

The Power of the Holy Ghost (2 of 2)

by David Wilkerson

The Power of the Holy Ghost is the key to overcoming sin and living a victorious life, and it is available to us through faith in the energy and power of the Holy Ghost.

Duration: 46:06

Scripture: Psalm 25:12-37, Matthew 6:33, John 8:36, Romans 6:4, Romans 8:11

Topics: "Holy Spirit", "New Covenant"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of understanding the New Covenant and the freedom it brings. He shares his personal journey of preaching since childhood and his lifelong burden to comprehend the covenant God has made with His people. The preacher highlights that God's desire is not to condemn but to save His children, offering them all the power and strength they need. He encourages listeners to stop relying on their own efforts and instead surrender to God, seeking a closer relationship with Jesus to experience true freedom from sin.

Transcript

This message is one of the Times Square Church pulpit series. It was recorded in the sanctuary of Times Square Church in Manhattan, New York City. Other tapes are available by writing WORLDCHALLENGE PO BOX 260 LINDALE, TEXAS 75771 or calling 903-963-8626.

None of these messages are copyrighted and you are welcome to make copies for free distribution to friends. Thank you for this good music, Lord, that awakens our heart and soul and causes us to rejoice in your resurrection. Lord, we thank you on this Easter day that we're in God's house.

We're not in a hospital somewhere, but we're here. Lord, we think of the dear sister that did come out of the hospital to be in the service and she's been very, very sick, but she's here today. And others, Lord, I see a man who brought his oxygen with him here that came for prayer.

Lord, that's really hungering to be in your presence. Now, Lord, we pray you bless the word that you open it to us. Lord, you're building a church that's full of confidence in you, trusting in you for deliverance.

In Jesus' name, amen. There's prayer going on right now. Anybody wants to join that prayer downstairs during the preaching? And during our preaching service, we have prayer time down the lower rotunda.

They'll show you the direction. It's right under stage. In fact, when I preach right under me, people are praying.

And that's encouraging. The power or the resurrection of Jesus Christ by the power of the Holy Ghost. Hallelujah.

Now, you may be sitting here this afternoon in total freedom. You have no sin habit or lust problem that's lingering in your life. And you're happy and you're free.

That's wonderful. But the majority, the vast majority of Christians today are not living that kind of life. The vast majority of Christians all over the world, not just in the United States, but all over the world are still fighting the sin problem.

They know that they have been saved. They know they've been protected by the blood of Jesus. They have a devoted heart to the Lord.

They want to live in freedom. They want to live in victory, but they don't have it. And when you get deadly honest with yourself and with God, many of you who say, well, this sermon, this message may not be for me.

Remember, you still have some battles in your life. I don't care whether it's pride. I don't care whether it's sharpness with your husband or wife or family at home.

I don't care if it's roving eyes. I don't care what it may be. There are things in our life that we have still not conquered.

But we have to have in our spirits, we have to have something deep in us that gives us the secret on how to overcome the dominion of sin. The apostles in the epistles and all through Hebrews and Romans, there is a great emphasis on deliverance from the power and dominion of sin. Folks, I'm dealing with this because, as you know, we have a large congregation here, probably 5,000 people that we call this home now.

We don't have a membership. We can only estimate that because of the numbers of people that attend various services. But in the process of pastoring, in this ministry of pastoring to a large inner city congregation, we come across so many, many battles.

I go home some nights and say, Oh God, I'm glad I'm not in charge. I'm glad this is not all in my hands because it's more than I can even contemplate. The problems, the battles, the battles with temptation, the battle with lust, the battle with life-controlling habits that still hold on, and this quest to be free, this hunger to be free, to walk in freedom, to know that I am pleasing the Lord.

I'm walking in His righteousness. I know that I can stand before the throne of God, and I'll hear, Well done, thou good and faithful servant. But, folks, I'm going to tell you something.

I've been preaching since I was a child. When I was four years old, you've heard me tell this, when I was four years old, I had a little Bible, and I went and sat by my dad in the pulpit, and my dad said, What are you doing? He tells me this. I said, Well, I'm preaching tonight.

He said he regretted not letting me try. It was about eight years old, I think, when I first delivered my little message, but when I was a teenager, I was preaching, and by 17, preaching to rather large crowds. And

I've always had this burden on my heart for years to understand the new covenant, the agreement God has given, an oath, an irrevocable oath, that God says, I'm going to have a people in the last days that I'm going to keep.

I'm not going to let them be destroyed and devoured by the enemy. I'm going to keep them secure, and I'm going to give them overcoming power, and I'm going to put into their head, into their knowledge, and into their grasp what they need to live that overcoming life. And I've been in that quest because when I first was called to preach, God gave me Psalm 25.

Who is he that feareth the Lord? Him shall he teach in the paths that he shall choose. His soul shall dwell at ease, and his seed shall inherit the earth. I didn't know then that my books would be covering almost every language on the face of the earth, and God kept that word to me.

That seed that he gave me has gone all over the world, and I thank him for that. I don't boast in that, but I thank him for keeping his word. But then the rest of that agreement he made with me.

Who is he that feareth the Lord? Him shall he teach in the path he shall choose, and the Lord will show them his covenant. And all these years I've been seeking, and now he's beginning to open it. And what I preached this morning was a part of it, and what I preached this afternoon is a part of the revelation of the new covenant.

That new covenant is an agreement God has made to help us understand his keeping power and our dominion over sin. There was no dominion over sin in the Old Testament. Not by the law.

The law could not deliver. But God promised, I'll make a new agreement, I'll make a new covenant, and I'm going to put my laws in your heart, and I'm going to keep you from the wicked one. God says, I'm going to take the heart of stone out of you, and I'm going to give you a heart of flesh.

A heart that feels after me. And he says, I'm going to cause you to turn to me. There's going to be something that I do supernaturally for you.

First of all, I'm going to tell you what our part is in that, and then what his part is. How many there are, though, all over the land, even in the ministry today. I have friends that I've been my friends in the ministry for years, and I watch one after another go down.

One of my friends recently caught in a hotel ordering an X-rated movie to his room, not knowing that the boy down there was a Pentecostal boy who was going to report him within the hour. And one problem after another, I see them going down, and then when I call them or talk to them, they're so defeated. And after 20, 30, sometimes 35, 40 years of preaching the gospel, they don't have in their knowledge and in their hand the keys, the secret of living and overcoming life.

They've preached about it, but they really never understood where the power was. They talked about the baptism of the Holy Ghost, you should receive power after the Holy Ghost has come upon you, but they never in practicality knew how to use the power of the Holy Ghost. They preached about Him, talked about Him, but really didn't believe in Him.

No, you can be baptized in the Holy Ghost, you can talk in tongues, you can exercise all the gifts and still be living in sin, and not having dominion over sin and lust in your heart. Folks, I've heard, I sat under a preacher who preached with many of the gifts and spoke in tongues during his preaching and went right

out. It was found out later he was living in a motel during the whole conference with another woman.

Never had victory over it. He said he couldn't shake it, it just drove him. We have people being driven by their sins, captivated by their lust, and trying everything within their power to break it.

You've heard me tell of the young drug addict who came to Teen Challenge, and the night before he came he was so desperate. He said, I've got to be clean. Came from a Pentecostal background.

In desperation he stuck the needle into his vein, filled the syringe with blood, laid down on his bed, and sprayed on the sitting the words H-E-L-P in blood. Help! Fortunately God heard that cry and delivered him. But he had tried everything in his power to break it, finally coming to the throne of grace.

Another drug addict was looking at his track. He'd been using for about 15 years, and every time he looked at the track he's reminded of his need for heroin, and how many years he shot it and he could taste it. He said, and I don't know where he got this, because sometimes the devil can just deceive people so much they become given over to reprobate minds.

He said, if I could just burn off that track, I think I can be clean. And he put an iron skillet on a gas stove, got it white hot, wrapped a towel around it, pressed it against his skin. To burn off that screamed in pain, had to run to the pusher to get heroin to kill the pain.

He said, if I could just, anything, anything to get free. One drug addict, I told this once in this church I believe, came to Teen Challenge, so bound by the heroin habit, so designed to be free, tried everything, in and out of hospitals, tried methadone, tried everything. Every promise he made to himself he failed.

Every effort failed. Promised his mother, I'll change. Watched his mother in despair over him and so many broken promises, broken dreams, broken efforts.

And one day he got a pair of handcuffs, no key, because he thought he had a key, might open it. Handcuffed himself to the radiator, steam radiator, little room he was renting. He said, I believe if I can stay here three days, I can be clean, I'll be free.

If I can just kick it for three days. And he just sat there on the floor by the radiator, asleep in a little pillow, and handcuffed. The second day he was so desperate, so needing a fix, and he had no key.

He couldn't break it, he tried, and almost bleeding, and in a rage of desire, driven, literally shook that radiator until he pulled it off the pipe, put this heavy radiator on his back, handcuffed to the pusher, walking down the street with the radiator on his back. What have you tried to be free? How many promises have you made? What have you done? 39 people commit suicide. Mr. Marshall, he's a Presbyterian preacher's son.

Sixty-five years old, I believe he was. Did you hear that he was active in the church? He was a choir director. He was a musician.

He had a heart for God. He had a family life. His father thought he was a wonderful family man.

Sports-minded at the time. A heart for God. But he had a homosexual drive in him, which finally drove him out of his home, drove him into the arms of a friend, and he moved in with a man.

But he hated his homosexuality, despised it, and this battle was raging in him how to be free. He's got this background of the gospel. He knows the Word.

He's preached it. He's been a choir director. He's been active in the house of God, and he knows better, and he can't get free.

He tries everything. He went to psychologists. He went to psychiatrists.

He went to hospitals. He checked himself into a hospital in Houston and said, this is driving me. There's a beast in me that I can't conquer.

I'm driven by a beast of homosexuality. You know the story. How, in final desperation, he castrated himself.

Castrated himself. And then, starting Heaven's Gate cult, they found the majority of them castrated. All of them trying to find freedom.

Everyone was saying, there's nothing left in this world. You know why they said that? Because they tried to get free. They tried to find a place of rest, and there was none here.

So they put a roll of cords. Can you imagine this? Can you imagine how reprobate the mind becomes? Can you imagine? They're expecting, through Haley Bopp, the comet, that in that trail, there's a spaceship. And they pack a bag, a roll of quarters, and some crisp new \$5 bills and a passport.

Now, what does extraterrestrial people want with passports and United States quarters and \$5 bills? You know, we don't laugh at that. We feel the pain of this tragedy. But the man who was masterminding all of this was formerly a minister of the gospel trying to get free.

And if you don't get free, it'll drive you to this kind of madness, all in an effort to try to find some peace of mind and rest. How many have said, what I hate, that's what I do. What I want to do, the good things I desire, I have no power to do.

Oh, woe is me. Who will deliver me from this bondage? How many would say with David, my iniquities have gone over my head. As a heavy burden, they're too heavy for me.

My wounds stink and are corrupt because of my foolishness. I'm a troubled person. For I'm bowed down greatly.

I go mourning all the day long. A mourning, a longing, a yearning to be free. The monasteries were built by men who couldn't conquer their lust and their passion.

They were so driven by lust, so driven by passion, they thought, many of them were rich people, rich men. And they thought, well, first of all, if I give all my money away, maybe God will honor me and deliver me because I've become an ascetic. I'll isolate myself from society and maybe by isolation I can be free.

And many of them gave away their belongings and gave away everything, walked away from families, everything, to shut themselves in to meditate. And folks, that didn't deliver them because their imaginations ran wild and those monasteries became hotbeds of wild imaginations, the vilest of imaginations, and writings of the flesh. Awful, awful scenes and sights that went before their minds.

And then when that happened, they decided to beat it out of them. And you see pictures of it in history of the flaglets who would take chains and thorns and whip their backs until they would bleed. They would sit on high poles for months with somebody feeding them occasionally, isolating themselves, denying the flesh, not feeding themselves, not eating, not drinking, crippling their bodies, thinking if they hobbled around crippled that they would conquer the flesh.

They tried to beat down the flesh. They tried to cut the flesh. They tried to starve the flesh.

And it didn't work until one day the Holy Ghost moved into one of those monks' cells and the Word of God came to just so live by faith. And Martin Luther came out of that dark cell and proclaimed to the whole world that's not the way to victory. It's not by flesh.

It's by faith in the living God. Hallelujah, through Jesus Christ. Never in history, never in the history of the church have we needed a new revelation of the power of the resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Let me tell you in simple terms what I believe the resurrection means to me. It was not just a man who came out of the tomb. It was not one man that came out of that grave.

It was a corporate man. It was the church of Jesus Christ. Jesus didn't come out of that grave just for His own glory.

He had that before He came. He didn't come out just so that He could go back to His Father. He didn't come now just so that He could go back and roll and reign over the universe.

No, He came out of the grave to bring you out and bring me out. We came out of that grave. That was a corporate body.

That wasn't one man. I walked out of that grave. You came out of that grave.

We are all delivered at the resurrection of Jesus Christ. That was our resurrection. The Holy Ghost invaded that tomb.

There was no rock or stone that could hold Him. There was no power. Pilate couldn't do it.

Herod couldn't do it. All the armies of that day couldn't do it. The Holy Ghost swept into the tomb, breathed life into that corpse.

Hallelujah! An angel at the head and one at the tail. Remember, at the mercy seat, the two angels, one at the head and one at the foot. This was the mercy seat.

And they said, the mercy seat is not here anymore. The mercy seat is not here. Oh, beloved, if we could only see that coming out of that tomb, God did something on our behalf, not for the benefit of His soul.

He came for a purpose. And that purpose was accomplished when He came out of the grave. Christ's resurrection was performed by the energy and the power of the Holy Ghost.

No other way. As I said this morning, Jesus did not strive. He did not, through His own human effort, nothing that He did on the human level brought Him out of that grave.

It had to be a supernatural work of the Holy Spirit. And when you're bound by the grave clothes of iniquity, when you're down dead in trespasses and sins, you can't resurrect yourself. You can't deliver yourself.

It has to be an operation of the Holy Ghost. Hallelujah. Jesus laid silently in the grave, no striving.

The moment Jesus died, He broke the devil's power to hold us in sin, that through death, He might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver them who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage. He said He came to a generation who all their lifetime lived in fear, bound by their lust, bound by the power of sin. He said He came, was resurrected to break the power of Satan.

Now, listen to me, please. This is where you begin. If you sit in this church this afternoon and you're fighting a homosexual lust, a heterosexual lust, a tobacco lust, an alcohol lust, a drug lust, a pride lust, roving eyes lust, name it.

You know what it is in your heart. Whatever the battle may be, whatever the situation, and some of you sweet, sweet, kind, gentle saints who people look at and say, Oh, now I know she, I know he has nothing wrong in their life. Beloved, nothing is as it appears.

Nothing. The most pious, holy people are capable of getting in the flesh. Mm-hmm.

But you see, the Lord says, I come to this kind of society and you have got to know that I have broken the power of the devil. I have defeated his power. You say, well then, why is he so strong in me if he's been defeated? I'm going to tell you why in the course of this just before we finish.

Now, the most glorious truth of all is that the very same power of God that raised up Jesus abides in you and me and we are raised to newness of life by that same power. Now, listen to this, please. Listen to this.

But if the spirit of him that raised up Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he that raised up Christ from the dead shall also raise your mortal bodies by his spirit that dwelleth in you. By his spirit that dwelleth in you. Now, Paul calls this the operation of God.

I'm going to tell you something about the resurrection I don't think you've heard yet. It's not because it's new, it's been here, we've just not seen it as clear as we ought. Listen to, don't turn but Colossians 2.12. Buried with him by baptism.

Have you been baptized? Buried with him, the baptism itself signifies to the world that you have died to sin in Christ wherein also you are risen with him. You are risen in him. How? How are you risen in newness of life? How do you get the Holy Ghost into your life so that you can be empowered by sin? Listen to it.

Through the faith in the operation of God who has raised him from the dead. That word operation means energy and power of the Holy Ghost. By faith in the energy and power of the Holy Ghost.

Now that doesn't mean anything except to a dead man. God, listen, Jesus didn't need resurrection power until he was dead. Come on now.

I hope you see that. He didn't come into Gethsemane and try infusing him this resurrection life. It was not until he was totally dead.

In fact, he was dead for three days before the Holy Ghost came in. He was truly dead. You are not going to ever have the power of the Holy Ghost to overcome in your life.

We will never have it until we are fully dead. You say, what do you mean dead? You've heard me explain that the old man in the New Testament is the I can do man. You know, you look sin in the face, I can do

that, I can lick that.

You look at your habits, I can do that. Just give me enough scriptures, give me enough time, give me a couple books and tapes and just let me gather my resources and let me think this through. I'll lick it.

Sure you will. For a day, two days a week, a month, even a year, but it will come back worse than ever because you haven't defeated, you've suppressed it. You see, you will not get resurrection life if you're just suppressing sin because you do it under your own strength and your own power, your own will.

The new man is the I can't do it without the power of the Holy Ghost. I can't do it. I'm helpless.

You have got to come to a place, I'm going to keep drilling in this into the congregation. You've heard me now the third time and you're going to go to school with me until you get it, until this church rises up in faith that you cannot look the devil in your own power. These things look you in the face, they scare you, they look like they're going to bring corruption and defeat and destruction, but there's a weapon God has given to us.

There is a way out. I would not want to serve a God who saved me and then left me to my own devices, who left me to fight these battles alone. Who am I to fight the devil? Who am I to fight a legion of demons? None of us.

Folks, I'm going to keep drilling until you get tired of hearing about it, until it registers. You go into school and you learn your ABCs by going after them, ABC, ABC, ABC, and you write it, you draw it, you do it in little letters, you do it in big letters, little A, big A. Then you put it in sentences until it's drilled, drilled, drilled into you. You die by giving up your will, your ambition, your desire to do this in your own strength.

You die when you admit and you acknowledge, I can't do it. I am helpless in my flesh. Now, the flesh doesn't like it.

We have doctrines of perfection that teach otherwise. But folks, you don't have to serve God very long before you come to this conclusion. All it takes is about ten broken promises.

All it takes is a lot of effort that drives you down to your face and say, oh God, I didn't mean to do that. God, I said I wouldn't do that anymore. God, I thought I had victory.

Lord, why did you let me do that? Where's the power? The Lord said, you're not dead yet. You're not dead yet. Folks, I've been preaching the gospel for years, and I've just passed in the past few years coming into this knowledge, coming to the place where God has so convinced me.

I'm so convinced now I see it everywhere. I turn in the Word of God because in these last days, he's bringing a new revival, and this revival that's coming is going to be a revival of dying to the flesh, and there's going to be a revelation of the power of the Holy Ghost coming in these last days where people are not just going for a happy kick and just being knocked down, walk out in the blessing, and go back. People, I've been invited all over the world now to preach ministers' conferences, and I said, God, maybe next year take four or five because this is my home, and if I do go, I'm going to go maybe four or five times for just a week or so.

In some countries, they say, we'll gather 5,000 ministers. I'm not interested in going to a country and condemning preachers about their lack of prayer and not reading their Bible and then see hundreds of

pastors fall and weep and cry under conviction and go out unchanged. This is the end of side one.

You may now turn the tape over. If all there is is emotion, you're changed because the truth lights in your head and it frees you. You lay hold of the Word of God and it frees your spirit.

If I go out, I'm going to preach a new covenant. I'm going to have pastors begin to thrill at what God wants to do for them and their congregations, and I want to go back, not just preach conviction. The Holy Ghost will take care of that.

I want them to go back into their churches and say, you can be free from your sin so that thousands of Christians can approach the coming of the Lord free, free, free indeed. I'm getting a little excited, so give me a breather. How do you get the resurrection power of Jesus to overcome sin? How do you come out of this grave walking in newness of life? I'd die.

You know what the Bible says? I reckon myself dead. I've just come to the conclusion I'm helpless. That's all it is.

I've settled the issue. It's finished. I don't even talk about it anymore to myself because I've convinced myself.

I don't care what anybody tells me. I don't care what anybody preaches to me. I'm on the Word of God, and I'm going to stay there.

I cannot, in my own power, my own strength, my own resolution, my own ability, defeat sin in my life. So what do I do? I stand on this Word. And what does the Word of God say? Ye are risen with Him.

How? Through promises? Good works? Good deeds? Self-effort? Oh, folks, there'll be a lot of effort. There'll be a lot of wonderful works. There'll be all these things once you're moving in the realm of the Holy Spirit and doing it through His might and His power.

But listen. Ye are risen with Him through the faith in the operation of God, through the faith in the energy and power of the Holy Ghost who raised Him from the dead. The same Spirit that raised Christ from the dead shall also raise your mortal body.

And that doesn't mean in the resurrection. It means right here, now, resurrection, here and now on earth. When I'm dead, I turn to the Lord and say, Lord, You have promised me all through this book that You have all the power I need to overcome sin.

You said that You will lead me and guide me. And I said it this morning. God said in His Word, I know how to deliver you out of temptation.

You don't have to know how right now. You just trust in Him. Say, Lord, and what you do.

When the enemy comes like a flood, you run to the secret closet. You run and you just cry. You may be in a bus.

You may be anywhere. I told the congregation this morning. Some of you weren't here at the altar.

I said, God is wonderful. He knows how. He said, I'll send angels to camp around about you and deliver you lest you dash your foot against the stone.

I told the congregation, if you have a lust problem and you're trying to sneak in 8th Avenue down here in one of those dinky little theaters, there may be an angel appear. It's probably one of our angels sitting here in Times Square Church right now with a name and an address and a telephone number. Just one of God's saints who's going to be an angel to you and just happens to be there.

You're just about to go in and there is the angel. Hello, brother. I've been an angel to some of you.

You were just about to light up. You had the cigarette right here. I said, praise the Lord.

Right over here in 8th Avenue, 49th. Here's a lady who just walked out of church. Went in the store to come out and she had a paper bag and a great big bottle of wine.

She's gurgling it and I'm standing right in front of her. She holds it up and looks at me. She says, but I passed out 200 tracks.

The Lord's been making an angel out of me for so many places. My point is, you know what it is? God knows how and He does it out of love. Not to condemn you, but to save you.

You see, God's not mad at any of His children. I'm not mad at any of my children or my grandchildren. I'm here as father and grandfather to answer their cry for help anytime they need me.

I so reach out to them with great love and your heavenly Father reaches out to you now and says, I have provided all the power you need, all the strength that you need, but you must first quit trying on your own strength and on your own power. Give up trying to figure it out. Give up trying to do it yourself.

Get along with God. Get to know Jesus more. Stay in this word right here.

Now I'll tell you why I trust the Holy Ghost because He wrote this book. He revealed Jesus in this book. This is the living word of Jesus Christ, the Lord and the Holy Ghost penitent.

You know why I trust in the power of the Holy Ghost? He was there when this world was created. He called all things into being. He sent the waters and the rains.

He divided the earth from the land. He caused the rain, the flowers. Is He not able to deliver me? He delivers me, the living word of God.

Can I not give victory in my life according to the power that worketh in us? What power? Holy Ghost power. Folks, if this is going to be a Holy Ghost church, then it has to work its way out into everyday life. It has to be not just a shout in the church, not just people saying, I can talk in tongues.

I pray in tongues all day long more than all of you. But that's not what the Holy Ghost means to me alone. It goes so far beyond that.

The power of the Holy Ghost is to be able, when the enemy comes in like a flood, to say, Holy Ghost, this is not my battle. It's yours now. I need help.

And to see how He comes in by faith, miraculously surrounding, putting a hedge of thorns around me, protecting me. And I look back later and say, Oh, thank you, Jesus. I don't know how you did it, but you delivered.

You kept me. Folks, here I am, 65, and He's kept me. I rejoice.

How old are you? Didn't He keep you? He's kept you. Did somebody come in yesterday? A fellow come in yesterday here? Son, sit down just a minute. You were saved yesterday down at, I say, a house.

Okay, now, I want to tell you something. He kept me all these years. He can keep you.

If He keeps you one day, He keeps you two days, three days, four days. You believe that now? You believe that? The devil's trying to get you to run, isn't he? And saying, Hey, this doesn't work. God bless you, son.

Sit down. If He keeps you a month, He keeps you two months, He can keep you a year, He can keep you on. Hallelujah.

Glory to Jesus. Folks, I'm just beginning. I'm going to preach covenant and covenant and covenant until you really are going to trust the Holy Ghost.

Hallelujah. Stand. I want everybody in this church to look up to Jesus right now.

And I want you to repeat this after me. We don't do this often, but I just feel like doing it this afternoon. I want you to repeat after me right now.

Lord Jesus. I have no strength of my own. I have no power of my own.

I have no will that's worth anything. I acknowledge my weakness, the frailty of my flesh. But I believe, Holy Ghost, You have all the power I need.

Help me, Jesus, to die to my flesh. And then come, Holy Spirit. The same Spirit that raised Jesus from the dead shall raise me from the dead and keep me walking in newness of life.

Hallelujah. Glory to Jesus. Glory to Jesus.

Hallelujah. He is Lord. He is risen from the dead.

And He is Lord. If you're here this afternoon, up in the balcony on the main floor, you say, Brother David, I'm losing this battle. I've been fighting a battle in my flesh.

I've tried so hard. I really try. Listen, I believe you.

I believe there are people here, you want the Lord so bad, you want victory so bad. You say, Lord, I just can't, I can't keep on this merry-go-round of sin, confess, sin, confess, sin, confess. I've got to have a way out.

Why don't you come down here and die? Walk down the aisle and die and say, Lord, I'm not trusting my flesh anymore. I'm not trusting my efforts. But I'm going to seek you.

I'm going to love you. And I'm going to trust you. Our part is absolute faith.

Our part is faith. Now, folks, the Bible said, you give them what faith you have. And this is God's, I'll increase your faith.

I'll give you the increase of faith. All you have is a mustard seed faith. Whatever it may be, you bring what little you have.

It may be just doubt bordering on faith. I don't know. Bring what you have to the Lord, such as I have I give unto you, Lord.

And he will increase it so that you're able to lay hold of it. Hallelujah. But faith comes by what? He infuses faith into your heart by your reading and hearing this word as you read it.

In other words, not just reading it, but hearing what you read. Hear it in your heart. And up in the balcony, you can go to the stairs on either side and come down any aisle.

Also, those of you that once walked with the Lord, listen closely. You had a close walk with the Lord, but you gave up. You quit trying because you say, Pastor David, it failed.

And I think you may have a little anger in your heart toward the Lord because you didn't get the victory. You say, I tried, and I tried, and I failed. It didn't work.

That's because you didn't die. You were still depending on your flesh. You come in simple childlike faith and say, Jesus, here I am.

I offer myself to you now. I want to be free. Balcony, wherever you're at, all over this building right now, come.

Don't come unless the Spirit draws you. But the moment you feel that tug, well, I know some of you have struggled so long. You're striving so hard.

There's a cry in you. Oh, Pastor, I want to be free. I really want to be free.

Holy Spirit, draw now by your power. Let the word of the Lord sink in deep. Let the truth bring freedom.

Let truth set people free. Amen. You feel that tug.

We sing it just a moment here. Come and we'll pray. We'll believe God for a miracle in your life.

By coming down the aisle and standing here, you're making a statement. You're saying to yourself, to the devil, to God, to all who see you, I've come to die to my own ability, my own strength. I give up trying in my own power.

That didn't mean you run out and just give yourself over. No, no, no, no. It means that you run to Jesus.

You don't run to your lust. You don't run to your sin when it overcomes you. You run to a place of prayer.

You just close yourself out. You could be on the street or anywhere and say, now, Holy Spirit, your word says that you have the power. You came to Jesus when He was dead and you raised Him.

You said the same Spirit that raised Him is going to resurrect me into newness of life. I want to walk with a new life. I don't want to walk in this bondage anymore.

I promise you He's faithful. He's faithful. He that's begun a good work in you, the Bible says we'll finish it.

Hallelujah. I believe that with all my heart. I wouldn't preach it if I didn't believe that with everything in me.

I want you to believe that now. I want you to believe that you can be free. The devil would like to tell you that you've tried and tried and it doesn't work.

No. See, when you give it all into his hands, it does work. I stand before you right now.

I don't know what tomorrow holds, but I put my tomorrow in the hands of the Lord. I trust Him with it. My children, I trust.

All my children, my grandchildren, I trust them into the hands of the Lord. I trust my life. I trust everything I am and all that I have into His hands.

I just take it and say, Here, Jesus, take my life. Lead me. Guide me.

Put a word in me. Direct me. There'll be a word behind just saying, Go here, go there.

Do this, do that. He will speak to you. He will lead you.

He'll protect you. He'll put a hedge of thorns around you to keep the devil from getting to you. I want you to close your eyes and pray this prayer with me right now from your heart.

Jesus, I really can't do anything by my own power, by just setting my will, but just trying. I've strived so hard and it's failed me so often. Lord, I turn to You as my only hope.

Holy Spirit, You have the power to raise the dead. You had power to create this earth with Your heavenly Father. You have the power over the devil and over sin and lust.

You promised me that no sin shall have power over me. I accept that promise. I believe that promise.

Now, Father, help me to trust You when I'm overcome, when I'm in a battle, not to get upset, not to panic, and not to run, but turn to You like a little child and just say, Help. I trust You, Lord, to help me, protect me, and preserve me from the power of the devil. Now, let me pray for You.

Father, You heard that simple childlike prayer. Thank You, Lord. You're faithful to Your Word.

You'll back up Your Word. Lord, I told these people that stand here now that You would deliver them if they would trust You. Now, we put You to the test on that, Lord.

We're going to trust You. We're going to ask You to come and show us how to escape our temptations that we may endure them. Come, Lord, send angels to walk around and with us.

Put a wall of thorns and hedges around, a hedge of thorns that the devil can't touch us, our enemies can't defeat us. Those that are wicked around us will not be able to tempt us and pull us down because we turn to You, not to our friends. We turn to You, Lord, in our time of need.

Hallelujah! Thank You, Lord, for Your power. Thank You for Your victory. Thank You for Your resurrection.

In Jesus' name, amen. I'm so glad Jesus set me free. This is the conclusion of the tape.

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