

HOLY SPIRIT: A SPIRIT OF POWER

“For God has not given us a spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind” (II Timothy 1:7).

Fear is a lack of boldness. Boldness is a lack of fear. Peter and John were arrested for preaching the resurrection of Jesus. While before the Jewish high court, Peter and John fearlessly made their defense by preaching Christ. “Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John...they realized they had been with Jesus” (Acts 2:13). The Sanhedrin commanded Peter and John not to preach about Jesus. Their response was, “For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.” When they were released they returned to their companions and prayed for boldness to do what the court had prohibited them from doing, “and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit, and they spoke the word of God with boldness” (Acts 2:31). Boldness comes from a spirit of power and love and a sound mind. Sound means disciplined. A disciplined mind is one that has been instructed and is empowered by the Holy Spirit. A disciplined mind empowered by the Holy Spirit will result in a freedom to speak for God. Boldness is freedom. Freedom comes from yielding our spirit to the Holy Spirit for His use. Freedom bypasses the emotions and energizes the mind through a surrendered will. Freedom comes when our will is the same as the Holy Spirit’s will. The result is a plethora of love being spoken in the name of Jesus.