

The Word and Power Church  
Doug Banister

Nedhy E. Sawyer  
ATS/NY City

Personal Professional, and Theological Foundations For Ministry  
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Dr. Ronald Walborn  
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### Summary

The book of The Word and Power Church begins with Banister's journey and experiences during his first years in seminary. He learned and increased his knowledge in the Bible, but had a hard time understanding the actual presence of God. He narrates how the Evangelical church bases its view in studying and growing as individuals through a firm knowledge of the Bible. Almost simultaneously he experienced the authenticity of a distinct group who love God, called the Charismatics. Banister affirms that these two groups bring amazing contributions to Jesus' followers. Banister states that in the present days these two groups' beliefs in the Word and Power churches seek to join forces and show the world a God that transforms evil into good in the lives of individuals through the study of scripture. God becomes real through the power of the Holy Spirit in individuals by allowing them to perform miracles, such as restoring health, prophesy and other spiritual gifts that give confidence to doubts and challenges in life.<sup>1</sup> He suggests that it is better to develop these spiritual gifts in smaller groups in order to avoid emotional situations that are not of the Spirit.

This book has revealed my worldview and spiritual expectations have been influenced by the Keswick movement that emerged in Britain in the late nineteenth century. I went to school at Britain/Peruvian missionary school in Arequipa-Peru and learned that spiritual life is distinguished into different stages. The first one is characterized by being defeated and the second one remarkable victory over sin. The second one is the one where people enter in the fullness of the Spirit through surrendering their lives to Christ<sup>2</sup> I also enjoyed learning about our common heritage as evangelical and the doctrine of biblical authority which has influenced my life as a follower of Jesus. However, during my college years I had shared many experiences

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<sup>1</sup> Banister Doug, The Word & Power Church (Zondervan 1999), 22

<sup>2</sup> Banister Doug, The Word & Power Church (Zondervan 1999), 52

with pentecostal and charismatic groups and became part of the Episcopalian church in Arequipa/Peru. The church was opened to the different spiritual gifts which enriched my prayer time as I believed in healing and the other gifts of the Holy Spirit.

I strongly agree with his point of view about love. God delights in diversity, as humans we tend to find problems with it. We like to feel comfortable and gravitate to people similar to us. God has given us the gift of reconciliation (2 Cor. 5:15) and Jesus is our peace, who through him we are made as sons of God. In addition, Banister states and I agree that the purpose of every spiritual gift is the edification of the body of Christ, his bride, the church.<sup>3</sup>

This book is impacting my theology and current ministry by influencing my desire for a revival of the Holy Spirit in my home and church. I have been praying to be able to have a close daily relationship with the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. I strongly believe that increasing my understanding of his scripture and using the gifts in the church would bring more people to see and recognize the power of God. He has done amazing things throughout my life, but I am looking to be able to be a disciple, animate, and use the gifts of the spirit with family and friends. I believe that with the discernment of the Holy Spirit we can guard ourselves from the emotional side of people which can be influenced by Satan.

### Bibliography

Doug Banister, "The Word & Power Church" Zondervan

With integrity, I have read this book (circle one):

Thoroughly and Entirely ..100..%

Quickly but Completely \_\_\_%

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<sup>3</sup> Banister Doug. The Word & Power Church (Zondervan 1999) 121

Thoroughly but NOT Entirely \_\_\_%

Quickly and NOT Completely \_\_\_%

Not at all

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paddy Sawyer". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.