



92. Spirit Power or Wealth?

“A man who had been lame from his mother's womb was being carried along, whom they used to set down every day at the gate of the temple ... in order to beg alms of those who were entering the temple. When he saw Peter and John about to go into the temple, he began asking to receive alms. But Peter, along with John, fixed his gaze on him and said, ‘Look at us!’ ... ‘I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene – walk!’ And seizing him by the right hand, he raised him up; and immediately his feet and his ankles were strengthened.” Acts 3:2-7

Before He ascended, Jesus said, *“You will receive power,”* Acts 1:8. And the Disciples did receive that

power of the Spirit at Pentecost. Peter and John had it. And God healed a crippled man through them. Afterwards, Peter and John continued preaching, teaching, witnessing, and writing 7 New Testament books. They didn't detour into an exclusive ministry of temporary physical healing. They stayed focussed on *eternal* spiritual healing.

Peter said, *“I do not possess silver and gold, but what I do have I give to you: in the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene – walk!”* Many wealthy Western churches cannot say, *We do not possess silver and gold*. They are like rich corporations with huge budgets, administrators, buildings, and business managers. But can they say, *“In the name of Jesus Christ the Nazarene – walk!”*? There is nothing wrong with using wealth and organization to further the Gospel. But don't let these things displace the power of the Holy Spirit in your life and church. Is your power from the Holy Spirit or from your wealth?