

## The Power of the Holy Spirit IV

**NKJV Acts 1:7** And he said unto them, It is not for you to know the times or the seasons, which the Father hath put in his own power. <sup>8</sup> **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.**

### Acts 4 The Power of Prayer

Persecutors caused the arrest of the leaders.

The power of prayer causes the ***liberation*** of the ***oppressed***.

*Stop! Look! Listen! Hear (Holy Spirit)! Act (Obey)!*

## I

Your previous prayer and the Holy Spirit will ***sustain*** you on the day of testing.

**NRSV Acts 4:1** While Peter and John were speaking to the people, the priests, the captain of the temple, and the Sadducees came to them, <sup>2</sup> much annoyed because they were teaching the people and proclaiming that in Jesus there is the resurrection of the dead. <sup>3</sup> So they arrested them and put them in custody until the next day, for it was already evening. <sup>4</sup> But many of those who heard the word believed; and **they numbered about five thousand.**

Jesus warned us of the future pressure and trouble which would come.

**NRSV Matthew 24:9** Then they will deliver you up to tribulation and kill you, and you will be hated by all nations for My name's sake.<sup>10</sup> And then many will be offended, will betray one another, and will hate one another.

Most of our fellow brothers throughout the world are experiencing this tribulation daily.

**NRSV Matthew 27:41** Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.

Prayer gives you the antibodies to fight the infection of compromise.

## II

Your demonstrations during or after the hour of prayer will be a lasting and undeniable witness.

**NRSV Acts 4:14** When they saw the man who had been cured standing beside them, they had nothing to say in opposition. So they ordered them to leave the council while they discussed the matter with one another. They said, "What will we do with them? **For it is obvious to all who live in Jerusalem that a notable sign** has been done through them; we cannot deny it.

The power of demonstration is a powerful witness to skeptics and foes alike.

Your time of prayer is a notable sign to point the way to Jesus.

## III

Your present prayer positions you for future pressure.

**NRSV Acts 4:29** “And now, Lord, look at their threats, and **grant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness,** <sup>30</sup> while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus.” <sup>31</sup> When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and **they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness.**

*What we need above all is a fresh outpouring of God's Holy Spirit. What we need is **a prophetic movement with a sociopolitical impact** rather than a political movement with spiritual threads. Samuel Rodriguez, The Lamb's Agenda*

Pressure will come from public officials, religious leaders, and corrupt systems.

Boldness is the act of being fearless before danger.

Boldness is the act of showing or requiring a fearless daring spirit.

Leaders need to speak with boldness. **Vs 29**

Leaders know it is contagious.

When others see your boldness, they will become bold. **Vs 31**

**NRSV Ephesians 6:18** Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. <sup>19</sup> Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known **with boldness the mystery of the gospel,** <sup>20</sup> for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

*Pray in the spirit!*

*Pray His messengers will speak boldly!*

*Pray His ambassadors will speak with boldness under pressure!*

Rhema Christian center  
Bishop La Fayette Scales  
Saturday & Sunday, August 27 & 28, 2022  
9:30 am