

## PENTECOSTAL POWER

**ACT 16:14** 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.

15And he said unto them, **Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel** to every creature. 16He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.

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

18They 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.

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

These scriptures at the end of Mark's gospel contain some of the hardest hitting phrases. Christians and Bible students should learn these verses.

1) Jesus rebuked the apostles for unbelief and stubbornness of heart. Even anointed apostles can get off track. Jesus did not spend more time than necessary in His rebuke. These men were handpicked gifted preachers, who needed to be sent worldwide.

2) Jesus reminded the Apostles of the fundamentals. Those that believed and were baptized would be saved and those that didn't believe would be damned. This is the ongoing evangelistic motivation for all believers. If it is not possible to take the message of the cross somewhere ourselves, then share Christ with family members and neighbours.

3) Signs and wonders shall follow them that believe. All apostolic (missionaries) ministers should have signs following their ministries. Otherwise, stop telling people you're a missionary.

4) **They shall speak with tongues.** Surely Jesus didn't say this! Yes, He did! (Mk 16:17b). It's time that all believers worldwide saw these verses as present day truth. If Jesus prophesied it, then tongues is good for every believer.

5) They shall lay hands on the sick. Let's give God credit for being "The Healer". The sick will recover when we pray in Jesus name believing.

6) Immediately after Jesus had ascended to the right hand of God, the disciples began to preach everywhere seeing signs, wonders and miracles.

**ACT 6:8** And **Stephen, full of faith and power**, did *great wonders and miracles* among the people.

**The reason for Stephen's effective ministry was his preparation.** He just wanted to be available to work for God. When you're working with anointed servants of God, waiting on tables should be considered as privilege work. He saw signs and wonders every day. He learnt faith from the apostles.  
(Read: Act 6:2-6) The apostles had laid hands on them.

**ACT 6:4** But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

**ACT 6:6** Whom they set before the apostles: and when they had prayed, they laid *their* hands on them.

**ACT 8:6** And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, **hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.**

**HEB 2:4** God also bearing *them* witness, both **with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost,** according to his own will?

We note in Acts 8:6 that the miracles convinced the people of God's reality. They all gave heed to what Philip preached.

God will give dedicated ministers spiritual gifts to do mighty miracles.

**JOH 10:37** If I do not the works of my Father, believe me not.

**JOH 10:38** But if I do, though ye believe not me, **believe the works:** that ye may know, and believe, that the Father *is* in me, and I in him.

Christ's faith in God was absolute. He had confidence in his own ministry. He believed that the greater works (miracles) would be produced as He ministered to the people.

Some people even when they see miracles will not believe the Word of God, choosing rather to continue in hardness of heart. Jesus said, "Believe the works". No one else could do such miracles, so it had to be God at work. It is imperative that people believe in His name. Seeing miracles will help. (Act 8:6)

**ACT 2:22** Ye men of Israel, hear these words; **Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs,** which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

**JER 32:21** And hast brought forth thy people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs, and with wonders, and with a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with great terror;

**PSA 106:7** Our fathers **understood not thy wonders in Egypt**; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked *him* at the sea, *even* at the Red sea. <sup>8</sup>Nevertheless **he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known.**

**ISA 8:18** Behold, **I and the children whom the LORD hath given me *are* for signs and for wonders** in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion.

I believe we are the children spoken of in this prophecy. We are to work these signs and wonders today to bring God's message to this lost world. God wants to use every believer in signs, wonders and miracles. The only credentials you need is faith in God. Everyone with faith can fulfill this prophecy.

**Mk 16:17** And **these signs shall follow them that believe**

**ACT 3:2** And **a certain man lame from his mother's womb** was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple; **3Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.** **4**And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, ***Look on us.*** **5**And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them. **6**Then ***Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee:*** In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. **7**And **he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.** **8**And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God. **9**And **all the people saw him walking** and praising God:

Peter was in possession of a powerful healing anointing that came from many hours of daily prayer. He was not only filled with the Holy Spirit, but his ministry was marked with passion; he believed in miracles. (Acts 3:7)

**ACT 3:12** And when Peter saw *it*, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or **why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?**

**ACT 3:16** And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, **the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.**

Like Peter we need to take advantage of the miraculous happenings. Whilst talking about the miracles, we are giving witness to the healing power of God. (Acts 3:16). Faith in the name of Christ was the catalyst for this creative miracle.

**ACT 4:2** Being grieved that they taught the people, and **preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.** 3And they laid hands on them, and put *them in hold* unto the next day: for it was now eventide. 4**Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.**

7And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, **By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?** 8Then **Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them,** Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

**ACT 4:13** Now when **they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men,** they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

**ACT 4:20** For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

Like Peter and John we will not be able to keep silent about what we see and hear. We have to see miracles to talk about them. If we talk about miracles we bring the life of God into our conversation. This increases faith in others.