

Holy Spirit: Post Pentecost Ministry
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Scripture Reference: Acts 3:1-10

Opening:

- A. The first Day of Pentecost, following the cross and the resurrection saw a dramatic filling of power that would change the course of church and human history. The power had been poured out. The fire had landed. The flame had filled. The glory had been given. The anointing had been authorized to fill the church. The comforter had come.
- B. Everything that happened from that day forward was post-Pentecost. It was a time of tremendous fervency and passion, and it caused a great shift in ministry. The end of Acts 2 gives us a look at Post-Pentecost: Spirit-filled ministry.
- C. Acts 2:23

Post Pentecost Spirit-filled Ministry is:

1. Committed to Prayer

- A. Peter and John were on their way to the temple to pray around 3:00p.m. for the evening sacrifice.
- B. Pentecostal people have always been committed to prayer. In fact, Pentecost happened as a result of prayer and continues to be experienced around the world because people pray.
 - a. Pentecostal Power should change our prayer life for the better.
- C. Some think that after being filled with the Spirit all you would have to do is just follow Him, and you would not need to give attention to consistent prayer again. But this is not true. Peter and John knew that consistent, daily prayer is needed to sustain and access the Spirit-filled life. Without consistent prayer, you dry and wilt under the pressure of the day.
- D. Spiritual Exercise
 - a. Just as physical exercise strengthens your heart (cardiovascular training), Spiritual exercise strengthens your heart before God.
 - b. Your heart becomes enlarged and capable of greater tasks.
 - b. Your spiritual ear is attuned.
 - c. Your spirit is cleansed (sanctification)
 - d. You are able to die daily (flesh is arrested)
 - e. Your roots are deepened. Pentecostal ministry can be a flighty thing based on tinsel, shine, and shout, but in prayer we are deepened in God to truly make a difference.
 - f. Seven days without prayer makes one *weak*.
- E. The Spirit-filled life must be a life of prayer out of necessity
 - a. Romans 8:26-27
 - b. Our prayer life takes on a whole new dimension after being filled with the Holy Spirit (1 Corinthians 14:14-15)

2. Concerned for the Poor

- A. Peter and John were drawn to the crippled man whose livelihood was spent begging. The Holy Spirit produces compassion and concern in us for the poor and crippled—not just the physically poor, but those who are unable to be who they are supposed to be. You will find Spirit-filled ministry continually touching the broken, the hurting, the crushed, the abused, and the crippled.
- B. The Holy Spirit in Peter was concerned about this man. It is true that the Lord chose the Beautiful gate or the Eastern gate and the temple area to reveal His supernatural power; but was for a man who was ready to be healed.
- C. “Silver and gold, I have none.” There is nothing wrong and sinful about being poor. But there is something wrong when we do not have true riches.
- D. It would have been okay to have sent the man to the greatest hospital in Jerusalem or Rome to see if they could find a cure, but Peter did not have the means to do that. He did, however, have the means to see this man walk through supernatural healing.

3. Connected with the Power

- A. “In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk.”
- B. The immediate power of God was residing in them by the Holy Spirit. They were equipped to make a difference in Jerusalem. These were ignorant Galileans out of place—like fishermen out of their waters—but they were flowing in the power of God. They were moving in the supernatural, moving with God, connected to the power source. They were accessing:
 - a. The creative power of God
 - b. The source of Jesus’ ministry
 - c. The authority to make a difference
 - d. The anointing to heal all who were oppressed by the devil
 - e. The grace to move in the miraculous
 - f. The might to minister life even at the temple area!!
- C. Peter used the name of Jesus—he had been authorized and deputized to speak in the stead, name and authority of Jesus—and He was doing it.
- D. Acts 3:12-16
- E. The man who was healed was seen walking, leaping and praising God.

Conclusion:

- A. Ministry was effective. Post-Pentecost ministry should not just be perfunctory—practiced routinely with words and documents and rituals—but it should be effective. This one miracle produced around 5,000 new believers.
- B. You have what it takes. You have what God can use to reach the impotent and the powerless.
- C. So as you are going about your daily life, be **committed to prayer, concerned for the poor, and connected with the power.**