

God's Power in the Early Church

Introduction: Immediately following the birth of the local church, the members were fully _____ to the Lord and His new work on earth. There was an excitement concerning the things of God. Therefore God's _____ was very evident in the early church.

- I. God's Power through _____ (Acts 3)
- A. Initially, the disciples continued attending the Temple _____.
 - B. The Apostles Peter and John were serving the Lord _____.
 - C. God allowed Peter to have the miraculous _____ to heal.
 - D. This miracle was done in the _____ of Jesus Christ.
 - E. "Instead of looking on this man as a _____ wretch, Peter saw him as one in whom the mighty power of God might be demonstrated" (MacDonald).
 - F. Peter used the opportunity to preach the _____.
 - G. Peter did include _____ towards those he was preaching to.
- II. God's Power in _____ (Acts 4:1-22)
- A. Often, the greatest _____ of the gospel are not the criminals and outcasts, but the religious people.
 - B. It is the message of salvation through Christ alone that _____ people.
 - C. John and Peter were placed in _____ for a night.
 - D. In spite of the persecution, the early church was rapidly _____.
 - E. It is often in the face of persecution that the church grows the _____.
 - F. Annas and Caiaphas both saw the Lord Jesus during His _____.
 - G. The filled with the Spirit Peter was now _____ in the face of danger.
 - H. Peter was not afraid to preach the truth to his persecutors—he did not tone the message down to _____ his hearers.
 - I. People were amazed that these _____ men could teach with such authority.
 - J. The Apostles respectfully told the authorities that they had to _____ a higher Authority when it came to preaching the gospel.
- III. God's Power through _____ (Acts 4:23-37)
- A. The early church relied on prayer for their _____.
 - B. The members of the church were so excited about the things of God that they no longer cared about their own material _____.
 - C. Barnabas is first introduced as one who gave _____.

Conclusion: How does the present day church compare with the early church? Have we lost the dedication towards the work of the Lord that they had? Have we lost the excitement concerning the things of God? If so, then that explains why we have also lost the power that the early church had. We may have more technology and conveniences than they did, but we need to get back to those early days of the local church if we want to experience the blessings they did.