

CouplesInBloom.com – Power Test

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Electric utilities often use the phrase “**power and light**”, as the electricity they provide is often thought of in those two primary usages. Ironically, the light requires the same power other devices use; however, light is listed by itself... for good reasons. The Bible talks about power and about light; interesting to learn... and important to understand:

The Old Testament lists 18 different kinds of power; the New Testament lists six different kinds. The entire Bible, however, only lists one (1) kind of light. The amount of light varies from dim to bright, but still only one kind of light exists. Light and dark are not opposites; darkness is the absence of light ⇒ John 1:4-5. False religion rejects truths / absolutes such as light / linear thinking and instead concocts opposites / circular thinking.

Christianity requires discipline, hence the phrase, “No pain, no gain.” Zechariah 4:1-7 ⇒ says **Holy Spirit** power is **gain that does NOT come from pain**. The verse saying, “...not by might, nor by power” is *literally translated*, ‘not by twisting, whirling, perverting, being in pain, trembling, being wounded, firmness, vigor, force, capacity, means, or production.’ This Biblical checklist provides an authentic **Power Test** to distinguish things **we thought** were spiritually powerful from things that **actually are**.

First: strip the ‘spiritual’ presentation naked: Hebrews 4:13 ⇒ “...all things are naked and opened to the eyes of Him with whom we have to do.” This means removing human attachments, including what our senses saw and heard. Instead, reread it plainly, alone (this is called ‘quiet time’ ⇒ Mark 1:35). Get to the heart / spirit of the communication.

Next: check if the thing is **objective about the Creator** (Christianity approaching man) or **subjective about the creation** (man approaching Christianity)? **Christ** is the topic of Christianity and therefore has Holy Spirit power ⇒ Luke 22:42b. **Man** is the topic of carnality and therefore requires man’s might and power ⇒ 1 Corinthians 3:4. Here is the

glaring irony: many who quote, “Not by might, not by power, but by My (God’s) Spirit” say so **but keep man** as the topic: *their sermon is STILL about making God answer man!*

The angel showed Zechariah oil pipes (Holy Spirit power) going to each church (v.2). Then the angel **emphasized:** **God’s undeserved spiritual power moves your mountains and not your mighty human power presentations. God is the topic here!!!** (v.6-7). It is sickening to see modern day oblivion to this Scripture in human-oriented ‘Christianity’ which reversedly preaches God tending to whining mankind instead of an incredibly grateful mankind desperately seeking God to serve Him and the lost while there is time!

Imagining a marriage with such selfishness may help illustrate the angel’s point in ⇒ Zechariah 4: spouses vowed to serve each other for life but their individual paradigms (ways of thinking) are about being served. This is **not** God’s definition of relationship; **covenant is:** I am faithful to you regardless of your faithfulness to me ⇒ 2 Timothy 2:13. As those spouses fool themselves into thinking their marriage is good, so God’s Bride the church can fool itself into thinking it has intimacy with God ⇒ Matthew 7:21-23. Stop!!!

Why we say these difficult words: better to be humbled now than doomed later. Take a **Power Test** often; keep Christ in Christianity, not just in Christmas; it is about **Him**. ♥