

Measuring The Power

Description

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Acts 1:1-11

In basic physics, power is measured by the amount of work (energy or force) expended over a period of time. The "power" Jesus promised to His disciples in Acts 1 is specifically focused on the mission He envisioned for them–to become His witnesses.

Jesus' followers get into trouble when they confuse the type of power the Holy Spirit brings with human definitions of power. A witness in a court of law is "one who bears testimony." The witness of Christ bears testimony to His grace: through a changed life, Christlike service, and the faithful proclamation and teaching of His Word. It is an expanding, world-encompassing vision: "To the ends of the earth" (Acts 1:8). It expands not only in distance, but over time. It is the continuing mission of Christ's followers today. The units of this power are not measured by any of the usual standards; rather, they are measured in the transformed lives of those who receive and believe that testimony.

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