

“Power to be a Witness TO the Resurrection of Jesus Christ”

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KEYNOTE SCRIPTURE

Acts 1, “10 And while they looked stedfastly toward heaven as he went up, behold, two men stood by them in white apparel; 11 Which also said, Ye men of Galilee, why stand ye gazing up into heaven? this same Jesus, which is taken up from you into heaven, shall so come in like manner as ye have seen him go into heaven. 12 Then returned they unto Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is from Jerusalem a sabbath day's journey. 13 And when they were come in, they went up into an upper room, where abode both Peter, and James, and John, and Andrew, Philip, and Thomas, Bartholomew, and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus, and Simon Zelotes, and Judas the brother of James. 14 These all continued with one accord in prayer and supplication, with the women, and Mary the mother of Jesus, and with his brethren.”

How did they become witnesses?

1. He chose them
2. They walked with Him (eye witness of His bible honoring Messiahship)
3. They received His teachings
4. They saw Him raised from the dead
5. He sanctified them and changed their life

In like manner we too become witnesses if we weren't eye witnesses:

1. He chose us
2. We heard His Word
3. We believed His teaching and repented
4. We experienced Him take away our sins
5. He sanctified us and made us new creatures

Scripture teaches us that we are risen (resurrected with Christ)

Romans 6:3-4

Colossians 3, “1 If ye then be risen with Christ, seek those things which are above, where Christ sitteth on the right hand of God.”

Our witness of His resurrection is tied to His work in us and our desire to remain in close communion with Him

The early Church had the eye witness of seeing His resurrection but lacked power within to sustain the witness:

- a. Jesus told them to wait for the promise
 - Acts 1:2-4
- b. The promise will grant them the power (inward abiding ability to witness and sustain persecution)
 - Acts 1:8

- c. After Jesus's ascension the early church understood they needed to consecrate to remain in fellowship with Christ and His will
 - John 16:7, 13-14

As long as Christ was with the disciples they didn't need to fast but when He ascended they had to fast with praying. Whereas, Fasting and prayer reveals unto us the reality of the unseen so we can believe as if it were seen. (Matthew 9:14-15)

Therefore the early church turned to it and realized the following:

1. Fasting with prayer is a desire to know only GOD's will (Acts 1:14)
2. Fasting with prayer yields Supernatural power (Acts 2:1-4, 11)
3. Fasting with prayer brings forth remarkable fruit (Acts 2:37-41)
4. Fasting with prayer yields Divine guidance (Acts 2:42)