

⁹At that time Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." 12 At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³ and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him. 14 After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. 15 "The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Mark 1:9-15 (NIV)

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"Since the days of Pentecost, has the whole church ever put aside every other work and waited upon Him for ten days, that the Spirit's power might be manifested? We give too much attention to method and machinery and resources, and too little to the source of power."

Hudson Taylor

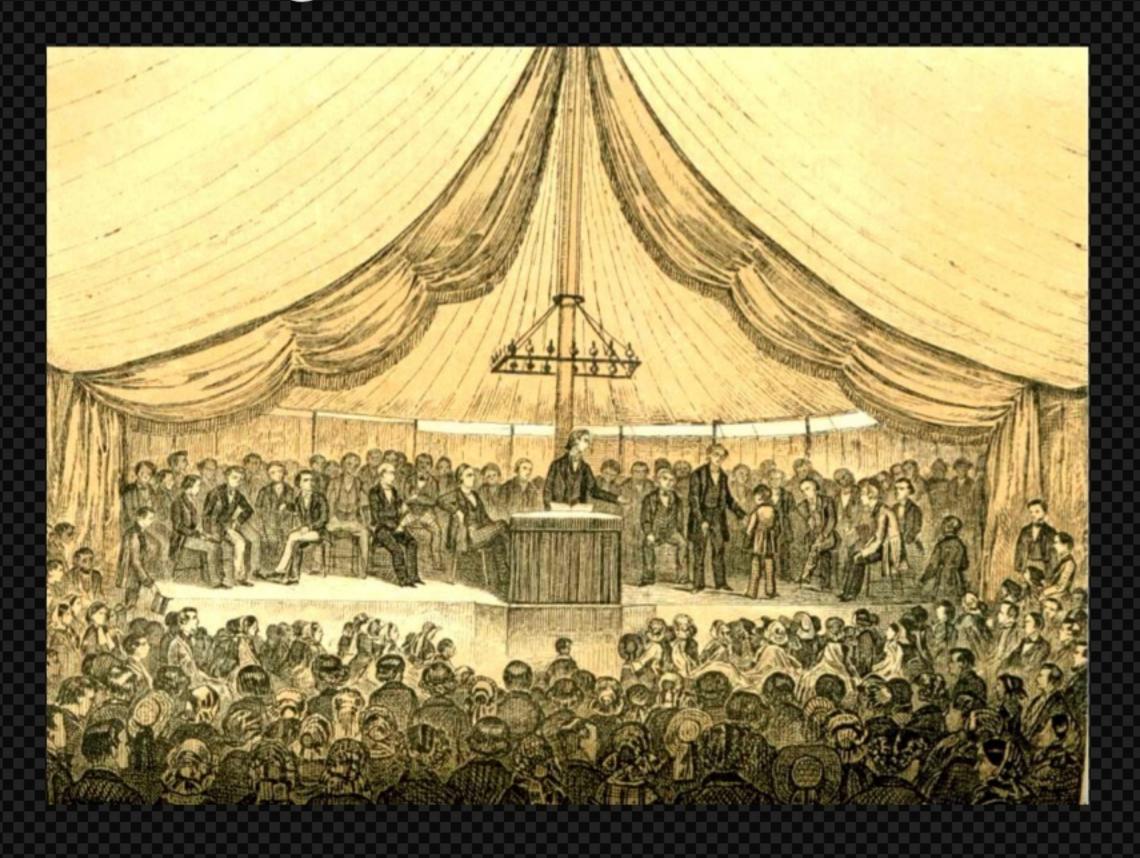
The Purpose of Power

Power Enables Us to Deal With Darkness

Be alert, be on watch! Your enemy, the Devil, roams around like a roaring lion, looking for someone to devour.

1 Peter 5:8 (GNT)

Philadelphia Midday Prayer Meeting Revival, 1858



After Jeremiah Lanphier started prayer meetings at noon for businessmen in New York City, the meetings quickly spread to Philadelphia. In the midst of a nationwide bank crisis, many businessmen found themselves battling darkness. In this crisis, revival began to spread throughout the city.

Meetings started at a church at Fourth and Arch, then moved to the YMCA, then took off at Jayne's Hall at 625 Chestnut. It outgrow that building and could only be held in tents.

Hannah Whitall Smith

1832-1911



After curiously attending a midday prayer meeting in Philadelphia, Whitall observed "new depths of Christianity . . . The secret was to abide in Him. Christians are not meant to live joyless and defeated lives, but to abound with joy and victory!"

The Christian's Secret of a Happy Life

Power Makes Us Effective in the Kingdom

"You cannot do God's work without God's power."

John R. Rice

"It is for us to pray not for tasks equal to our powers, but for powers equal to our tasks, to go forward with a great desire forever beating at the door of our hearts as we travel toward our distant goal."

Helen Keller

God's Pattern of Power

When Jesus Was Born

"How will this be," Mary asked the angel, "since I am a virgin?" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come on you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you. So the holy one to be born will be called the Son of God.

Luke 1:34-35 (NIV)

When Jesus Was Baptized

¹⁰ Just as Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven being torn open and the Spirit descending on him like a dove. ¹¹ And a voice came from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased." ¹² At once the Spirit sent him out into the wilderness, ¹³ and he was in the wilderness forty days, being tempted by Satan. He was with the wild animals, and angels attended him.

Mark 1:10-13 (NIV)

When the Church Was Born

¹When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ²Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.

Acts 2:1-4 (NIV)

For Kingdom Lifestyle

¹⁸Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit, ¹⁹speaking to one another with psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit. Sing and make music from your heart to the Lord, ²⁰always giving thanks to God the Father for everything, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Ephesians 5:18-20 (NIV)

"If you are strangers to prayer you are strangers to power."

Billy Sunday

Power Prophesied

...and I will remove the sin of this land in a single day.

Zechariah 3:9 (NIV)

Then the angel who talked with me returned and woke me up, like someone awakened from sleep.... So he said to me, "This is the word of the Lord to Zerubbabel: 'Not by might nor by power, but by my Spirit,' says the Lord Almighty. What are you, mighty mountain? Before Zerubbabel you will become level ground. Then he will bring out the capstone to shouts of 'God bless it!"

Zechariah 4:1, 6-7 (NIV)