



Deciding to Have Power

Date: June 29-30, 2019

Big Question: How much power have you decided to have in your life?

Side Question: How much power has God made available to you?

Series Text: Ephesians 6:10 **Finally**, my brethren, **be strong** in the Lord and in the power of His might. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, **that you may be able** to stand against the wiles of the devil. (NKJV)

Today's Text: Acts 1:8 "But **you shall receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

Note: True power is all about being a witness for Him.

- **Power Defined: Greek word Dunamis**; might; strength; faculty; **wealth, property; competent; brave; landowner; army; upper class; military service**; campaign; military men, **troops**; heavenly bodies, **heavenly entourage; compulsory labor**;

Setting: Jesus had just risen from the dead (Acts 1:1-7)

1. **You must decide** you want to be **strong** (This is a decision only you can make)
2. **You must decide** to have **power**; especially **God's power in your life** (Acts 1:8)
3. **You must decide** to **regroup** after a difficult season (The disciples had to regroup) (**Acts 1:9-26**)
4. **You must decide** to **replace** what you can't change (Judas had to be replaced)

Seven Test Questions About The Power in Your Life

1. Do you have power over your time? (What are you doing with your time?)
2. Do you have power over your health? (What are you doing to yourself physically?)
3. Do you have power over your freedom? (What criminal activity are you tempted to join in?)
4. Do you have power over your choice of friends? (What kind of friends have you chosen?)
5. Do you have power over what is on your mind? (What are you feeding your mind?)
6. Do you have the power to make one decision and change your life? (What is that decision?)
7. Have you made yourself available to God's presence and power in your life?



Closing

Five Things That Prove You Don't Have Power

1. An emotional outburst does not prove you have spiritual or practical power in your life
2. Complete silence, tightening your face, and stiffening your body is not a sign of power
3. Loud outburst, demonstrative dancing (can be nice), but it is not a sign of power
4. Long scriptural or long philosophical conversations that have great truth is not a sign of power
5. Lengthy church membership, long-term service on a job, a big family, a big car, a big home, preaching, teaching, or singing is not a sign of power

Note: Even though these things can be good.

Note: Healthy fruitful results are the only thing that prove you have power

- **Matthew 7: 16** “You will know them by their fruits (or results).” (NKJV)

Question: What are your life results so far?

Next Time: Deciding to Have Power Over Your Real Enemy

Big Question: Who is your real enemy? (Is it your spouse, family, friends, job, or neighbor?)

Answer: No, your enemy is principalities, powers, rulers of the darkness, and spiritual hosts

New King James

- **Ephesians 6:10–13 (NKJV):** 10 Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might. 11 Put on the whole armor of God, that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. 12 **For we do not wrestle against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this age, against spiritual hosts of wickedness in the heavenly places.** 13 Therefore take up the whole armor of God, that you may be able to withstand in the evil day, and having done all, to stand.

New Living Version:

- **Ephesians 6:12** For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.