

Dynamic Christianity

by James A. Stewart

This sermon emphasizes the dynamic power of Christianity, particularly the power of the gospel and the Holy Spirit, and encourages believers to experience this power through prayer, faith, and action.

Duration: 46:40

Scripture: Romans 6:14, Ephesians 3:16

Topics: "Christianity"

Description

In this sermon, the speaker, Poussey Hewitt, shares his personal experience of being awakened at four o'clock in the morning to pray. He emphasizes the importance of following rules and regulations in order to maintain a disciplined spiritual life. Hewitt also highlights the need for believers to go beyond just being saved from hell and to seek deliverance from the power of sin on a daily basis. He encourages pastors to have a deep understanding of the Word of God and to lead their congregations in a dynamic faith that includes fervent prayer and a burden for souls.

Transcript

On dynamic Christianity. Now, the word that describes Christianity in the Bible is the word dynamite. And the symbol of Christianity is not only a cross, the symbol of Christianity is a flame, the flame of Pentecost.

And you remember we have, first of all, in Romans 1 and 4, the wonderful verse that our blessed Lord was declared to be the son of God with power, according to the spirit of holiness, by his resurrection from among the dead. Now, this word declared is not the same as we have in John 1 18, he which is in the bosom of the father hath declared him. That is our word exegesis.

Our blessed Lord expressed God, he told God out. He was the exegesis of the father. He that hath seen me hath seen the father.

And as Josiah Conder said in one of his most beautiful hymns, thou art the everlasting word, the father's only son. God manifest, God seen and heard, the heaven's beloved one. But this word declared is the word from which we get our word arising.

He was declared to be the son of God with power. He was arising to be the son of God with power. He's our arising Lord.

The arising is the line of demarcation between earth and sky, heaven and earth. And the Lord Jesus Christ was declared to be, he was marked out to be, he was arising to be the son of God with power, with dynamite, by his resurrection from among the dead. The Roman power could not keep the Lord Jesus in the tomb.

And all the powers of hell could not keep the Lord Jesus in the tomb. Death could not keep its praise. Jesus my savior, he tore the bars away, Jesus my Lord.

And so we have a dynamic Christ. And then in the 16th verse of Romans 1, we have a dynamic gospel. You see, the rumor has been circulated that the apostle was afraid to come to Rome.

He was ashamed of his message. They said, why Paul, you go round all about the provincial villages and cities, but you have never been to the great metropolis. And you're ashamed of your message.

And Paul said, it's a lie. And writing his introductory remarks to his Roman letter, he said, it's a lie, it's not true. Circumstances have hindered me.

But he says, on my way to Spain, I'm coming by you. And so he says in 14, 15 and 16, I am debtor both to the Greeks and to the Bavarians, both to the wise and to the unwise. So as much as in me is, with every drop of blood in my body, with every ounce of energy, as much as in me is, I am ready to preach the gospel to you that are at Rome also.

Why? Because I'm not ashamed of the gospel of Christ. Why, Paul? Because it is the power, the dynamite of God and the salvation to everyone that believe in it. You Romans talk about your power.

And listen, I want to tell you of a greater explosive power, and that is the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. And then, of course, in Acts 1 and 8, we have a dynamic Christian. And brother, sister, may I plead with you? Don't let any theological professor, no matter whether he's a modernist or fundamentalist, rob you of the experience of Acts 1 and 8. Acts 1 and 8 is for the church today.

Somebody told me it's for Israel. Acts 1 and 8 is for you, my brother, my sister. I asked you, Mrs. Torrey, when I was preaching in our church and spending the day with her, I said, is it true that your dear husband changed his terminology and would never again speak about the baptism of the Holy Ghost? And she said, James, it's not true.

That's not true. Right up to the day my husband died in his last message, he believed in a mighty baptism of power. And I have a letter from Dr. Torrey, in which he says, yes, I have never changed my message.

There's a baptism of power for every believer, and ye shall receive power. Don't lift a tiny finger. Don't lift a tiny finger.

Don't take a step forward. Don't do anything until the Holy Ghost comes. Don't move out until He moves in.

And when He is come, He'll convict the world of sin, as we heard this afternoon, through you, through the church. And ye shall receive power, dynamite after the Holy Ghost has come upon you. And ye shall be witnesses unto me, beginning the state of my rejection here in Jerusalem, and then going to Judea, Samaria, and not stopping until you go to the uttermost part of the earth.

You will have the mighty, mighty power of the Holy Ghost. And glory be to God, friend, they had power to witness, they had power to suffer, they had power to sell their possessions and give away their money,

and they had power to go and die for the Lord Jesus Christ, a dynamic Christian. And then in Acts 4.33, you have a dynamic church.

Oh, I love this verse. And with great power, and with great authority and dunamis, and great dynamite, gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. A dynamic church.

Now, I believe, friend, that this dynamite was upon the apostles. But as you see in the context, it was the whole church. All the apostles and every born-again, blood-washed believer in the churches, giving their witness to the Lord Jesus.

And so the power of God was manifested. And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. I thank God when I was a laddie, before my conversion in Glasgow, I never, never was in our church on a Sunday night that I didn't see between 80 to 150 people come back.

Every Sunday night. Never knew anything else. I never knew anything else but weeping preachers.

I never knew anything else but weeping people. I never knew my mother once, my father was in the hospital, I never knew my mother once to sit in a gospel meeting and not weep. I never knew once to look around that church and not see the red hot tears cold coming running down the cheeks of all the congregation.

Strike the stoutest sinner through. Stop the cry, what must I do? Make them weep till born anew through the Lamb. And when we are weeping preachers and weeping people, we're going to have weeping sinners.

Glory be to God. And my dear friend, this is a dynamic church. But I want to mention just a little tonight concerning about being dynamic for God.

Something simple. God wants us to be dynamic in prayer. Dynamic in prayer.

Now if anybody could have spread the gospel by native ability, it was the Apostle Paul. I think I put my feet upon almost all his footsteps. I think I've been everywhere the Apostle Paul has been except toward the Soviet border because I'm always afraid when I go toward the Soviet border near Tarsus, Mount Ararat, the commas will pick me up and take me over back to Siberia.

But as I can see the native ability of this man. You go to Tarsus and study the history. This was a great university.

And if any man was qualified to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, it was Paul. And yet he's always saying pray for me, pray for me. And he's always saying, I'm praying for you.

And he said, I need to be, I need, I need, I need your prayers. And the Apostle Paul was a mighty man of intercession. And my dear brother, sister, we cannot spread the gospel apart from this mighty ministry.

And friend, if I asked God to make my mission is anything, I asked him, Oh God, make the mighty men of intercession, mighty men of prayer. If I wasn't a university professor, a theological seminary professor, or a Bible school teacher, the first thing I would do, I would make sure that every one of these students would know how to pray. The first thing I try to teach my mission is how to agonize in prayer on behalf of lost

men and women going to hell.

I wonder Frank tonight, are you dynamic in your prayer life? You know, just that last summer in Ulster, we had prayer meetings for revival. I told them down at Mildale. And you know, I got a telephone call and a deep, deep voice of a police sergeant said to me, Dr. Stewart, he said, do you want any intercessors around? I said, yes, sir.

I want intercessors around. What he said, we'll be coming. And this is a gentleman, a retired gentleman, who was a bodyguard for the British, the prime minister of Northern Ireland.

And he's retired. And all he does is intercede for a dying church. That's all he does.

And he's got friends and they move in. They could come if they were here in America, there were maybe telephone or write to Mr. Williams, Pastor Williams, Pastor Williams, could we move into your church just for two weeks to pray? And there's a hundred of them come. And oh brother, I never feel so sorry for the devil as I see these men and women come in.

I never. And you know, you don't even see them in the meeting. They may turn up in the meeting, but that's a compliment if you see them at any public meeting.

They mean business. And these men and women go down to pray, 100 strong, sometimes there's 200. And they move in, pay their own expenses and they move in to pray.

Nothing else day and night until the heavens open, the Holy Ghost comes. And they can tell, they'll say the Holy Ghost will come on Thursday night. And the Holy Ghost will come on Thursday night.

They just know. And they can tell what's hindering blessing. I remember when, before God called me to go to Russia, I couldn't understand why I had such mighty power in my first meetings in Russia.

But you know, I was called where there was a Baptist at the deacon and he was retired. And that dear brother, 73 years of age, gave himself to intercession. And when I was evangelizing in that area, and when the Holy Ghost called me from an island, and he said, Oh God, those rest upon James as it goes forth on my name.

And then he kissed me and he said, James, I'll pray for you at least three hours every day. You know, when revival first broke out in Riga, Latvia, now the Baptist churches of Latvia were in a, in decadence, they were in a backsliding condition. And friend, there's nobody can backslide so much as people who have known revival and lost the fire of God.

You know that? When the only ashes of devotion remain, and there was a deadness and a dullness in the Baptist churches in the Republic of Latvia, now in the Soviet Union. And friend, when we obeyed God, and I'm so glad the message was preached tonight. When we obey God and deal with the sin in our life, this is not just me a phraseology, we want revival.

And I can remember a friend when we began a night of prayer. And in the prayer tower, the first room, and friend, the years I was there, I never, in other words, you could, and you could see that flat on their face before God praying for revival. And I have seen them, I have seen as many as, friend, as 1,500 in that Russian Baptist spot where Jesus makes it quite all right.

We don't believe in flat, we lie flat on our faces before God. We don't sit before God. And my dear friend, that is dynamic praying.

And that is the prayer that brings revival. And then God wants us, what about your church? What about your church? The average church doesn't have a decently respectable prayer meeting. You know, there's no excuse.

You ought to have, I had a chain of prayer in Europe that lasted before the war broke out, before I was arrested by the Gestapo, I think I had 25,000 in my prayer chain. And we had a prayer chain that lasted all day and all night, all through the night. I had to run between 25 fires all at once, try to keep them, protect them, but you can't protect a fire, it goes everywhere.

It doesn't go the way you want it sometimes. The revival fires are burning in all these countries. And what about your church, my brother? If I were a pastor, I would covet more than anything else, men and women who know God, men and women who know how to pray.

Listen, mother, I'm not playing football, if you just don't pray for me. And I would say, well, praise God, this is okay. And when I held my mother's hand going to glory, our friend, the need of the hour is dynamic, men and women, warriors of God.

And you remember in Ephesians, in that mighty, in the inner man, in order that Christ leads, in other words, are you dynamic in your holiness? You have the message tonight. Our friend, if your life, if your home is not a sanctified, if it's not an orderly home, it's not, I remember I was, and then I went down to join him in London, spent time there preaching and so on. I'd never met him before.

His name was Patsy Heward. And in this house, we got to bed and they woke me at four o'clock in the morning. And I was just dying to Puritan preacher.

And you know, a few pennies, and he just looks, he says, I am brother. And I wonder, and I thought, can you imagine? I'd be living with the Lord Jesus. And that man, Patsy Heward, if you ever can get any of his writings, get it, that man, Patsy Heward.

And when he moved up and down that house, when I would rise there in the morning, and he was the leader of the war, Christian in shame, I always felt that Jesus Christ, we are not going to see revival. We are not going to see men and women attracted to the gospel of God. Many people point a finger of shame.

And they say, yes, they point a finger of shame like you and say, if that's a Christian, I don't want to be one. My older brother, David, on the moment God saved him, he became so like Christ. Jesus lived in my heart.

When the members of the church, I thank God that my grown children can back up everything I say. I wonder, can your congregation, dear brother, back up? When you invite the evangelist to come to your church, and he begins to evangelize in the fact that Jesus Christ saves and satisfies. Are you dynamic in holiness? And then friend, we have it there in Ephesians and Paul's first letter, the eyes of your understanding being, you know, when I first came to America in 1938, J. Smith and Dr. R.E. Naber and so many others, how little that Christian and dear friend, if I were a pastor, I would sort of an intimate knowledge and a revelation, a knowledge of the Lord.

But brother, sister, our people can't have a knowledge of the Lord, Jesus, a revelation of him, unless they know the word of God. And friend, there must be a might. And friend, it's not enough for us to preach.

Being saved from hell is not the sum total of the gospel of the New Testament. Occupy deliverance from the power of sin every day. And I believe that as Paul prayed for the church at Ephesus, that they might be dynamic in the spiritual intimate knowledge of Jesus Christ.

That would be prayer for us tonight. You know, a lot of us are like Roman Catholics. All we know and all we believe is what our pastor is.

But how wonderful it is for a pastor to be invited to a church. How wonderful it is for a pastor to have a church that where he can minister the word of God. I've been waiting since 14.

You know why I can't find an audience yet. I used to preach this virgin sabbatical before it was Bob. And, you know, I often say I could preach like Spurgeon.

You could preach like Spurgeon if you could get a congregation like Spurgeon. Give me a congregation like Spurgeon. They were giants in these days that just that the man who shone the shoes down the street, the street cleaner, who was a member of Spurgeon's sabbatical, knew the word of God almost as intimately as Spurgeon knew the word of God.

These men were giants. And he had a congregation of 900, 9,000 people. They were taught.

And because they were taught, our friend, our business is to get every member of our congregation to say, Oh, Holy Ghost, open up thy word to us. And I believe that that's one of the desperate needs of the hour. It's for our brothers and sisters to have a deep intimate revelation and knowledge of Jesus.

One of the tragedies is that the people, they will shout, they will yell, they will come Ephesians and all brothers that bore to death who loved the word. Anybody who knows me knows in our revival meeting sometimes I'm saying the three o'clock in the morning. So I believe in singing, but it has to be the anointing of God on the singing.

There's something wrong. And this is the great need. And revival will come when the saints of God have a deep revelation and knowledge of Jesus Christ.

And that's the death you must go on. And in my own body, you see Paul prays and he lets the word of God. You can't do it, sister.

Only the word of God could deceive the mighty power, making these secular and making these carnivorous saints. And then God wants us to be dynamic about our faith. I was telling dear brother, briefly coming here, the Booth family for years.

I'm Booth just now and getting the Father Salvation Army. And friend, I love the old General Booth, you know, because I know George Muller's ministry, but I believe he had more faith than George Muller. He is a mighty man of faith.

You know, there in Hebrews 11, and the moment a person had faith and went out and did something, by faith no built an ark. You see, they went and did something. He always used to say, and the General Booth was a real autocrat.

And he wouldn't let, and he would, and they were talking about how he sang, just like him. But the old General wouldn't let that. He'd see the eyes upon Bramwell and he says, Bramwell, if that had been Bramwell Booth, analyzing Peterborough's thinking, faith is launching out, trying to do things for God.

And dear friend, I wouldn't, every day, and there in Hebrews 11, the Westminster, in one of our, my Russian Bible, through faith. They were resistless from faith. Strong are the, march we on fearless and down we must fall.

Vanquished by, and my dear friend, when we have this, my old friend, listen, for example, I need thousands and thousands of dollars for my missionary work around the earth. And friend, other missionaries started to see thousands and thousands of dollars for missionary work around the earth. I need, I need 100 new missions for Great Britain alone, Britain's a pagan nation.

In many places, only 1% of the population go to any church, Protestant or Catholic. And I need 100 new, new missions to evangelize Great Britain right now. And friend, I, you know what I believe? I believe if I had faith, I would get these missions right away.

I believe if I had faith, I'd get all these thousands of dollars right away. And my brother, my sister, I believe that if we had faith, you would see your loved ones saved. I believe that.

I believe the reason why we see so few souls saved in our churches, because we don't have brothers and sisters in our churches who are saved. I believe that. I was preaching with Paul Rader at a conference in London and Mrs. Charles Cowman.

And then the weekend, we separated for the Sunday different services in London. And I went to what we call the East London Tabernacle, the second largest Baptist church in Great Britain before it was bombed. And the pastor there was a very blessed brother.

In fact, the greatest preacher that ever produced at Cheval Brown. And you know, this was a tabernacle seating some 3,500 people. And the lady who was giving me hospitality was a well sister, very dignified, gracious lady, highly intelligent.

And when I come down for my breakfast on Sunday morning, she said to me, Jimmy, she said, you know how many souls are going to be saved tonight? You see, we, we, in Britain, we teach the word, we expound the word in the morning, we usually take an hour and a half, we take an exposition, we take the book of Ephesians, the first Peter or the biblical offerings and so on. And then we evangelize. And I said, no, no, no, Mrs. James, I don't know how many souls are going to be saved tonight.

Well, she said, why don't you? Well, I said, I'm busy. And you know, I'm in meetings all the time. And I've got to rush back to Europe.

But she said, Jimmy, there'll be 27. I said, well, praise God. And then the pastor said to me, I could mention his name, you know who I mean? I said, he said, Jimmy, you'll pray now that God will use you tonight.

There's souls going to hell. And I'm praying that God will save souls tonight. I said, yes, there'll be 27.

Well, I preached that night. And after I gave the invitation, and the mother came to the, or rather, Mrs. James, Welsh people, and they came and said to me, how many are they? How many are they? How

many? And then they came back to me. And so they went to the mother.

And glory be to God. Oh, when I left that sister, so how many, how many, how many? And encourage him and say to him, dear brother, we're going to have, hey, how many times? It's a thousand people. We put it in among people who have never had the gospel before.

And believers have come to me and told me right away. He had prayed through. And yet I would rather, I would rather face the Russian firing squad than face some of you people.

You, you, you, you invite pastors and events that come for your meetings to get souls saved. My dear friend, I will always say it's damnable impudence. Damnable impudence.

You know why? You're not, your people are not weeping for souls. And even you are not weeping for souls. If you're a pastor, you have no business to invite any events that come to your church for service until you're a broken man.

You're a desperate person like Hannah. My dear friend, that impudence to invite a man of God to come and, and, and my dear friend, unless your congregation is weeping, at least you have a good 50 or a hundred people weeping for souls and fasting and praying. You should never invite an event to your church for meetings.

Oh, my dear friend, Spurgeon used to say, when there's plenty of do around, there's going to be plenty of blessing around. That is a do a prayer. And dear Spurgeon, he never preached and he's likely to be able to preach a sermon or at least a thousand and then he's praying.

And Spurgeon had two prayer meetings every week attended by 4,000 people, 4,000 Tuesday, 4,000 Thursday. And that's nothing to do with his weeknight Bible study of five or 6,000 people. My dear friend, we need to have this great faith, this dynamic faith.

And when, when you can go to your pastor and say, pastor, we're in for a time of revival in our church. We're in for a time of blessing this week. But what happened? You, you run to the church on Sunday night.

You've been, you've been driving all around the place all day, visiting your relatives, watching the ball game on the television or something. You see, this is what we don't know about in Europe. I had to learn all this.

I don't understand half that pastor mentioned tonight in his message. I suppose it's true what he says, but I could, I had to go out and weep. If what that dear brother says about you is true, we shouldn't be any preaching.

I shouldn't be preaching like you should be at this altar. You should be at this altar. I don't think anybody wanted me to preach after that message.

I went out to weep out there. That's true friend. You sure need revival.

Isn't it? And the revival is not God's best revival. Just get you up to God's best. We had the revival once up on the Prairie Bible Institute.

And I said to brother Maxwell, we'll be confessing the sins of the students three days and three nights. He said, this is a glorious revival. I said, no brother L.E., this is not revival.

This is what shouldn't be. They're liars. They're thieves.

Young Follett says he won so many souls for Christ in the stomach. He didn't. He's a liar.

He's not a saint because he confesses his sins. This is what shouldn't be. And the revival is abnormal.

And revival brings us to the normal. But my dear friend, what a blessing would be to have a pastor, have a church or people who have this dynamic faith, who pray through. And you go and you come to the church on Sunday, and it's an evangelistic campaign, and the pastor's burden, and the evangelist's burden for souls.

And you're just sitting there and hoping he's a good preacher, hoping you'll be amused and entertained. But you haven't wept for souls. You haven't brought any unclean people even to the meetings.

I can remember as a boy at 15 in Ireland in my tent, a sister came to me, just a blonde, the open breath, a young girl. And she said to me, Jimmy, she said, will you pray for me tonight? And I said, why? Well, she says, I'm going to babysit. And while I'm holding the baby, keeping the baby, I'm sending to your tent a drunkard, a man and a wife, two drunkards.

And as I pray and hold that baby, I'll be praying, oh God, smite them in their sin. Well, glory be to God, they get saved. But they didn't get saved through my preaching.

This is all hogwash. Revival doesn't come through great preaching or great preachers. It comes because God's people have faith in God and get right with God and have a passion for souls.

I lived with a brother a little while down the south of England. You read my book, I Must Tell. His name was a Baptist pastor called White, and he had an orphanage, something like George Line of Faith.

He wouldn't tell anyone. And I remember I got an offer, started up the early hours of the morning. And so I went on the bus.

I said, well, I don't have anyone to raise for. And all I knew is a Baptist pastor. And so it took me two days to find out where this Mr. White lived.

And when I got there, I knocked at the orphanage door and a lady opened the door and she said, who are you? I said, I'm looking for Pastor White. And when she heard my Scotch accent, she ran in and said, glory, hallelujah. She came out with Mrs. White, and Mrs. White said, are you Jimmy? And I said, yes, ma'am, I'm Jimmy.

Rotten tomatoes flung at them. I said, yes. And denounced to all who came.

I said, well, if you wanted me, why didn't you write? He put anything into being. And he had this orphanage. And he would say to me, Jimmy, he was always laughing because he felt the life of faith was a life of laughter.

And he would say to me, Jimmy, come into my study and let's have a time of prayer. Well, I said, if you just quit laughing, I could get praying. But he said, it's so funny.

He said, it's just glorious what God's going to do when we pray. I said, well, how long we pray for? Just as he said about three o'clock in the morning, pray through. Well, the long prayer's tonight.

And he just told the Lord all the different things that happened. And then we got from Jesus, glory, hallelujah, the coming, the coming. Well, one was a church, you say, and one was church at any moment now.

And one man, I couldn't just the other morning. And he said, I'm a house painter. And he and Mr. White just told us that was going to happen.

Now, friend, I know that we all have, but I believe, friend, that faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the word of God. And I believe it would keep reading the word of God, friend, that our faith would be, our faith would be strengthened. Many times when I'm carrying weary, my old heart palpating, I get discouraged when I have so much to do and all hell's against me.

But glory be to God the moment I disappear. And I believe that my God can do anything. Oh, friend, let us ask God that we might be dynamic in faith.

If we were dynamic in faith, we would see thousands. We have to be dynamic in evangelism. Luke 19:10, the Son of Man has come to seek out.

And the spirit of evangelism is the spirit of the Lord Jesus Christ. And I wonder tonight, do we, are we dynamic in evangelism? Now, I believe the time has come. I believe, friend, read the book of Acts.

You have the fullness of the Holy Spirit. You have addressed in evangelism. You must go out after people.

And you know that we're sitting at ease and Zion inside. But every, both young and old, it was a Russian Orthodox, Greek Catholic. And you know, friend, after 20 years, we had 80,000 believers, 80,000 believers.

How do you know that? I can, I can tell you beginning in new places, beginning new, fresh, new places. And within a year, we'd have something like 50 or 60 New Testament churches. Why? Because every believer, then the first pastor of the first Baptist church in Moscow was brought before the secret priest.

He was asked this question, you know, used to call, how many priests? Oh, he said, they're so rotten and bad. No, he says in our Baptist church, every member is a priest. Now that's New Testament Christianity.

Now friend, the work of a pastor, he's a general and his work is to raise up a mighty army of men and women filled with the Holy Ghost, not chocolate soldiers, but men and women who are willing to die for Christ and go out evangelize. And friend, it would be wonderful if we had a new crusade of evangelism. And dear friend, you know, it's not the business of the pastor to win all the souls for Christ.

It's every member winning souls for Jesus Christ. Every member in the church is a soul winner. They're not into the highways and byways so filled with the Holy Ghost.

And friend tonight, I'm a missionary. I'm only home in America because of that, but hundreds of millions have never heard the gospel of Jesus Christ. And my dear friend, we, we, we must be dynamic in our evangelism.

How many souls have you personally won for Christ this year? I close. We must be dynamic in our, our loyalty to the Lord Jesus Christ.

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