

## CHARACTER & POWER

### Character & Power

**FOUNDATION STATEMENT:** If the church is going to walk in the power and in the anointing of God and rule the Earth, then it must first of all develop in the character of God-Psalm 110:1-3

#### **I. The Church is supposed to be the channel through which God's power can flow bringing blessing transformation to the Earth (Psalm 110:1-3 KJ/AMP)**

- A. In the day of God's power His people will be willing
  - 1. Willing – (1) Very prompt for military service (2) Free-will offering
  - 2. We're soldiers in the army of God; Stop treating this like a kindergarten baseball team
  - 3. In a successful army (1) there is always a submitting to authority, (2) the soldiers obey orders, (3) there are no excuses for not obeying orders, (4) there is discipline, faithfulness, and diligence, (5) soldiers show up for training, (6) there is a demand for excellence in all that you do
  - 4. In the military, the soldiers offer their lives under the freedom of their own will. They are saying my life is no longer my own. I'm willing to be taught, to be corrected, to be diligent, to be disciplined, and to be faithful for the good of the army and for the cause that we're fighting for
  - 5. The idea is to serve God with a Perfect (Shalom) Heart, Whole heart, complete heart,
- B. People who are underdeveloped in character are too interested in the comfort and security of the flesh (Matthew 16:25 KJ/AMP, Proverbs 20:4)
  - 1. 2 Timothy 2:3-4-Endure hardness – Join in as a partner with the rest of us and face this vile, ugly circumstance that is all around you. And if you must undergo a little suffering to do this job, then brace yourself and go for it.
    - a. The suffering we share with Jesus is in being tempted (Hebrews 2:18)
    - b. Your flesh might have to be uncomfortable to get the job done
- C. We have no right to expect great power to show up when we continue to operate in a low level of character
  - 1. We need spiritual boot camp & be character people in the simple-Lk 16:10
  - 2. The standard of our character level can't be low while the expectation of our power level is high

#### **II. We must make the connection between the lack of power we've seen and the lack of character we've walked in. We've failed to make the connection between character & power and because of it we've gone on living low level character lives and are surprised when great power doesn't show up.**

- A. Matthew 5:13 – We are here to preserve and protect the Earth and that's going to require power and power is going to require character

1. If we are underdeveloped in character, then we will be unskilled in walking in power and we'll be under the authority of the world (their footstool Psalm 110:1-3)
    - a. It's not our lack of power that has kept us under the authority of the world, it's our lack of character
  2. If we have no power it's b/c we have no character & we're useless nobodies-1 Cor 13:2
- B. 2 Tim 3:1-5-The church has lost it's strength/power because it has divorced character
1. We left the power of God at the altar when we refused to marry the character of God
  2. God's proposing, "Will you become one with me in character so that I can become one with you in power?"
  3. We've been doing a lot of stuff that looks real churchy, but has no power in it
- C. Connecting character & power; Your power level will rise and fall with your character
1. Hebrews 1:9 (KJ/AMP)- We have to delight in doing what's right even when it's hard
    - a. We have to value the pressure of the test (1 Peter 1:7)
  2. Psalm 68:6, John 7:37 – The rebellious will dwell in a place with no anointing/power
  3. 2 Chr 16:9-Perfect heart-It's right to give God all of you b/c He gave you all of him
- D. The same word English word "virtue" is used to describe two Greek words, one meaning character and one meaning power
1. In the Mark 5:30, Luke 6:19, and Luke 8:46, *dunamis*, "power", is rendered "virtue."
  2. The same word English word "virtue" is used to describe character and power