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

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

A 3-PART SERMON SERIES ON THE HOLY SPIRIT
SERMON #1

• SCRIPTURE: ACTS 1:1-5

• SUBJECT: “DRESSED TO IMPRESS”

• MAIN MESSAGE: As Followers of Christ, we have been clothed from on high with the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we are outfitted with Power – both within us as well as placed upon us.

• PROOF TEXT: Luke 24:49
SERMON #2

• SCRIPTURE: ACTS 2:1-4

• SUBJECT: “DRESSED TO IMPACT”

• MAIN MESSAGE: As Followers of Christ, when we have been clothed with the Holy Spirit, we are impacted by: (a) Truth, (b) Knowledge, (c) His Witness, and (d) Holiness.

• **SCRIPTURE:** ACTS 3:1-5

• **SUBJECT:** “DRESSED TO EMPOWER”

• **MAIN MESSAGE:** As Followers of Christ, our personhoods have been activated by the Holy Spirit and have been called into action. Therefore, to be empowered means to be Him-powered.

• **PROOF TEXT:** 1 Corinthians 6:19
1 The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people.  2 They were greatly disturbed because the apostles were teaching the people, proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.  3 They seized Peter and John and, because it was evening, they put them in jail until the next day.  4 But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand.
SERMON SERIES

WHEN WE ARE CLOTHED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT, WE ARE...

• DRESSED TO IMPRESS
• DRESSED TO IMPACT
• DRESSED TO EMPOWER
• DRESSED TO ATTACK
JESUS’ WARNING
(John 16:1-5a)

1 All this I have told you so that you will not fall away. 2 They will put you out of the synagogue; in fact, the time is coming when anyone who kills you will think they are offering a service to God. 3 They will do such things because they have not known the Father or Me. 4 I have told you this, so that when the time comes you will remember that I warned you about them. I did not tell you this from the beginning because I was with you,

5 but now I am going to Him who sent me.
JESUS’ ADVICE  
(Mark 13:9-11)

9 You must be on your guard. You will be handed over to the local councils and flogged in the synagogues. On account of Me you will stand before governors and kings as witnesses to them. 10 And the gospel must first be preached to all nations. 11 Whenever you are arrested and brought to trial, do not worry beforehand about what to say. Just say whatever is given you at the time, for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit.
“DRESSED TO ATTACK”
(Acts 4:1)

The priests,
the captain of the temple guard,
and the Sadducees
came up to Peter and John
while they were speaking to the people.
“DRESSED TO ATTACK”
(ACTS 4:2)

The priests,
the captain of the temple guard,
and the Sadducees
were greatly disturbed at Peter and John
because they were teaching the people and
proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.
“DRESSED TO ATTACK”
(ACTS 4:3)

The priests,
the captain of the temple guard,
and the Sadducees
seized Peter and John and, because it was evening,
they put them in jail until the next day.
“DRESSED TO ATTACK”  
(Acts 4:4)

But many who heard the message believed; so the number of men who believed grew to about five thousand. people.
QUICK REVIEW

• As Followers of Christ, Peter and John had been dressed from on high with the Holy Spirit. Therefore,
  • in Acts 1, they were impressed with Power – on the inside as well as on the outside.
  • in Acts 2, they were impacted by Truth, Knowledge, Christ’s Witness, and Holiness.
  • in Acts 3, their personhoods were empowered and called into action.
  • in Acts 4, they go on the attack…
“DRESSED TO ATTACK”

Working Definition

“to attack something” means

“to take an aggressive action against an enemy forces with weapons or armed force, typically in a battle or war.”
“DRESSED TO ATTACK”

MEANS

TO BE ON THE

OFFENSIVE!
“Do not suppose that I have come to bring peace to the earth. I did not come to bring peace, but a sword.”
“DRESSED TO ATTACK”

THE GOSPEL OF JESUS CHRIST
IS NOT A PASSIVE GOSPEL,
IT’S AN AGGRESSIVE GOSPEL
ANOTHER REMINDER
(Hebrews 4:12)

“For the word of God is alive and active. Sharper than any double-edged sword, it penetrates even to dividing soul and spirit, joints and marrow; it judges the thoughts and attitudes of the heart.”
“DRESSED TO ATTACK”  
(ACTS 4:1-3)

1. The priests and the captain of the temple guard and the Sadducees
   
   A. came up to Peter and John while they were speaking to the people.

   1. they were greatly disturbed because the apostles were
      
      a) teaching the people, and
      
      b) proclaiming in Jesus the resurrection of the dead.

   2. they seized Peter and John and

      a) because it was evening

      b) they put them in jail until the next day.
“DRESSED TO ATTACK”
(ACTS 4:4)

But

many who heard the message believed

so the number of men

who believed

grew to about five thousand.
“DRESSED TO ATTACK”

THE CHURCH IS NOT UNDER ATTACK,

THE CHURCH IS UNDERATTACKING
The next day the rulers, the elders and the teachers of the law met in Jerusalem. Annas the high priest was there, and so were Caiaphas, John, Alexander and others of the high priest’s family. They had Peter and John brought before them and began to question them: “By what power or what name did you do this?” Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them: “Rulers and elders of the people! If we are being called to account today for an act of kindness shown to a man who was lame and are being asked how he was healed, then know this, you and all the people of Israel: It is by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified but whom God raised from the dead, that this man stands before you healed.
“DRESSED TO ATTACK”
(ACTS 4:11-14)

11Jesus is “‘the stone you builders rejected, which has become the cornerstone.’ 12Salvation is found in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given to mankind by which we must be saved.” 13When they saw the courage of Peter and John and realized that they were unschooled, ordinary men, they were astonished and they took note that these men had been with Jesus. 14But since they could see the man who had been healed standing there with them, there was nothing they could say.
CONCLUSION

SINCE WE ARE CLOTHED WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT,
WE ARE…

• DRESSED TO IMPRESS
• DRESSED TO IMPACT
• DRESSED TO EMPOWER
• DRESSED TO ATTACK