

THE POWER TO MAKE CHANGES

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Satan rebelled against God and decided that he would run the world his own way. A power struggle resulted with God's power being challenged by Satan's words. Satan relies on deceit and lies and focuses his attention firstly on the carnal side of our lives ... keeping our hearts and minds preoccupied with basic lusts and desires. He also tries to deceive God's people with false doctrine and attacks against their faith. On the other hand God wants to offer us a better life, one that will not end at physical death. God changes the focus from the carnal to the Spiritual and offers people the power of the Holy Spirit, enabling change. The anointing of the Holy Spirit is not an optional extra and neither is it a once off event. God transfers supernatural powers into our body with an outward sign demonstrating the reality of this event. In the detailed accounts in the N/T scriptures, those that received the power of the Holy Spirit instantly spoke in a new language (the bible calls it 'speaking in tongues'). The inclusion of this new Spiritual language gives us the power to communicate with God in an effective manner, repurposes our hearts, giving us the power to make changes in our lives.

Most people in the world are not aware of the spiritual battle that is going on in the earth. ACT 1:8 But ye shall receive **power**, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth (to the whole world). God gives us the power to reveal this battle so people can make their own choices. If they choose to obey God, he fills them with the Holy Spirit and they also are empowered to save their own lives and also the lives of all those who will listen to them. It is interesting that the principle theme of life, in the movies, in books, in society, etc., is '**good verses evil**'. This is no accident.

ACT 26:18 To open their eyes, [and] to turn [them] from darkness to light, and [from] the power of Satan unto God (to lift their thoughts out of the natural to the supernatural), that they may receive forgiveness of sins (the cleansing of ongoing natural weakness that prevent us conforming to God's ways. Our kidneys do a similar procedure in our bodies by continually filtering our blood), and **inheritance** among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me. More than an idle promise, an inheritance is a legal right. God promises...

An eternal inheritance. ISA 56:5 Even unto them will I give in mine house and within my walls a place and a name **better than** of sons and of daughters: I will give them an everlasting name, that shall not be cut off.

To resist God is to reject any hope of further life. ROM 13:2 Whosoever therefore resisteth the power (the same power which created the heavens and the earth), resisteth the ordinance of God: and they that resist shall receive to themselves damnation. Nothing more can be offered, once this final judgment occurs.

To accept God is to accept an everlasting life and the real power to save others. JOH 1:12 But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, [even] to them that believe on his name:

We are given the power to sort out the lies from the truth, good from evil. LUK 10:19 Behold, I give unto you **power** (1849 gr exousia ...capacity, mastery, authority) to tread (place under foot) on serpents (Satan and those that promote his lies are the serpents) and scorpions (whose sting is in its tail... the end of all carnal pleasure is death... the sting of death is sin {natural pleasures at the expense of spiritual truth} 1Cor 15:56), and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing (no man) shall by any means hurt you. God gives us the power to defeat all the lying works and words of those that would try and cheat us of our salvation.

To believe and serve God is good, but not in our own strength or power. HEB 7:19 For the law made nothing perfect (the law relied on the natural strength and power of the individual), but the bringing in of a better hope [did] (God's power, not our own); by the which we draw nigh unto God. This power of God is our hope, it is the power to make the changes which enables us to get stronger and overcome our weaknesses; to help save the lives of others. God created people to live and enjoy his company, not to die by exclusion.

HEB 10:22 Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience, and our bodies washed with pure water. We are encouraged first, to continue in the Lord ...to tidy up as we go along ...to build our faith on these promises ...to live accordingly. This will leave us with a full assurance and a clear vision of our future.

Can we simplify the complexity of life and our service in the Lord? COL 2:6 As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, [so] walk ye in him: Live each day with the same attitude you had towards God when you received the Holy Spirit. You have the power to make all the changes you need. This world has never needed the truth and power of the gospel, more than our current time... let's be about the Lord's business.