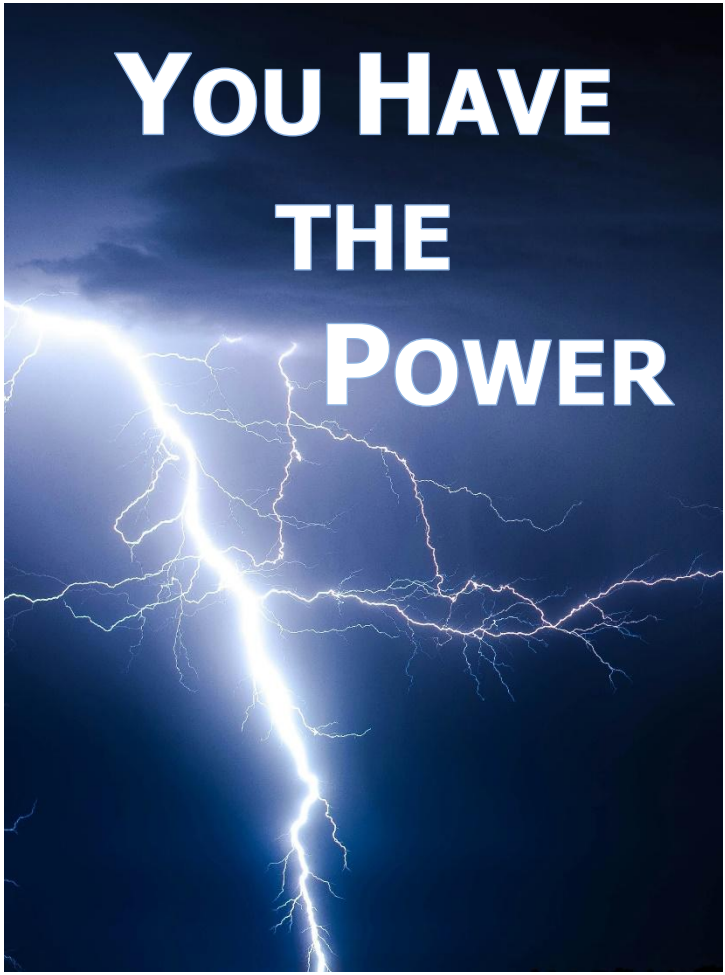

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LifeinJesus.net

‘You Have the Power’
by
Katherine Hilditch

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You Have the Power

Many Christians want to minister healing to people but lack confidence. Two major reasons are that they aren't baptised in the Holy Spirit or they don't understand the power they have. I pray that this booklet will reassure and encourage you in the power God has given you for your own benefit and so you can minister to others more effectively. Paul prays in Philemon 1:6 that – '*the fellowship of your faith may become effective in the knowledge of every good thing which is in us in Christ Jesus*.'

To have God's power, you need to be born-again. (To read more about this go to the end of the booklet.) But you also need to be baptised in the Holy Spirit. It's only then that God's power is released in you and you can start ministering in His power instead of struggling along in your own limited power.

Baptism in the Holy Spirit

Jesus had already breathed the Holy Spirit into His disciples but before He returned to heaven, He told them not to do anything until they were baptised in the Spirit. He said in Acts 1:8 – "*you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you*." We also have the Holy Spirit living in us if we are born-again, but we need to be baptised in the Spirit to have the power.

Christians who have not been baptised in the Holy Spirit tend to struggle in their Christian walk because they are trying to do it in their own strength. But God wants to give you His power more than you want it and it is readily available to you.

Being born-again and not baptised in the Spirit is like a gas central heating boiler that just has its pilot light lit. Being

baptised in the Holy Spirit is like the valves in the boiler opening up and the boiler filling with flames. When only the pilot light is on the boiler doesn't make any difference to the house – it doesn't heat it. But when the boiler has ignited, it affects the house, heating it up. When you are born-again, the pilot light is lit – you have the Holy Spirit living inside you. But when you are baptised in Him, you are then full of God's power which you can use to bring about changes for the better in the people and situations around you.

How to be Baptised in the Holy Spirit

All it takes is sincerely asking God for it. Acknowledge that you have no power of yourself. Thank Him that He has the power to give you and that He wants to give it to you. Ask Him to baptise you in the Holy Spirit. Receive it in faith.

You may find this is a wonderful emotional experience or you may feel nothing at first. Go by faith, not feelings, and choose to believe you have received. Refuse to entertain thoughts which say otherwise. God is faithful and the proof of something life-changing having taken place will show as time goes by.

God Has Given Us Authority Too

God gave authority over the earth to Adam and Eve. But they handed it over to Satan when they gave in to his temptation. Jesus came to earth as a man to win it back and then share it with people. So once again we have God-given authority to use the power that He puts in us. This is really important, as power without authority will never be effective and nor will authority without power. (To read more about our authority, read my booklet 'Power and Authority.)

Doing What God Has Told Us to Do

God has given us both power and the authority to use it. Yet Christians typically ask God to heal people and then presume it isn't His will if nothing happens. But Jesus told us to do it. He says in Matthew 10:8 – "*Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, and cast out demons. Freely you received, so freely give.*" Jesus didn't tell them to contact Him when they found someone who needed healing so He could heal them; He told them to do it. He didn't tell them to get lots of people praying; He told them to do it. When Peter saw the lame beggar, he said to him in Acts 3:6 – "*what I have, that I give you. In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, get up and walk!"* Peter took the authority God had given him and used the power He had put in him and he healed the man. And we are told to do the same. (To read more about this, read my booklet 'Power and Authority.)

God has given us three sources of power along with the authority to use them. They are God's Word, the name of Jesus and the Holy Spirit Himself. But to use them effectively we also need faith. Faith is the key that activates the power.

The Power of the Holy Spirit

Jesus didn't perform miracles in the fact that He is God. He did it in the power of the Holy Spirit. Acts 10:38 says – '*God anointed him* (Jesus) *with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him*.' If Jesus had ministered in the power of being God, we would not be able to do the same things He did, but He said in John 14:12 – "*Most certainly I tell you, he who believes in me, the works that I do, he will do also; and he will do greater works than these, because I am going to my Father*." All born-

again believers have the Holy Spirit living in them. 1 Corinthians 6:19 says – '*… don't you know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God?*' But we need to be baptised in Him to release His power in us. It is only then that we can do what Jesus did.

The Power of God's Word

The Holy Spirit inspired the Bible, moving its writers to record faithfully all that He directed them to – this is why we can trust God's Word as absolute truth. The Holy Spirit makes the Bible come alive as we read it, helping us to understand it on a spiritual level. Jesus says in John 16:13 – "*when he, the Spirit of truth, has come, he will guide you into all truth*." And He also said in John 8:31-32 – "*If you remain in my word, then you are truly my disciples. [32] You will know the truth, and the truth will make you free*." When you make the Bible the decider of truth instead of your experience, you have something of real worth to pass on to people and you can minister in confidence. Knowing the power of the truth of God's Word will set us and others free when we minister it, if they will receive it in faith.

Because God's Word is absolute truth, it is also absolute power. His established principle of power in His Word is still at work today. Hebrews 4:12 says – '*For the word of God is living and active, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and is able to discern the thoughts and intentions of the heart*.'

God's Word has power to heal and deliver. In Proverbs 4:22 He says that His words are – '*life to those who find them, and health to their whole body*.' And Psalm 107:20 says – '*He sends his word, and heals them, and delivers them from their graves*.'

The Word of God is our weapon of power. Ephesians 6:17 describes – '*… the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God*.' Speak the truth of God's Word out loud over yourself and other people. Do it in faith and see its power perform. But be aware that the Cross changed everything and the victory over Satan was only won as Jesus hung on the Cross. Many prayers of the Old Testament are no longer relevant for us to pray today. Below are four of many examples.

- The Old Testament prayer in Psalm 57:1 said – "*Be merciful to me, God, be merciful to me*." But the New Testament truth in 1 Peter 2:10 says – '*God's people, who had not obtained mercy, but now have obtained mercy*.'
- The Old Testament prayer in Psalm 38:21 said – "*Do not forsake me, LORD. My God, do not be far from me*." But the New Testament truth in Matthew 28:20 says – "*Behold, I am with you always, even to the end of the age*."
- The Old Testament prayer in Psalm 6:2 said – "*LORD, heal me*." But the New Testament truth in 1 Peter 2:24b says – '*You were healed by his wounds*.'
- The Old Testament prayer in Psalm 6:1 said – "*LORD, do not rebuke me in Your anger*." But the New Testament truth in Romans 8:1 says – '*There is therefore now no condemnation to those who are in Christ Jesus*.'

For the many things God has won for us through Jesus, our prayer should no longer be "Please," but "Thank You." Do not ask God to do things He's already done, but thank Him for what He's done. Then you can confidently step out in the power of the Word and help others to believe and receive all that Jesus has done and won for them. (To read more about God's Word see my booklet 'The Importance of God's Word.)

The Power of the Name of Jesus

There is infinite power in the name of Jesus and ultimately everything has to bow to it, including sickness and demons. Philippians 2:9-10 says that God – '*gave to him* (Jesus) *the name which is above every name, [10]that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of those in heaven, those on earth, and those under the earth*.' Whatever you are facing has a name. Cancer, M.E., fear, depression, arthritis, poverty and everything else has to bow at the name of Jesus. When Jesus sent His followers out to heal and deliver people, they were thrilled with the power of His name. Luke 10:17 says – '*The seventy returned with joy, saying, "Lord, even the demons are subject to us in your name!"*'

Jesus said in Mark 16:17-18 – "*These signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; … they will lay hands on the sick, and they will recover*." (To read more about healing, read my booklet 'God Wants You To Be Well')

Faith

God won everything for us through grace. We could never deserve or earn what He has freely done for us. Jesus gave up everything so we could have it all. That is grace. But the blessings will only become ours if we receive them in faith. Ephesians 2:8-9 says – '*By grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, [9]not of works, that no one would boast*.' Jesus has already defeated sickness on the Cross and it cannot stand against His name, but it is faith in His name which will make the healing manifest physically. After Peter had healed a lame man, he explained in Acts 3:16 – "*By faith in his name, his name has made this man strong, whom you see and know*."

Faith is the key that activates God's power in us. Hebrews 4*:2* says – '*… the word they heard didn't profit them, because it wasn't mixed with faith by those who heard*.' Jesus says it is faith which is spoken, not just thought, that will move the mountain. He says in Mark 11:23 – "*Most certainly I tell you, whoever may tell this mountain, 'Be taken up and cast into the sea,' and doesn't doubt in his heart, but believes that what he says is happening; he shall have whatever he says*." Speak directly to a problem in the name of Jesus and have faith that it will move. Do not speak to God about the problem, speak to the problem about God and what Jesus has done in winning the victory over it. It's then you can see God's power at work.

Build your faith up by reading God's Word and focusing on His love and all you have because of Jesus, and knock any unbelief on the head by turning your mind away from any negative thoughts. Determine to find the truth in God's Word and focus on that, whatever is going on around you that seems to be saying the opposite. The more you do it, the easier it becomes. Romans 12:2 says – '*Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind*.'

Conclusion

Don't ask God for power. If you are born-again and baptised in the Holy Spirit, you already have it. You have the Holy Spirit within you, you have the Word of God, you have the Name of Jesus, and you have faith to use it as a gift from God. So don't wait for power. Jesus says to just get on and use it. In Matthew 10:8 He said – "*Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, and cast out demons. Freely you received, so freely give*."

Choose to be confident in the power you have, release it and step out in it. God's power in you does not just work

automatically by itself, you have to use it. In Ephesians 3:20 the Bible tells us that God is able – '*to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us*.' God works through you according to how much you use the power He has put within you. Be bold and step out in it and start to see yourself and others healed, set free and made whole.

Being Born-Again

When you acknowledge Jesus as God and decide to follow Him, you make Him your Lord. When you accept His sacrifice on the Cross for you personally, you make Him your Saviour. You are then born-again. God becomes your Father and you His child, and you can start to enjoy your personal relationship with Him.

Romans 10:9 says – '*If you will confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord, and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved*.' Say this prayer out loud and believe it in your heart – "Jesus, I declare that You are Lord and that God raised You from the dead to live forevermore. Thank You for dying for me personally. I receive my forgiveness and my salvation now. Thank You Jesus, my Lord and Saviour."

You are now born-again and Jesus has come to live in you. All your sins are forgiven, past, present and future, and you have a new perfect spirit. And after this life is over, you'll live in love, peace and joy with your Father God for ever.

Life in Jesus

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Do you want to minister to people
and see them healed and delivered,
but you feel powerless?

Discover that God's power is freely available to you
through the baptism of the Holy Spirit.
Step out in faith
and start to do the things Jesus did
when He was here on earth.

Katherine Hilditch has been teaching in local churches for many years. In 2013 she wrote her first booklet and since then has written many more. She created her website to make all the booklets freely available to everyone. They can be read online or printed out. Katherine's threefold purpose is to help people understand more about Jesus and all He has done and won for them, to encourage them to go deeper in their relationship with God and to provide material to help them share their faith with others. To read her story and find all the booklets go to –

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