

Power from Heaven

Part two of the series, "Discerning These Times"

Sunday, August 14, 2022 | Pastor Billy Lile

The Promise: His POWER for the mission ahead.

"And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, 'you heard from me; ⁵for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

*⁶So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?' ⁷He said to them, 'It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. ⁸**But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.**' ⁹And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight." (Acts 1:4-9 ESV)*

The Prerequisite: PRAYER and PURIFICATION.

"When the day of Pentecost arrived, they were all together in one place. ²And suddenly there came from heaven a sound like a mighty rushing wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³And divided tongues as of fire appeared to them and rested on each one of them. ⁴And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance." (Acts 2:1-4 ESV)

The Outcome: the GREAT COMMISSION.

"Now there were dwelling in Jerusalem Jews, devout men from every nation under heaven. ⁶And at this sound the multitude came together, and they were bewildered, because each one was hearing them speak in his own language. ⁷And they were amazed and astonished, saying, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans?' ⁸And how is it that we hear, each of us in his own native language?" (Acts 2:5-8 ESV)

"Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified.' ³⁷Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, 'Brothers, what shall we do?' ³⁸And Peter said to them, 'Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. ³⁹For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself.' ⁴⁰And with many other words he bore witness and continued to exhort them, saying, 'Save yourselves from this crooked generation.' ⁴¹So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls." (Acts 2:36-41 ESV)

Our Response:

"...if my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and I will forgive their sin and will heal their land." (2 Chronicles 7:14 ESV)

- **PRAY for His power.** *"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray..."*
- **PURIFY our hearts from sin.** *"...and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways..."*
- **PROCLAIM the Gospel.** (Acts 2:36-41)

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