

## July 6. The Secret of Power

**J.R. Miller:**

**"When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases" Luke 9:1**

**The first thing is always to come to Christ Himself. We can do nothing â€" until we have been to Him. We should take every commission from His lips, and go out always with the blessing of His touch upon our heads.**

**It is related of one of Wellington's officers that when commanded, during a battle, to do some perilous duty, he seemed to hesitate. He did not for a moment shrink from the hazardous service â€" but he said to the duke, "Let me, before I go, have one grip of your all-conquering hand, and then I can do it." There is no duty too perilous, no toil too heavy, no task too responsible â€" if, as we start, we have the inspiration of Christ's hand-grasp and his cheering words.**

**Christ alone can give power for the work He bids us do. His followers are to have authority over demons. Any one who tries to cast out demons in his own strength, whether the demon be in himself, or in some other person â€" will meet only miserable failure. A man may rule nations and conquer kingdoms â€" and yet be unable to eject one demon from his own heart. Alexander conquered the world â€" but he was overthrown by the demons of appetite and passion. Men are forever foolishly trying to battle unaided â€" with the evil of their own natures; but they fail in the struggle.**

**The same is true of power over demons in others. Once the disciples, in Christ's absence, tried to cast out an evil spirit, and could not do it. Yet they ought to have been able in Christ's name, to cast out the demon. Jesus said afterward that the reason they could not do it was that they had no faith. He wants every follower of his to have power over all forms of evil in this world; not miraculous power, such as he gave the apostles â€" but real power. And if only we have faith in Him, He will always give us power.**