

⁷ And as you go, preach, saying, 'The kingdom of heaven is at hand.' ⁸ Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out demons. Freely you have received, freely give.

Matthew 10:7-8 NKJV



BEREAN BIBLE CHURCH

Service of
Worship & Communion

Sunday, 5 August, 2018

Sunday School 9:30am
Morning Worship - 10:40am | Evening Service - 6:00pm
Midweek Service (Wednesday) - 7:30pm
Hothersal Turning, St. Michael | Rev. Ronald Trotman - Pastor
Tel: 426-4707 | 571-4259
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ALL ARE WELCOME!



Does every Christian have authority to heal and cast out demons?

If the answer to this question is 'yes', it seems that our hospitals would be emptier and our churches fuller. But rather than interpreting the Scriptures by our experience, let's instead interpret our experience by the Scriptures.

"And He called to Him His twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction" (Mt. 10:1).

Kings have authority over their subjects, and they also delegate authority to ambassadors. In this passage, King Jesus delegates authority to His twelve ambassadors, who then demonstrate Christ's reign over demons and diseases by giving them the boot.

You might be thinking, *"But that was for 12 specific men, and for that specific mission. We don't necessarily have the same authority as them!"*

Au contraire. Not only do we have the same authority as the 12 disciples in the scene above; we have more authority. Consider how Matthew's Gospel ends:

"And Jesus came and said to them, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...'" (Mt. 28:18-19).

Again King Jesus delegates authority, but this time, it's a greater authority—"all authority on heaven and on earth"—for the greater mission of discipling nations. When Jesus states that this tremendous authority *"has been given to Me"*, He's saying, *"I didn't have this much authority before."* Why not? Because it wasn't until He went to the Cross that Jesus *"disarmed the (demonic) rulers and authorities and put them to open shame"* (Col. 2:15). Having conquered all opposing authorities through the Cross, God the

Father conferred upon our resurrected Lord “*all authority on heaven and on earth*”.

Now if demons and diseases had to submit to the disciples when they operated under a lesser authority (Mt. 10), how much more must demons and diseases submit to disciples of Jesus who “*until the very end of the age*” carry with them “*all authority in heaven and on earth*” (Mt. 28)?

Then Why Aren't We Seeing More Fireworks?

Now it's time to interpret our (in) experience in light of the Scriptures. Most of us haven't raised the dead in quite a long time. Why aren't we seeing more miracles? Here are four reasons:

1) We don't ask – James tells us “*you have not because you ask not*” (4:2). When was the last time you prayed for the blind to be healed or for demons to be cast out?

2) We don't have enough faith – When the disciples asked Jesus why they couldn't cast out a demon, He said it was because of their unbelief (Mt. 17:20). Do you believe God would use you to heal terminal cancer, or to resurrect someone who died from it?

3) We live in a faithless generation – It's not just *our own* faith that matters, but also the faith of our generation (Mt. 17:17). Even Jesus “*could not do many mighty works*” in His hometown because of their unbelief (Mk. 6:5-6). Undoubtedly, we're all affected by the skepticism of our culture.

4) We don't spread the Gospel – Would you fill your car with gas if it never left the garage? **Neither will God fill His church with power if we never leave the church.** The purpose of power is not for the amusement of the parishioners, but the salvation of the lost (Acts 1:8). Almost all the miracle stories in the Book of Acts come in the context of spreading the Good News.

Final Thoughts

The the acts in the Book of Acts are not just trying to seize our attention with miraculous tales. They are a blueprint for what church should be like. Perhaps our churches would be fuller and our hospitals emptier, if instead of explaining away our lack of experience, we obeyed Christ's commission and followed God's blueprint.

A lost and dying world is counting on us to do just that, and so is the King of the Universe.

Order of Service

Chorus – Something Beautiful

Invocation

598 – Standing On The Promises

599 – Break Thou The Bread Of Life

Lord I Would Own Thy Tender Care (Screen)

Scripture: **Matthew 14 : 22 - 33** (Unison)

417 – It Is Well With My Soul

Prayer

Offering

423 – The Solid Rock

Sermon – Rev. R. Trotman

516 – We Have An Anchor

Distribution of Elements

Special Offering

Notices

15 – Angel Voices, Ever Singing

Benediction



PLEASE REMEMBER TO PRAY FOR:

- Volunteers and success of our Vacation Bible School.
- Pastoral succession.
- The Church to transform lives.
- CEF, ISCF/IVCF and Gideons.
- Our new converts in Christ.
- The healing of the sick and shut-in.
- Those grieving and mourning loss.
- Our Government, Police and Military.
- Hothersal, Barbados and the region.
- The peace of Jerusalem.
- God's Will to be done.

Join US next Sunday at 6pm for an engaging Bible Study



Now the Bereans were of more noble character than the Thessalonians, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.

Acts 17:11 NIV

August Birthdays

- | | | |
|--------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1st – Michelle Knight | 13th – Michael Patrick | 23rd – Nicholas Williams |
| – Louise Moore | 14th – Steve Brewster | 24th – Monica Crawford |
| 3rd – Deirdre Boyce | 18th – Jean Slocombe | 25th – Raymond Wallace |
| – Audrey Lloyd | 19th – Jean Connell | 27th – Tyrone Lowe |
| 11th – Bernadette Holder | – Patricia Gaskin | 30th – Cynthia Lindsay |
| 13th – Chad James | 21st – Celeste Porte | – Johan Rogers |

Anniversaries

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2nd – Owen & Jenny Thompson | 21st – Joyce & Robert Belgrave |
| – Lorna & George Ward | 27th – Richard & Brigette James |
| 4th – Raymond & Joy Wallace | Dacre & Pearlita Franklin |
| 11th – Stephen & Betty Mendes | |