Question: What did the Apostle Paul mean when he said, “The kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power”?

Answer: Let’s go back to the verse itself:

> *1 Corinthians 4:20*
>
> *“For the kingdom of God is not a matter of talk but of power.”*

When Paul says that the kingdom of God is not a matter of “talk,” he does not mean the Word of God. The Kingdom of Heaven is built upon the Word of God as its foundation, and without it, there is no Kingdom of God—only the kingdom of darkness.

What Paul is emphasizing is that the Kingdom of God does not consist of empty words without the power of God, but in words that are backed by His power. In other words, signs and wonders accompany the message of the Kingdom.

Paul further explains this by the revelation of the Spirit in:

> *1 Thessalonians 1:5*
>
> *“Because our gospel came to you not simply with words but also with power, with the Holy Spirit and deep conviction. You know how we lived among you for your sake.”*

In the same way, we must also preach the gospel not with empty words or persuasive speech aimed at attracting people, but with evidence and demonstration of the Spirit. This means that signs and wonders should follow us. And the first miracle is when people genuinely repent of their sins and turn away from them.

Paul also confirms this in:

> *1 Corinthians 2:4*
>
> *“My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power.”*

May the Lord help us.

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