

FULLY CLOTHED 6 – Clothed With Power From On High

TEXT: Luke 24:49

ENDUO = To SINK INTO clothing.

DUNAMIS = Inherent, miracle-working POWER, that resides in a person or thing by virtue of their nature.

HUPSOS = FROM HEAVEN ABOVE.

- * Parallel verses: Luke 4:14,9:1, Acts 1:8, Eph 3:16,20,21
 - * The Expectation = As His followers, we should be CLOTHED with POWER.
 - * Our Christianity should not be POWERLESS, but POWERFUL.
- *What does it mean to say that our Christianity should be powerful, not powerless? Which is yours? What does powerful look like? Are there more subtle & understated forms of power than the dramatic, miraculous power we tend instinctively to think of?*
- *What was Jesus' relationship with dunamis?*
- What was the early disciples' relationship with it, before & after Pentecost?*
- What has the church's experience been like through the ages?*

Jesus sent the Holy Spirit so we could be clothed with THIS power

1. Power to exhibit the CHARACTER that comes directly from the NATURE of the Holy Spirit

- * The power is not a SPOOKY FORCE or GOOSEBUMPS, but the PERSON & PERSONALITY, CHARACTER & ATTRIBUTES of God the Holy Spirit.
 - * All that is meant by the word HOLY should DEFINE who we are, INFORM what we do & become what we are KNOWN for.
 - * SELFISHNESS in me DIES and POWERFUL GOD in me comes to LIFE.
 - * Flesh is SUBJUGATED & spirit is ATTENDED to.
 - * He must INCREASE & I must DECREASE.
 - * Learn to YIELD to the dunamis.
 - * Stop IGNORING it & inadvertently PUTTING BACK ON the old robes of 'the very best I can do.'
- *Why do we need 'dunamis' to help us exhibit the holy character of God – to become more patient, gracious, wiser, etc.?*
- *"All that is meant by the word HOLY should define who we are, inform what we do & become what we are known for." Discuss!*
- *Why is an awareness of the 'mantle' so crucial? Do you tend, by default, to operate from 'enduo dunamis' or is it the clothing of the old man? Why or how do we tend to "inadvertently put back on the robes of 'the very best I can do?'"*

2. Power to RESIST TEMPTATION (1 Cor 10:13, Gal 5:16)

- * We're ALL in a spiritual BATTLE with those feisty, antagonistic, unrenewed, inner VOICES that goad, mock & entice us.
- *Describe what that battle looks & feels like & why 'enduo dunamis' is so crucial to winning each round!*
- *Read 1 Cor 10:13 (in your version + the Amplified). What does it teach us?*
- * Good News: Once you have that GARMENT wrapped around your shoulders, you have access to ALL the power you NEED.
 - * Have you learnt what that CONSTRAINING VOICE sounds like? Are you SENSITIVE to it or RESISTANT?
- *Why do we tend to default back to our own way & our own strength? How, instead, can we train ourselves to yield to 'power from on high?'*
- * There's no TEMPTATION too great, MOUNTAIN too high or DITCH too deep that the power cannot cope with.
 - * Jesus told His disciples in John 16:7 → Right now, you're dealing with all that stuff in YOUR OWN STRENGTH, but that POWER is coming your way!
- *What was it like for the Old Testament saints? How did they resist temptation? What advantage do we now have? (see John 16:7)*

3. Power to be WITNESSES for Christ (Acts 1:8)

- * One of the primary reasons you've been given power from on high is so you can TESTIFY to the goodness & glory of God and SHINE His LIGHT in the darkness.
 - * In our OWN strength & ability, we're just going to LOOK LIKE everyone else, but endowed with power from on high, we have all the COURAGE, BOLDNESS & AUTHORITY we need.
- *What does it mean to be 'a witness?'*
- How does 'enduo dunamis' empower, inform, even redirect that?*
- What does that power potentially give us as we serve as His witnesses?*

If we get this: if we learn how to HARNESS the power, we'll be able to:

- * Stand on the PROMISES that PROVE God's Word.
- * Display the CHARACTER that ATTRACTS people to the Light.
- * Overcome the TEMPTATION that has the potential to DESTROY our testimony.

Because we have a JOB to do = Be a WITNESS!

→ *Why are each of these bullet-points invaluable as we attempt to shine His light? How different does our witness look with or without each one?*

RESPONSE: Which is the three different aspects of His power are you seeking the Lord for as a result of listening to this message?