

POWER

Power 5

It is my hope that we are starting to come to terms with the magnitude of our need for God's divine power to be operating in us and through us continuously, if we have any chance of living out a true life of godliness in Christ.

2 Peter 1:3 seeing that His divine power has granted to us everything pertaining to life and godliness, through the true knowledge of Him who called us by His own glory and excellence.

As the scripture says and makes extremely clear. It is God's divine power which He grants to us through the Spirit, that leads us into an eternal life and godliness. This all coincides with the true knowledge of God we have. The scriptures declare that, "Great is the mystery of godliness". Godliness isn't something we figure out through man's wisdom, but something we enter into through God's divine power and then from this place live out.

To not be in this reality and to not know this reality, is to be living in a form of godliness through the agency of man's wisdom. This is where we actually deny God's power, rejecting it, because we want to ultimately still be the source, the strength, or power of our own lives. We still want to determine how this will all be played out. This is a very common reality in God's church today.

We hold to a form of godliness, always attempting to learn through the agency of flesh and blood, or man's wisdom, and we are content with this, but never able to live out a Christ-like life. A life of godliness.

2 Timothy 3:1-5,7 But realise this, that in the last days difficult times will come. For men will be lovers of self, lovers of money, boastful, arrogant, revilers, disobedient to parents, ungrateful, unholy, unloving, irreconcilable, malicious gossips, without self-control, brutal, haters of good, treacherous, reckless, conceited, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God, **holding to a form of godliness, although they have denied its power;**

Avoid such men as these. Always learning and never able to come to the knowledge of the truth.

The attributes listed above are connected to those in a form of godliness, because only receiving and living from God's power operating within us, sets us free from these fleshly beatitudes. These beatitudes are the attitudes of the flesh and are the complete opposite to the beatitudes of the Spirit, which Matthew 5 testifies to.

Godliness and the spiritual beatitudes go hand in hand. A form of godliness and the fleshly beatitudes go hand in hand. God's power, godliness and the spiritual beatitudes are of a certain kind, while man's wisdom, a form of godliness and the fleshly beatitudes are of a certain kind.

We have to be honest enough and truthful enough to acknowledge before God and others, our true spiritual state, knowing that as His sons, God's love is covering this present reality and calling us into a brand new way of being and living.

Godliness is not only profitable for this life but in the life to come, so it is imperative that God's power operates in us and through us, so we demonstrate lives of godliness now. This empowers us to be able to partake of everything in the life or age to come, rather than being asleep for 1000 years in Christ, because we didn't learn and come into the life we were predestined for, through His power.



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1 Timothy 4:7-9 But have nothing to do with worldly fables fit only for old women. On the other hand, discipline yourself for the purpose of godliness; for bodily discipline is only of little profit, but godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. It is a trustworthy statement deserving full acceptance.

Questions for discussion

1. What are you being made aware of the most through this resource on power tonight?
2. Being a lover of self is the evidence of still living from the flesh. How does God's power release us from this flesh position?
3. If God's power releases us from the power of self and sets us free from a form of godliness, why do followers of Jesus Christ deny God's power when it turns up?
4. Why does a true knowledge of God which enables and empowers a life of godliness, only come from God's power and not man's wisdom?
5. Share with the group your thoughts on this verse, "But godliness is profitable for all things, since it holds promise for the present life and also for the life to come. It is a trustworthy statement deserving full acceptance."