CLOTHED WITH POWER 1 Enduo Dunamis

As followers of Jesus, the expectation is that we should be CLOTHED with POWER (Luke 24:44-49).

- * Our Christianity should not be POWERLESS, but POWERFUL.
- * We should be RECOGNISED by the CLOTHES we wear.
- → What does 'clothed with power' look like to you? Would you say your Christianity was powerful or powerless? Do you think people can recognise the empowerment of the Holy Spirit on you? What might happen if they could see it more clearly?

DUNAMIS (Luke 1:35, 4:14, Mark 5:30, Acts 10:38)

- * Means STRENGTH, POWER & ABILITY.
- * INHERENT power that RESIDES in something or someone by virtue of its NATURE.
- → What difference should the Holy Spirit on the inside of you make to your life? Your prayers? Your decisions? Your serving? Your witness?

ENDUO (Colossians 3:12, Ephesians 6:11, Luke 15:22, Isaiah 61:10)

- * Means TO PUT ON & SINK INTO CLOTHING.
- * The imagery in putting on a garment in the Bible often symbolises WHO you REPRESENT, the POSITION you HOLD & the AUTHORITY you CARRY.
- → How do you recognise someone 'clothed' with the Holy Spirit? How do you 'put Him on?'

ELISHA had to be present when ELIJAH died to take possession of his MANTLE, representing his AUTHORITY & ANOINTING.

- st When Elijah ascended, his MANTLE was passed on to ELISHA.
- * When Jesus ascended, his MANTLE passed on to the CHURCH.
- → What authority and anointing did Jesus pass on to His church?

The Point: Jesus' plan for us was that we should LIVE & MINISTER 'enduo dunamis' = CLOTHED with His POWER.

- * Yes, He came to pay the price for our SIN. Yes, He came to be the sacrificial LAMB & cut a new COVENANT. But ultimately, His target was to get the HOLY SPIRIT INTO OUR HEARTS.
- * It's only through the power of the Holy Spirit that His people can exercise His Kingdom RULE & AUTHORITY.

- * Only 'enduo dunamis' can we truly be FRUITFUL & MULTIPLY (Genesis 1:26-28).
- → Compare Genesis 1:26-28 with Matthew 28:18-20 & Acts 1:8. How did The Fall in Genesis 3 affect the outworking of Genesis 1:26-28? How does the pouring out of the Holy Spirit once again facilitate ruling, filling, subduing, being fruitful & multiplying as per Matthew 28:18-20?

4 STAGE JOURNEY

- 1. Through the unfolding of the Old Testament, the PROPHETS started to SEE it (Ezekiel 36:25-27, Isaiah 32:14-15, Joel 2:28-29).
- 2. Jesus began to TEACH it as He progressively PREPARED His disciples for the new PARADIGM (John 3:11, 16:7, Acts 1:8).
- 3. At PENTECOST, Holy Spirit was POURED OUT as predicted (Acts 2:1-4).
- 4. In the Book of Acts, the DISCIPLES started to LIVE 'enduo dunamis' (Mark 16:15-20, Acts 3:6, 1 Corinthians 2:4-5).
- → "Ultimately, Jesus' target was to get the Holy Spirit into our hearts."

 Discuss! Why & how? How did it change the early disciples? How should it change you?

The Danger: We sell the Christian life a long way SHORT of what the Lord PURPOSES for us.

You can only go so far WITHOUT THE HOLY SPIRIT.

There are certain things you just cannot do:

- * Have PROPHETIC INSIGHT
- * DISCERN, know the UNKNOWN, see the FUTURE.
- * HEAL the SICK.
- → What else can you only do in the Holy Spirit's power? What are the limits of Christianity without the Holy Spirit's power?

We're SUPPOSED to live 'enduo dunamis' ... ENERGISED, INSPIRED, DIRECTED, EMPOWERED by the Holy Spirit.

- * Being filled with Spirit moves us from WELL-INTENTIONED, but FRUSTRATED to EMPOWERED Christianity.
- * Don't SETTLE for merely 'walking according to the FLESH; it's time for ENDUO DUNAMIS (Ephesians 3:16,20).
- → Describe 'well-intentioned but frustrated.' Describe 'empowered.' What's the difference between knowing about the Holy Spirit and experiencing the power of the Holy Spirit? Which is it supposed to be and how do you get there?