



Sunday May 01, 2016
Let The Power Flow

John 7:37-39

37 On the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried out, saying, "If anyone thirsts, let him come to Me and drink.

38 He who believes in Me, as the Scripture has said, out of his heart will flow rivers of living water."

39 But this He spoke concerning the Spirit, whom those believing[g] in Him would receive; for the Holy[h] Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.

Jesus was at the annual Feast of the Tabernacles, celebrated end of September through the beginning of October. It commemorated, celebrated and was a giving of thanks for the journey Israel made through the wilderness living in temporary dwellings (tabernacles) as they moved to the Promised Land (Leviticus 23:33-44).

Each day during the Feast of Tabernacles a joyous celebration was observed in which the priests brought water (symbolic of the water supplied from the rock in Ex. 17) to the temple from the pool of Siloam in a golden pitcher. During the procession the people recited Isaiah 12:3. The water was poured out on the altar as an offering to God, while the people shouted and sang. The Lord Jesus Himself was the fulfillment of all that the ceremony typified (1 Corinthians 10:4) - [Source: New Spirit-Filled Life Bible]

On the eighth day, Jesus' throws open the invitation and prophecy in the Temple. He announces what those who believe in Him are going to experience.

He who believes in Me : This announcement is about all believers. (Just an FYI: Jesus then quotes from Isaiah, a combination of several Scriptures Isaiah 12:3, 43:20, 44:3, 55:1. No need to mention or look these up during the sermon)

Out of his heart will flow : There is a out flow of the Holy Spirit - the presence, power and working of the Holy Spirit - that every believer can experience. This flow of the Spirit is from the heart of the believer.

The presence, power and working of the Holy Spirit is released from our heart.
Not from our mind - so it does not have anything to do with our intellectual capabilities.
Not from our charisma -
Not from our personality -
Not from our eloquence -
Not from our human skills -
The presence, power and working of the Holy Spirit is released from our heart.



rivers : this talks about unlimited supply, more than enough, many streams flowing together as one.

The presence, power and working of the Holy Spirit will flow like rivers out of every believer.

living water : These are rivers of "living water", life-giving water. Brings life, healing, blessing. (Side Note: Revelation 22:1,17 gives us a little insight into this "water of life". This flow of the Holy Spirit bring life from the very throne of God and of the Lamb. And we read in Revelation 22:17 the same call to come and drink of this water of life.)

this He spoke concerning the Spirit : This rivers of living water is the Holy Spirit Himself flowing out of the believer.

Every believer has a "fountain" INSIDE HIM that Jesus referred to in John 4:14 giving THE BELIEVER eternal life. Every believer must also have "rivers" that Jesus speaks of here which FLOWS OUT of Him bringing life and blessing to OTHERS.

Acts 1:8

But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.

The same Holy Spirit who was upon the Lord Jesus, who anointed the Lord Jesus with power (Acts 10:38), was sent to baptize believers.

Jesus promised the same power of the Holy Spirit to all of us believers.

Therefore we can expect the same/similar work of the Holy Spirit through us, as we see through Jesus in the Gospels.

Luke 6:17-19

17 And He came down with them and stood on a level place with a crowd of His disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea and Jerusalem, and from the seacoast of Tyre and Sidon, who came to hear Him and be healed of their diseases,

18 as well as those who were tormented with unclean spirits. And they were healed.

19 And the whole multitude sought to touch Him, for power went out from Him and healed them all.

Notice verse 19:power went out from Him.....

This was the flow of the Holy Spirit power.

Obviously this flow of Holy Spirit power was there all the time, but it is specifically recorded for us on a few instances.



For instance we have this record here when the power of the Lord was present - in some way recognizable to the audience:

Luke 5:17

Now it happened on a certain day, as He was teaching, that there were Pharisees and teachers of the law sitting by, who had come out of every town of Galilee, Judea, and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was present to heal them.

This same Holy Spirit is here flowing in and through us as believers and is here to heal, deliver, give life, bring miracles.

FAITH

But, it is Faith that causes this power to flow and to be received.

Remember the incident of the woman with the issue of blood recorded in Mark 5:24-34

Mark 5:30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?"

Mark 5:34 And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."

There was a crowd with many people pressing in bumping into Jesus. Nothing happened to them. *But this woman received the flow of power from Jesus into her body, because of faith.*

Where there was no faith - the power could not be received as we see in Jesus' own home town Mark 6:5,6

We also learn that there are times when the power of the Holy Spirit is tangible. We can feel it. The person who is administering the flow can feel it - just as Jesus felt it. The person receiving the flow can feel it - experience it - just as this woman felt the healing in her body.

We see similar records of the flow of the Holy Spirit in the book of Acts.

Acts 5:14-16

14 And believers were increasingly added to the Lord, multitudes of both men and women,
15 so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid them on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them.

16 Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed.



Here we have a record of Peter and his shadow being used to release the flow of Holy Spirit presence, power and working.

We do not have a record of something like this in the ministry of Jesus. In fact, no other time in the Bible do we have a record of a man's shadow being used to transfer the presence, power and working of the Holy Spirit to heal and deliver people. But it happened here - teaching us that God will use new, unusual, ways to release the flow of Holy Spirit power. He can use the same and even something new and different.

Acts 19:11,12

11 Now God worked unusual miracles by the hands of Paul,

12 so that even handkerchiefs or aprons were brought from his body to the sick, and the diseases left them and the evil spirits went out of them.

This time we see cloth being used to transfer Holy Spirit presence, power and working.

THIS IS FOR EVERY BELIEVER

The key point from John 7:37-39 we wish to emphasize is that every believer can have rivers of living water - rivers of the presence, power and working of the Holy Spirit - flowing through him/her.

***We must by faith step out and minister the flow of Holy Spirit power.
Let the power flow!***

INCREASING IN POWER

We can increase in this power as we increase the capacity of our spirit to transmit more of Him. We increase the capacity of our spirit by increasing in the WORD, PRAYER and WORSHIP and keeping our heart's PURE.

- Salvation call
- Time for prayer and ministry for healing and miracles
- Request people to stay back for Holy Spirit baptism, in case there are any who have not yet been baptized in the Holy Spirit. Ask Life Group Leaders/Ministry Team leaders to help you pray and minister to those who stay back.