

## THE POWER OF THE WORD OF GOD-PART 1 THE POWER TO CONVICT MEN OF SIN

### INTRODUCTION

The power that belongs to God is stored in the eternal resource of His own Word–The Bible! Our God is the God of all power! If we wish to draw upon His power, we must not neglect His Powerful Word! (**Hebrews 4:12**)

Martin Luther once said, “*The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me.*” (Martin Luther, “Martin Luther–The Early Years,” *Christian History*, no. 34.)

Frank Minirth of the Minirth & Myer Clinic said this: “*Living the Word of God is much more basic to helping people than psychology will ever be.*” (Frank Minirth, *Leadership*, Vol. 1, no. 4)

### THE WORD OF GOD HAS THE POWER TO CONVICT MEN OF SIN!

#### I. SOME BIBLICAL EXAMPLES OF THIS POWER!

##### A. Peter’s Preaching On The Day Of Pentecost!

(Acts 2:14-42; esp. vs 37)

1. He explained what was happening! (Vs 14-21; His text was Joel 2:28-32)
2. He then preached Jesus! (Vs 22-24)
3. He then uses Psalmist 16:8-11 to cement his preaching of the resurrection. (Vs 25-28)
4. He then explains the true meaning of the words from that Psalm! (Vs 29-36)
5. We see the result of the preaching of the Word–Conviction of sin! (Vs 37)
6. Peter then tells them what they must do! (Vs 38-39)
7. Peter then preaches some more! (Vs 40)

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8. The final result of the preaching! (Vs 41-42)

Let’s look at another example:

#### B. Peter And The Other Apostles Before The Council! (Acts 5:17-42; esp. vs 33)

1. The Apostles were locked up by the council just for being obedient to Christ! (Vs 17-18)
2. The Apostles were released by the angel of the Lord and given a command! (Vs 19-20)
3. The Apostles obeyed the command! (Vs 21a)
4. The council got the stunning news! (Vs 21b-24)
5. The Apostles were found obeying the command they were given! (Vs 25)
6. The Apostles were brought before the council and questioned! (Vs 26-28)
7. Peter and the other Apostles answered! (Vs 29)
8. Peter and the other Apostles preached the Gospel of Jesus! (Vs 30-32)
9. We see the result of the preaching of the Word–Conviction of sin! (Vs 33)
10. We see the counsel of Gamaliel to the council! (Vs 34-39)
11. We see the response of the council! (Vs 40)

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12. We see the response of the Apostles! (Vs 41-42)

Let's look at yet one more example:

**C. Stephen Before The Council! (Acts 6:7 – 7:60)**

1. We see Stephen being what a Christian should be. (6:7-8)
2. We see the opposition to what he was doing! (6:9-10)
3. We see the lengths that the lost world will go to in order to bring down people of faith! (6:11-14)
  - a. They suborned men! (6:11)  
(i.e. Collusion to lie about Stephen!)
  - b. They stirred up the people! (6:12)  
(i.e. A show of force!)
  - c. They set up false witnesses! (6:13-14)  
(i.e. They encouraged others to break the very law of God in bearing false witness!)
4. What the council saw in response! (6:15)
5. We see the question of the high priest! (7:1)
6. We see the preaching of Stephen! (7:2-53)
7. We see the end result of the Word! (7: 54)

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When we look back at what produced the deep conviction of sin we see in these passages, we will find that it was **the Word of God preached by Peter, by the Apostles and by Stephen in the power of the Holy Spirit!**

**II. LOOK AT WHAT THE APOSTLE PAUL SAID ABOUT THE POWER OF THE LAW OF GOD! (Romans 7:9-14)**

*Cf. Romans 3:19-28*

**III. LOOK AT WHAT THE APOSTLE PAUL SAID ABOUT THE POWER OF PROPHECYING! (1 Corinthians 14:24-25)**

**Conclusion**

The Bible tells us that the Holy Spirit is the author of the Word of God. So, we need to understand that it is the Word of God, used by the Spirit of God, that pricks men's hearts and minds!

Author Mark Twain once said, "*Most people are bothered by those Scripture passages which they cannot understand. But for me, the passages in Scripture which trouble me most are those which I do understand.*"  
(Mark Twain, *Christian Reader*, Vol. 33, no. 5)

**The Word Of God Produces Conviction In The Sinner That Can Bring Them To Salvation!**

No sinner can be born again apart from the conviction of sin that is produced by the Holy Spirit by the Word of God in the sinner's life!

**The Word Of God Produces Conviction In The Saint That Can Bring Them To Sanctification!**

Conforming them to the image of the Son of God!

**THE WORD OF GOD HAS THE POWER TO CONVICT MEN OF SIN!**