

Anointed To be Conquerors

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*"I am going to send you what my Father has promised;
but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high"*
(Luke 24:49)

God has empowered you to be an overcomer and a conqueror. If you have a family history that is negative, or you are under a generation curse because of your forefather's sin of disbelief and disobedience, it can be broken. No matter that your circumstances may be, they do not need to dictate your future. Because you are a child of God, the anointing on your life breaks every yoke of bondage. The Bible says that you are being changed from glory to glory and from faith to faith. You need to believe and do the will of God.

The anointing of the Holy Spirit is the key to being a conqueror because you do not have power on your own. Paul explains, *"I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do.... For what I do is not the good I want to do; no, the evil I do not want to do – this I keep doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it"* (Romans 7:15, 19-20). God has promised you the Holy Spirit who anoints you and gives you the power to turn away from a life of sin and to live righteously for the glory of God and to have the authority over Satan.

Jesus told His disciples to stay in the city and wait for the baptism of the Holy Spirit. He commanded them, *"Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about....in a few days you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit"* (Acts 1:4-5). They obeyed Jesus and waited for the promise in the upper room where what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated, came to rest on each of them and they spoke in tongues (Acts 2:2-4). God graciously fulfilled the promise of the gift of the Holy Spirit. The fact that the Father kept His promise is evidence that Jesus did the Father's will and is now with the Father. Scripture says that Jesus went to the Father after accomplishing what the Father asked of Him, and the Father, having accepted the finished work of Jesus, has given us the Holy Spirit. Therefore, every time you are filled with the Holy Spirit or each time someone receives the Holy Spirit, it confirms that Jesus Christ fulfilled the Father's will and is at the right hand of the Father. It is crucial that you welcome the Holy Spirit and allow Him to fill your life as it assures you of Jesus' finished work and the Father's approval.

The New International Version translation of Luke 24:49 says that you have been *"clothed with power from on high."* The anointing is like a garment that clothes you. A civilian signing up as a soldier is given a military uniform that equips him to do his job. In ancient times particularly, the uniform was like an armour which protected the wearer from the attacks of the enemy. Likewise, the Holy Spirit is given to you for that reason. The Holy Spirit equips you for battle to overcome Satan's temptations and your sinful nature.

Let us take a look at the call of Elisha to understand God's anointing.

"So Elijah went from there and found Elisha son of Shaphat. He was plowing with twelve yoke of oxen, and he himself was driving the twelfth pair. Elijah went up to him and threw his cloak around him. Elisha then left his oxen and ran after Elijah. 'Let me kiss my father and mother goodbye,' he said, 'and then I will come with you.' 'Go back,' Elijah replied. 'What have I done to you?' So Elisha left him and went back. He took his yoke of oxen and slaughtered them. He burned the plowing equipment to cook the meat and gave it to the

people, and they ate. Then he set out to follow Elijah and became his attendant” (1Kings 19:19-21).

Elisha was a man who was very successful. He was very advanced in his farming. But he turned his back on all his accomplishments and a wealthy future to run after the man of God (Elijah), and to do the will of God. Notice that Elisha killed the oxen and burnt his plowing equipment. There was no way for him to go back to his old occupation. He made a complete commitment. It takes strength to give up what you have and what the world can offer you. It was God’s anointing that enabled Elisha to obey and to do the will of God. The anointing helps you say, “No” to sin and to a life of carnality.

In another incident, we see that Elijah’s cloak was a symbol of God’s anointing upon Elisha. *“He picked up the cloak that had fallen from Elijah and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. Then he took the cloak that had fallen from him and struck the water with it. ‘Where now is the LORD, the God of Elijah?’ he asked. When he struck the water, it divided to the right and to the left, and he crossed over” (2 Kings 2:13-14).*

Notice that Elisha was able to part the River Jordan when he struck the water with the cloak. Elijah’s cloak symbolised the anointing that came upon Elisha. The sons of the prophets recognised the spiritual anointing of Elijah upon Elisha. They remarked, “The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha.” From that point on, Elisha demonstrated God’s power in his life. He became a tremendous servant of God and was able to do many great things for God.

Who was this Elisha? He was an ordinary farmer. His predecessor, Elijah, was described as *“a man just like us” (James 5:17)*. It is the Holy Spirit that will cause you to walk and live victoriously. You need not be a victim of the negative traits that you are born with. The anointing of the Holy Spirit can make the difference. The Holy Spirit gives you the power to live supernaturally. The power of the Holy Spirit can transform ugly personalities, flaws and confusions in lives into something beautiful and successful.

God instructed Jeremiah to go to the potter’s house and there he saw the potter working at the wheel. *“But the pot that he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him” (Jeremiah 18:4)*. God’s message to Israel through the prophet Jeremiah was, *“O house of Israel, can I not do with you as this potter does?” (Jeremiah 18:6)*. God was saying, *“I am the Potter and you are the clay.”* God can do as He pleases. He has the power to reshape your life to conform to His purpose or will. If you are willing and receptive to God as the Potter, you do not need to be a victim of your past, family background and circumstances. As you yield to God and allow the Holy Spirit to work in your life, He will make you a conqueror.

The Holy Spirit is still at work today. Peter said, *“Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. The promise is for you and your children and for all who are afar off – for all whom the Lord our God will call” (Acts 2:38-39)*. The book of Acts is about the acts of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit came upon the early church and empowered ordinary people to do extraordinary things. The Apostles were changed men. Saul became Paul. They turned their world upside down. The early church was a dynamic church. It was evangelistic and sent missionaries throughout the world. The Book of Acts is an unfinished book. The acts of the Holy Spirit are still continuing today in the lives of believers. I won’t be surprised that one of the chapters may be on Calvary Church. And in this chapter, your

name will be mentioned – how God, by the power of the Holy Spirit changed and transformed you.

Therefore it is important that you be filled with the Holy Spirit. Ephesians 5:18 says, *“Do not get drunk on wine, which leads to debauchery. Instead, be filled with the Spirit.”* Let the Holy Spirit fill you again and again. When the Holy Spirit comes and touches you, you will not be the same. You can be emancipated, delivered and set free. The anointing of the Lord will give you the power to change. You can rise above your weaknesses. Let this Church rise above the ordinary because of the anointing and the fullness of the Holy Spirit in your hearts and minds. Jesus said, *“I will go to my father and He will send the Holy Spirit to clothe you.”*

(All Bible quotations are from the New International Version).

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