

PRESENT TRUTH

A Teaching Newsletter of Lifestream Teaching Ministries

Wherefore I will not be negligent to put you always in remembrance of these things, though ye know them, and be established in the present truth. ([2 Peter 1:12 KJV](#))

Volume 3, Issue 6

June 2005

Powers of the Age to Come [Part 3]

Art Nelson

In the first part of our previous teaching newsletter (Powers of the Age to Come [Part 1]) we saw that the Lord intends for us to mature—to move beyond the spiritual A B C's. We saw that the maturing process should result in us walking in the powers of the age to come (Hebrews 6:5).

In last month's Present Truth (Powers of the Age to Come [Part 2]) we saw that the Lord has made provision for us to accomplish His purpose by making the powers of the age to come available to us. We saw that He linked healing and deliverance to the demonstration of the Kingdom of God. Then, He linked receiving power to the Holy Spirit, which His disciples were to receive, and, He also linked the Holy Spirit to the Kingdom of God.

We are not seeing a lot of the demonstration of the Kingdom of God here in the USA. In other places around the world this is not true. In some areas they could write another chapter to the book of Acts. (For details and testimonies of this, I recommend the book : “Megashift” by James Rutz. It will greatly encourage you.)

Why are there so few miracles here? Because, we have neglected the words and methods of Jesus. He drew a line through history, dividing it into two sections: the first was the proclamation of the Law and Prophets, the second was the preaching (proclamation) of the gospel of the Kingdom of God.

"The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John; since that time the gospel of the kingdom of God has been preached, and everyone is forcing his way into it. (Luke 16:16 NASB)

Then, Jesus proceeded to preach the Kingdom of God. With this proclamation came the demonstration of the Kingdom when healings of every kind of sickness and disease occurred.

Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every kind of disease and every kind of sickness among the people. ([Matthew 4:23 NASB](#))

Later, Jesus informs us that what He said and demonstrated was to be preached in the whole world as a testimony of Him before the end would come.

"This gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in the whole world as a testimony to all the nations, and then the end will come. (Matthew 24:14 NASB)

So, when the Great Commission says to “preach the gospel” it means the gospel of the Kingdom, not our watered down gospel of salvation (or “fire insurance”). Salvation is a part of the gospel but it is just the beginning point. Jesus is not just savior, but, He is also Lord. God has established Him as King, King of all kings and Lord of all lords. This must be included if we are to preach the gospel of the Kingdom.

The Kingdom of God is the reign of God, the rule of God, the government of God. We have already seen in our previous newsletter that the current location of the Kingdom is in the Holy Spirit (Romans 14:17). This means that our experience of the Kingdom begins in our own hearts as we bring it under the government of the Lord.

For a child will be born to us, a son will be given to us; And the government will rest on His shoulders; And His name will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Eternal Father, Prince of Peace. There will be no end to the increase of His government or of peace, On the throne of David and over his kingdom, To establish it and to uphold it with justice and righteousness From then on and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will accomplish this. (Isaiah 9:6-7 NASB)

His government (rule) increases as our hearts are subdued. This produces in us peace and righteousness. It cause us to take on the characteristics of our King, to be conformed to His image. We become ambassadors for the Kingdom, representatives of His Lordship. And, because of the peace that comes with His rule, it makes us to be peacemakers.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God. (Matthew 5:9 NASB)

When we are baptized with the Holy Spirit, we receive the earnest or down payment of our future inheritance (Ephesians 1:14). There is an initial release through the Spirit of a taste of the powers of the age to come (the Kingdom Age). However, to maintain the power requires us coming under the Rule of Christ. Our hearts must be changed or we will use the powers of the coming age as self-serving gifts that glory us or our ministries rather than the Lord. The law of he Lord must be written on our hearts or we will practice lawlessness.

This verse reveals the result of not coming under His Lordship. Those mentioned performed miracles in the Name of the Lord, yet the Lord said that they practiced lawlessness.

"Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven, but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven *will enter*. "Many will say to Me on that day, 'Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in Your name, and in Your name cast out demons, and in Your name perform many miracles?' "And then I will declare to them, 'I never knew you; DEPART FROM ME, YOU WHO PRACTICE LAWLESSNESS.' (Matthew 7:21-23 NASB)

One of the alternate meanings of the Greek word translated as “knew” is “approved”. I think in the context that this would be a better rendering of the word. Those who performed these miracles were doing it out of lawlessness without the Lord's approval.

Jesus told us to “seek first the Kingdom”. That puts His rulership, Lordship, Kingship as a priority in our lives. It also means that it requires effort on our part to “seek”. It takes more than a casual relationship with the Lord to walk properly in the powers of the age to come.

The Lord willing, I will be placing some teachings dealing with the Kingdom of God on the Lifestream Teaching website soon. If this subject is of interest to you, watch for them. --Art Nelson

© 2003-2005 by Art Nelson and [Lifestream Teaching Ministries](http://www.LifestreamTeaching.com)

Previous issues of Present Truth are on the website: www.Lifestreamteaching.com

For comments or questions contact Art Nelson at this address:

artnelson@lifestreamteaching.com

You have permission to copy and distribute these materials provided:

1) no changes are made to the content, and, 2) they are not sold.

Removal instructions:

This is a free newsletter, without cost or obligation. If you have received this newsletter in error or if you desire not to receive "Present Truth" teaching newsletter please reply with "remove" in the subject area.