

# **ZEAL - The antidote to apathy and mediocrity**

My aims in this study:

1. To heed the Lord's commandment to us to be zealous
2. To try to understand what zeal is?
3. To see if there are levels of zeal
4. To try to find out what level of Christian maturity an individual has reached?
5. To see how we might emulate the zeal of the heroes of the faith in the dark days that we are well and truly in right now
6. To prod us to a decision to mobilise, to be on the move as soldiers of the Cross, without waiting for any other human to prompt us save the Holy Spirit

## **1. To heed the Lord's commandment to us to be zealous**

Rev 3:14 And unto the angel of the church of the Laodiceans write; These things saith the Amen, the faithful and true witness, the beginning of the creation of God;

Rev 3:15 I know thy works, that thou art neither cold nor hot: I would thou wert cold or hot.

Rev 3:16 So then because thou art lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will spue thee out of my mouth.

Rev 3:17 Because thou sayest, I am rich, and increased with goods, and have need of nothing; and knowest not that thou art wretched, and miserable, and poor, and blind, and naked:

Rev 3:18 I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou

mayest be clothed, and *that* the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see.

Rev 3:19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: **be zealous** therefore, and repent.

Why did Jesus mention the word "zealous"

Maybe a reference to Paul, in Colossians

Col 4:12 Epaphras, who is *one* of you, a servant of Christ, saluteth you, always labouring fervently for you in prayers, that ye may stand perfect and complete in all the will of God.

Col 4:13 For I bear him record, that he hath a great zeal for you, and them *that are* in Laodicea, and them in Hierapolis.

In other places Paul uses the word zealous, firstly about his zeal before he became a Christian and secondly about being zealous as a Christian.

Gal 1:14 And profited in the Jews' religion above many my equals in mine own nation, being more exceedingly **zealous** of the traditions of my fathers.

1Co 14:12 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are **zealous** of spiritual *gifts*, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.

Tit 2:14 Who gave himself for us, that he might redeem us from all iniquity, and purify unto himself a peculiar people, **zealous** of good works.

## 2. To try to understand what zeal is?

### How can we define Zeal

- Hebrew is, קִנְיָה *kinah*, from קָנָה, *kanah*, "to flush" with passion. The root Hebrew word means "to be hot."
- Thus we say, "a fiery zeal."
- The psalmist says (Psa 69:9), "The zeal of thine house hath eaten me," or consumed me like fire
- Zeal is attributed in Scripture to God as well as to man
- Zeal is an earnestness arising either from good or evil motives. As a result there are various kinds of zeal e.g
  - an ignorant zeal (Rom 10:2-3);
  - a persecuting zeal (Php 3:6);
  - a superstitious zeal (1 Kings 18; Gal 1:14);
  - a hypocritical zeal (2Ki 10:16);
  - a contentious zeal (1Co 11:16);
  - a partial zeal (Hos 7:8);
  - a temporary zeal (2Ki 12:13; Gal 4:15);
  - a genuine zeal, which is a sincere and warm concern for the glory of God, and the spiritual welfare of mankind (Gal 4:18; Rev 3:19).

- This last is generally compounded of sound knowledge, strong faith, and disinterested regard; and will manifest itself by self-denial, patient endurance, and constant exertion.

### **What are the motives for true zeal are**

- the divine command (Rev 3:19);
- the example of Christ and the end of his death (Joh 2:17; Act 10:38; Tit 2:14);
- the importance of his service;
- the advantage and pleasure it brings to the possessor;

### **How might we distinguish zeal from enthusiasm?**

- Zeal is about *character and volition (means will)*
- enthusiasm refers to the *emotional* aspect of the soul.

- ZEAL SHOULD BE EXHIBITED
  - in spirit
  - In well-doing
  - in desiring the salvation of others
  - in contending for the faith
  - in missionary labours
  - for the glory of God
  - for the welfare of saints
  - against idolatry

What about the song:

The zeal of God has consumed me  
it burns in my soul  
a mighty force that cannot be moved  
a fire that cannot be quenched  
oh hallelujah, hallelujah  
hallelujah  
hallelujah, hallelujah  
halle-halle hallelujah

### **3. ARE THERE LEVELS OF ZEAL?**

#### **1. CHARACTER QUALITIES**

What are the desirable inner qualities?

- Love. Love for God, love for man
- Growth in grace, and *in* the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ (2Pe 3:18)
- Zeal
- Boldness
- Trust

etc etc

We can all attest to all or some of these things. But to what extent:

- do we understand them
- do them

e.g we might have a low view of faith and sincerely believe we are performing at that level. But in our ignorance of the word we may poorly perform at the higher levels of understanding. There is no room for complacency or apathy.

## **2. SPIRITUAL OR CARNAL?**

Rom 7:14 For we know that the law is spiritual: but I am **carnal**, sold under sin.

Rom 8:7 Because the **carnal** mind *is* enmity against God: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.

1Co 3:1 And I, brethren, could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto **carnal**, *even* as unto babes in Christ.

1Co 3:3 For ye are yet **carnal**: for whereas *there is* among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not **carnal**, and walk as men?

2Co 10:4 (For the weapons of our warfare *are* not **carnal**, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strong holds;)

Heb 7:16 Who is made, not after the law of a **carnal** commandment, but after the power of an endless life.

## **4. HOW DO YOU TELL WHAT LEVEL OF CHRISTIAN MATURITY AN INDIVIDUAL HAS REACHED?**

Mat 7:20 Wherefore by their **fruits** ye shall **know** them.

### **(a) Good Fruit**

9 FRUITS (really integrated 9-fold aspects)

Gal 5:22 But the **fruit of the Spirit** is **love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith,**

Gal 5:23 **Meekness, temperance:** against such there is no law.

Gal 5:24 And they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh with the affections and lusts.

Gal 5:25 If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

**Eph 5:8** For ye were sometimes darkness, but now *are ye* light in the Lord: walk as children of light:

Eph 5:9 (For the fruit of the Spirit *is* in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)

Eph 5:10 Proving what is acceptable unto the Lord.

### **(b) No bad fruit**

BREAKING ANY OF THE 10 COMMANDMENTS - in thought, word or deed

### EPHESIANS

Eph 5:3 But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh saints;

Eph 5:4 Neither filthiness, nor foolish talking, nor jesting, which are not convenient: but rather giving of thanks.

Eph 5:5 For this ye know, that no whoremonger, nor unclean person, nor covetous man, who is an idolater, hath any inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God.

Eph 5:6 Let no man deceive you with vain words: for because of these things cometh the wrath of God upon the children of disobedience.

Eph 5:7 Be not ye therefore partakers with them.

### ROMANS

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

Rom 1:17 For therein is the righteousness of God revealed

from faith to faith: as it is written, The just shall live by faith.

Rom 1:18 For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness;

Rom 1:19 Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed *it* unto them.

Rom 1:20 For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even* his eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse:

Rom 1:21 Because that, when they knew God, they glorified *him* not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened.

Rom 1:22 Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools,

Rom 1:23 And changed the glory of the uncorruptible God into an image made like to corruptible man, and to birds, and fourfooted beasts, and creeping things.

Rom 1:24 Wherefore God also gave them up to uncleanness through the lusts of their own hearts, to dishonour their own bodies between themselves:

Rom 1:25 Who changed the truth of God into a lie, and worshipped and served the creature more than the Creator, who is blessed for ever. Amen.

Rom 1:26 For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature:

Rom 1:27 And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust one toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and

receiving in themselves that recompence of their error which was meet.

Rom 1:28 And even as they did not like to retain God in *their* knowledge, God gave them over to a reprobate mind, to do those things which are not convenient;

Rom 1:29 Being filled with all unrighteousness, fornication, wickedness, covetousness, maliciousness; full of envy, murder, debate, deceit, malignity; whisperers,

Rom 1:30 Backbiters, haters of God, despiteful, proud, boasters, inventors of evil things, disobedient to parents,

Rom 1:31 Without understanding, covenantbreakers, without natural affection, implacable, unmerciful:

Rom 1:32 Who knowing the judgment of God, that they which commit such things are worthy of death, not only do the same, but have pleasure in them that do them.

### LEVELS OF FAITH - let's see what Jesus said

See also Disciplines Diagnostic.xlsx

#### (A) NO FAITH

Mar 4:40 And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no **faith**?

Mat 17:20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have **faith** as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

Luk 17:6 And the Lord said, If ye had **faith** as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

Mat 21:21 Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have **faith**, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this *which is done* to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.

Luk 8:25 And he said unto them, Where is your **faith**? And they being afraid wondered, saying one to another, What manner of man is this! for he commandeth even the winds and water, and they obey him.

### (a) WEAK FAITH

Mat 6:30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O ye of little **faith**?

Mat 8:26 And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little **faith**? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm.

Mat 14:31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little **faith**, wherefore didst thou doubt?

Mat 16:8 *Which* when Jesus perceived, he said unto them, O ye of little **faith**, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread?

Luk 12:28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more *will he clothe* you, O ye of little **faith**?

### (B) STRONG FAITH

#### (1) Evident Faith

Mat 9:2 And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the

palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their **faith** said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.

Mat 9:22 But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy **faith** hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

Mat 9:29 Then touched he their eyes, saying, According to your **faith** be it unto you.

Mar 2:5 When Jesus saw their **faith**, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

Mar 5:34 And he said unto her, Daughter, thy **faith** hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

Mar 10:52 And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy **faith** hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

Mar 11:22 And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have **faith** in God.

Luk 5:20 And when he saw their **faith**, he said unto him, Man, thy sins are forgiven thee.

Luk 7:50 And he said to the woman, Thy **faith** hath saved thee; go in peace.

Luk 8:48 And he said unto her, Daughter, be of good comfort: thy **faith** hath made thee whole; go in peace.

Luk 17:5 And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our **faith**.

Luk 17:19 And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy **faith** hath made thee whole.

Luk 18:8 I tell you that he will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless when the Son of man cometh, shall he find **faith**

on the earth?

Luk 18:42 And Jesus said unto him, Receive thy sight: thy **faith** hath saved thee.

Luk 22:32 But I have prayed for thee, that thy **faith** fail not: and when thou art converted, strengthen thy brethren.

(2) Great Faith - only two instanced by Jesus - both Gentiles

Woman of Canaan

Mat 15:21 Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon.

Mat 15:22 And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, *thou* Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.

Mat 15:23 But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.

Mat 15:24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

Mat 15:25 Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.

Mat 15:26 But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast *it* to dogs.

Mat 15:27 And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.

**Mat 15:28** Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, **great is thy faith**: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

Centurion

Mat 8:8 The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

Mat 8:9 For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this *man*, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth *it*.

**Mat 8:10** When Jesus heard *it*, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so **great faith**, no, not in Israel.

Mat 8:11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.

Mat 8:12 But the **children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness**: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

Mat 8:13 And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

Note: The Jews called themselves the children or the members of the kingdom of God, to the exclusion of the Gentiles.

Luk 7:9 When Jesus heard these things, he marvelled at him, and **turned him about**, and said unto the people that followed him, I say unto you, I have not found so great **faith**, no, not in Israel.

Was God pleased with this man?

**5. To see how we might emulate the zeal of the heroes of the faith in the dark days that we are well and truly in right**

**now**

Did any of the ancient heroes PLEASE GOD?

Heb 11:6 But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Plus the heroes of the faith listed in Hebrews

Heb 11:39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

Heb 11:40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

Rom 8:8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot **please God**.

Gal 1:10 For do I now persuade men, or **God**? or do I seek to **please** men? for if I yet pleased men, I should not be the servant of Christ.

1Th 2:15 Who both killed the Lord Jesus, and their own prophets, and have persecuted us; and they **please** not **God**, and are contrary to all men:

1Th 4:1 Furthermore then we beseech you, brethren, and exhort *you* by the Lord Jesus, that as ye have received of us how ye ought to walk and to **please God**, so ye would abound more and more.

LET'S LOOK AT THE HEROES IN THE BOOK OF ACTS AFTER OUR LORD ASCENDED

MY THESIS IS THAT ZEAL IS ESSENTIAL FOR MOBILISATION

Act 1:4 And, being **assembled together** with *them*, commanded them that they should not depart from Jerusalem, but **wait for the promise** of the Father, which, *saith he*, ye have heard of me.

- US - wait for the promise of God

(Act 1:8) 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.**

- Every man on earth is lending his influence in behalf of either truth or falsehood.

Energy of the Holy Ghost

- given in such times and seasons, and in such measures, as should appear best to the infinite wisdom of God

- the fearful disciples needed **power** for witnessing, holy boldness for preaching the gospel, of enduring great trials, etc. See Mar 16:17-18

- the power of speaking with new tongues for preaching the gospel with great effect

- They would receive this **power** when **the Holy Spirit** came **upon** them.

- without spiritual **power** a highly talented, intensively trained, and widely experienced man is ineffective.

- with spiritual power a man may be effective even though he is uneducated, unattractive, and unrefined,

- both may be endued with the **power** of **the Holy Spirit** and the world will turn out to see him burn for God.

- we need some measure of ministerial gifts and sanctifying graces from the Holy Spirit to minister the gospel and bear their testimony unto Christ with faithfulness and success.
- Faith in the risen Christ gave tremendous power to the apostles' preaching and it should likewise move us to evangelism.
- avoid profitless speculations to which they had just desired an answer
- gain “a mouth and wisdom which their adversaries could neither gainsay nor resist” (Luk 21:15)
- Christians are responsible for the evangelism of the world (proclaiming the Gospel of the Kingdom) in each generation - to the whole human race

Act 1:13 And when they were come in, they went up into an **upper room**, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James *the son* of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas *the brother* of James.

Act 1:14 These all **continued with one accord** in **prayer and supplication**, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.

Act 2:4 And they were all **filled with the Holy Ghost**, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Act 2:6 Now when this was **noised abroad**, the multitude came together, and were confounded, because that every

man heard them speak in his own language.

Act 2:14 But Peter, standing up with the eleven, **lifted up his voice, and said unto them**, Ye men of Judaea, and all ye that dwell at Jerusalem, be this known unto you, and hearken to my words:

- he preached with power i.e. Holy Spirit anointing for the occasion

Act 2:17 And it shall come to pass **in the last days**, saith God, **I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh**: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:

Act 2:18 And **on my servants** and handmaidens I will pour out in those days of my Spirit; and they shall prophesy:

Act 2:32 This Jesus hath God **raised up**, whereof we all are witnesses.

Act 2:33 Therefore being by the right hand of God exalted, and having **received of the Father the promise of the Holy Ghost**, he hath shed forth this, **which ye now see and hear**.

Act 2:37 Now when they heard *this*, they were **pricked in their heart**, and said unto Peter and to the rest of the apostles, Men *and* brethren, **what shall we do?**

- pricked by the Holy Spirit (convicted & convinced - Joh 16:8  
And when he is come, he will reprove the world of sin, and of righteousness, and of judgment:

Act 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, **Repent**, and be **baptized every one of you in the name** of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall **receive the gift of the Holy Ghost**.

- change your mind and direction - and receive the same gift you now see and hear

Act 2:39 For the **promise is unto you, and to your children,** and to all that are afar off, *even as many as the Lord our God shall call.*

- many are called but few chosen - Mat 20:16 So the last shall be first, and the first last: for many be called, but **few chosen.**

Act 2:40 And with **many other words did he testify and exhort,** saying, **Save yourselves from this untoward generation.**

Act 2:41 Then they that **gladly received his word** were baptized: and the same day there were added *unto them* about **three thousand** souls.

- how many heard? c/f Acts 2:6 "multitude". We have to realise not all will respond. We can't identify how many or who will in advance. Only the Holy Spirit knows - that's His responsibility.

- our fervour remains the same irrespective of the size of response

Act 2:42 And they **continued stedfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers.**

Act 2:43 And **fear came upon every soul:** and **many wonders and signs were done by the apostles.**

- whilst many of the multitude didn't respond, fear came on them all - maybe some responded later. BUT look at Acts 2:47 below - WOW! If not salvation - at least favour.

- c/f Exo 15:16 **Fear** and dread shall fall upon them; by the greatness of thine arm they shall be *as still as a stone*; till thy people pass over, O LORD, till the people pass over, which thou hast purchased.

Exo 18:21 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people

able men, such as **fear** God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place *such* over them, *to be* rulers of thousands, *and* rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:

Exo 20:20 And Moses said unto the people, **Fear** not: for God is come to prove you, and that his **fear** may be before your faces, that ye sin not.

Exo 23:27 I will send my **fear** before thee, and will destroy all the people to whom thou shalt come, and I will make all thine enemies turn their backs unto thee.

Num 14:9 Only rebel not ye against the LORD, neither **fear** ye the people of the land; for they *are* bread for us: their defence is departed from them, and the LORD *is* with us: **fear** them not.

Jos 1:9 Have not I **commanded thee**? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God *is* with thee whithersoever thou goest.2Ti 1:7 For God hath not given us the **spirit of fear**; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind.

2Ti 1:7 For God hath not given us the **spirit of fear**; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind. \_

- need holy courage and undaunted resolution in the execution of our work

- means "Be not discouraged by persection: for God hath not given us, his messengers, the spirit of fear, but of courage and fortitude; fearless we are of the frowns of men

- means also **the spirit of love**, love to God and the souls of men, which will make the ministers of God indefatigable in their endeavours for the good of souls. Love is the genuine principle of obedience, and ought to be that frame of spirit, that inward affection of mind, from whence all our services to God and our neighbour do proceed.

- means the spirit of a sound mind, which enables God's ministers to curb their passions, lusts, desires, and unsoundness of mind

**2Ti 1:8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the power of God;**

- Learn this - we must always 1. never be a reproach to the gospel ourselves - such sinning will lead to bitter suffering 2. always be ready to suffer reproach for the gospel - such suffering will be sweet

Act 2:44 And all that believed were together, and had all things common;

Act 2:45 And sold their possessions and goods, and parted them to all *men*, as every man had need.

- I used to think they all pooled everything and distributed to all out of the common pool, as is clearly described in Acts 4:34-5. This appears to be the first step in that direction. At that stage maybe they looked on all their resources as belonging to the Lord, kept them in trust and sold whatever was needed to minister to the needy. This is revolutionary - goes beyond tithing. We must be willing to give up all if that

is necessary Mat 19:21 Jesus said unto him, If thou wilt be perfect, **go and sell** that thou hast, and give to the poor, and thou shalt have treasure in heaven: and come and follow me. In these last days, when it's all or nothing, why wouldn't we do that? What might the consequence of that be? It would appear amazing to the rest of the world. What good is all the wealth if the world goes to pot. We can't take it with us. Our unsaved children and grand-children etc need salvation. A bequest of riches won't do it. Picture buying a whole town? High impact stuff. Everyone would have enough.

Mat 6:19 Lay not up for yourselves treasures upon earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal:

Mat 6:20 But lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal:

Mat 6:21 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

Mat 6:22 The light of the body is the eye: if therefore thine eye be single, thy whole body shall be full of light.

Mat 6:23 But if thine eye be evil, thy whole body shall be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in thee be darkness, how great *is* that darkness!

Mat 6:24 No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

Mat 6:25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

Mat 6:26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

Mat 6:27 Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature?

Mat 6:28 And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

Mat 6:29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

Mat 6:30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O ye of little faith?

Mat 6:31 Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

Mat 6:32 (For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

Mat 6:33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

Act 2:46 And they, **continuing daily with one accord in the temple**, and **breaking bread from house to house**, did eat their meat with **gladness** and **singleness of heart**,

Act 2:47 **Praising God**, and **having favour with all the people**. And the Lord added to the church daily such as should be saved.

Act 3:11 And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

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?

- the work of the Holy Spirit continues with power, creating preaching opportunities. i.e is it POWER then WORD or WORD then POWER or both?

Zec 4:6 Then he answered and spake unto me, saying, This is the **word** of the LORD unto Zerubbabel, saying, **Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit, saith the LORD** of hosts.

Rom 8:8 So then they that are in the flesh cannot **please God**.

Luk 4:32 And they were **astonished at his doctrine: for his word was with power**.

Luk 4:36 And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, What a **word** is this! for **with authority and power** he commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out.

1Co 4:20 For the kingdom of God **is not in word, but in power**.

2Co 6:7 By the **word** of truth, by the **power** of God, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

1Th 1:5 For our **gospel came not unto you in word only, but also in power**, and **in the Holy Ghost**, and in much assurance; as ye know what manner of men we were among you for

your sake.

Heb 1:3 Who being the brightness of *his* glory, and the express image of his person, and **upholding all things by the word of his power**, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high;

Mar 12:24 And Jesus answering said unto them, Do ye not therefore err, because ye know not the scriptures, neither the **power of God**?

Luk 9:43 And they were all amazed at the mighty **power of God**. But while they wondered every one at all things which Jesus did, he said unto his disciples,

Luk 22:69 Hereafter shall the Son of man sit on the right hand of the **power of God**.

Act 8:10 To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great **power of God**.

Rom 1:16 For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the **power of God** unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek.

1Co 1:18 For the preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness; but unto us which are saved it is the **power of God**.

1Co 1:24 But unto them which are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the **power of God**, and the wisdom of God.

1Co 2:5 That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the **power of God**.

2Co 6:7 By the word of truth, by the **power of God**, by the armour of righteousness on the right hand and on the left,

2Co 13:4 For though he was crucified through weakness, yet he liveth by the **power of God**. For we also are weak in him, but we shall live with him by the **power of God** toward you.

2Ti 1:8 Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord, nor of me his prisoner: but be thou partaker of the afflictions of the gospel according to the **power of God**;

1Pe 1:5 Who are kept by the **power of God** through faith unto salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

Act 4:8 Then Peter, **filled with the Holy Ghost**, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,  
- part of the previous filling or a re-filling?  
- the power of God keeps on moving and creating opportunities to speak

Act 4:10 Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, that **by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this** man stand here before you whole.  
- relate it all back to Jesus and the gospel. Keep saying it - its the power of God - see above verses. Give Him the glory.

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**.  
- Hi-vis. Hi-impact.

Act 4:23 And being let go, **they went to their own company**, and **reported all** that the chief priests and elders had said unto them.

Act 4:24 And when they heard that, they **lifted up their voice to God with one accord**, and said, Lord, thou *art*

God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is:

- proclamation to man followed by a proclamation thanksgiving to God

**Act 4:29** And now, Lord, **behold their threatenings**: and grant unto thy servants, that with all **boldness** they may **speak thy word**,

- renew our zeal. Zeal needs to be spoken, tested and renewed

Act 4:30 By **stretching forth thine hand** to heal; and that **signs and wonders** may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.

Act 4:31 And when they had prayed, **the place was shaken** where they were **assembled together**; and they were all **filled with the Holy Ghost**, and they **spake the word of God with boldness**.

- this proves that Pentecost was not a once and for all experience to them and to all mankind for all present and future generations. It heralded the arrival of the Holy Spirit. The first time was arrival plus power. Each successive time was also arrival (albeit for some re-arrival) and filling with power

Act 4:32 And the multitude of them that believed were of **one heart and of one soul**: neither said any *of them* that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

Remember - Joh 17:21 That they all **may be one**; as thou, Father, *art* in me, and I in thee, that they also **may be one** in us: that the world may believe that thou hast sent me.

Joh 17:22 And the glory which thou gavest me I have given them; that they **may be one**, even as we are one:

True unity at work here in Jerusalem - effected while they were on the move. They received glory (the power was in the glory) "that the world may believe that thou hast sent me"

Act 4:33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

Act 4:34 Neither was there any among them that lacked: for as many as were possessors of lands or houses sold them, and brought the prices of the things that were sold,

Act 4:35 And laid *them* down at the apostles' feet: and distribution was made unto every man according as he had need.