



# Power From on High

**Series:** Power From On High.  
**Title:** Showdown at high noon!,  
Part 2  
**Lesson:** 55

**Text:** Acts 9:1-9  
**Date:** Sept 24, 2023

Acts 1:8 but you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be My witnesses both in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and even to the remotest part of the earth.”

Acts 9:1–9

**Five common realities in every conversion:**

**1. God takes the initiative to pursue us.**

**2. God exposes our sin.**

**3. We surrender our will to the \_\_\_\_\_  
of Christ in salvation.**

” 5 And he said, “Who are You, Lord?” And He said, “I am Jesus whom you are persecuting,

## It was here that Saul got saved.

1. He called Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.

**“Lord”** [kurios] -

1 Corinthians 12:3 Therefore I make known to you that no one speaking by the Spirit of God says, “Jesus is accursed”; and no one can say, **“Jesus is Lord,”** except by the Holy Spirit.

John 15:26 “When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth who proceeds from the Father, **He will testify about Me,**

27 Then He said to Thomas, “Reach here with your finger, and see My hands; and reach here your hand and put it into My side; and do not be unbelieving, but believing.” 28 Thomas answered and said to Him, **“My Lord and my God!”**

2. He \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_  
**the Lord’s voice.**

John 10:14–16 “I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me, 15 even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. 16 “I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become one flock with one shepherd.

**“they WILL hear my voice”**

**“they WILL become one flock with one shepherd”**

Acts 22: 9 “And those who were with me saw the light, to be sure, but **did not understand** the voice of the One who was speaking to me.

**3. His own \_\_\_\_\_.**

Galatians 1:11–12 For I would have you know, brethren, that the **gospel** which was preached by me is not according to man. 12 For I neither received it from man, nor was I taught it, but I received it through **a revelation of Jesus Christ.**

5a. And He said, “I am Jesus whom you are persecuting,

**“I am”**

Exodus 3:14 God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM”; and He said, “Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, ‘**I AM** has sent me to you.’ ”

John 8:56–59 “Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad.” 57 So the Jews said to Him, “You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?” 58 Jesus said to them, “Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, **I am.**” 59 Therefore they picked up stones to throw at Him, but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple.

**John's gospel records seven statements where Jesus says "I am".**

**"I am the bread of life"** (John 6:35, 41, 48, 51)

**"I am the light of the world"** (John 8:12; 9:5)

**"I am the good shepherd"** (John 10:11, 14)

**"I am the resurrection and the life"** (John 11:25)

**"I am the way and the truth and the life"** (John 14:6)

**"I am the true vine"** (John 15:1, 5)

John 18:4–5 So Jesus, knowing all the things that were coming upon Him, went forth and said to them, "Whom do you seek?" 5 They answered Him, "Jesus the Nazarene." He said to them, **"I am He."** And Judas also, who was betraying Him, was standing with them.

6 So when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground.

**"Jesus"** [iesous] - "Jehovah is salvation" or "Jehovah is the Savior"

A controversy in the church

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**The debate is centered on the \_\_\_\_\_  
of saving faith.**

**"Free Grace"**

1. It ignores the standards that God sets forth for the Christian life.

2. Because of their minimal expectation, many are deceived into thinking they have eternal life when they do not.

### **“Reformed view”**

1. Salvation is based on God’s sovereign grace through faith but there must be evidences of a changed life such as repentance, obedience, and good works as a result of one’s conversion.

Titus 2:11–14 - “For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation for all people, training us to renounce ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright, and godly lives in the present age, waiting for our blessed hope, the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave himself for us to **redeem** us from all lawlessness and to **purify** for himself a people for his own possession who are **zealous for good works**”

Acts 22:10 “And I said, ‘What shall I do, Lord?’

4. We are \_\_\_\_\_ to serve Christ.

6 but get up and enter the city, and it will be told you what you must do.”

## “get up and enter”

Acts 9:15 But the Lord said to him, “Go, for he is a **chosen instrument of Mine**, to bear My name before the Gentiles and kings and the sons of Israel;

Acts 26:16 ‘But get up and stand on your feet; for this purpose I have appeared to you, to **appoint you** a minister and a witness not only to the things which you have seen, but also to the things in which I will appear to you;

1 Timothy 1:12–16 I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has strengthened me, because He considered me faithful, **putting me into service**, 13 even though I was formerly a blasphemer and a persecutor and a violent aggressor. Yet I was shown mercy because I acted ignorantly in unbelief;

John 15:16 “You did not choose Me but I chose you, and appointed you that you would go and bear fruit ...

2 Corinthians 5:18–20 Now all these things are from God, who reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation, 19 namely, that God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and He has committed to us the **word** of reconciliation. 20 Therefore, we are **ambassadors** for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

7 The men who traveled with him stood speechless, hearing the voice but seeing no one.

Acts 22:9 “And those who were with me saw the light, to be sure, but did not understand the voice of the One who was speaking to me.

**5 We will \_\_\_\_\_ His commands.**

8 Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; and leading him by the hand, they brought him into Damascus.

1 John 3:7 Little children, make sure no one deceives you; the one who practices righteousness is righteous, just as He is righteous;

10 By this the children of God and the children of the devil are obvious: anyone who does not practice righteousness is not of God, nor the one who does not love his brother.

Luke 6:46–49 “Why do you call Me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ and **do not do what I say**? 47 “Everyone who comes to Me and hears My words and **acts** on them, I will show you whom he is like: 48 he is like a man building a house, who dug deep and laid a foundation on the rock; and when a flood occurred, the torrent burst against that house and could not shake it, because it had been well built.

49 “But the one who has heard and has **not acted** accordingly, is like a man who built a house on the ground without any foundation; and the torrent burst against it and immediately it collapsed, and the ruin of that house was great.”

9 And he was three days without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

## Implication

Salvation creates a new life that \_\_\_\_\_ itself to the will of Christ.

2 Corinthians 5:17 Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a **new creature**; the old things passed away; behold, new things have come.

## Discussion Guide

1. We have learned that God is sovereign over salvation. How would you explain this to someone who disagrees?
2. Lordship salvation demands virtues of repentance, obedience, and good works. Present-day evangelicalism, by and large, ignores these warnings. Why is that so dangerous and misleading?
3. Saul's conversion did not involve an evangelist. What does that say about salvation?
4. From today's sermon, what was the most important point?



**ANSWERS:** Lordship, Lord, heard, understood, testimony, Lordship Salvation, nature, commissioned, obey, yields