

The Power of God and the Christian Pt.2

August 31, 2014 PM

Our dependence upon the supernatural and our expectation of the miraculous has been dulled and even lost as we drift deeper into the sensory perception, lifestyle and culture of the world around us. We must have our faith in the power of God restored and revived.

3 GUIDELINES FOR STUDY:

1. *Accept in faith the simplicity of the Scriptures. Don't make it hard, don't over-think it.*
2. *The wisdom of God far exceeds human intelligence. Don't require that the Scriptures be defined, explained or understood intellectually.*
3. *Don't add to or take from the Scriptures.*
 - a. *Let the Scriptures speak for themselves; don't study with a pre-determined agenda.*
 - b. *Focus on the obvious. Let the obscure be obscure.*
 - c. *Don't try to force Scripture into man-made doctrinal formulas.*
 - d. *Don't interpret Scripture in light of human error and abuses.*

Mark 16:14–20

14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and **upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.**

15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.

16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

17 **And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;**

18 **They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.**

19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.

20 **And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.**

- ***There is only one thing standing between us and a miracle - our unbelief.***
 - ***The unbelief worse than "God can't" is the unbelief that says "God won't, not now and not for me."***
 - ***Faith is not a muscle, not a power, nor a feeling where the more force you can produce the better. Faith is a choice, in response to the Word of God, to believe God can, God will, for me here and now. If you make that choice, even it seems as small as a mustard seed, God will respond in power.***

- ***Our expectant anticipation for the manifestation of God’s power can be dimmed or even lost in the mundane, the familiar, the routine.***
 - *The mundane and routine lulls us into a spiritual slumber that life will always be this way.*
 - *Sophistication, education and arrogance teach us that God can only use the elite, not the common people.*
- ***The power of God is not at our disposal to use how and when we decide. We cannot initiate or direct the move of God’s power.***
- ***The supernatural is not always spectacular to or discernable with the physical senses.***
- ***Put NO limitations on God’s power.***

John 11:32–44

32 Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, ***“Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died.”***

33 When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, ***he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled.***

34 And he said, *“Where have you laid him?”* They said to him, *“Lord, come and see.”*

35 Jesus wept.

36 So the Jews said, *“See how he loved him!”*

37 But some of them said, ***“Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?”***

38 Then Jesus, deeply moved again, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone lay against it.

39 Jesus said, *“Take away the stone.”* Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, *“Lord, by this time there will be an odor, for he has been dead four days.”*

40 Jesus said to her, ***“Did I not tell you that if you believed you would see the glory of God?”***

41 So they took away the stone. And Jesus lifted up his eyes and said, *“Father, I thank you that you have heard me.*

42 *I knew that you always hear me, but I said this on account of the people standing around, that they may believe that you sent me.”*

43 When he had said these things, he cried out with a loud voice, *“Lazarus, come out.”*

44 The man who had died came out, his hands and feet bound with linen strips, and his face wrapped with a cloth. Jesus said to them, *“Unbind him, and let him go.”*

- ***Seek God alone; don’t seek signs and wonders.***

Matthew 12:38–42

38 Then some of the scribes and Pharisees answered him, saying, ***“Teacher, we wish to see a sign from you.”***

39 But he answered them, ***“An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given***

to it except the sign of the prophet Jonah.

40 For just as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the great fish, so will the Son of Man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.

41 The men of Nineveh will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and behold, something greater than Jonah is here.

42 The queen of the South will rise up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it, for she came from the ends of the earth to hear the wisdom of Solomon, and behold, something greater than Solomon is here.

- **There will be instances when God's sovereign plan overrides our prayers.**

2 Corinthians 12:7–9

7 So to keep me from becoming conceited because of the surpassing greatness of the revelations, a thorn was given me in the flesh, a messenger of Satan to harass me, to keep me from becoming conceited.

8 Three times I pleaded with the Lord about this, that it should leave me.

9 But he said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness."

Therefore I will boast all the more gladly of my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

- **The glory for the power must ALWAYS be given to God, NEVER any man.**

Acts 12:21–23

21 On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, and delivered an oration to them.

22 And the people were shouting, "The voice of a god, and not of a man!"

23 Immediately an angel of the Lord struck him down, **because he did not give God the glory**, and he was eaten by worms and breathed his last.