

He Went Up and Power Came Down

040602-3

Hello! This is Dorothy -

I was just contemplating on the fact that He, Jesus, went Up and power came down. Power could not have come down before He went Up. That is what happened at the resurrection and that is what happened at the ascension. Power came down at Pentecost. You see, Pentecost is the birthday of the Church. The Church was born by the giving of the Holy Spirit that we might be born again to belong to the Church. Isn't that amazing? Have you thought of that? The Church was born by the giving of the Holy Spirit that we might be born-again to belong to the Church.

In **Acts 5:32**, we read - **And we are his witnesses of these things; and so is also the Holy Spirit . . .** What happened after the resurrection? It was essential that the Lord ascend into heaven. What happened? How did that come about? In **Luke 24:49**, we read Jesus said -

49 And, behold, I send forth upon you what my Father has promised; but remain in the city [Jerusalem] until you are clothed with power from on high. That is the giving of the Holy Spirit. They did not understand what this was about. It was necessary that Jesus went so that He might send His Spirit. He told

the disciples to wait in Jerusalem. The word He used was - . . . ***until you are clothed with power from on high.*** When you think of something being ***clothed***, you think of being covered up. Isn't that wonderful? So it all has to do with He who clothes you.

50 Then He conducted them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, He invoked a blessing on them.

51 And it occurred that while He was blessing them, He parted from them and was taken up into heaven.

52 And they, worshiping Him, went back to Jerusalem with great joy:

53 And they were continually in the temple - *and that could have well been a room at the side of the temple-* celebrating with praises and blessing and extolling God.

Oh, that is the ascension and the blessing of joy! But what followed was that for days later, they were waiting, waiting as they were in Jerusalem; waiting for that which He had promised to happen.

For we read in **Mark 16** -

19 So then after the Lord had spoken to them, he was taken into heaven, and sat down at the right hand of God.

20 And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. You see, He had promised that the Spirit of the Lord would be given.

In **Acts 1:3**, we read-

3 To whom also he showed himself alive after his passion - after His death - by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days . . . In other words, He stayed around for forty days. There was no saying, “Oh, this was somebody who was just having some strange illusion.” He was *seen of them for forty days*. - . . . and speaking of things pertaining to the kingdom of God.

But after His ascension, they waited, remembering He had said - ***I will send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, until ye be endued with power on high.***
Acts 1:8 tells us —

8 But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Spirit 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 part of the earth.

You know what the trouble is? Some of us try to go and do all those types of things, but we do not know anything of the Holy Spirit on our lives. We seem to think, “Well, I know I am saved, and now I am going to go and work for God.” We forget the fact that we were saved, yes, by the very fact of the Holy Spirit being given on the day of Pentecost, as the Church was born. As the Church was born and the Holy Spirit was given, it was that you and I might be born

and be part of that Church, part of that body for the whole age for the whole world. That is what God is doing because of His finished work: that the Holy Spirit should be the vehicle to do that work through us. Unfortunately, some of us think that we have to add to what the Lord said He would do by trying to do it ourselves. We get ourselves in such a mess: we have a problem with our self; we have the problem with our sin; we have the problem of trying to organize what God should be doing and , before we know it, there is total confusion. But I want you to know that the Lord is saying today to your life that there is only one Person who can live that life and His Name is the Lord Jesus. By His Spirit, He said, He will come and He will fill afresh. He will keep on filling afresh. He will be that very spiritual Life to reach the hearts of the people that He brings across your very path.

I love it in **Luke 24: 48**, which says - **And ye are witnesses of these things.** You are to show forth these things. You are witness of His unique sufferings, His atoning death, and His triumphant resurrection. You are to share everywhere the good news of the remission of sins for all who repent and believe. **And ye shall be witnesses (unto Me.)** What about the teeming masses in the place where you live in your country? There are people dying for various reasons, will they have to believe you never told them? Oh, may the Lord God come upon you with a conviction at this hour that you

say, Not I, but by the power of Your Spirit, may this mouth be a witness to Jesus and His glorious resurrection.

Amen.