“DRESSED TO IMPRESS; DRESSED TO IMPACT; DRESSED TO EMPOWER”

ACTS 1: 1-5; ACTS 2: 1-4; ACTS 3: 1-5

A 3-PART SERMON SERIES ON THE HOLY SPIRIT
In my former book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus began to do and to teach until the day He was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles He had chosen. After His suffering, He presented Himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that He was alive. He appeared to them over a period of forty days and spoke about the Kingdom of God. On one occasion, while He was eating with them, He gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift My Father promised, which you have heard Me speak about. For John baptized with water, but in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit.”
“DRESSED TO IMPRESS”

• the Disciples were told by Jesus to go to Jerusalem and wait to be clothed by the Holy Spirit. (Luke 24:49)

  • when we are clothed from on high, we are being outfitted with power. (i.e., a Power Suit!)

  • when we receive our Power Suits, we are matching the power placed upon us with the power that already exists within us. (i.e., As follower of Christ, we have the Power and wear the Power!)

  • when we are “Dressed to Impress”, we are also being “Dressed to Impact”. (i.e., Clothes can make a person!)
ACTS 2: 1-4 (KJV)

1 And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. 3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
“DRESSED TO IMPACT”
(Are You Ready to Make an Impact?)

Impact occurs when “the action of one object coming forcibly into contact with another object.” (i.e., BAM!)

• When we are clothed with the Holy Spirit:
  • **John 14:16-17**: We are Impacted by Truth! To make an impact, our Truth of Christ must prevail over worldly Lies! *(1 John 4:4-6)*
  • **John 14:26**: We are Impacted by Knowledge! To make an impact, our Knowledge of Christ must prevail over worldly Ignorance! *(1 Corinthians 2:12-16)*
  • **John 15:26-27**: We are Impacted by His Witness! To make an impact, our Witness of Christ must prevail over worldly Silence (i.e., Pleading the 5th)! *(Luke 12:8-12)*
  • **John 16:7-11**: We are Impacted by Holiness! To make an impact, our Holiness must prevail over worldly Sin! *(1 Peter 1:13-16)*

(www.theeastendbaptistchurch.com; Church Resources; Sermon Outlines)
WHAT’S AT STAKE?

• When impact occurs between Truth and lies, **BELIEF** is at stake

• When impact occurs between Knowledge and ignorance, **REPENTANCE** is at stake.

• When impact occurs between Witnessing and “pleading the 5th”, **SALVATION** is at stake.

• When impact occurs between Holiness and sin, **ETERNAL LIFE** is at stake.
1 One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon. 2 Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts. 3 When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money. 4 Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!” 5 So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”

• in *Acts 1:1-5*
  • Jesus *promises* the Holy Spirit to His Disciples.

• in *Acts 2:1-4*
  • The Holy Spirit *arrives* and fills His Disciples.

• in *Acts 3:1-5*
  • Two of His Disciples get their first opportunity to *display* the power of the Holy Spirit.
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”

• **Grammar Lesson**

  • the word **POWER** is a noun.
    • **POWER** is defined as “the ability to do something or act in a particular way”.
  
  • when **EM** is added as a prefix to the word **POWER**…
    • it transforms the word **POWER** from a noun to a verb!

  • in other words,
    • **EM**, added as a prefix to **POWER**, transforms this word from “a person, place, or thing” into “an action, state of being, or occurrence.”

  • therefore,
    • when we are **DRESSED TO EM-POWER**,
      • the presence of **EM** calls our personhoods into action!
“DRESSED TO EM-POWER”
(Calling Our Personhood into Action)

• Life Lesson
  • who is “EM”?
    • “EM” is the personhood of the Holy Spirit
  • 1 Corinthians 6:19
    • “Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God?”
  • therefore, every Follower of Christ has “EM”
    • Why? because the Holy Spirit is the prefix to everything we do.
  • in other words,
    • EMpowerment is HIMpowerment!
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”

• Acts 3:1

• One day Peter and John were going up to the temple at the time of prayer—at three in the afternoon.

• Acts 3:2

• Now a man who was lame from birth was being carried to the temple gate called Beautiful, where he was put every day to beg from those going into the temple courts.

• Acts 3:3

• When he saw Peter and John about to enter, he asked them for money.
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”
(Is Your Personhood Ready to be Called into Action?)

IT’S TIME FOR YOUR **NOUN**
TO BE TRANSFORMED INTO A **VERB**!
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”  
(Is Your Personhood Ready to be Called into Action?)

• Acts 3:1
  
  • Peter and John were going about their regular daily routine...  
    (refer to Acts 2:46)

• Acts 3:2
  
  • a Lame Man from Birth was going about his regular daily routine...  
    (refer to Acts 3:2b)

• Acts 3:3
  
  • when this Lame Man from Birth, who was going about his regular daily routine, saw Peter and John going about their regular daily routine, he asked them for what he would regularly ask from those who were regularly going about what they would be regularly going about doing on a daily basis...  
    (refer to Acts 3:3b)
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”
(Is Your Personhood Ready to be Called into Action?)

- IF SO…

- BEGIN BY EMPOWERING WHERE YOU ARE

- BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT CAN TAKE YOUR REGULAR DAILY ROUTINES AND MAKE SOMETHING EXTRAORDINARY HAPPEN!

- 1 Peter 3:15 “Sanctify the Lord God in your hearts: and be ready always to give an answer to every man that asks you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear.”
"DRESSED TO EMPOWER"

• Acts 3:4

• Peter looked straight at him, as did John. Then Peter said, “Look at us!”
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”
(Are You Sure Your Personhood is Ready to be Called into Action?)

IT’S TIME TO PUT YOUR MOUTH WHERE YOUR MONEY IS!
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”
(Are You Sure Your Personhood is Ready to be Called into Action?)

• Acts 3:4a

• Peter, who was going about his regular daily routine, looked straight at this Lame Man from Birth, who was going about his regular daily routine.

• Acts 3:4b

• And, so did John, who was going about his regular daily routine.

• Acts 3:4c

• Then Peter said, “Look at us!”
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”
(Are You Sure Your Personhood is Ready to be Called into Action?)

• IF SO…

• BEGIN BY BEING WILLING TO SHARE THE SPOTLIGHT WITH OTHER BELIEVERS

• BECAUSE IF THE HOLY SPIRIT EXISTS IN A TRINITARIAN RELATIONSHIP, WHY DO WE BELIEVE WE CAN DO IT ALL BY OURSELVES.

• Matthew 18:20 “For where two or three are gathered together in My Name, there am I in the midst of them.”
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”

• Acts 3:5

• So the man gave them his attention, expecting to get something from them.
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”
(Are You Sure That You Are Sure That Your Personhood is Ready to be Called into Action?)

IT’S TIME TO SHOW THE WORLD WHO WE ARE REALLY MADE OF!
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”
(Are You Sure That You Are Sure That Your Personhood is Ready to be Called into Action?)

• Acts 3:5a

• So, the Lame Man from Birth, who was going about his regular daily routine, gave Peter and John, who were going about their regular daily routine, his attention

• Acts 3:5b

• expecting to get something from Peter and John, who had been going about their regular daily routine.
“DRESSED TO EMPOWER”
(Are You Sure That You Are Sure That Your Personhood
is Ready to be Called into Action?)

• IF SO…
• BEGIN BY PROVIDING A “HAND-ME-UP” RATHER THAN
  A “KEEP-ME-DOWN”
• BECAUSE THE HOLY SPIRIT MAKES LAME PEOPLE WALK NOT
  WALKING PEOPLE LAME

• 1 Thessalonians 5:14, 18-19 “And we urge you, brothers and sisters, warn those who are idle and disruptive, encourage the disheartened, help the weak, be patient with everyone. Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is God’s will for you in Christ Jesus. Do not quench the Spirit.”
“DRESSED TO EM-POWER”

• Acts 3:6

• Then Peter said to the Lame Man from Birth, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I to you: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

• Acts 3:7

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

• Acts 3:8

• And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

• Acts 3:9

• And all the people saw him walking and praising God:

• Acts 3:10

• And they knew that it was he who sat begging at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.
LOOK AT THE HOLY SPIRIT…

• **HE EMPOWERED PETER AND JOHN**
  
  • to transform this “noun” of a lame man from birth
    
    • into a “verb” of a walking man for the rest of his life.
  
  • to replace the sound of begging coming from this lame man’s mouth
    
    • to shouts of praise towards an Almighty God.
  
  • to show the world that the same “Who,”
    
    • who was able to do abundantly beyond all that this lame man could ask and think
      
      • is also able to *Dress Them to Impress, Dress Them to Impact,* and *Dress Them to Empower.*
“DRESSED TO HIM-POWER”

• SO
  • IF YOUR PERSONHOOD IS READY TO BE CALLED INTO ACTION?
  • IF YOU ARE SURE THAT YOUR PERSONHOOD IS READY TO BE CALLED INTO ACTION?
  • IF YOU ARE SURE THAT YOU ARE SURE THAT YOUR PERSONHOOD IS READY TO BE CALLED INTO ACTION?

• THEN
  • BEGIN BY EMPOWERING WHERE YOU ARE
  • BEGIN BY BEING WILLING TO SHARE THE SPOTLIGHT WITH OTHER BELIEVERS
  • BEGIN BY PROVIDING A “HAND-ME-UP” RATHER THAN A “KEEP-ME-DOWN”