

## Blood Covenant Truths: Lesson 9 – New Covenant Completion (3)

Lesson 8 looked at the steps 3 and 4 in the completion of the New Covenant. The next two lessons (steps 5 and 6) are closely intertwined as they are the steps that enabled the restoration of dominion over the earth to man. These steps involve the exchange of the two components of dominion – power and authority. Jesus has restored both of these to man (us) by cutting the New Covenant with Father God. Because of this restoration, Jesus leads us each day to loose, dissolve and undo the curse from the earth. So let's continue on with our study by looking at step five – the power of God that was restored to us when Jesus ratified the New Covenant for us.

**Step 5. Exchange of belts.** Having completed the walk of blood the two representatives are now standing in the middle of the animals, ankle deep in blood, facing each other. The next thing they do is remove their belts and exchange them. The belt is the symbol of the power of the representative's tribe. The belt holds the garments in place; is where the person hangs his weapons; and shows the strengths of the tribe. Today we see athletes, like weightlifters, wearing thick belts to support their backs and increase the loads they can lift. Also, in some sports, like team roping and bull-riding, the belt buckle is used to display the achievements and prowess of the wearer.

Recall that before Adam ate of the fruit he was connected to God's power. When Adam gave a command, like naming the animals, it was God's power that made Adam's words come to pass. When Adam sinned, he was disconnected from God's power and placed under Satan's power. The loss of access to God's power meant that man had to figure out how to live by his own capabilities, something he was not originally designed to do. So the power to rule the earth was corrupted and the earth came under the curse of sin. God's plan was to restore man's dominion by getting into covenant with him. In establishing this covenant God exchanged His power for man's power (or lack of it), which means that a New Covenant man is restored to having God's power enforcing the words he speaks.

Now read Genesis 17:6-8. The hidden message in these verses is the natural world exchange of belts (and coats as we will see in the next lesson). Now answer the following questions.

In verse 7 what does God say he will establish (perform) with Abraham? \_\_\_\_\_

What does it take for God to perform His covenant? \_\_\_\_\_

Who else did God establish this covenant with? \_\_\_\_\_

Does this statement include Christians today? \_\_\_\_\_

How long does this covenant last for? \_\_\_\_\_

What else does God say He will be to Abraham's seed? \_\_\_\_\_

In relationship to the symbolism of the belt, what does being "their God" mean? \_\_\_\_\_

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Hopefully, you can see that the statements in verse 7 show that the exchange of belts between Father God and Jesus Man are what restored the connection of man to God's power. This is the power that Jesus used and taught about and that is recorded in the book of The Acts of the Apostles as doing many miraculous things.

In Greek there are at least five words that can be translated power or strength. They each define different aspects of power, but all sum up to the unlimited capability of God to do things for you. By the exchange of

belts, God has covenanted to provide His power to change things in this natural world in response to the believer’s commands. Here are the words and definitions from Strong’s Concordance.

**Dunamis** (G1411) – abundance 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.

**Energieia** (G1753) – efficiency (“energy”): - operation, strong, (effectual) working.

**Exousia** (G1849) – 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.

**Ischus** (G2479) – forcefulness (literally or figuratively): - ability, might ([-ily]), power, strength.

**Kratos** (G2904) – vigor [“great”], (literally or figuratively): - dominion, might [-ily], power, strength.

There is one verse where Paul uses four of these Greek words to express what God wants to do for you. It is Ephesians 1:19 “*And what is the exceeding greatness of his power (dunamis) to us-ward who believe, according to the working (energeia) of his mighty (ischus) power, (kratos)*”.

How much power is available to you? \_\_\_\_\_

What does this verse say is your part in receiving this power? \_\_\_\_\_

What must you believe? \_\_\_\_\_

Write out Matthew 28:18. \_\_\_\_\_

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This verse uses the Greek word ‘*exousia*’ preceded by the word ‘*pas*’ which means **All, any, every, the whole**. Given the definition of exousia above, what do you think Jesus was saying in verse 18? \_\_\_\_\_

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Jesus then told the disciples in Matthew 28:19-20 to go everywhere using this power to lead people to Him.

According to Luke 24:49, what did Jesus plan to send when He got to heaven? \_\_\_\_\_

Who is the Promise? \_\_\_\_\_

Where were the disciples to wait? \_\_\_\_\_

How did Jesus describe who they would receive? \_\_\_\_\_

Now read Acts 2:1-4. What happened to the disciples in verse 3? \_\_\_\_\_

In verse 4, what did this glory fire indicate? \_\_\_\_\_

From these two passages we can see that the Holy Spirit is the power of God and being filled with Him is how Jesus released that power into your life. This filling is also called the baptism of the Holy Spirit and He releases the gifts and fruit of the spirit into the believer's life.

Let's look at some Bible examples of the release of God's power through the disciples.

Write out Acts 4:33. \_\_\_\_\_  
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The context of this verse is the story of the healing of the lame man at the gate Beautiful. Read Acts 3:1-26 and answer the following questions:

What did God's power do to the crippled man (v7)? \_\_\_\_\_

What did the healed man start doing (v8)? \_\_\_\_\_

What was the response of the people who saw him (v10)? \_\_\_\_\_

Where did the people gather to hear Peter and John (v11)? \_\_\_\_\_

What were the people asking (v12)? \_\_\_\_\_

What three names did Peter use to identify who Jesus is (v13-v15)? \_\_\_\_\_

What activated the power to heal (v16)? \_\_\_\_\_

What did Peter say God wanted to bless the multitude with (v26)? \_\_\_\_\_

Now read Acts 4:1-22 and answer the following questions:

What did this miracle do to the religious leaders (v2)? \_\_\_\_\_

What did they do to Peter, John and the healed man (v3)? \_\_\_\_\_

How many men got born again because of this healing miracle and gospel message (v4)? \_\_\_\_\_

How did Peter explain the miracle (v10)? \_\_\_\_\_

What did the rulers, elders and scribes marvel at (v13)? \_\_\_\_\_

What did they attribute this boldness too (v10)? \_\_\_\_\_

What did the rulers charge Peter and John with (v17)? \_\_\_\_\_

What was Peter and John's response (v20) \_\_\_\_\_

Having been released by the religious leaders Peter and John gathered with the rest of the disciples and they prayed for boldness to speak the word (Acts 4:29), for miracles of healings to manifest and signs and wonders to be done in the name of Jesus (v30). What was God's response to this prayer (v31)? \_\_\_\_\_  
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Acts 4:33 is the result of the Holy Spirit filling the disciples. The Greek words translated as “great power” are “*megas dunamis*”. Strong’s Concordance defines ‘*megas*’ as: *big (literally or figuratively, in a very wide application): - (+ fear) exceedingly, great (-est), high, large, loud, mighty, strong*. When we add this definition to the definition of *dunamis* (back on page 1), we start seeing the magnitude of the power given back to man in the covenant exchange of belts.

Now read Acts 10:38. Because Jesus was anointed with the Holy Spirit and power (*dunamis*), what did He do? \_\_\_\_

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According to Romans 1:3-4, the truth that Jesus was resurrected by the power (*dunamis*) of Holy Spirit is what proved Him to be the son of God. That same power that raised Jesus now dwells in you and declares you to be a son/daughter of God (Romans 8:16). Furthermore, according to Romans 8:10-11, because Holy Spirit has made you righteous, he is quickening (*zoopoieo* Gk – vitalize, make alive, give life) your mortal body. Knowing you are a righteous son/daughter is key to living in divine health and wholeness by the power of God.

Now let’s look at a key verse about what God’s power has done and is doing for you. For many years this verse has been misunderstood and caused Christians to accept and suffer from the attacks of the curse. This verse is **1 Corinthians 10:13**. Read it in your translation. It probably reads that temptations, tribulations and trials are allowed by God, but He will help you in them. Unfortunately, that first part is the opposite of what James 1:13 tells us; so we need to dig into the Greek to see what this verse is really saying. Here are the Greek words and their best translations from Strong’s concordance: *Peirasmos* (G3986 - temptation/trial/adversity) *umas* (G5209 - you) *ouk* (G3756 - has not) *eileephen* (G2983 - taken) *ei.mee* (G1508 - except) *anthroopinos* (G442 - common to man) *pistos* (G4103 - faithful) *de* (G1161 - but/and) *o theos* (G3588 - [is] God) *os* (G3739 - who) *ouk* (G3756 – not/never) *easei* (G1439 - permit/allow) *umas* (G5209 - you) *peirastheenai* (G3985 – test/try/tempt) *uper* (G5228 – instead/for/exceeding/above) *o* (G3739 – what) *dunasthe* (G1410 – power/ability [you have – implied by 2<sup>nd</sup> person, present tense]); *alla* (G235 – but/howbeit) *poieesei* (G4160 – make) *sun* (G4862 – with) *too* (G3588 – the) *peirasmoo* (G3986 – temptation/trial) *kai* (G2532 – also) *teen* (G3588 – the) *ekbasin* (G1545 – exit/way out) *ton* (G3588 – the) *dunasthai* (G1410 – power/ability) *umas* (G5209 - you) *upenegkein* (G5297 – endure/go through). Putting this in English we get: **No temptation has taken you except its common to man. But faithful is God who never permits you to be tempted, instead what power you have; for [God has already] made with the temptation also the way out, the ability for you to go through it [without it touching you].** God is letting you know that through Jesus He has already delivered you from every attack of the curse and given you the power (*dunamis* of Holy Spirit) to guide you in the path through the trial, just like He did for Israel at the Red Sea – they went though untouched and the trial ended up destroying the enemy.

Now read Ephesians 1:17-23. Look back at page 2 and refresh yourself on the Greek word for power in verse 19 and what it takes for that power to work through you. In verse 21, where has Jesus been placed? \_\_\_\_\_

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Verses 22 and 23 state that the church is His body, which means it is joined to Him. So it follows that the church has been put in the same place that He is. Furthermore, verse 23 says the church is the fullness of Him that fills everything. That means every believer has the power of Jesus filling them – time to let it loose.

Given that during the blood covenant ceremony, the parties exchange belts, what does Ephesians 3:20 say you now have? \_\_\_\_\_.

All of God’s power is inside you, so let Holy Spirit use that power through you as you believe and rest.