

Simply Christ

Gospel Newsletter
Sharing the simplicity that is in Christ

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The Day of His Power

The Apostle Paul described God's people as *"heirs of God and joint-heirs with Christ."* Romans 8:17. This statement actually speaks of two different inheritances. Being an *"heir of God"* speaks of inheriting all the promises God declared would belong unto the redeemed. On the other hand, being a *"joint-heir with Christ"* speaks of us receiving part in an inheritance which belongs to Jesus Christ.

Perhaps the greatest promise given to Christ was spoken prophetically by David who wrote, *"The LORD said unto my Lord, Sit thou at my right hand, until I make thine enemies thy footstool. The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion: rule thou in the midst of thine enemies. Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power..."*

Psalms 110:1-3. This prophecy is referenced by Jesus and the Apostles over twenty times in the New Testament writings. It speaks of what God did immediately after the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

Christ came into the world and was born of a woman for one express purpose. Since it was *"...not possible that the blood of bulls and of goats should take away sins"* Hebrews 10:4, the scripture records that *"...when he (Christ) cometh*

into the world, he saith, Sacrifice and offering thou wouldest not, but a body hast thou prepared me.” Hebrews 10:5. Christ came in human flesh so he could have a body to offer and blood to shed with the power to take away our sin.

When he finished this great work of redemption, the Bible records, *“...after he had offered one sacrifice for sins forever, sat down on the right hand of God; From henceforth expecting till his enemies be made his footstool.”* Hebrews 10:12-13. Christ had accomplished all he was sent to do, now it was time for the Father to keep the promise he made over a thousand years before. He would now bring every enemy to bow before the exalted name of Jesus Christ.

The Apostle Paul confirms this as he speaks of how Christ humbled himself to be fashioned as a man and *“...became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.”* Philippians 2:5-8. Paul’s next words tell us how the Father began to keep his promise to his obedient Son. Paul wrote, *“Wherefore **God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name: That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.**”* Philippians 2:9-11. This again is confirmation that Christ received the exalted position God had promised, and now God would bring every name and every creature to bow *“at the name of Jesus!”*

When the lame man at the gate of the Temple was instantly healed and raised up in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, Peter explains how it happened, saying, *"...the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus..."* This great miracle was an open demonstration that Jesus was sitting at the right hand of God, and everything had to bow at his name. God was showing that He had kept His promise and *"glorified His Son!"*

As word of this great miracle spread, Peter and John were arrested and brought before the Jewish High Priest and leaders who demanded to know how they had done such a miracle. *"Then Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel, If we this day be examined of the good deed done to the impotent man, by what means he is made whole; Be it known unto you all, and to all the people of Israel, **that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom ye crucified, whom God raised from the dead, even by him doth this man stand here before you whole.**"* Acts 4:8-10. The Apostles knew the great miracles were all about God keeping His promise to make every knee bow at the name of Jesus Christ.

When we look closer at this great promise to Christ, it becomes evident how God's people become *"joint-heirs with Christ"* in its fulfillment. First, it was promised *"The LORD shall send the rod of thy strength out of Zion."* Psalms 110:2. The Apostles were very clear that *"Zion"* refers to the church of Jesus Christ. The book of Hebrews tells us that we are not come to a mountain in the wilderness, *"But ye are come unto mount Sion,*

and unto the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels, To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are written in heaven..."

Hebrews 12:22-23. It is through the church (Zion) that God promised to send *"the rod of his strength"* and bring every enemy to bow before Christ. God does this by filling His people with the Holy Ghost and stretching forth His hand through them.

When God made Christ this promise concerning *"the day of thy power,"* He said, ***"Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power..."*** Psalms 110:3.

The Hebrew word translated as *"willing"* means *"spontaneity"* and is almost always translated as a *"freewill offering."* There were many sacrifices and offerings which were required under the sacrifice system of the Law. A freewill offering, however, was not based upon a requirement, but it was offered voluntarily as a gift from the heart of the person who brought it. Many people serve God because they simply do not want to be lost. Others minister because they have received a calling and know they must fulfill it. Even the Apostle Paul said, *"necessity is laid upon me; yea, woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel!"* 1 Corinthians 9:16. Jesus spoke of those whose service to him is only fulfilling a requirement or responsibility, saying, *"So likewise ye, when ye shall have done all those things which are commanded you, say, We are unprofitable servants: we have done that which was our duty to do."* Luke 17:10.

No one will be a *"joint-heir with Christ"* who is merely doing their duty. God promised Christ that

“in the day of His power” His people would be as a freewill offering. They would give themselves fully to the Lord because it was the true desire of their heart. These are those God promised to fill with His Spirit and work through them to bring every enemy to bow at the name of Jesus. These *“enemies”* include all sin, sickness, disease, demons, bondage, circumstance, and impossibility.

The first-century church saw *“the day of Christ’s power”* manifested in a mighty way. The first half of the twentieth century also saw a great outpouring of God’s Spirit accompanied by great miracles, healings, and deliverance. Sadly, the last fifty years have been given more to showmanship, hype, and sleight of hand by those who seek their own glory. Those with spirits of divination and witchcraft now occupy positions of honor in places where once the hand of God was stretched out. Such a church will never know *“the day of Christ’s power.”* God, however, is still ready to make every knee bow at the name of Jesus Christ, but He will not do it without a people who give themselves solely to him as a freewill offering. This is the promise he made to His Son!