

The Holy Spirit and the Ministry

By

Charles H. Spurgeon

The Holy Spirit is able to make the Word as successful now as in the days of the Apostles. He can bring in by hundreds and thousands, as easily as by ones and twos. The reason why we are not more prosperous is, that we have not the Holy Spirit with us in might and power as in early times. If we had the Spirit scaling our ministry with power, it would signify very little about our talent. Men might be poor and uneducated; their words might be broken and ungrammatical; their words might have none of the polished periods of Hall, or glorious thunders of Chalmers; but if the might of the Spirit attended them the humblest evangelists would be more successful than the most learned of divine, or the most eloquent of preachers.

It is extraordinary grace, not talent, that wins the day. It is extraordinary spiritual power, not extraordinary mental power that we need. Mental power may fill a chapel, but spiritual power fills the church; mental power may gather a congregation, spiritual power will save souls. We want spiritual power.

O we know some before whom we shrink into nothing as to talent, but who have no spiritual power; and when they speak they have not the Holy Spirit with them. But we know others-simple-hearted, worthy men, who speak their country dialect, and who stand up to preach in their place, and the Spirit of God clothes every word with power. Hearts are broken, souls are saved, and sinners are born again. O Spirit of the living God we want Thee. Thou art the life, the soul, the source of Thy people's success. Without Thee they can do nothing; with Thee they can do everything.

--C. H. SPURGEON.