

“Sold Out”

Are We Still on the Market?

Acts 6:8-15

Introduction: Who was the greatest of all time in:
Football, Hockey, Boxing, Basketball

>> We have a hard time relating to such greats but today we would like to look at a great believer who we can not only emulate but also duplicate. He was someone who lived on earth with a heavenly purpose. He was truly Sold out for God.

We need a clear view of the:

I. **Works** – “did great wonders” (vs 1)
Good works are those which God:

A. **Originates** – “*full of faith and power*”

from Faith

+ We do not work to be saved but because we are saved (Ephesians 2:8-10)

Look at description of Stephen in Acts 6:5

+ Full of Faith – Not more faith (quantity) but more permeating faith to the extent that it guided his life

- He allowed and cultivated the ability to Trust God’s Word in the many aspects of his living.
- Not Really an Option –
 - Romans 14:23 – Not of Faith = Sin
 - Hebrews 11:6 – Without Faith - impossible to Please Him

+ Full of Grace – The desire and power to do God’s Will

Desire comes from believing,
Power comes from the Spirit

+ Full of Power , with the Spirit in control there is power, Cp 4:31
without Him = no power for living the Life

>> **Before this only the apostles** had done miracles. Even though God may not do the same kind of miracles in your life today, He does want to some amazing things through you and your life.

**So the real Question is do you believe in God?
If you say Yes, then it be seen by others.**

B. Operates – “among the people”

Operate for Others

+ “Among the People” –

➤ 2 Ideas in this phrase:

➤ 1. Our lives should be about Others

• Jerry Jenkins spoke at CCU this last May

- He spoke of spending 1 ½ years with Billy Graham
- He was Struck by two things about Billy
 - His Humility
 - His focus on Others

➤ 2. Our lives are being seen by others

* Our faith relationship with God will produce fruit, works, and powerful displays.
James 2:14 –18

>> Everything we do seems to be noticed by someone. (exa. Softball team – Steve Lucas, “your team is having a good time)

God owns a tongue which speaks with:

A. Skill– “the wisdom”

B. Spirit – “the Spirit by which he spake”

○

III. **Ways** - “they suborned men” (vs 11-15)

When we are sold out to God, we don’t :

A. **Scandalize** – “suborned”

Suborn to bribe or induce (someone) unlawfully or secretly to perform some misdeed or commit a crime

B. **Sensationalize** – “number of disciples multiplied”

Stir up 2) to throw into commotion, excite, stir up

C. **Spiritualize** – “great company of the priests”

Set up 1c1) to weigh: money to one (because in very early times before the introduction of coinage, the metals used to be weighed)

To give weight to what is being said... they had witnesses lie about what was said to make it sound really bad like heresy

It is a manipulation of the facts to get the desired result.

II. **Words** – “he spake” (vs 9-10)