESV)**

To pray with supernatural ability:

**Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. (Romans 8:26 ESV)**

To battle demons with supernatural ability:

**But Saul, who was also called Paul, filled with the Holy Spirit, looked intently at him and said, “You son of the devil, you enemy of all righteousness, full of all deceit and villainy, will you not stop making crooked the straight paths of the Lord? And now, behold, the hand of the Lord is upon you, and you will be blind and unable to see the sun for a time.” Immediately mist and darkness fell upon him, and he went about seeking people to lead him by the hand. (Acts 13:9-11 ESV)**

2 Weapons in this arsenal:

1. The gift of distinguishing between spirits.

**to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the ability to distinguish between spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues. (1 Corinthians 12:10 ESV)**

**and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, (Ephesians 6:17 ESV)**

2. The sword of the Spirit

**and take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God, (Ephesians 6:17 ESV)**

Application

Hudson Taylor once said:: “It is *Divine* power we need and not machinery. If the tens or hundred we now reach daily are not being won to Christ, where would the gain in machinery that would enable us to reach double that number?

How should this truth affect our prayer life?

How should it affect our approach to evangelism?