

WAR DEPARTMENT
BASIC TRAINING
The Alert Soldier

SET ON FIRE BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

The famous preacher Charles Finney seemed so anointed by the Holy Spirit that people were often brought under the conviction of sin by just looking at him. When he was speaking at a country place named Sodom, in the state of New York, the congregation began to fall from their seats in every direction and cried for mercy.

WARM UP

In his journal, John Wesley the great 17th century evangelist said, "Monday, January 1, 1739 there were about 60 of our brethren present. About three o'clock in the morning, as we were continuing constantly in prayer, the power of God came mightily upon us insomuch that many cried out for exceeding joy and many fell to the ground.

As soon as we recovered a little from the awe and amazement at the presence of His majesty, we broke out with one voice, "We praise Thee, oh God, we acknowledge Thee to be the Lord."

As a result of this experience John Wesley began to preach with greater anointing than ever.

BACKGROUND

After Jesus rose from the dead He appeared in His resurrection body first to His ten remaining disciples with whom He ate and drank. He then taught them about the kingdom of God and told them to wait in Jerusalem until the Holy Spirit came upon them. Then they would

receive power and they would be witnesses to Him in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria and to the ends of the earth.

During this time He was seen by over 500 witnesses before He ascended into heaven.

READ Acts 1:1-11



QUESTIONS FOR INTERACTION

1. Why was Jesus so insistent that they should wait in Jerusalem?

2. What was the effect upon Peter when the power of the Holy Spirit fell?

CONSIDER THIS

Peter denied Jesus Christ three times during the trial of Jesus. After receiving the power of the Holy Spirit on the day of Pentecost Peter looked at a man who was lame from his mother's womb and told him to rise up and walk in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth. He took him by the right hand and lifted him up and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength and he began to walk, leap, and praise God. (Acts 3:1-8)

Also read Acts 2:41-43, 4:4 and 4:31-33.

3. We see very few healings today in the church of New Zealand. Why is this?

4. How do we encourage New Zealand Christians to believe for the same power of the Holy Spirit in their lives so that the church can have a stronger witness to the unsaved?

5. What should we do in order to see more evidence of God's power in such matters as healing?



WRAP-UP Describe what difference you have noticed in your life since receiving the power of the Holy Spirit.



IT'S TIME FOR PRAY

RESPONSE AS A PROMISE KEEPER

How can I receive more power of the Holy Spirit in my life so I can be a stronger witness for Jesus Christ?

What can I do to encourage my brothers in Jesus Christ to receive this power?