



POWER LUNCH

Volume II – Issue 8

The Power Lunch Newsletter An Exousia Ministry

August 2004

The Power of Participation



If it pleases the king, let a decree be issued for their destruction, and I will pay ten thousand talents of silver into the hands of those who have charge of the king's business, so that they may put it into the king's treasuries.

Esther 3:9

This single verse in the book of Esther speaks of a dangerous political decision for a nation at its highest level of government. The issue is literally life and death as King Ahasuerus has the power to take life by signing this decree. In addition to the enormous power exercised by the king, we also see the influence that money has on the political process. Also, the fact that this story is biblical indicates that there is some participatory role that believers should play when influence and economics are involved.

Certainly in this election year, every indication is that there has been an enormous rise within most communities as to the outcome of this year's votes. Several factors obviously have played a role in this.

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Rev. Matthew L. Watley
Founder/D.C. Host Minister

Crusade for Christ! PL BRINGS REVIVAL TO THE STREETS!

A Need for More Feeding By Garry Brown

I had been speaking with the Lord for quite some time concerning the need for more spiritual feeding for myself. Though my worshipping at church on Sunday provided some, I personally needed more. Through my limited vision, I could not see the place that was going to provide that for me. However, God answers prayers!

I had been working in Baltimore for the past few years, and I sincerely wanted to be back in the Washington, DC area. I was led to a position at Amtrak where I once worked back in the mid 80's. I renewed some old relationships and established new ones and through my good friend Richard Brown, I was led to Power Lunch. I was truly amazed at what God was doing in a movie theatre. Praise and worship during the week and during the lunch hour! The first time I heard the Rev. Matthew L. Watley preach and more importantly, teach, I knew that God had destined for me to gain my additional nourishment here.



Garry Brown

I am so fulfilled with the word of God as it is delivered by Rev. Watley and the various ministers he has invited to teach in his absence. As a result of God's commitment to me by providing the additional feeding, I have also committed more to Him by volunteering my services to the ongoing ministry of Power Lunch. For as it states in Ephesians 4:11-13, "It was he who gave some to be apostles, some to be prophets, some to be evangelists, and some to be pastors and teachers, to prepare God's people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of the Son of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of the fullness of Christ." After all, aren't we no more than servants for the Lord?

I have been blessed by the camaraderie of each volunteer and the friendliness that is extended to one another and the other worshippers. Through my blessing from the Lord with Power Lunch, I have obtained the additional feeding from the Lord to allow me to go to a higher level in Him.

Garry Brown serves as a member of Power Lunch's Leadership Team.

ISSUE HIGHLIGHTS

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Rev. Matthew L. Watley

A Need for More Feeding
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Taking It To The Streets
PL's Annual Crusade for Christ

Announcements and
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Taking it to the Streets with *Crusade for Christ*

The mission and ministry of Jesus was not temple dependent or location specific. In fact, Jesus spent most of his time bringing the word into the streets and villages of the region. Power Lunch's **Crusade for Christ** provides an opportunity for area churches to come out from behind their walls and share the word with the community. Help us bring revival to the streets of Washington, DC by coming out August 25, 2004 to hear a special message from Rev. Watley and to support our annual Crusade.



The city of Nazareth

For Information on Power Lunch, Exousia ministries and Leadership Lessons, visit us at www.powerlunchonline.com.

The Power of Participation

Rev. Matthew L. Watley

Article continued from front page

The Florida election rigging in the 2000 election, the 9/11 attacks and the new climate of fear, the economic crisis of the last few years, and highly divisive issues such as same-sex marriage have all played a role. For the first time in at least a generation, people believe that this election is dealing with life and death issues, and they are acting on those beliefs. The question must be raised, "What should believers do? The answer is simple—*get involved*."

The New York Times published an article on August 9 entitled, "Churches See an Election Role and Spread the Word on Bush." It says in part, "The Bush campaign is seeking to rally conservative churches and their members to help turn out sympathetic voters this fall." The article goes on to say, "In interviews with more than a dozen religious leaders in the St. Louis area, several said they felt a duty to speak up for what they consider biblical values like opposition to abortion and same-sex-marriage. Some also mentioned the longstanding role of African-American pastors in encouraging their members to vote for Democrats." From my view, these pastors have overly humbled their involvement. The Christian Coalition and other conservative groups also have very strong positions, not just on abortion and gay marriage, but also on welfare, Affirmative Action, education, and crime and punishment. However, at the same time, they overstate African-American involvement. Historically, African-Americans voted for whoever represented their cause. Initially after being given the right to vote, most African-Americans were Republican, the party of Lincoln. It was when the parties shifted their stances on race that we shifted to the Democratic Party and encouraged our congregations to support those who supported an end to foreign and domestic apartheid.

In the bible, Esther resists becoming involved for fear of repercussions. Her uncle Mordecai sends her his famous message, Esther 4:14, "For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father's family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this." Mordecai's reminds Esther that her involvement is not optional. He tells her that she has been positioned to make a difference in the affairs of state. Under this administration, we attacked a country that, apparently, had no part in attacking us. We've given tax cuts mostly to the rich, we've left millions of children behind by not spending already allotted education money, and we accelerated incarceration rates, another way of saying "A lot more black folks have gone to jail." Power Lunch is committed to participating in raising the conscience levels of persons as to the effects of policy upon the lives of people because we believe that information empowers people to make better choices. Power Lunch also encourages voter registration and will provide registration materials so that no one misses out on their opportunity to participate.

Power Lunch Would Like to Pray With You

If you have a supplication that you would like us to stand in agreement with, or if you have a person that you would like us to lift up before the throne of God, please visit www.PowerLunchOnline.com and submit your special prayer requests. You can also give your prayer requests to Power Lunch volunteers, so that we can pray over them.

Upcoming Events



POWER LUNCH TURNS THREE!

"Power Lunch started on September 10, 2001 in a federal building, the day before the tragedy that changed the course of our country. As America turned back to God in the days that followed, we knew that this ministry had been sent for such a time as this."

Three years later, Power Lunch continues to uplift and inspire working professionals in Washington, DC and has expanded to touching the lives of those in Baltimore, MD. God has certainly blessed this ministry.

Join us in September as we celebrate the third anniversary of this awesome move of God called **POWER LUNCH!**

Power Lunch is held every Wednesday at Union Station—AMC Movie Theater 50 Massachusetts Ave, NE Wash, DC 20002 11:45am – 12:45pm