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EMPOWERED FOR SERVICE

In Acts 1:8 Jesus said, ***“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 Judea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost parts of the earth.”*** Then he had ascended. Did they understand this new “power” which is interpreted from the Greek word *dunamis* which means miraculous power, like an explosion of dynamite. They probably did not. They knew the Holy Spirit had previously come on the prophet, the priests, and the kings, but on the common folk? This was something altogether new.

They went to Jerusalem and came together in an upper room of a house, about 120 men and women, including the mother of Jesus, Mary. They decided someone had to take the place of Judas, the traitor, and they held an election and Mathias was chosen. Then they fasted and prayed, waiting for what Jesus said would be a life changing event.

The ten disciples (Thomas was missing) had received the Holy Ghost right after Jesus’ resurrection, (John 20:22) so they were saved, but this power was a new experience. As they waited in that upper room, a sound like a mighty rushing wind came into that room. It filled the entire house where they were sitting (Acts 2:2). Then the miraculous happened. Above each of their heads appeared like flames of fire, and they all started speaking in languages they had never learned. The Holy Spirit had come to each of them and gave them this ability. It was a prophecy that came to pass. John the Baptist had testified that one would come after him that would baptize them with the Holy Ghost (Spirit) and fire. That person was Jesus. (Matt. 3:11.)

They immediately left this room, “fired up” with the Holy Spirit and started speaking in these unknown tongues outside the room. Think of this. One week they were afraid to leave their homes because of the soldiers seeking after them, and now they willingly came out speaking in these “*dunamis*” languages.

It happened during the week of Pentecost, when people came to celebrate this feast from all over the known world. These visiting people heard them speak in these languages unknown to those speaking but known to the listeners. There were, Parthians, Medes, Elamites, Mesopotamians, Cappadocians, Pontus and Asian people there. There were people there from Phrygia, Pamphylia, and Egypt along with Libya, Cyrene, Rome, Arabia, and Crete. Each of these travelers heard these uneducated people speaking the wonderful works of God in their own native languages.

This stirred the listeners up wondering what was going on. Then Peter, the one that had denied Jesus three times at the trial of Jesus, stood up and preached out of the book of Joel (Joel 2:28-29). Over three thousand people heard this message and the unknown languages and repented of their sin and received salvation. What a day that was.

This same power is available to everyone that receives Christ as their Savior. When you are saved the Holy Spirit is breathed into you (like the ten disciples received before Pentecost). When you are baptized with the Holy Spirit as they were on the day of Pentecost, the Holy Spirit breathes out of you in this unknown language. It changes you from the inside out and makes you a witness for Jesus.

Do you have that power today? It is available to anyone that asks. Is it for today? Yes, it is and is needed today more than ever before so we can have the Holy Spirit power to reach a lost and dying world for Jesus Christ!

Ask and you shall receive. Do you want more information on this? [Email us.](#)