

RELEASING GOD'S POWER

What did the people in Jesus' hometown expect Him to be like when He came back home? What they got was not what they expected. They should have accepted Him and listened to His teaching. Right? How could the most powerful personality in the universe be limited in His power? I am sure Jesus could and can do anything He wants and anywhere He wants. But, why should He, when the people He wants to minister to really do not accept Him for Who He is?

Let me share with you two possible causes in our lives that could be limiting the blessings Jesus has for us:

1. We have a distorted view of Jesus, and it affects Who He is to us and what He can do in our lives. We limit what God can do because of our limited viewpoint, and it limits our worship too. Our worship becomes regulated to a certain schedule and style, and we give more virtue to the preacher who can get us out on time. Our prayers become short and impersonal, and rob us of a true relationship with a living God. We limit Jesus when we look at situations and do not believe that God can do anything about them, when we do not believe God can use us to do anything great, when we do not believe God can bring revival and save the lost through us.

2. We say we have faith, but we don't show it. We have not only put a limit on what Jesus can do, but we also limit what we are willing to expect from Him. Who do we worship? This is Jesus. This is God. There is no limit to His power, but there is a limit to the faith and reception you and I give Him. It is our lack of faith that is the very reason that today we may say, "God, I don't see great things happening in my life and my church!" The message here is simple: Unbelief limits the power of God, but faith can also unleash God's power to do great and mighty things.

Could it be in some churches that they no longer rely on God's power, but now rely on their money, the wisdom of the leadership, the energy of their preacher, and the efficiency of their programs? Have they lost any faith or amazement in the power of Jesus Christ? None of this will ever happen unless we turn to Jesus with the expectation that He can do mighty things. He will not work in an individual's life, or the life of any church that is lacking great faith.

Mark 9:23, "Everything is possible for him who believes."

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