

## The Word Says



### What will you do with the power you will receive?

Acts 1:8 tells us: “But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit comes on you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.” So, each born-again believer inherits a question, “What will you do with the power you will receive?” The power, in other words, is already there; what will you do to receive and apply it that honors God, its genesis?

The Bible says that one day all people will bow down to the Lord. And no matter how powerful someone might be (or think they are), we will *all* lay our crowns at God’s feet—because there is only one King in heaven. He alone is worthy of all glory, honor, and praise.

We honor certain people because they have a perceived value and because of their position. Deuteronomy 5:16 states that we are to honor our parents. Leviticus 19:32 encourages us to honor the elderly. And 1 Peter 2:13 admonishes us to honor those who rule. *But there are dozens of Bible verses that tell us to honor God.* Not only do they instruct us to honor Him, they also show us how to do so! So, back to the question, “What will you do with the power you will receive?”

What I do begin with me prostrate, laying every crown that gloried me at God’s feet: He is my King and therefore alone worthy of glory, honor, and my praise.

- I value and regard my time as precious; so I lay it at His feet: living forward, I honor God with my time. Psalm 144:4, Isaiah 58:13-14, and Colossians 4:5 affirm, He gave time to me; I am a steward of His time—I use what He gave to applying it in His honor.
- He gave me talents and abilities as Matthew 25:14-30 make clear. I am a steward of His grace, mercy, and love—I dedicate each ability and skill to Him and pledge it to His honor.
- He gave me this body. I respect, and as of now, will no longer abuse, what He gave me to walk around in.
- I survive how I do not know! No matter how I “jack up” my finances and blame others for the my financial condition, He provided and provides for me. As Jesus said, “Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” (Matthew 6:21). I therefore honor Him with my treasure. I will glorify Him by applying what He made me steward

over to benefit and teach others that He is the source. I will honor Him with the treasure over which He made me steward.

- God gave me life. There are many Bible verses (Isaiah 29:13, Proverbs 3:5, Proverbs 4:23, Proverbs 23:26, and Psalm 51:10) that encourage us to make God number one in our heart. I give God thanks for His breath and yield to His Holy Spirit power, as it comforts, teaches, admonishes, and directs me. Teach me no hesitation as I respond to each obedience assignment.

So, back to the question, “What will you do with the power you will receive?” I made **God the sole proprietor of my heart**. Matthew 6:24 makes it clear when it says, “No one can serve two masters. Either you will hate the one and love the other, or you will be devoted to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve both God and money.” Exodus 20:2-3 commands us not to have any other gods before the Lord, and Jesus said in Mark 12:30 that the greatest commandment is to, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.”

With the “free will” God gave me, I chose God and make Jesus Lord of your life—not just with my words, but also with my actions. In accord with Matthew 7:21, Malachi 1:6-14 and Colossians 3:23-24 I carve out time for Him and commit my best to Him.

God, “How can I honor You today? Please help me to honor You with the time, talent, temple, treasure, and ticker You’ve given me.” Jesus Christ gave His life for me, and He promised to give the Holy Spirit to help me in all things. Jesus kept His promise. The Holy Spirit lives inside me—to counsel, comfort, and guide me. As 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 declares,

“Do you not know that your bodies are temples of the Holy Spirit, who is in you, whom you have received from God? You are not your own; you were bought at a price. Therefore {I} honor God with {my} your bodies.”

God promises us that we will receive His power.

“What will you do with the power you will receive?” I belong to the Lord; may I honor Him 100% with every gift He has given me.