

# LEADERSHIP EMPOWERMENT

## *Introduction*

This teaching was first presented to a group of leaders in Liberia, West Africa, February, 2000. The Apostolic Movement was gaining momentum in Africa and there was a growing need to understand the emerging role of the 5-Fold leadership gifts of Ephesians 4:11 and the incredible power upon them to fulfill the Great Commission.

### **The 5-Fold Leadership Gifts**

Apostles	All Christ appointed
Prophets	All Servant Leaders
Evangelists	All Equipping
Pastors	All Given Spiritual Authority
Teachers	All focused on world evangelism

### **Apostles of the new millennium**

1. Foundation builders with prophets (Eph. 2:19-21)
2. Church planters (Acts 2:40-47; 14:21-23)
3. Network leaders (Acts 15:36, 40-41; II Cor. 11:28)
4. Miracle workers (Acts 2:43; 5:12; 14:3; 15:12)
5. Tested by the church (Rev. 2:2)

### **Prophets of the new millennium**

1. Foundation builders with apostles (Eph 2:19-21)
2. Front-runners (Acts 11:27-30)
3. Exhorters (Acts 15:32)
4. Based and sent forth by the local church (Acts 11:27; 13:1-3)
5. Personal prophecy (Acts 21:10-11)

### **Evangelists of the new millennium**

1. Preachers and soul winners par excellence (Acts 8:5-6, 13, 34-48)
2. Breakthrough agents (Acts 8:4-8, 9-13)
3. Runners for Jesus (Acts 8:29-30, 39-40)
4. Phillip, the Evangelist (Acts 21:8)
5. The work of an evangelist (II Tim. 4:1-5)

### **Pastors of the new millennium**

1. Shepherds of the local church (Jer. 13:5; Acts 14:23; Titus 1:5)
2. Leaders/Supervisors of the local church (Acts 20:28; I Pet. 5:2)

3. Examples for the local church (I Pet. 5:3)
4. Protectors of God's flock (Acts 20:29-31)
5. Unifying agents (Matt. 9:36)

### **Teachers of the new millennium**

1. Master instructors (Luke 2:46; John 3:9; Acts 13:1)
2. Imprinters of sound doctrine (Luke 6:40; II Tim. 4:3)
3. History makers (II Tim. 2:2)
4. Warning of stricter judgment (James 3:1)

# A STUDY OF LEADERSHIP EMPOWERMENT

*Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His might.*  
Ephesians 6:10

## Overview of Empowerment

endynamoō

8x in NT

From G1722 and G1412; to *empower*:—enable, (increase in) strength (-en), be (make) strong.

dynamoō.

1x in NT

From G1411; to *enable*:—strengthen.

(Colossians 1:9-14)

<sup>9</sup>For this reason we also, since the day we heard it, do not cease to pray for you, and to ask that you may be filled with the knowledge of His will in all wisdom and spiritual understanding; <sup>10</sup>that you may walk worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing *Him*, being fruitful in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; <sup>11</sup>**strengthened with all might**, according to His glorious power, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption <sup>•</sup>through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

- **The Lord Jesus Christ empowers those He chooses** (1 Tim. 1:12, 2 Tim. 4:17)

<sup>12</sup>And I thank Christ Jesus our Lord who has **enabled** me, because He counted me faithful, putting *me* into the ministry

<sup>17</sup>But the Lord stood with me and **strengthened me**, so that the message might be preached fully through me, and *that* all the Gentiles might hear. Also I was delivered out of the mouth of the lion.

- **Empowerment can increase** (Acts 9:22)

<sup>22</sup>But Saul **increased** all the more in **strength**, and confounded the Jews who dwelt in Damascus, proving that this *Jesus* is the Christ.

- **Empowerment and faith are closely related** (Rom. 4:20; Phil. 4:13)

<sup>20</sup>He did not waver at the promise of God through unbelief, but was **strengthened in faith**, giving glory to God, <sup>21</sup>and being fully convinced that what He had promised He was also able to perform. <sup>22</sup>And therefore *“it was accounted to him for righteousness.”*

<sup>13</sup>I can do all things through <sup>•</sup>Christ who **strengthens me**.

- **The greatest empowerment is in the grace that is in Christ Jesus & in weakness** (2 Tim. 2:1, Heb. 11:34)

<sup>1</sup>You therefore, my son, be **strong in the grace** that is in Christ Jesus.

<sup>32</sup>And what more shall I say? For the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and Barak and Samson and Jephthah, also of David and Samuel and the prophets: <sup>33</sup>who through faith subdued kingdoms, worked righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions, <sup>34</sup>quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, **out of weakness were made strong**, became valiant in battle, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

## **Four Great Power Words in the Bible**

### 1. ***exousia* – delegated authority**

93x in NT

From G1832 (in the sense of *ability*); *privilege*, that is, (subjectively) *force*, *capacity*, *competency*, *freedom*, or (objectively) *mastery* (concretely *magistrate*, *superhuman*, *potentate*, *token of control*), *delegated influence*:—authority, jurisdiction, liberty, power, right, strength

### 2. ***dunamis* – miraculous power**

116x in NT

From G1410; *force* (literally or figuratively); specifically miraculous *power* (usually by implication a *miracle* itself):—ability, abundance, meaning, might (-ily, -y, -y deed), (worker of) miracle (-s), power, strength, violence, mighty (wonderful) work.

### 3. ***ischuros* – intense strength & ability**

65x in NT

From G2479; *forcible* (literally or figuratively):—boisterous, mighty (-ier), powerful, strong (-er, man), valiant.

### 4. ***kratos* – dominion power**

12x in NT

Perhaps a primary word; *vigor* [“great”], (literally or figuratively):—dominion, might [-ily], power, strength.

## **The Authority of Jesus Christ**

- **Christ has been given all authority** (Matt. 28:18; John 17:1-2)

<sup>18</sup>And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, “**All authority** has been given to Me in heaven and on earth.

<sup>19</sup>Go <sup>o</sup>therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup>teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” <sup>o</sup>Amen.

<sup>1</sup>Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, <sup>2</sup>as **You have given Him authority over all flesh**, that He <sup>o</sup>should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him

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- **Christ has the authority to execute judgment over mankind (Jn. 5:27; 17:1-2)**

<sup>24</sup>“Most assuredly, I say to you, he who hears My word and believes in Him who sent Me has everlasting life, and shall not come into judgment, but has passed from death into life. <sup>25</sup>Most assuredly, I say to you, the hour is coming, and now is, when the dead will hear the voice of the Son of God; and those who hear will live. <sup>26</sup>For as the Father has life in Himself, so He has granted the Son to have life in Himself, <sup>27</sup>and has given Him **authority to execute judgment** also, because He is the Son of Man. <sup>28</sup>Do not marvel at this; for the hour is coming in which all who are in the graves will hear His voice <sup>29</sup>and come forth—those who have done good, to the resurrection of life, and those who have done evil, to the resurrection of condemnation. <sup>30</sup>I can of Myself do nothing. As I hear, I judge; and My judgment is righteous, because I do not seek My own will but the will of the Father who sent Me.

<sup>1</sup>Jesus spoke these words, lifted up His eyes to heaven, and said: “Father, the hour has come. Glorify Your Son, that Your Son also may glorify You, <sup>2</sup>as **You have given Him authority over all flesh**, that He <sup>3</sup>should give eternal life to as many as You have given Him.

- **Christ has authority to forgive sins (Matt. 9:6)**

<sup>6</sup>But that you may know that **the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins**—then He said to the paralytic, “Arise, take up your bed, and go to your house.” <sup>7</sup>And he arose and departed to his house. <sup>8</sup>Now when the multitudes saw *it*, they marveled<sup>9</sup> and glorified God, who had given such power to men.

- **Christ gave authority to His disciples (Matt. 10:1; Lk. 10:19)**

<sup>1</sup>And when He had called His twelve disciples to *Him*, **He gave them power** over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease.

<sup>19</sup>Behold, **I give you the authority** to trample on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

- **The authority issue is a very important issue (Matt. 21:23-27)**

<sup>23</sup>Now when He came into the temple, the chief priests and the elders of the people confronted Him as He was teaching, and said, “**By what authority** are You doing these things? **And who gave You this authority?**”

- **Jesus contrasted spiritual authority with worldly authority ( Matt. 20:20-28; Mk. 10:35-45)**

<sup>24</sup>And when the ten heard *it*, they were greatly displeased with the two brothers. <sup>25</sup>But Jesus called them to *Himself* and said, “You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those who are great exercise authority over them. <sup>26</sup>Yet **it shall not be so among you**; but whoever desires to become great among you, let him be your servant. <sup>27</sup>And whoever desires to be first among you, let him be your slave—<sup>28</sup>just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many.

- **Leaders can't buy the authority (Acts 8:19)**

<sup>18</sup>And when Simon saw that through the laying on of the apostles' hands the Holy Spirit was given, he offered them money, <sup>19</sup>saying, "**Give me this power also**, that anyone on whom I lay hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

<sup>20</sup>But Peter said to him, "Your money perish with you, because you thought that the gift of God could be purchased with money! <sup>21</sup>You have neither part nor portion in this matter, for your heart is not right in the sight of God. <sup>22</sup>Repent therefore of this your wickedness, and pray God if perhaps the thought of your heart may be forgiven you. <sup>23</sup>For I see that you are poisoned by bitterness and bound by iniquity."

<sup>24</sup>Then Simon answered and said, "Pray to the Lord for me, that none of the things which you have spoken may come upon me."

- **The authority for leaders to receive financial support through offerings can sometimes hinder the gospel (I Cor. 9:12)**

<sup>11</sup>If we have sown spiritual things for you, *is it* a great thing if we reap your material things? <sup>12</sup>If others are partakers of **this right** over you, *are* we not even more?

Nevertheless we have not used **this right**, but endure all things lest we hinder the gospel of Christ. <sup>13</sup>Do you not know that those who minister the holy things eat *of the things* of the temple, and those who serve at the altar partake of *the offerings of* the altar? <sup>14</sup>Even so the Lord has commanded that those who preach the gospel should live from the gospel.

- **The Lord gives leaders authority for edification (II Cor. 10:8; 13:10)**

<sup>8</sup>For even if I should boast somewhat more about **our authority, which the Lord gave** <sup>9</sup>**us for edification** and not for your destruction, I shall not be ashamed—

<sup>10</sup>Therefore I write these things being absent, lest being present I should use sharpness, according to the **authority which the Lord has given me for edification** and not for destruction.

- **We are delivered from the authority of Satan (Acts 26:18; Col. 1:13; 2:15)**

<sup>18</sup>to open their eyes, *in order* to turn *them* from darkness to light, and *from the power of Satan* to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.<sup>9</sup>

<sup>13</sup>He has delivered us from the **power of darkness** and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption <sup>15</sup>through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>15</sup>Having disarmed principalities and **powers**, He made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them in it.

## **The Miraculous Power of Jesus Christ**

- **God is the God of Miraculous Power (Matt. 6:13; I Cor. 4:20; Rom. 1:20)**

<sup>13</sup> And do not lead us into temptation,  
But deliver us from the evil one.

◦For **Yours is the kingdom and the power** and the glory forever. Amen.

<sup>20</sup>For the kingdom of God *is* not in word but **in power**.

<sup>20</sup>For since the creation of the world His invisible *attributes* are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, *even His eternal power and Godhead*, so that they are without excuse, <sup>21</sup>because, although they knew God, they did not glorify *Him* as God, nor were thankful, but became futile in their thoughts, and their foolish hearts were darkened. <sup>22</sup>Professing to be wise, they became fools, <sup>23</sup>and changed the glory of the incorruptible God into an image made like corruptible man—and birds and four-footed animals and creeping things.

- **The birth of Christ was by the Holy Spirit and power of God (Lk. 1:35)**

<sup>35</sup>And the angel answered and said to her, “*The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Highest will overshadow you*; therefore, also, that Holy One who is to be born will be called the Son of God.

- **Miraculous power flowed out of Jesus Christ (Mk. 5:30; Lk. 6:19)**

<sup>30</sup>And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that **power had gone out of Him**, turned around in the crowd and said, “Who touched My clothes?”

<sup>17</sup>And He came down with them and stood on a level place with a crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear Him and be healed of their diseases, <sup>18</sup>as well as those who were tormented with unclean spirits. And they were healed. <sup>19</sup>And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for **power went out from Him** and healed *them* all.

- **Unbelief affects the flow of miraculous power (Mark 6:5-6)**

<sup>5</sup>Now **He could do no mighty work there**, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed *them*. <sup>6</sup>And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit, teaching.

- **The purpose of the miraculous power demonstrations of Christ is to bring people and even cities to repentance and belief in Jesus Christ (Matt. 11:20-24)**

<sup>20</sup>Then He began to rebuke the cities in which most of His mighty works had been done, **because they did not repent**: <sup>21</sup>“Woe to you, Chorazin! Woe to you, Bethsaida! For if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Tyre and Sidon, **they would have repented** long ago in sackcloth and ashes. <sup>22</sup>But I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Tyre and Sidon in the day of judgment than for you. <sup>23</sup>And you, Capernaum, who <sup>◦</sup>are exalted to heaven, will be brought down to Hades; for if the mighty works which were done in you had been done in Sodom, it would have remained until this day. <sup>24</sup>But I say to you that it shall be more tolerable for the land of Sodom in the day of judgment than for you.”

- **God’s miraculous is great enough to raise the dead (Matt. 22:29; Eph. 1:19; Phil. 3:10)**

<sup>29</sup>Jesus answered and said to them, “You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor **the power of God**.  
<sup>30</sup>For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels <sup>o</sup>of God in heaven.  
<sup>31</sup>But concerning the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was spoken to you by God, saying,  
<sup>32</sup>*“I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?”*<sup>o</sup> God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.”  
<sup>33</sup>And when the multitudes heard *this*, they were astonished at His teaching.

<sup>19</sup>and what *is* **the exceeding greatness of His power** toward us who believe, according to **the working of His mighty power**<sup>20</sup> which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*,<sup>21</sup> far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

<sup>10</sup>that I may know Him and **the power of His resurrection**, and the fellowship of His sufferings, being conformed to His death,<sup>11</sup> if, by any means, I may attain to the resurrection from the dead.

- **The right hand of God (where Jesus Christ sits) is the hand of power** (Matt. 26:64)

<sup>64</sup>Jesus said to him, “*It is as* you said. Nevertheless, I say to you, hereafter you will see the Son of Man sitting at **the right hand of the Power**, and coming on the clouds of heaven.”

- **Jesus Christ was famous for His authority and His power** (Luke 4:36-37)

<sup>36</sup>Then they were all amazed and spoke among themselves, saying, “What a word this *is!* **For with authority and power** He commands the unclean spirits, and they come out.”<sup>37</sup> And the report about Him went out into every place in the surrounding region.

- **Crowds gather when the power of the Lord is present** (Luke 5:17)

<sup>17</sup>Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And **the power of the Lord was present**<sup>o</sup> to heal them

- **The Gospel of Jesus Christ is the power of God unto salvation** (Rom. 1:16; I Cor. 1:18)

<sup>16</sup>For I am not ashamed of the gospel <sup>o</sup>of Christ, for **it is the power of God to salvation** for everyone who believes, for the Jew first and also for the Greek.<sup>17</sup> For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith; as it is written, “*The just shall live by faith.*”<sup>o</sup>

<sup>18</sup>For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved **it is the power of God**

- **Christ is the power of God** (Heb. 1:3; Rom. 1:4; I Cor. 1:24)

<sup>21</sup>For since, in the wisdom of God, the world through wisdom did not know God, it pleased God through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.<sup>22</sup> For Jews request a sign, and Greeks seek

after wisdom; <sup>23</sup>but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the <sup>o</sup>Greeks foolishness, <sup>24</sup>but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, **Christ the power of God** and the wisdom of God. <sup>25</sup>Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

<sup>1</sup>God, who at various times and in various ways spoke in time past to the fathers by the prophets, <sup>2</sup>has in these last days spoken to us by *His* Son, whom He has appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the worlds; <sup>3</sup>who being the brightness of *His* glory and the express image of His person, and **upholding all things by the word of His power**, when He had <sup>o</sup>by Himself purged <sup>o</sup>our sins, sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, <sup>4</sup>having become so much better than the angels, as He has by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they.

<sup>1</sup>Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called *to be* an apostle, separated to the gospel of God <sup>2</sup>which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, <sup>3</sup>concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, <sup>4</sup>and **declared to be the Son of God with power** according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. <sup>5</sup>Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name, <sup>6</sup>among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ;

- **God calls and anoints leaders to preach with demonstration of power (I Cor. 2:4-5)**

<sup>4</sup>And my speech and my preaching *were* not with persuasive words of <sup>o</sup>human wisdom, but in **demonstration of the Spirit and of power**, <sup>5</sup>that your faith should not be in the wisdom of men but in the power of God.

- **Miraculous power is demonstrated through the Holy Spirit (Rom. 15:19)**

<sup>17</sup>Therefore I have reason to glory in Christ Jesus in the things *which pertain* to God. <sup>18</sup>For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ has not accomplished through me, in word and deed, to make the Gentiles obedient—<sup>19</sup>**in mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God**, so that from Jerusalem and round about to Illyricum I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.

<sup>12</sup>So when Peter saw *it*, he responded to the people: “Men of Israel, why do you marvel at this? Or why look so intently at us, **as though by our own power or godliness we had made this man walk?** <sup>13</sup>The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God of our fathers, glorified His Servant Jesus, whom you delivered up and denied in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let *Him* go. <sup>14</sup>But you denied the Holy One and the Just, and asked for a murderer to be granted to you, <sup>15</sup>and killed the Prince of life, whom God raised from the dead, of which we are witnesses. <sup>16</sup>And His name, through faith in His name, has made this man strong, whom you see and know. Yes, the faith which *comes* through Him has given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

<sup>7</sup>But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that **the excellence of the power may be of God** and not of us.

- **God anointed Jesus Christ with power (Acts 10:38)**

<sup>36</sup>The word which *God* sent to the children of Israel, preaching peace through Jesus Christ—He is Lord of all—<sup>37</sup>that word you know, which was proclaimed throughout all Judea, and began from Galilee after the baptism which John preached: <sup>38</sup>how **God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with**

**power**, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

- **God's power is made perfect in weakness** (II Cor. 12:9; 13:4)

<sup>7</sup>And lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. <sup>8</sup>Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. <sup>9</sup>And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for **My strength is made perfect in weakness.**" Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, **that the power of Christ may rest upon me** <sup>10</sup>Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For **when I am weak, then I am strong.**

- **God gives us the Holy Spirit to work His power** (Lk. 24:49; Acts 1:8)

<sup>49</sup>Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city <sup>o</sup>of Jerusalem until you are **endued with power** from on high."

<sup>8</sup>But **you shall receive power** when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be <sup>o</sup>witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth."

- **Leadership effectiveness is based upon the working of His power in us** (Eph. 3:20; Col. 1:29)

<sup>20</sup>Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, **according to the power that works in us**, <sup>21</sup>to Him *be* glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>28</sup>Him we preach, warning every man and teaching every man in all wisdom, that we may present every man perfect in Christ Jesus. <sup>29</sup>To this *end* I also labor, striving **according to His working which works in me mightily.**

- **Jesus Christ is coming again with great power** (Lk. 21:27; II Pet. 1:16; 19:1)

<sup>27</sup>Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud **with power** and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to happen, look up and lift up your heads, because your redemption draws near."

<sup>16</sup>For we did not follow cunningly devised fables when we made known to you **the power and coming** of our Lord Jesus Christ, but were eyewitnesses of His majesty.

<sup>1</sup>After these things I <sup>o</sup>heard a loud voice of a great multitude in heaven, saying, "Alleluia! Salvation and glory and honor and **power** *belong* to <sup>o</sup>the Lord our God!

## The Prevailing Strength of the Lord is an Overcoming Force

- **The weakness of God is stronger than men** (I Cor. 1:25; 4:10)

<sup>25</sup>Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and **the weakness of God is stronger** than men.

<sup>10</sup>We *are* fools for Christ's sake, but you *are* wise in Christ! We *are* weak, but **you *are* strong!** You *are* distinguished, but we *are* dishonored!

- **John the Baptist testified to the strength of Jesus Christ** (Matt. 3:11; Mk. 1:7; Lk. 3:16; I Cor. 10:22)

<sup>7</sup>And he preached, saying, "There comes One after me who **is mightier than I**, whose sandal strap I am not worthy to stoop down and loose. <sup>8</sup>I indeed baptized you with water, but He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

<sup>21</sup>You cannot drink the cup of the Lord and the cup of demons; you cannot partake of the Lord's table and of the table of demons. <sup>22</sup>Or do we provoke the Lord to jealousy? **Are we stronger than He?**

- **The Lord gives intense strength to do His will** (Mk. 12:30; I Pet. 4:11)

<sup>29</sup>Jesus answered him, "The first of all the commandments *is*: '**Hear, O Israel, the LORD our God, the LORD is one.**' <sup>30</sup>*And you shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, and with all your strength.*' • • This *is* the first commandment.

<sup>11</sup>If anyone speaks, *let him speak* as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, *let him do it* as with the **ability which God supplies**, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.

- **The Lord increases His Word and causes it to prevail** (Acts 19:20)

<sup>20</sup>So the word of the Lord grew mightily and **prevailed**.

- **God's prevailing power has no limits** (Phil. 4:13)

<sup>13</sup>**I can do all things** through • Christ who strengthens me.

- **Prayer is a primary avenue to prevailing power** (James 5:16)

<sup>16</sup>• Confess *your* trespasses to one another, and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The effective, fervent prayer of a righteous man **avails much**. <sup>17</sup>Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed earnestly that it would not rain; and it did not rain on the land for three years and six months. <sup>18</sup>And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth produced its fruit.

- **Prevailing power is essential in spiritual warfare** (Eph. 6:10; 1:19; Rev. 12:8)

<sup>10</sup>Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the power of His **might**.

<sup>19</sup>and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty **power** <sup>20</sup>which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, <sup>21</sup>far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.

<sup>7</sup>And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, <sup>8</sup>but **they did not prevail**, nor was a place found for <sup>9</sup>them in heaven any longer. <sup>9</sup>So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.

## **The Ruling Power of the Lord Jesus Christ**

- **God rules through His Word** (Acts 19:20)

<sup>20</sup>So the word of the Lord grew **mightily** and prevailed.

- **God rules through the Exalted and Risen Christ** (Eph. 1:19)

<sup>19</sup>and what *is* the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty **power** <sup>20</sup>which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated *Him* at His right hand in the heavenly *places*, <sup>21</sup>far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. <sup>22</sup>And He put all *things* under His feet, and gave Him *to be* head over all *things* to the church, <sup>23</sup>which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

- **God desires to empower us with ruling authority** (Eph. 6:10; Rev. 1:6)

<sup>10</sup>Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord and in the **power** of His might.

To Him who <sup>5</sup>loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, <sup>6</sup>and has made us <sup>7</sup>kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him *be* glory and **dominion** forever and ever. Amen.

- **God empowers leaders for longsuffering with joy** (Col. 1:11)

<sup>11</sup>strengthened with all might, according to His **glorious power**, for all patience and longsuffering with joy; <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father who has qualified us to be partakers of the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has delivered us from the power of darkness and conveyed *us* into the kingdom of the Son of His love, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption <sup>15</sup>through His blood, the forgiveness of sins.

- **Jesus destroyed the devil's power over death** (Heb. 2:14)

<sup>14</sup>Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had **the power of death**, that is, the devil, <sup>15</sup>and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

- **God's dominion is forever** (I Tim. 6:16; I Pet. 4:11, 5:11; Jude 1:25; Rev. 5:13)

<sup>11</sup>But you, O man of God, flee these things and pursue righteousness, godliness, faith, love, patience, gentleness. <sup>12</sup>Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold on eternal life, to which you were also called and have confessed the good confession in the presence of many witnesses. <sup>13</sup>I urge you in the sight of God who gives life to all things, and *before* Christ Jesus who witnessed the good confession before Pontius Pilate, <sup>14</sup>that you keep *this* commandment without spot, blameless until our Lord Jesus Christ's appearing, <sup>15</sup>which He will manifest in His own time, *He who is* the blessed and only Potentate, the King of kings and Lord of lords, <sup>16</sup>who alone has immortality, dwelling in unapproachable light, whom no man has seen or can see, to whom *be* honor and **everlasting power**. Amen.

that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and **the dominion** forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>10</sup>But **o** may the God of all grace, who called **o** us to His eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after you have suffered a while, perfect, establish, strengthen, and settle *you*. <sup>11</sup>To Him *be* the glory and **the dominion** forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>25</sup> **o**To God our Savior,  
**o**Who alone is wise,  
*Be* glory and majesty,  
**Dominion** and **o**power,  
Both now and forever.  
Amen

<sup>13</sup>And every creature which is in heaven and on the earth and under the earth and such as are in the sea, and all that are in them, I heard saying:

“Blessing and honor and glory and **power**  
*Be* to Him who sits on the throne,  
And to the Lamb, forever and **o**ever!”

## **How Jesus was Empowered?**

- **The Spirit of God descended upon Jesus** (Matt. 3:16; Mk. 1:9; Lk. 3:21; Jn. 1:32; Lk. 4:1, 16; Acts 10:38)

<sup>16</sup>When He had been baptized, Jesus came up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened to Him, and **o**He saw **the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting upon Him**. <sup>17</sup>And suddenly a voice *came* from heaven, saying, “This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.”

<sup>9</sup>It came to pass in those days *that* Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. <sup>10</sup>And immediately, coming up **o**from the water, He saw the heavens parting and **the Spirit descending upon Him** like a dove. <sup>11</sup>Then a voice came from heaven, “You are My beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” <sup>12</sup>**Immediately the Spirit drove Him** into the wilderness

<sup>21</sup>When all the people were baptized, it came to pass that Jesus also was baptized; and while He prayed, the heaven was opened. <sup>22</sup>And **the Holy Spirit descended in bodily form like a dove upon Him**, and a voice came from heaven which said, "You are My beloved Son; in You I am well pleased."

<sup>23</sup>Now Jesus Himself began *His ministry at* about thirty years of age

<sup>29</sup>The next day John saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world! <sup>30</sup>This is He of whom I said, 'After me comes a Man who is preferred before me, for He was before me.' <sup>31</sup>I did not know Him; but that He should be revealed to Israel, therefore I came baptizing with water." <sup>32</sup>And John bore witness, saying, "**I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him.** <sup>33</sup>I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, 'Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit.' <sup>34</sup>And I have seen and testified that this is the Son of God."

Then Jesus, **being filled with the Holy Spirit**, returned from the Jordan and **was led by the Spirit** <sup>o</sup>into the wilderness, <sup>2</sup>being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry.

<sup>16</sup>So He came to Nazareth, where He had been brought up. And as His custom was, He went into the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and stood up to read. <sup>17</sup>And He was handed the book of the prophet Isaiah. And when He had opened the book, He found the place where it was written:

<sup>18</sup> ***"The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me,  
Because He has anointed Me  
To preach the gospel to the poor;  
He has sent Me <sup>o</sup>to heal the brokenhearted,  
To proclaim liberty to the captives  
And recovery of sight to the blind,  
To set at liberty those who are oppressed;  
<sup>19</sup> To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD."***<sup>o</sup>

<sup>20</sup>Then He closed the book, and gave *it* back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. <sup>21</sup>And He began to say to them, "Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing."

<sup>38</sup>how **God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power**, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him.

- **Jesus was empowered by the Word of God** (Jn. 1:14; Matt. 8:16;

<sup>14</sup>And **the Word became flesh and dwelt among us**, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

<sup>16</sup>When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits **with a word**, and healed all who were sick, <sup>17</sup>**that it might be fulfilled** which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying:

*"He Himself took our infirmities  
And bore our sicknesses.*

## How did Jesus Empower Others?

- **Jesus called, chose, and named His disciples** (Lk. 6:12)

<sup>12</sup>Now it came to pass in those days that He went out to the mountain to pray, and continued all night in prayer to God. <sup>13</sup>And when it was day, He called His disciples to *Himself*; and from them **He chose twelve whom He also named apostles**:

- **Jesus spoke vision into His disciples** (Matt. 4:19)

<sup>19</sup>Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and **I will make you fishers of men.**” <sup>20</sup>They immediately left *their* nets and followed Him.

- **Jesus empowered them with His Word** (Mk. 4:19)

<sup>33</sup>And with many such parables **He spoke the word to them** as they were able to hear *it*. <sup>34</sup>But without a parable He did not speak to them. And when they were alone, **He explained all things to His disciples.**

<sup>5</sup>But Simon answered and said to Him, “Master, we have toiled all night and caught nothing; nevertheless **at Your word I will let down the net.**” <sup>6</sup>And when they had done this, they caught a great number of fish, and their net was breaking. <sup>7</sup>So they signaled to *their* partners in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and filled both the boats, so that they began to sink. <sup>8</sup>When Simon Peter saw *it*, he fell down at Jesus’ knees, saying, “Depart from me, for I am a sinful man, O Lord!”

<sup>7</sup>If you abide in Me, and **My words abide in you**, you<sup>o</sup> will ask what you desire, and it shall be done for you. <sup>8</sup>By this My Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit; so you will be My disciples.

- **Jesus gave them authority and power, instructions, and sent them out** (Matt. 10:1-42; Mk. 6:7-13; Lk. 12:19; 9:1-6; 10:1-20)

<sup>7</sup>And **He called** the twelve to *Himself*, and began to **send them out** two *by* two, and **gave them power** over unclean spirits. <sup>8</sup>**He commanded them** to take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bag, no bread, no copper in *their* money belts—<sup>9</sup>but to wear sandals, and not to put on two tunics. <sup>10</sup>Also He said to them, “In whatever place you enter a house, stay there till you depart from that place. <sup>11</sup>And <sup>o</sup>whoever will not receive you nor hear you, when you depart from there, shake off the dust under your feet as a testimony against them. <sup>o</sup>Assuredly, I say to you, it will be more tolerable for Sodom and Gomorrah in the day of judgment than for that city!” <sup>12</sup>So **they went out** and preached that *people* should repent. <sup>13</sup>And they cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick, and healed *them*.

- **Jesus multiplied the team** (Lk. 10:1)

<sup>1</sup>After these things **the Lord appointed** <sup>o</sup>**seventy others also**, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.

- **Jesus filled them with the Holy Spirit** (Luke 24:49; Acts 1:8; 2:4; 4:29-31)

49 Behold, I send the Promise of My Father upon you; but tarry in the city of Jerusalem until you are endued with power from on high."

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."

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

29 Now, Lord, look on their threats, and grant to Your servants that with all boldness they may speak Your word, 30 by stretching out Your hand to heal, and that signs and wonders may be done through the name of Your holy Servant Jesus." 31 And when they had prayed, the place where they were assembled together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness.

### **Questions & Issues for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Leaders**

- How are leaders selected? (Acts 1:2-8, 20-26; 6:1-7; 9:10-22; 13:1-4; Eph. 4:11-16; I Cor. 12:18,28)
- How are leaders empowered?
- How do leaders empower others?
- How do leaders relate and network with each other?
- What issues do leaders face in empowering others?

Recognizing their calling

Affirming their ministry

Training

Delegation & release

Transfer of authority

Encouraging