



# Apostolic Notes

An Ezine of apostolic thought by Apostolic Missions Inc

Volume 2, Number 8 [Maschmaltz@juno.com](mailto:Maschmaltz@juno.com) [www.apostolicmissions.org](http://www.apostolicmissions.org) Nov 12, 2008

## SEND IT ON DOWN



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There is an old song that said, "Send it on down, send it on down, Lord, let the Holy Ghost, come on down!" We were singing about a power from heaven descending on us that would result in a powerful demonstration of the presence of God. "Send it on down" is still the concept of many individuals today.

Lately, I have had this thought percolating in my spirit (those who know me, notice the coffee reference!) Much of the terminology around church today regarding spiritual empowerment seems to have a notion of some external "thing of God" that must happen to us.

This is what did happen on the day of Pentecost when the Holy Ghost (or Spirit) was poured out on the first church. However, the Bible shows us that from the time that each believer first experiences their own Spirit infilling, they are to walk by an *internal* power. We are told:

- We would receive power with the Holy Ghost (Acts 1:8)
- The Holy Ghost/Spirit of God is in us (Rom 8.9)
- He does abundantly in us according to the power that works in us (Eph 3:20)
- Paul told Timothy to stir up the gift within him (2 Tim 1:6)

Once we are born again (John 3) we should be seeking a greater sensitivity to His spirit IN us. Being led by the Spirit (Rom 8:14), so that in our ordinary daily lives we SEE opportunities to reveal the power that is IN us.

In my opinion, Paul's prayer for the church in Eph 1:16-20 gives us great insight into this indwelling power. Part of his prayer was that God would enlighten them to two things:

- First what is the hope of His calling
- Second, the riches and glory of his inheritance IN the saints

He then goes on to elaborate on the power of this inheritance as being operative and demonstrated in the resurrection of Christ.

In the ministry of the early church, they revealed the power that was dwelling IN them as they went about their daily lives. When they were mingling with other individuals; opportunities to minister presented themselves.

I like the story of Peter and John's interaction with the lame man in Acts 3. Let me list what I feel are some interesting points:

- First, they were on their way to pray – apparently they had not yet prayed that day
- Second, they took the time to respond to the unfortunate – they were not too busy
- Third, they spoke with faith – from a relationship with Jesus and knowing what was in them
- Fourth, they acted on their faith by reaching down and pulling the man up

Peter and John did not have to get into a spiritual "zone" to manifest the power of the kingdom. It was their understanding of what was in them and living a life led by the indwelling Spirit that allowed them to be ready when the opportunity presented itself.

### *food for thought*

*Are you waiting for something to "happen" to you to be used? Or are you listening to the Spirit and stepping out in faith to demonstrate what is already in you?*

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