

Acts # 8 “Power to the People” *Acts 1:8; 2nd Corinthians 3:1-8*

“Listen up, Stand up, Speak up”

Spirituality is a relationship with God the Holy Spirit, just as Christianity is a relationship with the Lord Jesus Christ.

A person is a Christian because he has received Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior through faith; not because he is religious or because of something he has done.

At the moment we believe in Jesus Christ, we enter into union with the Son of God and He dwells within us.

On the cross, Jesus Christ provided everything necessary for us to have this relationship with Him.

Our impact for Jesus Christ comes from the power of God the Holy Spirit.

The disciples will be witnesses for the Lord Jesus Christ, a call common to all believers.

Throughout the Old Testament, it was simply: When you're born again, the Holy Spirit regenerates you and makes you a member of the family of God.

Regeneration has always been a ministry of the Holy Spirit since the beginning of human history but in the Church Age when people were born-again, it would be into royalty instead of simply being born-again into the family of God.

In the Old Testament, God the Holy Spirit influenced the souls of certain people like Saul, David and the writers of the Old Testament Scriptures as they recorded portions of the revelation God wanted preserved forever.

So, a new contract is necessary when you have a new Royal Family and at the same time it gives them a universal priesthood.

The Church Age has a new priesthood with every believer being a priest and that's an absolutely revolutionary, amazing change.

Now every member of the Royal Family of God is his or her own priest under the High Priesthood of Jesus Christ.

Although God has not given us too much time on earth; He has given us the wonderful opportunity of glorifying Him while we're here.

We will have all eternity to glorify Him; to love and praise Him but isn't it gracious of God to allow us to stay here on earth for a few short years for the purpose of representing Him?

So, what about those years, however many we have; are we going to make them count for Him?

The writing mentioned here is not penned with ink; it's what others see in us and be not deceived; the world can read us loudly and clearly.

These letters are our lives as believers written with the Spirit of the living God and so we become the result of the vital, transforming power in the Christian life and this is grace personified to the maximum!

Here, we have God the Holy Spirit in us to produce the ultimate glory of Jesus Christ in and through us to affect us and others by our lives; something that's impossible when attempted in any other way.

Believers who know how to work and why to work want to work and so, they require little or no encouragement from man to work.

We have such a tendency to think we did it or even more likely, I did it.

Want to hear my testimony? I had a disgusting habit once and I overcame it, so therefore, I get the credit.

But the Bible says, we are not sufficient in and of ourselves to think we are something special because

our sufficiency is in God, Who alone is special!

The Christian life is not a DIY project; our sufficiency, our ability and our power is of God or it's NO power at all and this is what grace is all about.

People either haven't heard of the filling of the Holy Spirit or how to be filled because they're in bondage to some system of works and therefore, cannot be filled with the Holy Spirit.

We are not just ministers but competent ministers who CAN do it; in other words, we are given the ability to minister by means of God the Holy Spirit.

The Old Testament is God's Word but we have many truths in the Church Age which were never realized in the Old Testament; so we need to become acclimated to New Testament truths, not because they're contradictory but because they expand upon Old Testament truths.