

SERMON NOTES

Apostle John Varner | Courts of Praise | May 17, 2026

Do You Have Power?

THE MESSAGE

- The power of the Holy Spirit was not given to remove believers from the world — it was given to send them into it
- Hunger is the door to the Holy Ghost; the promise in Acts 2:39 belongs to every believer who asks
- Speaking in tongues connects the believer to a dimension of prayer that bypasses the mind and the enemy's interference

DEFINITION

- **Dunamis (Greek)** — the “explosive power” in Acts 1:8 — not merely authority but the raw supernatural capacity of God working through a believer
- **Alêtheia (Greek)** — translated “truth” in John 17:17; means “unconcealment” — the active unveiling of what has been hidden; not static information but a living, sanctifying force

WHAT GOD SAYS

- **Acts 1:8** — “But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”
- **Acts 2:39** — “For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.”
- **John 17:17** — “Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.”
- **Judges 1:15** — “Give me a blessing: for thou hast given me a south land; give me also springs of water.”

KEY TEACHING POINTS

- The Holy Spirit sends you in, not out — the rapture is not the point; penetrating darkness is
- Speaking in tongues is the evidence of the baptism and a daily weapon of prayer, not just a one-time event
- Hunger is the starting place — God is not weary of being asked; He is a Father who wants to give
- Alêtheia (truth) means unconcealment — when God opens scripture to you, power is being released, not just information transferred
- The problem is not the devil; it is the person in the mirror who is not fully tapped into God

- The Spirit-filled believer always has something to say — every encounter is an assignment, not an accident

APPLICATION

- Pursue the baptism of the Holy Spirit with the hunger of Caleb’s daughter — get up from where you’ve settled and ask God for something specific
- Use speaking in tongues as a daily discipline — it bypasses your mind and the enemy’s interference
- Treat God’s Word as unconcealment — when scripture opens up to you, that is power being released into your situation
- Stay full and walk awake — the world is carrying loads, and you have been given something to help people unload

KEY SCRIPTURES

Reference	Verse (NKJV)
Judges 1:14-15	<i>And it came to pass, as she came unto him, that she moved him to ask of her father a field: and she lighted off her ass; and Caleb said unto her, What wouldest thou? Who answered, Give me a blessing: for thou hast given me a south land; give me also springs of water.</i>
Acts 1:8	<i>But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.</i>
Acts 2:39	<i>For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even as many as the Lord our God shall call.</i>
John 17:1	<i>Father, the hour is come; glorify thy Son, that thy Son also may glorify thee.</i>
John 17:17	<i>Sanctify them through thy truth: thy word is truth.</i>

KEY QUOTES

“Your problem is not the devil. Your problem is that person you see in the mirror. Because you get that person tapped into God just right, the devil ain’t going to stay around very long.” — Apostle John Varner

“God wants to put heaven into His people so that His people can carry heaven into the earth.” — Apostle John Varner

“The power of the Holy Ghost is not the power to rapture us. He’s given us the power of the Holy Ghost to send us into the earth — to penetrate that where the darkness is.” — Apostle John Varner

“There’s something about being able to talk to God in a language that your brain can’t goof up. There’s something about talking to God in a language that the devil can’t get in there and mess up.” — Apostle John Varner

TAKEAWAYS

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- The Holy Spirit is not a bonus feature — He is the equipment God gave you for the mission you were born for
 - You were not saved to escape the world but to penetrate it with the love and power of Jesus
 - God is looking for a people hungry enough to ask — get up and ask Him for something
 - Speaking in tongues is a gift you can receive by faith, and it opens a dimension of prayer your natural language cannot access