

JOHN OSTEEN

How to flow in the Super Supernatural



How to Flow in the Super Supernatural

John Osteen

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ISBN 0-912631-05-8

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CHAPTER ONE

THE FLOW OF THE FALSE-SATANIC SUPERNATURAL

Many people are in the bondage of the false flow of the supernatural which has its source in Satan. They are prisoners of fear and torment. They are bound by demon forces and slaves to satanic doctrines. Millions of people do not believe there is any hope!

WE HAVE GOOD NEWS FOR YOU!

There is hope through the Lord Jesus Christ. He will not only break the power of demonic forces and satanic dominion over your life, but He will save you, give you eternal life and make your body a temple of His Holy Spirit.

God will let you enjoy the SUPER SUPERNATURAL!

Jesus, The Supreme Head of the Church, is granting a great spiritual awakening in these last days before the closing of this age of grace. The Spirit of God is being poured out upon people of all denominations. They are rejoicing in the mighty Baptism in the Holy Spirit. The Spirit of God is unveiling the true supernatural to these members of the Body of Christ in the gifts of the Holy Spirit.

There has been another revival which has been engineered by Satan and a host of demon forces let loose

upon this generation.

The Bible clearly tells us that there will be an increase in demon activity in the closing days of the church age. First Timothy 4:1 says, *"Now the Spirit speaketh expressly, that in the latter times some shall depart from the faith, giving heed to seducing spirits, and doctrines of devils."* This tells us that demonic activity in the world will be accelerated.

We have seen the rapid expansion of the kingdom of darkness influencing every strata of society. As we read the newspaper, watch television, and listen to the radio, we notice the phenomenal increase in violence, lust, homosexuality and suicide.

Never has there been a greater need to warn this generation of the dangers of the occult which are energized and promoted by Satan with the help of demon forces. Many precious people desire the supernatural and yet they do not know that God has provided a means whereby this longing can be satisfied through the Baptism of the Holy Spirit and the gifts of the Spirit. They have turned to such things as fortune telling, Ouija boards, witchcraft, black magic, false religions, seances, palmistry, numerology and the reading of tea leaves. Some are involved in Satan worship, tarot card readings, looking into crystal balls, interpreting the signs of the zodiac (astrology), necromancy (the practice of talking with the dead), and astral-projection (the act of projecting one's self out of the body by the power of demonic

spirits). Many people entertain all sorts of psychic phenomena in their search for the true supernatural power of God.

Many things which were once ignored and looked upon with great horror are now considered "play things." We find in the schools as well as in religious groups and in high circles of government, and in every strata of society, people are seeking information and help through witchcraft, sorcery and spiritism.

They are welcoming the counsel of psychic mediums and those who use clairvoyance.

The Word of God is clear in its warnings concerning this false area of the supernatural that is energized by Satan.

The Lord specifically commands that, *"There shall not be found among you anyone who makes his son or daughter pass through the fire, or who uses divination, or is a soothsayer [fortune teller], or is an augur [uses divination from omens and signs], or a sorcerer, or a charmer, or a medium, or a wizard, or a necromancer [practice of talking to the dead]. For all who do these things are an abomination to the Lord, and it is because of these abominable practices that the Lord your God is driving them out before you. You shall be blameless [and absolutely true] to the Lord your God. For these nations whom you shall dispossess, listen to soothsayers and diviners. But as for you, the Lord your God has not allowed you to do so"* (Deuteronomy 18:10-14, The

Amplified Bible).

In the New Testament, John exhorts us likewise when he says, *"Little children, keep yourselves from idols"* (I John 5:21).

Second Kings 23:24 tells the story of King Josiah who served the Lord with all his heart. *"Moreover, the workers with familiar spirits, and the wizards, and the images, and the idols, and all the abominations that were spied in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, did Josiah put away, that he might perform the words of the law which were written in the book"* (II Kings 23:24).

The Lord spake unto Moses saying, *"Ye shall keep my sabbaths, and reverence my sanctuary: I am the Lord. Regard not them that have familiar spirits, neither seek after wizards, to be defiled by them"* (Leviticus 19:30-31).

Despite all of the warnings of the Lord given throughout the Word of God, we still see instances where people hardened their hearts to the admonition of the Lord. In II Kings 17:15-17, *"They rejected his statutes, and his covenant that he made with their fathers, and his testimonies which he testified against them; and they followed vanity, and became vain, and went after the heathen that were round about them, concerning whom the Lord had charged them, that they should not do like them."*

"And THEY LEFT ALL THE COMMANDMENTS OF THE LORD THEIR GOD, and made them molten images, even two calves, and made a grove, and worshiped all the

host of heaven, and served Baal.

"And they caused their sons and daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke Him to anger."

As this great flood of satanic influence tries to engulf our society, we do well to remember the words of Jesus, Who said. *"For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall show great signs and wonders; inasmuch that, if it were possible, they shall deceive the very elect"* (Matthew 24:24).

Thank God, He has given us His mighty Holy Spirit that we might know the true supernatural power of God!

Those who practice witchcraft, idolatry, hatred, and all the works of the devil will have no place in the kingdom of God. (See Galatians 5:20-21.)

Revelation 21:8 is very clear about the end of those who practice such things. It says, *"The fearful, and unbelieving, and the abominable, and murderers, and whoremongers, and sorcerers, and idolaters, and all liars, shall have their part in the lake which burneth with fire and brimstone: which is the second death."*

Although the Bible says that all of this evil will come upon the earth in these last days, thank God, He also has something else to say about the last days! Joel 2:28-29 says, *"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon ALL FLESH: AND YOUR SONS*

AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY, YOUR OLD MEN SHALL DREAM DREAMS, YOUR YOUNG MEN SHALL SEE VISIONS: AND ALSO UPON THE SERVANTS AND UPON THE HANDMAIDS IN THOSE DAYS WILL I POUR OUT MY SPIRIT."

God also said in Isaiah 59:19 that *"When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him."*

This is what this book is all about!

The Spirit of God is lifting up a standard against the tide of demonic activity today by the Baptism in the Holy Spirit. God is illuminating His people with the knowledge of their place of power and authority over demon forces.

Isaiah 8:18 says concerning the Church, *"Behold, I and the children whom the Lord hath given me are for SIGNS AND FOR WONDERS."*

Verse 19 continues, *"And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?"*

God knows that He has put a desire into the human heart to walk in the supernatural and to fellowship with Him. He is saying in this scripture that the children of God are to be "signs and wonders". They are to have the SUPER-supernatural, so that when people say unto them, "Let us seek unto them that have familiar spirits and unto wizards that peep and mutter", they will rise up and say

"NO! We shall seek God Who will give us the true supernatural through the Lord Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit."

Let me emphasize again that the Lord Jesus Christ has overcome Satan and all demon forces. You can be free of the false and the satanic through the power of His blood and by the use of His mighty name. The Bible says regarding Jesus that, *"God hath highly exalted Him, and given Him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God the Father"* (Philippians 2:9-11).

In other words, Jesus is absolute master of three worlds—in heaven, in earth and in the dark regions of satanic rule. Every knee in all three worlds must bow to that Name of Jesus and every tongue shall confess that Jesus is absolute Lord!

You do not have to be afraid any longer! You can be free through the Lord Jesus Christ. This freedom comes through knowledge. Once you understand what the Bible says concerning Satan's defeat and the Lordship of Jesus, you will be on your way to victory. We want you to have a revelation of your place of power and authority when you accept Jesus into your heart as Savior and Lord. We want you to understand that through the Baptism in the Holy Spirit, you will enter into the gifts of the Spirit which are the true supernatural.

CHAPTER TWO

THE FLOW OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Ghost is the executive power of God. God the Father did His job in planning salvation. Jesus came down and completed His redemptive work. He has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

This is the age of the Holy Ghost.

We are living in that day that God spoke of when He said, *"And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out My Spirit upon all flesh; and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, your old men shall dream dreams, your young men shall see visions: And also upon the handmaids in those days will I pour out My Spirit"* (Joel 2:28-29).

Ezekiel saw the throne of God in the great house of God. Out from the throne of God flowed a river of life to touch the world.

Ezekiel said, *"Afterward He brought me again unto the door of the house; and, behold, waters issued out from under the threshold of the house eastward: for the forefront of the house stood toward the east, and the waters came down from under the right side of the house, at the south side of the altar."*

"Then brought He me out of the way of the gate northward, and led me about the way without unto the utter gate by the way that looketh eastward; and, behold,

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there ran out waters on the right side.

"And when the man that had the line in his hand went forth eastward, He measured a thousand cubits, and He brought me through the waters; the waters were to the ankles.

"Again He measured a thousand, and brought me through the waters; the waters were to the knees. Again He measured a thousand, and brought me through; and the waters were to the loins.

"Afterward He measured a thousand; and it was a river that I could not pass over: for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over.

"...Then said He unto me, These waters issue out toward the east country, and go down into the desert, and go into the sea: which being brought forth into the sea, the waters shall be healed.

"And it shall come to pass, that everything that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and EVERYTHING SHALL LIVE WHITHER THE RIVER COMETH" (Ezekiel 47: 1-5, 8-9).

This is the mighty river of God!

God never started a denomination. God started a river of people flowing out from the house of God to a needy world. They were to flow out to the world to help and to heal humanity.

Jesus said, *"The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, because He hath anointed Me to preach the Gospel to the poor; He hath sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised"* (Luke 4:18).

Jesus told the disciples that when He reached heaven they would know that He had made it back because He would send the blessed Holy Ghost. (See John 16:7.)

The atmosphere is filled with demonic powers. It is alive with the powers of opposition.

Jesus had to arise and go through every demonic stronghold to get back to the throne of God.

As He ascended into the clouds, I can imagine that every lying demon whispered to those disciples, "He never made it back. He never made it back."

One hundred and twenty people gathered in the upper room in Jerusalem as Jesus commanded in Luke 24:49. Jesus said, *"Ye shall receive power after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you"* (Acts 1:8).

The Bible says, *"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place."*

"And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting."

"And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them."

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"And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2: 1-4).

These scriptures confirm that Jesus made it back to the throne of Heaven; thus He sent the Holy Ghost.

Pentecost was the beginning of that river flowing out from the throne of God. That river began to flow out to this darkened world.

When it began to flow, it was a river of tongues. They ALL began to speak in tongues.

Jesus said concerning the Holy Ghost, *"out of [your] belly shall flow rivers of living water"* (John 7:38).

When you receive the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, you receive the great privilege of being able to speak in tongues. You are granted the precious joy of speaking in tongues!

It will startle the world!

If you are not ashamed of speaking in tongues, the world will take notice.

I remember when I was in Mexico City. We were riding down the street in a taxi. The driver was with another man in the front seat. I was so happy and full of joy. I wanted to Just thank the Lord in my heavenly language. So, I put up my hands and just began to praise God in tongues. That Catholic taxi driver stepped on the brakes! He turned around and said, "What kind of language are you talking?"

I explained to him that I was speaking the language of the Holy Ghost like on the day of Pentecost. I said, "I am a Christian. We speak in other tongues because God's Holy Spirit lives in us. It is the same way that Mary, the blessed virgin, talked on the day of Pentecost when she was filled with the Holy Ghost!" (See Acts 1: 14; Acts 2:1-4.)

That taxi driver followed us around for two days, learning all that he could about the language of the Holy Ghost!

The Bible says that tongues are a sign to an unbelieving world!

It is a marvelous thing to speak in tongues. This is a river of tongues.

In Acts, chapter three, there flows a river of miracles. A man, lame from birth, was totally healed!

Rivers of healing power flowed from the throne of God, through the believers to touch this crippled man and completely restore his deformed body!

In Acts, chapter four, persecution arose. This river of God will bring persecution from the religious hierarchy and a world of wickedness.

The Bible says, *"All that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution"* (II Timothy 3: 12).

When I was the pastor of a Baptist church, I would question that scripture. I knew that I lived a godly life, but there was no persecution.

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That puzzled me.

One Sunday morning, I decided to preach a sermon that would name every sin that anybody could possibly commit. I thought I could stir up the congregation and generate some persecution!

It did not work.

My congregation loved me. They shook my hand after the service and went merrily on their way. No persecution ever came in those days.

But soon enough I found out that all that a person has to do to experience opposition is to be filled with God's Holy Ghost power. When we begin to speak in tongues, cast out demons, pray for the sick and flow in that mighty river of God, persecution abounds on every side!

There is a religious system that creates a sectarian spirit. It will not embrace the supernatural power of God. It will criticize every work of the Holy Ghost!

God's people in the Book of Acts risked their lives in order to flow like a mighty river to a world in need!

This powerful river of God will never be bound by denominational creeds and doctrines. Walls cannot contain it. God is going to let the river rise until we all flow together throughout the world.

We will bear one name. That is that Name which is above every other name. It is the Name of Jesus!

There is a great temptation today to draw back, to be

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"respectable", to try to miss some of the ridicule and persecution that goes with bearing the Name of Jesus Christ.

Some keep quiet. They do not say much about the Holy Ghost. They compromise God's message of power.

That is a stench in the nostrils of Almighty God!

**BE A DEMONSTRATION TO THE WORLD OF
THE RESURRECTED CHRIST!**

Look at the river of people flowing out from the throne of God. It is a river of the supernatural. It is a river of people who are unashamed of all of God's power.

Have you ventured into the river? Are you ankle deep?

Have you come in knee deep?

Have you waded up to the waist?

As long as you are ankle deep, knee deep or only waist deep you still have your feet on the bottom! You can determine your own destiny. You can get out of the water whenever you choose. You can stay close to the edge. You are running your own life.

You are in the flow of God, but the flow is not in you!

**COME ON OUT INTO THE DEEPER WATERS.
TAKE YOUR FEET OFF THE BOTTOM.**

LET THE RIVER TAKE YOU WHEREVER GOD

WANTS YOU TO GO.

This river is coming from the throne of God. It is flowing out to a world that is lost. It will bring salvation, healing and deliverance from demon powers.

It is flowing throughout the world. Let the river take you.

It is safe.

Take your feet off of the bottom. You can trust the move of the Holy Ghost.

You can trust God.

Do not compromise!

God wants you to have a full measure of the power of God. He wants you to be a supernatural witness to this world.

A lot of your trouble and heartache will be over when you stop being double-minded.

Jesus said in John 5:44: *"How can ye believe, which receive honor one of another, and seek not the honor that cometh from God only?"*

As long as you try to please man only, you cannot believe God. But when you just want to honor and please God alone, you can believe God for all things!

Hear this prophetic Word of the Lord:

"THUS SAITH THE LORD: MY VOICE IS COMING TO YOU, INTO YOUR VERY SPIRIT, FOR

THIS IS THE HOUR OF DECISION. THE DAYS ARE SHORT AND THE HOUR IS SERIOUS. YOU MUST GIRD UP THE LOINS OF YOUR HEART. STAND BEFORE THE SON OF MAN. DECIDE TO MOVE INTO THE DEEP WATERS OF THIS RIVER OF LIFE. IN THIS HOUR, I AM SAYING, COME UP HITHER'.

"I AM DRAWING MY PEOPLE UNTO MYSELF. I AM CLOTHING THEM WITH MY POWER.

"WHO WILL COME? WHO WILL COME? WHO WILL WALK WITH ME IN THIS HOUR, SAITH THE LORD.

"YOU ARE THE CHOSEN OF THE LORD. BELIEVE AND FOLLOW ME, SAITH GOD.

"FOR MY NAME WILL BE LIFTED UP. IT WILL BE MAGNIFIED, SAITH THE LORD. THAT NAME THAT IS ABOVE EVERY NAME SHALL BE LIFTED UP AND ADORED AND MAGNIFIED. YOU SHALL DEMONSTRATE THAT IT IS THE MOST POWERFUL NAME IN THE UNIVERSE.

"THE ENEMY SHALL CRINGE IN FEAR AS HE SEES THE POWER IN MY NAME. MY PEOPLE WILL ARISE WITH THAT NAME AND THEY SHALL GO FORTH IN THIS HOUR. THEY SHALL LIFT UP THE NAME OF JESUS. THEY SHALL MAGNIFY THE NAME OF JESUS. THEY SHALL SEE AND DEMONSTRATE THE VICTORY THAT I GAINED BY THE CROSS AND EMPTY TOMB.

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"OH, MY PEOPLE LISTEN AND RECEIVE MY MESSAGE FOR THIS IS THE HOUR OF DELIVERANCE. I WILL USE YOU, SAITH THE LORD."¹

Get your feet off of the bottom of that river. Get into the waters that cannot be passed over.

TRUST GOD WITH YOUR LIFE!

MAKE YOUR CHOICE!

LET THE RIVER OF GOD TAKE YOU WHERE IT WILL!

THIS RIVER IS FLOWING TO ALL THE WORLD!

¹ This prophetic utterance was given at Lakewood Church, Houston, Texas as John Osteen taught on this subject.

CHAPTER THREE

THE FLOW OF POWER

Would you like to have more of the power of God in your life?

I believe that the main purpose of the charismatic renewal is to take the Good News of the Lord Jesus Christ to the uttermost parts of the earth.

Luke, in writing the Acts of the Apostles begins: *"The former treatise have I made, O Theophilus, of all that Jesus began both to do and teach, Until the day in which He was taken up, after that He through the Holy Ghost had given commandments unto the apostles whom He had chosen:*

"To whom also He showed himself alive after His passion by many infallible proofs, being seen of them forty days, and speaking of the things pertaining to the kingdom of God:

"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.

"For John truly baptized with water, but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence.

"...But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost 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" (Acts 1:1-5, 8).

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The Book of Acts is a picture of the New Testament Church.

God never started a denomination. Man did. All people who are born again are in the body of Christ no matter what denomination they belong to.

God has moved through the ages by His Spirit. Man has tried to organize the move of the Holy Ghost into a denomination to protect and guard its special doctrines!

The New Testament Church is the body of Christ. All believers bear one name and that is the name of Jesus.

In Acts we read of the Church of the Lord Jesus Christ. It has been called by many names, but He started just one Church. This is not a denomination. It is not the beginning of a church that has changed.

It is a picture of the body of Christ.

This is a pattern for the Church in every century. Every generation should produce similar acts within the body of Christ. The Book of Acts is a continuing record. We should still be doing the same things! The epistles are the instructions to the Church, but the primary pattern in the Book of Acts is our example for today.

God wrote the Bible for every person. Every Baptist, every Methodist, every Lutheran, every Catholic, every believer in every denomination has a right to know what God has given them as members of His Church. None are to be denied the power of the Living God in this dark generation in which we are living. All God's children have

a right to know of God's power.

Jesus spoke in the first chapter of Acts about the power of the Holy Ghost. We need to believe what the Lord Jesus says. Do not make void the Word and commandment of God by what your tradition says! In this hour when the forces of evil are engulfing the world, thank God there is an awakening to the power of the Holy Ghost.

The Word of God says, *"When the enemy shall come in like a flood, the Spirit of the Lord shall lift up a standard against him"* (Isaiah 59:19).

The mighty revival that is going on in our day is the power of the Lord Jesus restoring to the Church what it has lost through the centuries.

Jesus talked about being born of the Spirit. He said, *"Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he cannot enter into the kingdom of God"* (John 3:5).

Jesus also talked about being baptized in the Holy Ghost. He talked about being clothed with power. *"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. For John truly baptized with water; but ye shall be baptized with the Holy Ghost not many days hence... But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me"* (Acts 1:4-5, 8).

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That is not a Pentecostal doctrine. That is the Bible truth. That is not some charismatic doctrine. That is the command of Jesus, Who is the Supreme Head of the Church.

Just because we are born of the Spirit in salvation, does not mean we do not need Jesus to baptize us in the Holy Spirit.

Just because you have had a drink of water does not mean that you do not need a bath! Just because you get a "well" of water in salvation does not mean that you do not need to be baptized by the Lord Jesus Christ and have "rivers of living water" flowing out of you to a needy world. (See John 4:14 and John 7:38.)

IN SALVATION, *THE HOLY GHOST* DOES SOMETHING TO YOU.

He regenerates you. Every Christian has the touch of the Holy Ghost on their spirit. *"If any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of His"* (Romans 8:9).

Every Christian has the Holy Ghost witnessing with his spirit that he is a child of God. (See Romans 8:16.) The Holy Ghost tells you that you are a Christian.

IN THE BAPTISM OF THE HOLY GHOST, *JESUS* DOES SOMETHING TO YOU.

John said, *"I indeed baptize you with water unto repentance: but He that cometh after me is mightier than I, whose shoes I am not worthy to bear: He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost, and with fire"* (Matthew 3:11).

"And John bare record, saying, I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and it abode upon Him.

"And I knew Him not: but He that sent me to baptize with water, the same said unto me, Upon whom thou shalt see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, the same is He which baptizeth with the Holy Ghost" (John 1:32-33).

You should not be afraid of what Jesus will do to you or for you.

People need to see Jesus and get close to Him. He is the Baptizer. He will baptize you in the Holy Ghost and fire.

This is an hour that we need to tell people what Jesus has to say. In Acts 1:1, it tells *"of all that Jesus BEGAN both to do and teach."* I am so glad Jesus did not finish everything in the Gospels. Of course, He finished the work of redemption. But we are to continue to carry on the work of the Church as started in the Book of Acts.

Jesus told the apostles that they *"should not depart from Jerusalem, but wait for the promise of the Father,"* which was the Holy Spirit. (See Acts 1:4.)

Jesus commanded them to wait.

Many denominational people love the Lord Jesus Christ. They are doing the best they know how to do to serve Him. They are walking in all the light they have; but they do not know what Jesus commanded them!

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People need to take off their denominational glasses, unplug their denominational ears, read the Bible, and believe what it says. Do not let some person tell you what the Bible is supposed to say! Read it for yourself!

Jesus commanded them not to leave Jerusalem until they were clothed with power from on high. He told them they were not ready without that power. They were not ready to be His witnesses without the Baptism in the Holy Ghost. He commanded them not to leave Jerusalem without it!

He said, *"But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto Me . . . unto the uttermost part of the earth"* (Acts 1:8).

They were to receive power! Acts 1:8 in The Amplified Bible reads: *"But you shall receive power (ability, efficiency, and might) when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you shall be My witnesses in Jerusalem and all Judea and Samaria and to the ends (the very bounds) of the earth."*

I do not know of anybody in our day that is living, raising a family and trying to serve God that does not need the ability, efficiency and might of the Holy Spirit!

Jesus said, "Ye shall receive power." This power does not work just as DYNAMITE to bring one explosive experience in your life. It is continual power! It works as a DYNAMO on the inside of you. It gives continual light and power throughout the years. *"The path of the just is*

as the shining light that shineth more and more unto the perfect day" (Proverbs 4:18).

Jesus said we would receive power and be witnesses of Him. One thing about Holy Ghost people is that when they get full of the Holy Ghost, all they talk about is Jesus. We are to tell people what Jesus said. We are to go out to our neighborhoods; we are to go out to this hungry and thirsting generation with the good news about Jesus, Who is the same yesterday, today and forever!

We should go out with joy and tell everyone!

This is a day when more people in our nation and in the world are ready to receive the message of God's power than ever before.

I can remember when I did not have the Baptism in the Holy Ghost. I pastored Baptist churches. I remember that I was doing the best I could. I could feel God in a shallow way, but I did not have any continuing power. I knew that. I had been taught in college and seminary that all of this had passed away. There were to be no more signs and no more miracles. "All supernatural things ended when the last apostle died," they said.

Can you imagine this last apostle! He gets weak with old age. He draws near death. But people continue to bring all the sick people in to him just as fast as they can before he dies. The apostle lays hands on them feebly one by one, but slowly his pulse-beat fails. The apostle dies! All the sick and lame and dying are turned away. All

miracles and healings have ended with his last breath. It's all over! He's dead! No more miracles, signs or wonders!

How ridiculous! That is the sad thing that I was taught!

I thank God that there are people in all churches today who are sick and tired of being sick and tired! They are weary of a form of godliness that denies the power thereof! They are not going to be denied the power of God!

Hunger for the things of God is a wonderful thing. It will bring God on the scene.

John G. Lake, a preacher of another generation who shook nations for God, said this regarding spiritual hunger:

Hunger can be a good thing. It is the greatest persuader I know of. It is a marvelous power. Nations have learned that you can do almost anything with a populace until they get hungry. But when they get hungry, watch out. There is a certain spirit of desperation that accompanies hunger.

I wish we all had it spiritually. I wish we were desperately hungry for God. Wouldn't it be glorious? It would be a strange thing if we were all desperately hungry for God.

I will guarantee you that after the crucifixion of Jesus there were 120 mighty hungry folks at

Jerusalem. If they had not been exceedingly hungry, they would not have gotten so gloriously filled. It was because they were hungry that they were filled.

NO MATTER WHAT YOUR SOUL MAY BE COVETING, IF GOD'S POWER BECOMES THE SUPREME CRY OF YOUR LIFE, NOT THE SECONDARY MATTER, OR THE THIRD OR FOURTH, THE FIFTH OR TENTH, BUT THE SUPREME DESIRE OF YOUR SOUL, THE PARAMOUNT ISSUE—ALL THE POWERS AND ENERGIES OF YOUR SPIRIT, SOUL AND BODY ARE REACHING OUT AND CRYING OUT TO GOD FOR THE ANSWER—IT IS GOING TO COME!

I lived in a family which for thirty-two years was never without an invalid in the home. Before I was 24 years of age, we had buried four brothers and four sisters, and four other members of the family were dying—hopeless, helpless invalids. I set up my own home, married a beautiful woman, and our first son was born. In only a short time I saw the same devilish train of sickness that had followed my father's family come into mine. My wife became an invalid; my son was a sickly child. Out of it all one thing developed in my nature: a cry for deliverance. My soul cried to God for deliverance. I knew

nothing about the subject of healing; notwithstanding, I was a Methodist evangelist.

But my heart was crying for deliverance; my soul had come to the place where I had given up depending on man. My father had spent a fortune on the family to no avail, as if there were no stoppage to the train of hell. And let me tell you, there is no human stoppage, because the thing is settled deep in the nature of man—too deep for any material remedy to get at it. It takes the Almighty God and the Holy Spirit and the Lord Jesus Christ to get into the depth of man's nature and find the real difficulty that is there and destroy it.

If you are away from God and your heart is longing, your soul is crying for God's deliverance, He will be on hand to deliver. You will not have to cry very long until you see that the mountains are being moved, and the Angel of deliverance will be there.

I finally got to that place where my supreme heart-cry was for deliverance. Tears were shed for deliverance for three years before the healing of God came to us. I could hear the groans and cries, the wretchedness and sobs, and feel my family's desperation. My heart cried, my soul sobbed, my spirit wept tears. I wanted help. I did not know enough to call directly on God for it.

Isn't it a strange thing that men do not have sense enough to call on God for physical difficulties, as well as for spiritual ones? But I did not.

But one thing matured in my heart—a real hunger. And the hunger of a man's soul must be satisfied. It is a law of God which is in the depths of the Spirit. God will answer the heart that cries; God will answer the soul that asks. Christ Jesus comes to us with divine assurance and invites us when we are hungry, to pray, to believe, to take from the Lord that which our soul covets and our heart yearns for.

One day the Lord of heaven came our way, and in a little while the cloud of darkness, that midnight of hell, that curse of death, was lifted. The light of God shone into our life and into our home, just the same as it existed in other men's lives and other men's homes. We learned the truth of Jesus and were able to apply the divine power of God. We were healed of the Lord.

"Blessed are they which do hunger."

Once I was out on a snowshoe trip at Sault Sainte Marie, Michigan, where they used to have four or five feet of snow. I tramped for thirty miles on my snowshoes, tired and weary. I arrived home and found my wife had gone away to visit, so I went over to my sister's home. I found they were out too. I went into the house

and began to look for something to eat. I was nearly starved. I found a big cake that looked like cornbread; it was still quite warm and smelled good. I ate it all. I thought it was awful funny stuff and it seemed to havelumps in it. I did not understand the combination and I was not much of a cook. About the time I had finished it, my sister and her husband came in. She said, "My, you must be tired and hungry."

I said, "I was, but I just found a corn cake and I ate the whole thing."

She said, "My goodness John, you did not eat that!" I said, "What was it, Irene?"

"Why, that was a kind of cow bread; we grind up cobs and all."

You see, it all depends on the degree of your hunger. Things taste mighty good to a hungry man. If you wanted to confer a peculiar blessing on men at large, it would not be to give them pie, but to make them hungry, and then everything that came their way would taste everlastingly good.²

What a privilege to see people who are hungry for the power of God in our day!

I can remember when I was in my denomination

2 *Spiritual Hunger—The God Men*, by John G. Lake. pp. 1-5
Published by Christ For The Nations, Dallas, Texas.

doing all that I knew to do. Yet, God knew that I was not satisfied.

God created a supernatural hunger and a thirst in my heart for more of Him. That was the beginning of my quest for the Baptism in the Holy Ghost.

God is creating that same desire in the hearts of men and women today. A great longing and a great hunger for the power of God and the supernatural is breaking forth throughout the world.

I can remember when the hunger came into my heart. I was pastor of a church. I began to feel a divine restlessness.

There was a divine dissatisfaction in my spirit. I said, "Oh, God, I do not want to die without having had a more fruitful ministry. I want to see more than I have ever seen in all of my life."

There came a desire to have the things of God made real in my life. It came from the Lord. It was the deepest cry of my being! It became the paramount issue of my spirit.

Rejoice if there has been an awakening in your heart! Be glad that there is a hunger and a thirst in your heart. Be glad that God smiled upon you to give you a desire to come to Him. God is creating that desire in people everywhere.

I had this desperate hunger in my heart. God put it there. That was the first thing that enabled me to see that

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this Holy Ghost baptism was a Bible truth. I saw that God wants us all to have this experience. He wants His people to be endued with supernatural power!

Jesus said, *"If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, how much more shall your Father which is in heaven give good things [the Holy Spirit] to them that ask Him?"* (See Matthew 7:11.)

Another thing that brought me to the realization of the truth of the Baptism in the Holy Ghost was the healing of our daughter, Lisa.

I remember when our little daughter was born. My wife is a registered nurse. She could tell immediately that Lisa was not normal. The doctor who delivered her knew it. Our pediatrician confirmed it later. She said Lisa had a birth injury. She was afflicted with cerebral palsy. Our little child had no muscle tone in her body. She had no sucking reflexes. She never was able to lift her head from the bed, even a fraction of an inch, until she was five months old. She never had enough strength to crawl.

We needed a miracle!

As a Southern Baptist minister for nineteen years, I knew very little about healing. We had little light on this miracle-working power of God. Books in my library said God sent sickness to bless us or teach us good lessons. I had preached we should be very careful and always say: "If it be Thy will, heal this one."

I did not have the Baptism in the Holy Ghost then,

but God helped us. I closed my office and went alone day by day with the Word of God. I read the four Gospels until I began to see Jesus. There emerged from those pages a mighty, compassionate miracle worker. He was not a denominationalized Jesus. He was the SON OF THE LIVING GOD WHO IS THE SAME YESTERDAY, TODAY AND FOREVER.

I beheld HIM as One greater than all our concepts of Him!

I saw Him as One great and loving enough to encompass ALL people everywhere in His mighty arms!

We read His promises to us over and over. We saw that the devil was the one who afflicted our daughter. He wanted to cripple her, but God wanted to heal her.

Those were sad, dark days for us struggling Baptists. But God was so merciful and compassionate.

Days turned into weeks and weeks faded into months as we stood fast on the promises of God to heal her.

Then, one glorious day, Jesus touched our baby. She was delivered!

I am sure the angels watching broke forth in a heavenly song praising God for His love and faithfulness to His Word. I am sure our blessed Jesus smiled at our joy for He had taken all our sins, sicknesses and pains in His own body and purchased our healing.

Today, our daughter remains every bit whole. This was a mighty miracle of God! She is full grown now and

perfectly normal.

Now we knew that God's supernatural power was available in our day. GOD'S POWER IS FOR TODAY!

Another thing which helped me receive the Baptism in the Holy Spirit was the power in worship and praise. As I sought after more of God, I was awed by the beauty of the worship and praise that I saw in Spirit-filled people.

One time I visited a large Assembly of God church in Memphis, Tennessee. I sat there and watched what they did.

As I waited for the service to start, suddenly everybody got up and started out of the church. I did not know where they were going. It just so happened that they had pre-prayer services before the evening service, so they had gone to different rooms to pray.

I just followed them in there. I felt so out of place as a Baptist preacher, but I was desperately hungry for God's power. I went into a room with a few people. The most remarkable thing happened there. Those people got down on their knees and lifted their hands to God and began to worship God and pray all at the same time.

There was a woman kneeling beside me worshipping the Lord. She had such a heavenly glow. Tears streamed down her cheeks. She was making love to Jesus. There was an indefinable, indescribable beauty in her countenance that filled me with wonder.

I said to myself, "What is this? What does this

woman have? What makes these tears come? What gives her the ability to worship God like this? What is this marvelous, wonderful ability to praise God?"

That woman praising God had a profound effect on me in my search for more of God. It was a turning point in my long search.

Do not ever underestimate the power of the believer in praise and worship. A watching world needs the power of God. That experience in my life generated the power to go on in my quest for more of God.

I could see the divine, supernatural, unexplainable, beauty and ability to praise and worship God. I never got away from that. That was what was missing in my life!

I wanted it! Thank God I did receive the Baptism in the Holy Ghost and fire. Now I daily enjoy this heavenly worship. It is so wonderful just to lift up my hands and adore and worship the Lord.

Never be ashamed to lift your hands. Never be ashamed to let your praises rise to heaven. It has a powerful effect on others as well as blessing and pleasing our Father God.

I believe there is coming a day in our evil, adulterous, wicked generation when God's people, filled with His Spirit, will fill the streets of our cities in multitudes. They will lift their hands and speak in tongues, praising God. They will pray for the sick and cast out demons. They will shake the cities of the nations of the world by the power

of the Holy Ghost!

Hear this prophetic Word of the Lord:

"THUS SAITH THE LORD: GOD IS MOVING IN THIS DAY IN WHICH YOU ARE LIVING. HE WILL CONTINUE TO MOVE AND THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL CONTINUE TO RISE IN INTENSITY AND IN POWER. HE IS DOING A WORK THAT NO MAN FULLY KNOWS AND UNDERSTANDS.

"BUT THERE WILL COME A TIME THAT HE WILL MANIFEST HIMSELF AND HIS POWER TO THIS GENERATION. HE WILL CALL THEM AS HIS ARMY AND THEY SHALL COME FORTH. THEY SHALL WONDER AND BE IN AMAZEMENT AT THE POWER AND THE GLORY OF GOD THAT SHALL BE UPON THEM. THEY SHALL LIFT THEIR VOICES AND THEIR HANDS AND THEY SHALL SHOUT FOR JOY.

"THE LORD GOD WILL CAUSE GREAT AMAZEMENT TO COME AND GREAT VICTORY TO COME BECAUSE OF THE POWER OF THE HOLY GHOST!

"DO NOT SIT AND SAY I HAVE ARRIVED. I HAVE IT ALL. I KNOW ALL THAT THERE IS TO KNOW.

"DO NOT BELIEVE THAT YOU HAVE ALL THAT THE LORD DESIRES TO GIVE YOU, BUT ENTER IN.

"ARISE!

"BE DETERMINED TO ENTER INTO A GREATER AND DEEPER REVELATION OF THE WORD AND MANIFESTATIONS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT. YOU HAVE NOT YET ARRIVED. GO FORTH AND LET THE LORD GIVE YOU THE FULL ANOINTING FOR YOUR LIFE. THEN YOU WILL WIELD THE SWORD OF THE SPIRIT AND DRIVE THE DEVIL AWAY FROM YOU, YOUR FAMILY AND YOUR FRIENDS!"³

3 This prophetic utterance was given by John H. Osteen while teaching on this subject at Shreveport, Louisiana.

CHAPTER FOUR

THE FLOW OF FREEDOM

The Baptism in the Holy Ghost is for all Christians. All Christians are regenerated by the Holy Ghost. After they are washed in the blood of Jesus Christ, they are made worthy to receive the Baptism in the Holy Ghost.

When I received the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, I was like Jonah in the belly of the whale. I was inside of my denomination just like he was inside of that whale. The whale said, "I am going to assimilate you."

Old Jonah began to kick and fight and said, "You will not assimilate me with those gastric juices. I am getting out.

That whale got a terrible stomach ache. He got rid of Jonah!

My denomination said, "It will pass over. We will just assimilate you with our denominational gastric juices. We will get that Baptism in the Holy Ghost out of you."

But when I got through kicking and shouting, they got rid of me!

This is the day when God is getting people to bear one name. It is the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

I say, "If I'm rubbing the cat's fur the wrong way, let the cat turn around!"

There is arising a group of people today who are putting the name of Jesus and their allegiance to Him and

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the glorious power of the Holy Ghost above everything else in the world.

Denominational names are fading and growing dimmer. The name of Jesus is growing brighter!

Acts 2:1 says, *"And when the day of Pentecost was FULLY come..."* Let the day of Pentecost fully come. Let it come in love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance. We should have the full power of love. Let it fully come in the power of the gifts of the Holy Spirit!

"And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance" (Acts 2:1-4).

THIS IS AN ACCOUNT OF THE RELEASE OF THE SPIRIT OF MAN. IT IS THE FLOW OF FREEDOM—FOR MAN'S REBORN SPIRIT!

You are a spirit. You have a soul. You live in a body. Your spirit was dead to God. When Adam sinned his light went out—the light of his spirit vanished. When Eve sinned the light of her spirit went out. Life left them and death came to them spiritually. They became dead to God in their spirits.

The Flow of the False-Satanic Supernatural

God said, *"On the day you eat of the fruit, you shall surely die."* (See Genesis 2:17.)

The very moment they disobeyed God, the life and light in their spirits went out. The devil, with his foul breath, blew the light out in their spirits. So, as a result man died spiritually.

"And you hath He quickened [made alive], who were dead in trespasses and sins;

"Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

"Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others" (Ephesians 2:1-3).

When you came into this world, you were dead to God in your spirit. There are only two kinds of people in this world: children of God and children of the devil. (See I John 3:10.) Either God is your Father or the devil is your father. (See John 8:42-44.) You are motivated either by God or the devil. Every lost person has the devil as his father. (See Ephesians 2:2.)

The person who is a child of the devil has spiritual death residing on the inside of him.

The person who is a child of God is a spirit that has eternal life. God is his Father. When you accept Jesus

Christ, God imparts eternal, God-like life into your spirit.

We can be saved and have God's life in us and not have that spirit free.

THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY GHOST SETS YOU FREE IN YOUR SPIRIT!

Let me illustrate this by using the story of Lazarus, found in John, chapter eleven. Lazarus was dead. Jesus told the people that if they would believe, they would see the glory of God. Jesus wept as He came to the grave. He cried out, "Lazarus, come forth!"

Lazarus came forth and received life. He came out, but he was bound with grave clothes around his body and a napkin was about his mouth. He was bound! He was alive, but he was not free!

Multitudes of people in all denominations are saved, and they have God's eternal life, but they are still bound by denominational grave clothes. They have a napkin over their mouths.

Jesus said, *"Loose him, and let him go!"* (See John 11:44.)

That is what God is saying about His Church today: "Loose them and let them go!" Jesus wants us free so we can go in the power of the Holy Ghost and evangelize the world!

When I accepted Jesus Christ as my Savior I was truly saved. I had spiritual life; but I was not free! I needed the freedom to live and act like the Christians in

the Book of Acts. I needed to be free to praise God. I needed that denominational napkin taken off of my mouth to be able to worship God in spirit and in truth. I needed to speak in other tongues and magnify God.

There was always such a yearning inside of me for more. I knew that there had to be more spiritual life than I had.

Once there was a little bird that was hatched in a cage. He never knew there was anything more than a cage. He was confined to the cage. One day, he noticed his wings. Something inside of him told him they were for flapping and flying. It was his instinct to fly. He began to fly, but he hit against the cage time and time again. He tried to get out but he could not. Now he knew that he was made to fly, but he had no freedom to do so. He never got away from that deep inner knowing that he was made to fly. All he could do was to sit in his little cage and rock back and forth on his swing and eat his bird seed!

One day the door was left open and he flew out and through a window—set free to fly as he was meant to fly. I can hear him rejoice saying, "This is it! This is what I was made to do—fly in the open spaces!"

You see, I was hatched in my denominational bird cage. I swung on my denominational swing. I sat in my denominational cage. I ate my denominational bird seed. Thank God, I got out to enjoy the free blessings of God.

In this day, God is awakening His people to know that there is more than just sitting in a cage swinging on a

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denominational swing. There is more for Christians to eat than denominational bird seed!

There is a stirring in people for more of God!

You might ask, "What are you doing. Brother Osteen?"

I AM OPENING CAGES!

You do not have to leave your church—just get set free. Be free. Love all of God's people. It is all right to be in your denomination as long as your denomination is not in you! If you are full of the Holy Spirit, you will love God's people in all denominations. If you are full of the Holy Spirit, the Name of Jesus will be more important to you than the name of your denomination.

When you get the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, there is a release of YOUR SPIRIT and that spirit man begins to be active. When you receive the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, the first thing that spirit man begins to do is to talk.

The spirit man on the inside of you begins to talk in another language as on the day of Pentecost. That is your inner man speaking! It is the release of your spirit!

Think about meeting God face to face and never having had the privilege of your spirit man talking to him before.

Whenever we talk by the Holy Ghost, we are talking beyond the ability of our mind to comprehend.

"For he that speaketh in an unknown tongue

speakeeth not unto men, but unto God: for no man understandeth him; howbeit in the spirit he speaketh mysteries" (I Corinthians 14:2).

"For if I pray in an unknown tongue, my spirit prayeth, but my understanding is unfruitful" (I Corinthians 14:14).

That is the release of your spirit!

You should let yourself talk to God every day by your spirit energized by the Holy Spirit. *"God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:24).*

"The eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to show himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him" (II Chronicles 16:9).

The eyes of the Lord refer to the Holy Ghost. The **HOLY GHOST IS SEEKING** to show Himself strong in behalf of those whose hearts are perfect toward God.

Jesus said, *"The Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost"* (Luke 19:10). **JESUS IS SEEKING** to save the lost.

The Heavenly Father is a Spirit. *"The true worshipers shall worship the Father in spirit and in truth: for the FATHER SEEKETH such to worship Him. God is a Spirit: and they that worship Him must worship Him in spirit and in truth" (John 4:23-24).*

God the Father, is seeking His children to worship Him in spirit and in truth. By worshiping Him in the

Spirit, He is referring to speaking to Him in a spiritual language.

You may ask, "Do you have to speak in tongues when you receive the Baptism in the Holy Ghost?" Look at it this way—you GET TO speak in tongues! It is the first sign you have received the full Baptism in the Holy Ghost.

It is not tongues that is the issue with people. It is pride. Some do not want to be identified with those that speak in tongues!

When you begin to speak in other tongues, your spirit man is released. I was nineteen years old in the Lord and never had uttered a word from my spirit!

The joy of praying to the Father, of by-passing my mind and going directly to the throne of God, speaking a spiritual language, is wonderful. All of God's people should have this. We need to tell everybody about it. Nobody should be denied their right to be released in their spirit.

When you are released in your spirit, God puts you into a spiritual dimension beyond anything you have ever known.

When you get the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, you touch a realm you never before touched, even in your deepest dedication. It is a dimension where the gifts of the Holy Ghost operate. It is the realm of the supernatural! You begin to live in the same Holy Ghost-charged

atmosphere as those in the Book of Acts.

The release of the spirit enables you to walk in the realm of the gifts of the Holy Ghost. The Amplified Bible says that the spiritual gifts are "*the special endowments of supernatural energy*" (I Corinthians 12:1). There is the gift of miracles, the gift of faith, the gifts of healing, the gift of tongues, the gift of interpretation of tongues, the gift of prophecy, the gift of the word of wisdom, the gift of the word of knowledge, and the gift of discerning of spirits. (See I Corinthians 12:4-10.)

Thank God these are the weapons of our warfare! They are given to us by the Holy Ghost!

Oh, I wish I could fully tell you the joy and blessings of the mighty Baptism in the Holy Spirit! Let me urge you to seek the Lord Jesus for this enduement of power!

That longing inside of you is for this power of God. Your spirit is yearning to be released—to communicate with your Heavenly Father in the deepest fashion.

Oh, little "denominational birds" God loves you so much! He sees your desire for freedom and power. He knows you belong to Him. You need to do more than swing on your denominational swing and eat denominational bird seed.

THE DOOR IS OPEN!

Come forth and join multitudes of your other brothers and sisters in the family of God who are enjoying the full blessings of our Heavenly Father.

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Your spirit needs this release to talk and to walk in the realm of the supernatural. So much can happen when your spirit is set free. When your spirit is liberated, you receive the ability to act like a spirit person and live as a spirit person, and not just as a soulish, physical person.

Jesus said, *"My words are spirit and they are life."* (See John 6:63.) A physical man must have physical food. A spirit man must have spiritual food.

Jesus said His words are life. *"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God"* (Matthew 4:4).

As you are released in the spirit to talk in a heavenly language and walk in the gifts of the Holy Spirit, you must realize that you are released to go to the table of God and feed on spiritual food. You need to read and feed daily upon the Word of God!

Have you had a meal today for your spirit man?

Many Christians feed their bodies three good meals a day and their spirit one cold snack a week! Then they wonder why they are not growing spiritually! If you will feed your spirit as much as you feed your body, you will be a healthy Christian.

Let us suppose we had a lion. Suppose we also had a little puppy. We put them in an arena to fight. Who would win? The lion would, of course.

Now suppose we stopped feeding the lion and started feeding the puppy—one day, two days, three days, a

month, if he lived. If we stopped feeding that lion and kept feeding that puppy and if that lion lived, that dog could finally overcome the lion!

This illustrates that you have victory in the realm where you feed! Do not continue to feed that lion (carnal) nature on the things of this world. Some people know every ball player, every piece of fishing tackle, every kind of hunting equipment and everything they need to know to indulge and feed their soul (mind, will and emotions), yet they hardly know an apostle from an epistle!

Start feeding that spirit man on spiritual food. Talk as a spirit man in the spirit language. Walk in the spiritual realm in the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Feed your spirit on the Word of God, while starving the lion of your carnal nature.

You will be a strong, spiritual person. You will be victorious in every battle!

**RELEASE YOUR SPIRIT TO FLOW IN THE
FULLNESS OF GOD! YOU WILL BE USED OF GOD
AS YOU FLOW IN FREEDOM!**

CHAPTER FIVE

THE FLOW OF THE MIRACULOUS

Acts is the pattern of the New Testament Church. Everybody that is born again is in the family of God. More and more of God's people are coming into the light of the Baptism in the Holy Ghost.

Before this great charismatic renewal ever started around the world, I saw a vision. I saw the whole denominational world before me. There were denominational walls all around like great cathedrals. As I beheld the walls, they began to tumble down as if hit by an earthquake.

I can still see the dust rise as great pieces of buildings fell and crumbled to the earth. It was as though all the walls of denominationalism were demolished in a moment of time.

It looked like everybody was dead. I could see no one. But in a few minutes, a man quickly crawled out from the rubble and stood on top of a large boulder that had fallen. He began to preach.

As he did, he turned into a flame of fire!

Nobody was in sight. But as he preached, people began to crawl out from the rubble and stand before that man. They came out from all directions and stood listening intently to his message of power.

God said to my spirit, "The walls of

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denominationalism will fall. My preachers will stand on the ruins of denominationalism as flames of fire. They will preach the full Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. People will listen and respond!"

There is such a hunger today in the hearts of all of God's people in all denominations. There is not a wall strong enough nor high enough to keep them away from the power of the Holy Spirit. They are going to be filled with God's holy power!

If you want to know what God started, read the Books of Acts. If it does not agree with your denominational doctrine, put aside your doctrine and believe the Bible.

Acts, chapter one gives the promise of God to clothe His people with power.

Acts, chapter two tells of the release of your spirit when you receive the Baptism in the Holy Ghost and speak in tongues.

Acts, chapter three tells us that as soon as they were clothed with power, as soon as they had a release in their spirit, immediately this New Testament Church saw the flow of the supernatural power of God.

"Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, being the ninth hour.

"And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that

entered into the temple;

"Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

"And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

"And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them" (Acts 3:1-5).

Thank God that when you look on somebody full of the Holy Ghost, expecting to receive something of them, you CAN receive it!

The lame man was full of expectation! He may not have expected what he received, but he expected!

"Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

"And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

"And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God" (Acts 3:6-8).

You must realize that you are not prepared to touch the world effectively until you are clothed with power from on high. That clothing comes in the Baptism in the Holy Ghost.

This is not a goal. It is a doorway into a way of life!

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It is an entrance into the supernatural gifts of the Holy Ghost.

Some people have the idea that when they receive the Baptism in the Holy Ghost they can just sit down and that is all there is to it. NO! It is the beginning of a glorious supernatural life where there is no end to helping needy humanity find salvation, healing and help through the Lord Jesus Christ.

God wants every man, every woman, and every child to be filled with the Holy Ghost and move on in the gifts, power and energy of the Holy Ghost!

Look at the following three passages of scripture from The Amplified Bible:

The spiritual gifts of the Holy Ghost are *"the special endowments of supernatural energy"* (I Corinthians 12:1).

"Now there are distinctive varieties and distributions of endowments (gifts, extraordinary powers distinguishing certain Christians, due to the power of divine grace operating in their souls by the Holy Spirit) and they vary, but the [Holy] Spirit remains the same" (I Corinthians 12:4.)

"But to each one is given the manifestation of the [Holy] Spirit [the evidence, the spiritual illumination of the Spirit] for good and profit" (I Corinthians 12:7).

You see, the spiritual gifts are SPECIAL ENDOWMENTS OF SUPERNATURAL ENERGY! They are EXTRAORDINARY POWERS which

distinguish Christians. Every person receives this manifestation of the Holy Spirit, this SPIRITUAL ILLUMINATION!

As soon as the early Church received the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, immediately the supernatural began to radiate and emanate from their lives!

You do not have to be an apostle, pastor or elder to flow in God's power. Every believer has this same miraculous power available to him.

The Bible says, *"And these signs shall follow them that BELIEVE; In My name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues; They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover"* (Mark 16:17-18).

Jesus left us a pattern for the Church today. As soon as these believers were clothed with power and filled with the Holy Ghost, immediately the supernatural began to flow!

There are thousands of people held by demonic powers, witchcraft, and doctrines of devils because they have been denied the supernatural power of God. Their hearts cry out for the supernatural. When we deny them the true, they go to the false.

Today there is arising an army of God's people clothed with God's power that will show this generation the true way to supernatural power.

How to Flow in the Super Supernatural

Every child of God should be a channel of the supernatural energy and the divine gifts of the Holy Ghost.

If the spiritual gifts are not operating in your life, you should stir yourself to pray and seek God. The gifts of the Spirit are the weapons of our warfare.

"The weapons of our warfare are not carnal, but mighty through God to the pulling down of strongholds" (II Corinthians 10:4).

We are endowed with these gifts that we might fight the good fight of faith and deliver our generation. (See I Timothy 6:12.)

There is no greater thrill than to see God work through your human flesh! It is the most wonderful experience in the world!

When I first received the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, I wanted everything that God could give me. I was so thrilled to find out the truth about the gifts of the Holy Ghost.

You need to be concerned about evangelizing your town, your state, your nation and the world.

As I began my ministry, I would pray for the gifts of the Holy Ghost. I wanted all nine of them to operate in my life. Somehow, in all my sincerity but also in all of my ignorance, I expected a little angel to come down and touch me. From then on, I would have these gifts of the Spirit. Sparks would fly as the angel touched me and I

would be endowed with these wonderful gifts from God!

I did not know any better.

As I sought God, He told me to go out and stand before sighing, crying, dying humanity and preach the Word and He would be there. He would confirm His Word with signs following in a flow of the supernatural. (See Mark 16:20.)

So, I rented an auditorium and decided to have a meeting. I had a lot of enthusiasm. Hundreds of people came. I told them that I had a Baptist background, but now I was filled with the Holy Ghost. I found out that there are gifts of the Holy Ghost. I told them that "*Jesus Christ [is] the same yesterday, and today, and forever*" (Hebrews 13:8). I told them I had the power to cast out devils, lay hands on the sick and see them healed. (See Mark 16:17-18.)

I told them that they would see miracles in Jesus' name. People lined up for prayer. There was such a long line. I was amazed! I was astonished! People had believed the Word of God that I had preached!

I quieted my spirit before the people. The first person marched across the stage. He was mute. He had never spoken a word in his life!

I thought to myself, "Oh, God, couldn't I start with something like a stomach ache?" Of course, this was only a natural thought since that was my first meeting. The same power that could heal a stomach ache could heal this

man!

Thank God for the anointing of the Holy Ghost! As I stood there with butterflies in my stomach, I was reminded of the great promises of God.

I did not feel like it, but I acted like God had told me the truth in His Word. Jesus had promised me in Luke 10:19, *"Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you."*

I stood over that man and commanded that dumb demon to come out of him in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ. He could hear, but he could not talk. So, I put the microphone by his mouth. I told him to say what I said —"Thank you, Jesus."

He said, "Thank you, Jesus." The meeting was on!

In that meeting, we saw such miracles of God, such mighty demonstrations of salvation, divine healing and deliverance. It was a marvelous thing to behold as Jesus met the needs of the people!

You do not have to feel like God's power is in you. Believe God. You have the Holy Ghost. Go in the name of Jesus!

You are supposed to see the Holy Ghost's power in your life. God expects you to flow in the Holy Ghost.

The Bible says that the gifts of the Holy Ghost are divided to every man, woman and child as God wills. The gifts are for everyone. Nobody is left out.

First Corinthians 12:7 in The Amplified Bible reads, *"But to EACH ONE is given the manifestation of the [Holy] Spirit [the evidence, the spiritual illumination of the Spirit] for good and profit."*

The manifestation of the gifts is given to every individual. There is a divine gift that should be flowing in your life—IN YOUR LIFE! You have not been left out. You can move in the mighty stream of the supernatural power of God.

It is so thrilling! It is so wonderful to see God work.

Begin to be concerned about humanity. Lay hands on people and minister to people in love. God will begin to manifest what He desires through your life.

If we are the New Testament Church, we not only believe in salvation by grace, but we believe in the Baptism in the Holy Ghost that clothes us with power.

It is not enough for us to be gathered together and sing and praise, and laugh and rejoice. We must teach the Word of God and feed God's people. As they grow, they will be so filled with God's glory and God's truth that they will arise. They will go forth and begin to cast out devils and bring healing to the sick. The lost will turn to Jesus and be saved!

You are on a dead-end street if you do not see that after you are clothed with power and speak in tongues, you have just entered into the doorway to a life of the supernatural. This is not just for preachers, but there is

power for all of the body of Christ.

It is thrilling to see God move supernaturally!

I recall a time in 1975 when I was ministering in a small country church. I beheld such a divine flow of miracles. God's touch of love reached down through the power of the Holy Ghost to heal and deliver a helplessly crippled lady.

Clara Nell McWhirter tells of her condition in her own words:

In 1954 I was in severe pain and I could not move. I had rheumatoid arthritis and a rare blood disease called Lupus, which is fatal. The doctors diagnosed that there was no cure for either one.

I was in bed for three years. The pain was so great I could not stand to be touched. I had to be turned with a sheet. I had seven surgeries. I would take several hot baths a day to help relieve some of the pain.

After a while, I got out of bed. But by 1963 I was so crippled I was confined to a wheelchair. I had a big knot on my neck that prevented me from turning my head. I had spurs on my heels and crooked fingers and toes. My body would swell so badly at times that I would look twice my weight which was only 110 pounds.

In 1968, my dear husband became ill with tuberculosis. The doctor said that since I was a

nurse, he would consent to my taking my husband home IF we would go into strict isolation.

We—Jesus, my husband and I—were locked in our four room house for eighteen months. No one could come in and we could not go out. But we were happy. I crawled from the bedroom door into the bathroom to put on a paper gown and mask. I crawled back through the bathroom and had to disinfect myself, crawl back into my wheelchair and go prepare his meals. He would perspire with fever and I would have to change his bed. I crawled from room to room to get around. I did this day and night.

Finally, he recovered and we got out of isolation.

However, in just a few months he was diagnosed as having cancer of the colon. I prayed and cared for him again for 2-1/2 years. In 1973, he went to be with Jesus.

Now, through 21 years of pain, I never knew what it was not to hurt. I had been in a wheelchair for 12 years.

One week before I went to Calvary Church where my daughter attends, I had a dream that I was walking down an aisle in a church without my crutches. I was speaking words I did not understand.

The night that Rev. John Osteen was to be at Calvary Church, the Lord spoke to me to go hear him.

Let me interrupt her story to say this:

I was to be the guest preacher at this church that Thursday evening. I did not know anything about all of this woman's suffering and pain. She came to be healed. Before the service, I was standing outside that church talking to some men. I had noticed this crippled woman going into the church on crutches. As I glanced in her direction, the Holy Ghost spoke softly to my heart and I heard Jesus say, "I want to heal her."

It seemed that voice resounded throughout the whole world of sick, tormented people to give them hope. Jesus said, "I want to heal her!"

That is what He is saying to you today. "I want to heal you!"

In spite of the fact that God spoke so clearly to me regarding healing this woman, the thought left me as I began to preach.

I preached that day on Mark, chapter five, about the Bible Jesus who is the same yesterday, today and forever. I recounted those marvelous deliverances recorded in Mark chapter five. Just as I ended that message and closed my Bible, that woman got slowly up and approached me on her crutches.

Hear again her own words as she recounts this

wonderful miracle of God:

I went to church with my daughter. Brother Osteen preached the most beautiful sermon all about Jesus' healing power and love and mercy. Just as the sermon ended, a sweet voice spoke in my ear, 'Go now.' My daughter was sitting next to me but she hadn't said anything. I knew it was Jesus speaking to me.

I picked up those crutches and made my way to Brother Osteen. I poured my heart out to him. Then, he raised his right hand and with his index finger, he gently touched me on the forehead. As he did this, it was like a bolt of lightning that went throughout my entire body. My arms were drawn above my head by a great force. (They had not been above my shoulders for twelve years because of the pain.) My crutches gently fell to the ground as if carried by angels.

Jesus healed me instantly!

Every spur in every part of my body, my heels, my spine and even the big knot on the back of my neck that had prevented me from moving my head, INSTANTLY disappeared!

Brother Osteen put the microphone to my mouth and asked me if I had anything to say. Then the most beautiful language poured out of my mouth. Jesus had baptized me in the Holy Ghost and I spoke in tongues, praising and

magnifying Jesus, My Healer!

I returned to the doctor and he confirmed that I was totally healed. Even the Lupus disease was gone in a moment of time.

Two weeks after I was healed, I traveled throughout six states, over 6,000 miles telling of the wonderful miracle that God had performed in my life.

Everytime I see Mrs. McWhirter she is still thrilled to tell what Jesus has done for her. Praise God for the flow of the miraculous!

This is the move of the Holy Ghost!

You are not to get the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, speak a few words in tongues and say, "Well, I have it all. That is all there is to it."

NO! NO! NO!

THE BAPTISM IN THE HOLY GHOST IS A DOORWAY INTO THE FLOW OF THE MIRACULOUS POWER OF GOD.

Isaiah 8:18 says, *"Behold, I and the children whom the Lord hath given me are for signs and for wonders."*

Let me encourage you to enter into the full flow of God's divine power!

CHAPTER SIX

THE FLOW OF PERSECUTION

As we have said, the Book of Acts is the pattern for the Church in every age. There has always been only one Church, which is the body of Christ. All born again believers in all denominations are a part of that one Church.

Acts chapter one emphasizes the fact that we need to have the Baptism in the Holy Spirit.

Acts chapter two emphasizes how the Baptism in the Holy Spirit releases our spirits to communicate with the Father in true worship and praise.

Acts chapter three emphasizes that the Baptism in the Holy Spirit is not an end, but a doorway into the supernatural flow of the miraculous.

Now, we come to Acts chapter four in our pattern. Here we have the flow of PERSECUTION. Yes, that is in the pattern! We can expect to experience the same persecution as the disciples if we have the power of the Holy Spirit moving in our lives.

Acts chapter four begins, *"And as they spake unto the people, the priests and the captain of the temple, and the Saducees, came upon them"* (Acts 4:1).

There were Saducees and Pharisees in the early days. The Pharisees were fundamentalists. The Saducees were modernists. They did not believe in the resurrection. These were just the denominations of their day. The

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persecution arose from them. The same is true today.

As Peter and John spoke unto the people and gave testimony of the great miracle of the lame man, who was healed instantly through the Name of Jesus, the religious people came upon them.

"Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead.

"And they laid hands on them, and put them in hold unto the next day; for it was now eventide.

"Howbeit many of them which heard the Word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

"And it came to pass on the morrow, that their rulers, and elders, and scribes, And Annas the high priest, and Caiaphas, and John, and Alexander, and as many as were of the kindred of the high priest, were gathered together at Jerusalem.

"And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, By what power, or by what name, have ye done this?

"Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, if we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole;

"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.

"This is the stone which was set at nought of you builders, which is become the Head of the corner.

"Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.

"Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marveled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

"And beholding the man which was healed standing with them, they could say nothing against it.

"But when they had commanded them to go aside out of the council, they conferred among themselves, Saying, What shall we do to these men? for that indeed A NOTABLE MIRACLE HATH BEEN DONE by them is manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; AND WE CANNOT DENY IT.

"BUT THAT IT SPREAD NO FURTHER AMONG THE PEOPLE, let us straitly threaten them, that they speak henceforth to no man in this name" (Acts 4:2-17).

Why should you get all excited about getting a little persecution? Persecution is part of the pattern found in the Book of Acts. When you get the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, you will experience unusual assaults of the power of the devil. This will come by persecution! Your relatives, pastor and friends may not be happy that you have become baptized in the Holy Spirit.

How to Flow in the Super Supernatural

As soon as the believers in the New Testament Church got the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, the religious people of their day (not the sinners) were the ones that instigated the persecution in their lives.

You would think that everybody would be thrilled that a crippled man was healed. (See Acts 3:7-8.) Amazingly, these religious people became angry and began to persecute the believers. (See Acts 4:2-3.)

Here is the voice of organized religion in the face of a miracle from the compassionate heart of God. A man who had been crippled from his mother's womb was healed.

Can you imagine this man saying to his wife, "Our little boy is hopelessly crippled. He will never walk."

Imagine the sorrow all of their days of having a little boy who could not run and play like other little boys. He grows up and becomes a man. Oh, the sorrow and heartache in that home with that crippled child!

Now here comes somebody with the power of God. In the name of Jesus this child, now a man, is healed.

You would think it would bring great rejoicing in the temple. These religious people knew the promise of God that said, "*I am the Lord that healeth thee*" (Exodus 15:26).

Instead, it brought persecution to the followers of the Lord Jesus in that day. Instead of being happy, these religious leaders said, "*What shall we do to these men?*" (See Acts 4:16.)

That is what denominationalized, spiritually blinded, religious people in our day are saying: "What shall we do with these charismatics? These tongue-talkers? These miracle workers? These people flowing in the power of God today? What shall we do?"

The religious leaders could not deny that this crippled man was healed. A miracle had transpired. The lame man was walking and leaping and praising God. (See Acts 3:8.) But they said that they could not allow this power of God to spread further!

The leaders of the day said, "*BUT THAT IT SPREAD NO FURTHER AMONG THE PEOPLE, let us straitly threaten them that they speak henceforth to no man in this name*" (Acts 4:17).

"And they called them, and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus" (Acts 4:18).

Listen! These religious people did not want this news to spread any further! They were saying that they did not want any other cripples to be healed; no more blind people to receive sight; no incurables to be healed; no more merciful acts of God to be manifested!

They could not allow suffering, sighing, dying humanity to receive help! What a horrible attitude to take in the name of Almighty God!

I love all of God's people in all denominations. But I am strongly opposed to that sectarian spirit that robs God's people and keeps them trapped in the cells of

denominationalism and teaches them such foolishness.

When you get the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, speak in tongues and begin to flow in the supernatural power of God, you will encounter persecution. The same voice that believed that a miracle of God had been manifested but wanted it stopped, is the same voice in religious systems of our day.

Soon after I received the Baptism in the Holy Ghost, the church was full. I could talk about Jesus by the hour. People got saved. You would think that everybody would be happy. Well, there was a hungry group and many received the Baptism in the Holy Ghost. But there was another crowd within that church that could not abide this Baptism in the Holy Ghost because it was not a Baptist doctrine!

It may not be your denominational doctrine, but IT IS BIBLE DOCTRINE!

Your denomination did not save you. It did not call you. It did not give you eternal life. It did not write your name in the Lamb's Book of Life. You will not die and appear at the judgment seat of your denomination!

Jesus saved you.

He is the One you should obey.

I am zealous for God's people when I see them penned in, tied up and robbed of God's power and told the lies of the devil. God stirred me and called me to be a voice to them to let them know that there is more than a

blind denominational creed and traditions of men.

YOU CAN HAVE THE POWER OF GOD!

Miracles began to happen in our church. A little crippled girl who had been crippled for many years was healed instantaneously. Some said it was the devil who healed her! Can you imagine that!

You would think that everybody would be thrilled! The church was filled with people and prospering in every way. People were astonished at what was happening.

But that sectarian spirit that has to protect denominational doctrine rose up within the ranks!

The church world is divided into two camps: those who are for the supernatural and those who are against it. Those who believe in the supernatural are going to flow in the deep river of God's blessings and power.

Some will back off into the shallow water, unwilling to pay the price. They will not flow with God.

In our Baptist Church, I was following the Church pattern found in the Book of Acts. I was clothed with power (Acts 1), I spoke in tongues (Acts 2), I began to see miracles (Acts 3). Then, of course, persecution arose (Acts 4).

There is a hardcore sectarian spirit that will cause division within the ranks of God's people. It does not originate in God. It is a divisive, religious spirit that denies the power of God. (See II Timothy 3:5.)

How to Flow in the Super Supernatural

The hour is too late! God's greatest move is upon us in this generation. It is too late to play church!

It is time to decide what you will do for God and whose side you will take.

You need to be clothed with power. You need to speak in tongues with the Baptism in the Holy Ghost. That releases the flow of the supernatural. When the flow of the supernatural begins, immediately persecution comes from organized religion.

That is the picture. That is the Bible pattern.

We left that Baptist church. We bought an empty feed store and started a church. We have been here ever since—feeding God's people the Bread of Life. God is moving in our midst!

The name of our church is Lakewood Church. We refer to it as "The Oasis of Love in a Troubled World." Located in the 7300 block of East Houston Road in Houston, Texas, Lakewood Church now seats several thousand people. People are saved in every service. Many are filled with the Holy Ghost and enter in through that doorway to the supernatural.

People with hungry hearts come to our services from far and near to find the true power of God that will meet their needs.

We give at least half of our annual income to world missions. Our goal is to "reach the unreached and tell the untold."

Thank God this Holy Ghost power given by Jesus really works!

Expect persecution when you begin to flow in the supernatural. Do not be so shocked. Do not be so startled. Do not give up when the persecution comes. Rejoice that you finally made it to Acts, chapter four!

We need to have our priorities right. We need to love the people within every denomination. But we need to resist with a passion that sectarian, evil, devilish, denominational spirit that is not in line with the truth of the Bible.

Do not compromise!

Stay full of love.

The Bible says that *"A man's foes shall be they of his own household"* (Matthew 10:36).

Some husbands have left their wives because that wife was full of God. Wives have left their husbands because that husband was filled with the Holy Ghost.

Do not compromise. Do not disobey the Word of God. *"Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might"* (Ephesians 6:10).

Have you made it to Acts chapter four in your life?

If not, you need more of the Holy Ghost. You need to talk more in tongues. Begin to cast out devils. Lay hands on sick people. Take your stand for God.

You will then see persecution!

How to Flow in the Super Supernatural

Remember this: With persecution will come a river of Holy Ghost power. (See Acts 4:33.)

You will see that the New Testament believers in the early church were bold, unflinching, victorious, immovable, uncompromising and vocal.

The religious leaders called them *"and commanded them not to speak at all nor teach in the name of Jesus."*

"But Peter and John answered and said unto them, Whether it be right in the sight of God to hearken unto you more than unto God, judge ye. For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard" (Acts 4:18-20).

They were bold and unswerving in their devotion to the Lord Jesus Christ.

God will never let you down.

Doctrines of demons and powers of darkness are everywhere in this hour.

God is calling to His people, "COME FORTH, MY BELOVED AND RECEIVE POWER. GO FORTH AND HELP THIS GENERATION!"

If you will, IN LOVE, unswervingly and boldly take your stand for what the Bible teaches, GOD WILL NEVER DISAPPOINT YOU!

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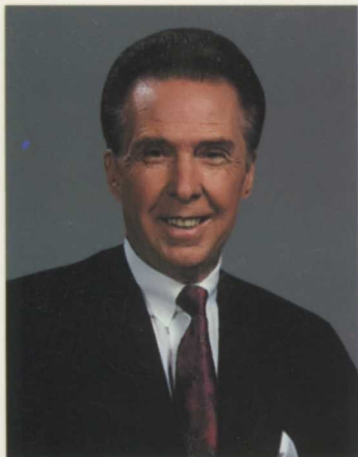
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Today, John Osteen pastors Lakewood Church in Houston, Texas, widely known as "The Oasis of Love in a Troubled World." His weekly television program reaches millions in the U.S. and in many other countries. His numerous books, cassettes, and videotapes are widely distributed throughout the Body of Christ.

John Osteen holds a Bachelor's Degree from John Brown University, a Master's Degree from Northern Baptist Seminary, a Doctor of Letters from Indiana Christian University, and a Doctor of Divinity from Oral Roberts University.