

## **The Power Source II** Sunday April 24, 2022

Ephesians 1:19-20 (NLT) I also pray that you will understand the incredible greatness of God's power for us who believe in him.

(AMP) [so that you will begin to know] what the immeasurable *and* unlimited *and* surpassing greatness of His [active, spiritual] power is in us who believe.

Paul's prayer for the believers in Ephesus in this verse was that they would understand, see or grasp with their minds the extent of God's power at work in them.

As believers we possess a power that's beyond our own human ability.

We are not the power, we contain the power. We are not the source, we are the receptors.

It is more power than what we need. It is immeasurable and unlimited. It is active and spiritual. This is the power a child of God has on the inside.

Is it possible that we are not drawing on this power but instead live with a powerless mindset when it comes to the life God has called us to live?

Is it possible that we are asking for power to overcome when we should be asking for the understanding of the power source that has already been given to us?

Ephesians 19-20 (NLT) This is the same mighty power <sup>20</sup> that raised Christ from the dead and seated him in the place of honor at God's right hand in the heavenly realms.

(VOICE) That power is the same as the great strength <sup>20</sup> God used to raise Christ from the dead and put him at his right side in the heavenly world.

### **Who was the source of the power that raised Jesus from the dead that abides in us?**

1 Peter 3:18 (NKJV) For Christ also suffered once for sins, the just for the unjust, that He might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive by the Spirit.

Although we may not fully comprehend the mystery of the activity of the Holy Spirit in raising Jesus from the dead, one thing we do know is that the Holy Spirit was the power source that brought His physical back to life.

### **Why is this important to us?**

Romans 8:12-13 (NKJV) If the Spirit of Him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, He who raised Christ from the dead will also give life to your mortal bodies through His Spirit who dwells in you.

(NLT) The Holy Spirit raised Jesus from the dead. If the same Holy Spirit lives in you, He will give life to your bodies in the same way.

(VOICE) If the Spirit of the One who resurrected Jesus from the dead lives inside of you, then *you can be sure that* He who raised Him will cast *the light of* life into your mortal bodies through the life-giving power of the Spirit residing in you.

(Wycliff) And if the Spirit of him that raised Jesus Christ from death dwelleth in you, he that raised Jesus Christ from death, shall quicken also your deadly bodies, for the Spirit of him that dwelleth in you.

(Phillips) Nevertheless once the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead lives within you he will, by that same Spirit, bring to your whole being new strength and vitality.

Although there will be a resurrection of the dead when Christ returns, it seems apparent that Paul isn't referring to that event here. Here he is speaking about the power of the Holy Spirit bringing us to life and giving us the ability to live a life of obedience and service unto God.

The point is that by the influence of the Holy Spirit our entire being is made alive to serve God. Even our carnal, corrupt, mortal body that was under the dominion of the sinful and the self-serving fallen nature can now be influenced to yield to the will of God.

This is possible because the Spirit, who has restored life to our souls, abides with us.

1 Corinthians 6:19 (NLT) Don't you realize that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit, who lives in you and was given to you by God? You do not belong to yourself.

The Holy spirit who now resides within those who have placed their faith in Christ is the source of the power and ability to overcome sin and live a life of obedience and service to God.

Romans 8:12-14 (NLT) Therefore, dear brothers and sisters, you have no obligation to do what your sinful nature urges you to do. <sup>13</sup> For if you live by its dictates, you will die. But if through the power of the Spirit you put to death the deeds of your sinful nature, you will live. <sup>14</sup> For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God.

*"There can be no vital Christianity apart from the Spirit. Only He can make actual what Christ's work has made possible."* ~ Myer Pearlman (Knowing the Doctrines of the Bible)

It is the energizing power of the Holy Spirit within us that enables us to live for Jesus day by day. As the Spirit works within us, He gives us the power to live in a way that honors God.

The same source of power, the Holy Spirit, that raised Jesus from the dead is the same source of power that is at work in us. Death conquering, life changing, resurrection power is at work in our lives all the time.

### **The Holy Spirit enables us to live a kingdom life that honors the King.**

The Holy Spirit is vital to living the Christian life. You cannot live in a way that honors the King without divine intervention. This is why Jesus spoke of the Holy Spirit as the helper. His job is to produce Christ-like character in us.

We are helpless to obey without the indwelling presence of the Spirit.

Perhaps the prime example found this is found in Peter. Before his experience with the Holy Spirit he had pledged allegiance to Jesus even until death. However, a few hours later he was denying that he even knew who Jesus was. (Matthew 16:69-75)

After he was born again and baptized with the Holy Spirit Peter became a new man. Filled with the presence and power of the Holy Spirit he would become a martyr for the cause of Christ.

Only by being saved and filled with the Holy Spirit could Peter, the coward, become Peter the courageous.

The moment the Holy Spirit enters our lives He begins to work enables us not only to do what God has called us to do but also to be who God has called us to be. He makes develops Christlike character in us.

Galatians 5:22-23 (NLT) But the Holy Spirit produces this kind of fruit in our lives: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, <sup>23</sup>gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against these things!

Allowing the Holy Spirit to manifest the character of Christ in the us is not passive. We don't sit around doing nothing. As in the New Birth where we must respond to the gospel that we hear so it is in bearing fruit.

We must give ourselves to the reading, studying, and the meditation of the word, as well as to prayer. The Holy Spirit uses these means to quicken our minds to learn about Christ and apply His principles. He will always lead us to the truth and by the truth. The word of God is the road map the Holy Spirit is our guide to victory.

Galatians 5:16-21 (NLT) So I say, let the Holy Spirit guide your lives. Then you won't be doing what your sinful nature craves.

The Spirit is not given to us so that we feel “Holy Ghost goose bumps”, emotional highs and fuzzy feelings. He has been given to us so that we can do what God has called us to do and be who God has called us to be.