

**I'm Not Buying It**  
**How To Be Used By God - Part 6**  
**Acts 8:9-24 (NIV)**  
**CrossWord Christian Church**  
**Maximilian McCloskey – Young Adult Pastor**  
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You do not have because you do not ask. You ask and don't receive because you ask with wrong motives, so that you may spend it on your pleasures.

James 4:2-3 (CSB)

I. What Disqualifies Me From Divine Service?

**A CORRUPTED CHARACTER**

*“...I can see that you are full of bitter jealousy and are held captive by sin.” Acts 8:23 (NLT)*

A. Simon's poisoned perspective:

He boasted that he was someone great, <sup>10</sup> and all the people, both high and low, gave him their attention... Acts 8:9-10 (NIV)

B. Simon's perverse practice:

Now for some time a man named Simon had practiced sorcery in the city and amazed all the people...When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money <sup>19</sup> and said, “Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.” Acts 8:9;18-19 (NIV)

Temptation is the pull of man's own evil thoughts and wishes. These evil thoughts lead to evil actions...James 1:14-15 (TLB)

II. What Do I Need To Experience God's Power In My Life?

**A HUMBLE HEART**

*Peter answered...“You have no part or share in this ministry, because your heart is not right before God. Repent of this wickedness and pray to the Lord in the hope that He may forgive you for having such a thought in your heart.” Acts 8:20-22 (NIV)*

Clear Conscience + Hopeful Trust = The Right Heart

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in His holy place? <sup>4</sup> He who has clean hands and a pure heart... Psalms 24:3-4 (ESV)

God resists the proud but gives grace to the humble.<sup>7</sup> Therefore, submit to God. Resist the devil, and He will flee from you. <sup>8</sup> Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you. Cleanse your hands, sinners, and purify your hearts, you double-minded...<sup>10</sup> Humble yourselves before the Lord, and He will exalt you.  
James 4:6-8;10 (CSB)

**Note: The promise of God's power is connected to my spiritual posture, and not my proximity or my performance.**