

You Have a Mighty Source

The Church & God's Power

I. God's Power & New Beginnings

A. Passover

Exodus 12:29-32 (NIV)

²⁹ At midnight the Lord struck down all the firstborn in Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh, who sat on the throne, to the firstborn of the prisoner, who was in the dungeon, and the firstborn of all the livestock as well. ³⁰ Pharaoh and all his officials and all the Egyptians got up during the night, and there was loud wailing in Egypt, for there was not a house without someone dead. ³¹ During the night Pharaoh summoned Moses and Aaron and said, "Up! Leave my people, you and the Israelites! Go, worship the Lord as you have requested.

³² Take your flocks and herds, as you have said, and go. And also bless me."

B. Elijah & Prophets of Baal

1 Kings 18:36-38 (NIV)

³⁶ At the time of sacrifice, the prophet Elijah stepped forward and prayed: "O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac and Israel, let it be known today that you are God in Israel and that I am your servant and have done all these things at your command. ³⁷ Answer me, O Lord, answer me, so these people will know that you, O Lord, are God, and that you are turning their hearts back again." ³⁸ Then the fire of the Lord fell and burned up the sacrifice, the wood, the stones and the soil, and also licked up the water in the trench.

C. Jesus' Story

Acts 10:34-36 (NIV)

³⁴ Then Peter began to speak: "I now realize how true it is that God does not show favoritism ³⁵ but accepts men from every nation who fear him and do what is right. ³⁶ You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, telling the good news of peace through Jesus Christ, who is Lord of all.

Acts 4:10-12 (NIV)

¹⁰ then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed. ¹¹ He is "the stone you builders rejected, which has become the capstone". ¹² Salvation is found in no one else, for **there is no other name under heaven given to men by which we must be saved.**"

II. The Cross: A Remarkable Exchange

A. Jesus' Sacrifice for Us

Romans 5:1-2 (NIV)

¹ Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, **we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ,** ² through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we rejoice in the hope of the glory of God.

Romans 5:8-9 (NIV)

⁸ But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹ Since **we have now been justified by his blood,** how much more shall we be saved from God's wrath through him!

Ephesians 1:7 (NIV)

⁷ In him **we have redemption through his blood,** the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace

1 John 1:7 (NASB)

⁷ but if we walk in the Light as He Himself is in the Light, we have fellowship with one another, and **the blood of Jesus His Son cleanses us from all sin.**

B. More than words & wisdom

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 (NIV)

⁴ My message and my preaching were **not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power,** ⁵ so that your faith might not rest on men's wisdom, but on God's power.

1 Thessalonians 1:5 (NIV)

⁵ our gospel came to you **not simply with words, but also with power,** with the Holy Spirit and with deep conviction.

C. Christ & Christ Followers

Acts 10:38 (NIV)

³⁸ how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth **with the Holy Spirit and power,** and how he went around doing good and healing all who were under the power of the devil, because God was with him.

John 14:12 (NIV)

¹² I tell you the truth, **anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing.** He will do even greater things than these, because I am going to the Father.

Acts 1:8 (NIV)

⁸ But **you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you;** and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Acts 5:14-16 (NASB) **(Peter in Jerusalem)**

¹⁴ And all the more believers in the Lord, **multitudes of men and women, were constantly added to their number,** ¹⁵ to such an extent that they even carried the sick out into the streets and laid them on cots and pallets, so that when Peter came by at least his shadow might fall on any one of them. ¹⁶ Also the people from the cities in the vicinity of Jerusalem were coming together, bringing people who were sick or afflicted with unclean spirits, and **they were all being healed.**

Acts 19:11-12 (NIV) **(Paul in Ephesus)**

¹¹ God did extraordinary miracles through Paul, ¹² so that even handkerchiefs and aprons that had touched him were taken to the sick, and their illnesses were cured and the evil spirits left them.

Acts 19:17-20 (NIV)

¹⁷ When this became known to the Jews and Greeks living in Ephesus, they were all seized with fear, and the name of the Lord Jesus was held in high honor. ¹⁸ Many of those who believed now came and openly confessed their evil deeds. ¹⁹ A number who had practiced sorcery brought their scrolls together and burned them publicly. When they calculated the value of the scrolls, the total came to fifty thousand drachmas. ²⁰ In this way the word of the Lord spread widely and grew in power.