

THE *REAL APPEAL* OF THE CHARISMATIC MOVEMENT

1COR. 4:8-17

What is the real appeal of the Charismatic Movement?

I. The *appeal* of authenticity.

II. The *appeal* of authority/ power.

III. The *appeal* of simplicity &/ immediacy

IV. The appeal of antiquity &/ apostolicity

Acts 3:11 ; 5:1-12

Acts 5:15-16 Inasmuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid *them* on beds and couches, **that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.** There came also a multitude *out* of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

Acts 9:32-35; Acts 9:36-43

Acts 19:11-12 And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul: **So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.**

We want it just like the early church! We want the power, authority, miracles, excitement, even the ability to call down fire from heaven! And, there is the stark contrast between the book of Acts & the typical church today!

What does God say?

1. We (& they) can't have it!

The book of Acts was apostolic, unique and unrepeatable!

Ephesians 2:20 And are built upon the **foundation** of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*;

1 Corinthians 9:1-2 Am I not an apostle? am I not free? have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord? are not ye my work in the Lord? If I be not an apostle unto others, yet doubtless I am to you: for the seal of mine apostleship are ye in the Lord.

Acts 1:21-22 Wherefore of these men **which have companied with us all the time that the Lord Jesus went in and out among us, Beginning from the baptism of John, unto that same day that he was taken up from us, must one be ordained to be a witness with us of his resurrection.**

2 Corinthians 12:12 Truly **the signs of an apostle** were wrought among you in all patience, in signs, and wonders, and mighty deeds.

2. We (& they) don't understand it!

The book of Acts covers 30+ years not 30 minutes!

1 Corinthians 4:11 Even unto this present hour we both **hunger**, and **thirst**, and are **naked**, and are **buffeted**, and **have no certain dwellingplace**;

Matthew 8:19-20 And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. And Jesus saith unto him, **The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head.**

Acts 3:6 Then Peter said, **Silver and gold have I none**; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

Acts 12:1-2 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth *his* hands to vex certain of the church. **And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.**

Carefully selected verses can make this seem so different → but it is what it is & it is all of what it is!

3. We don't really want all of it!

Acts 12:1-2 Now about that time Herod the king stretched forth *his* hands to vex certain of the church. And he killed James the brother of John with the sword.

Acts 5:40-42 And to him they agreed: and when they had called the apostles, **and beaten them**, they commanded that they should not speak in the name of Jesus, and let them go. And they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for his name. And daily in the temple, and in every house, they ceased not to teach and preach Jesus Christ.

Revelation 1:9 I John, who also am your brother, and companion in tribulation, and in the kingdom and patience of Jesus Christ, **was in the isle that is called Patmos, for the word of God, and for the testimony of Jesus Christ.**

V. The *appeal* of liberty

1 Corinthians 1:2 Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them that are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called *to be* saints, **with all that in every place call upon the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours:**

1 Corinthians 4:17 For this cause have I sent unto you Timotheus, who is my beloved son, and faithful in the Lord, who shall bring you into remembrance of my ways **which be in Christ, as I teach every where in every church.**

1 Corinthians 7:17 But as God hath distributed to every man, as the Lord hath called every one, so let him walk. **And so ordain I in all churches.**

1 Corinthians 11:16 But if any man seem to be contentious, we have no such custom, **neither the churches of God.**

1 Corinthians 14:32-40 And the spirits of the prophets are subject to the prophets. For God is not *the author* of confusion, but of peace, **as in all churches of the saints.** Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but *they are commanded* to be under obedience, as also saith the law. And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church. **What? came the word of God out from you? or came it unto you only?** If any man think himself to be a prophet, or spiritual, let him acknowledge that the things that I write unto you are the commandments of the Lord. But if any man be ignorant, let him be ignorant. Wherefore, brethren, covet to prophesy, and forbid not to speak with tongues. Let all things be done decently and in order.

1 Corinthians 16:1-2 Now concerning the collection for the saints, **as I have given order to the churches of Galatia, even so do ye.** Upon the first *day* of the week let every one of you lay by him in store, as *God* hath prospered him, that there be no gatherings when I come.

Matthew 7:1 Judge not, that ye be not judged.

Ephesians 4:30 And grieve not the holy Spirit of God, whereby ye are sealed unto the day of redemption.

1 John 4:8 He that loveth not knoweth not God; for God is love.

Fundamentalists believe in liberty & freedom!

1. Christy gives us liberty!

Galatians 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty wherewith Christ hath made us free, and be not entangled again with the yoke of bondage.

Romans 8:2 For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death.

2. Scripture obeyed & applied is the source of true liberty!

Psalms 119:45 And I will walk at liberty: for I seek thy precepts.

James 1:25 But whoso looketh into the perfect law of liberty, and continueth *therein*, he being not a forgetful hearer, but a doer of the work, this man shall be blessed in his deed.

3. Christian liberty is freedom from sin's dominion & the freedom to do right.

John 8:36 If the Son therefore shall make you free, ye shall be free indeed.

Romans 8:1-4 *There is* therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus hath made me free from the law of sin and death. For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:

That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

1 Peter 2:16 As free, and **not** using *your* liberty for a cloke of maliciousness, but as the servants of God.

1 John 5:3 For **this is the love of God, that** we keep his commandments: and his commandments are not grievous.

Galatians 5:13-14 For, brethren, ye have been called unto liberty; only *use not* liberty for an occasion to the flesh, but by love serve one another. For all the law is fulfilled in one word, *even* in this; Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.

VI. The *appeal* of (American, secular) orthodoxy

Pentecostalism began in America in 1901 & exploded after 1960 & 1980→ and there are very good reasons for this! Charismatics have in many ways caught the wave of American culture & they are in many ways similar to American culture.

1. Radical individualism

A religion of the heart or how you feel, or of your own experience

2 kinds of religion:

A. A religion of the heart

Matthew 7:1 Judge not, that ye be not judged.

Judges 17:6 In those days *there was* no king in Israel, *but* every man did *that which was* right in his own eyes.

Judges 21:25 In those days *there was* no king in Israel: every man did *that which was* right in his own eyes.

B. A religion of the book

2. Radical egalitarianism

Everyone & everyone's opinions, ideas & feelings are radically equal. There are no absolutes.

1 Tim. 2:9-15; 1 Cor. 14:32-40; 1 Tim. 3:1-8

3. Radical anti-traditionalism

They hate anything older than right now & right here.