

Ministering With God's Power

**A class on the impartation manifestations of holy spirit,
faith, workings of miracles, and gifts of healings,
bringing deliverance to God's people.**

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With a 2 CD Supplement on

Keys To Healing by Sangat Bains

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This is the last of a four-part Power of God Series.

The first and foundational series is *Living In God's Power*. It presents the foundational truths of God's Word and leads those who want to manifest the power of God into speaking in tongues.

***Growing In God's Power* is the second in the series. It is a class on the Body of Christ, the Christian believers' parts in it, and the worship manifestations of holy spirit. Those who want to manifest the power of God are led into the manifestations of interpretation of tongues and prophecy.**

***Led By God's Power* is the third in the series and deals with the revelation manifestations of word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits.**

The fourth and final series is *Ministering With God's Power*. It deals with the power or impartation manifestations of faith, working of miracles, and gifts of healings.

This package of teachings is designed to be used as tools to help believing believers know their heavenly Father better and walk in the simplicity of the operation of the manifestations of holy spirit, the power of God.

Ministering With God's Power
TABLE OF CONTENTS

Hour	Title	Teacher	Time	Page
1	Ministering With God's Power	JFS	69:46	1
2	The Impartation Manifestations	JFS	54:20	17
3	The Manifestations Working Together	WGC	76:48	29
4	Working Together With God	WGC	78:57	45
5	The Believers' Hall of Fame	WGC	77:51	63
6	Release Your Faith	WGC	59:13	79
7	Miracles of Joshua	JFS	66:58	99
8	Miracles of Jesus	JFS	49:47	115
9	Signs, Miracles, and Wonders	WGC	69:37	125
10	Casting Out Devil Spirits	JFS	78:45	143
11	Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits	JS/WC	60:09	159
12	More Accounts of Casting Out Devils	JS/WC	68:48	173
13	Healing Foundations	WGC	62:32	187
14	Healing Realities	WGC	45:11	199
15	Healing Accounts #1	JS/WC	60:33	211
16	Healing Accounts #2	JS/WC	72:45	223
17	Healing Accounts #3	JS/WC	71:23	243
18	The First Two Keys to Healing	SB	68:31	265
19	Three More Keys to Healing	SB	75:46	279

Appendices

God Wants Everyone Healed of All Sickness All the Time	297
Examples of the Manifestation of Working of Miracles Not Associated with Healing	299
Slain by the Spirit	303
Questions Jesus Asked in Ministering Situations	309
How Healing Is Ministered in the Bible	311
Healing In the New Testament Grouped and Arranged in Canonical Order	313
Healings in the Bible	315

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

Preview of *Ministering With God's Power*

In *Ministering With God's Power* we will see that the power or impartation manifestations are the application of the revelation manifestations. Jesus Christ's ministry is one of grace and deliverance, and ours should be, too. In this Biblical Teaching Series we are going to teach you and help you understand HOW to manifest the same power Jesus Christ did. Are you ready to follow in his steps?

Welcome

God bless you and greetings. Welcome to this opening session of *Ministering With God's Power*. We know that you are going to receive much learning and we believe you will be as excited as we are about this Word that we are going to be sharing and teaching, that we can learn together and grow together and have a tremendous time of learning together. Not only learning, but then applying that which we have learned for what good is education without action? We are believing for great action in your lives as it has been in our lives.

Introduction

This is the fourth part of the Power of God Series, *Ministering With God's Power*. It involves the impartation or the power manifestations of faith, working of miracles and gifts of healing.

All these Power of God Series are for you. Our thrust, our ministry, is really toward the family and then from there the Word can move all over the world. Our families are what the adversary attacked from the beginning. God's families need to be strong. That is why we make these available, that you can have these in your families and your home then you can work these tools to help you learn as mom and dad and to teach your children. If you are single, that is fine. You can learn anyway and teach when you get married or teach somebody else.

We began with *Living In God's Power* which opened our eyes to the Scriptures and enabled us to become knowledgeable of God's Word and His will for our lives. In this first series we introduced the manifestation of the holy spirit and concluded with leading the students into speaking in tongues. The theme verse for *Living In God's Power* is I Corinthians 2:5.

I Corinthians 2:5:

That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

Our faith does not stand in what man knows and all his knowledge but in the power of God and His wisdom.

In the second series, ***Growing In God's Power***, we grew in our understanding of the worship manifestations and learned about our responsibility and joy to contribute and function and serve in the body of Christ. The theme verse for ***Growing In God's Power*** is I Corinthians 14:12

I Corinthians 14:12:

Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual *gifts*, (things or matters of the spirit) seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.

We are to edify. What good is all this, if we just sit on it? God did not give us His power, His wisdom, His knowledge, His understanding for us to sit on our duffs and say, "Isn't this wonderful? Isn't this grand? Look what I know! Look what I could do!" That is not the purpose. Our purpose is to function, to be in a family. Children grow up! They may start out just sitting but they are supposed to grow up and function in a family and contribute in it. That is what we are to do.

Reverend Nessel did a great job sharing on how to function in a home fellowship. The home is where the Word has to live. It starts in a family, and then it spreads out. But it has to live in the home. This word excel is *perissuō* and it means to be over and above. Not just to do, but we are to excel over and above, to excel in number and measure. We are to pursue the building up of the body of Christ, to helping in the family, to become strong, to help it grow.

The third series is ***Led By God's Power***, which continued our spiritual growth in our learning and understanding and application of how we are to be led by the spirit of God via His word and the revelation of Holy Spirit. The theme verse is Romans 8:14.

Romans 8:14:

For as many as are led by the Spirit of God, they are the sons of God.

As sons of God we are supposed to be led by the spirit. We are supposed to check in with Dad. God is not going to hunt you down but we get in trouble when we do not check in!

God wants us to do things. He has stuff for us to do. The goal of every believer should be to be led by the spirit of God. God leads His sons and daughters by the revelation of His written Word or spoken Word, and by the revelation of His spirit, which is word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits. We learned how the revelation is received; we learned how it is exercised and utilized; and we also saw the results of their functioning.

When we allow God to move within us, things happen! When we operate the worship manifestations, first of all, we are blessed with speaking in tongues. When we have speaking in tongues with interpretation or prophecy, the body is blessed. Things happen. With word of knowledge, word of wisdom, discerning of spirits, God lets you know what to do, and then you act. Then things happen. There are always things happening with God. God is a moving God, a strong God. God will not possess you. He will cry out, exhorting you, encouraging you, inspiring you to act on what He has given

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

you. Utilize the gift that you were given when you got born again. Being *Led By God's Power* should be the goal of every Christian believer.

Now we are ready to continue in our growth, our learning, our understanding, and our applying or manifesting the last three of the nine manifestations: faith, working of miracles and gifts of healing. Our theme verses are I Peter 4:10,11.

I Peter 4:10,11:

As every man hath received the gift, *even so* minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

11 If any man speak, *let him speak* as the oracles (utterances) of God; if any man minister, *let him do it* as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

God, by way of His holy spirit manifestations, has given us ability. We have the ability to believe to bring to pass the impossible, to move the mountains, to walk on the water, if that is what needs to be done, to work miracles and signs and wonders, to heal the sick. God does not want His kids sick. Just as no parent wants his children sick. God has an enemy, and he is our enemy. He is called the devil, and he loves to make you sick. He loves to steal, kill, and destroy. That is not God's will for us. God has given us ability to bring to pass those things. Our belief is that it is your desire to manifest God's power, that you might also do the works of Jesus Christ and glorify God in all things. We should shine for God and our Father should shine in us.

The Power or Impartation Manifestations Are the Application of the Revelation Manifestations.

As we minister to one another, God gives the revelation needed. Then we act upon what God has shown us or told us. That is how it works. Then the impossible can happen. Miracles can happen. Gifts of healing can happen, and God can receive the glory and the honor and the praise that is due Him. His deliverance needs to be manifested by all of us.

All the manifestations of holy spirit work together. Remember it says in I Corinthians 12:7 "to profit withal." We learn how they work together to profit. Speaking in tongues edifies you, builds up the inner man. Tongues with interpretation and prophecy build up the body. There is profit when God tells you something, gives you revelation. He does not just give it to you to tickle your ears. There is a reason. The first reason is that you are listening. That is why He will give it to you. After that, there are reasons; there is purpose. They all work together. We receive word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits because God wants us to know what we should do with what He has shown us or told us. We manifest faith, working of miracles, and gifts of healing because of the revelation we have been given.

The revelation manifestations supply the information we need, and the power manifestations are the action on that information. The results are signs, miracles, wonders, and gifts of healing deliverance.

When I was a young boy we had a bible study in our home. I witnessed people that were ill and they would come to fellowship and they were sick and I would see believers go

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

up and lay hands on them and command in the name of Jesus Christ and that headache would be gone. I saw people get healed right in my house, our home. That is where it should happen, where we live.

Back then, and I think it is a little more accepted now (still not in the mainstream of churches) they called them faith healers. The mainstream denominations criticized them or looked down upon them and said they were just phonies and crooks and just after your money. Just like anything, there are counterfeits. In our house, they believed the Word of God, and they were not afraid to try it. They did not care what people thought. If you are going to start caring about what a man thinks, you are not going to go far with God, because then you are functioning in the wisdom of men and what man thinks is right. We do not work under the social graces; we work under the grace of God and that is pretty wide open.

Today a lot of the churches are becoming more contemporary with music. Isn't it great that the Christian music is so big? A lot of the churches are taking advantage of it and doing these praise and worship services. That is good and wonderful, and that is great, but I wonder when the singing is over, are there still people that walk out of there with tremendous needs? Everything is a part of the whole. I am not judging churches, every church could use a little help here and there. I am just saying we need to move out and the churches need to move out.

Jesus Christ's Ministry Is One of Grace and Deliverance, Ours Should Be, Too.

God has given us deliverance through His Son, the Lord Jesus Christ. He wants all of us to live and manifest the deliverance He gave to us, not just as individuals, but as His church, his body. So we still have people that need healing even in churches, because we have an enemy and he especially likes to work in that area. If he can make the church people look sick that is great. It is great advertisement for him.

Jesus Christ's ministry is one of grace and one of deliverance. In Luke chapter 4 Jesus gives testimony and defines his ministry. He told them why he came, and what he was going to do.

Luke 4:18,19:

The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

This is what Jesus declared: "The spirit of the Lord is upon me." Folks, the spirit of the Lord is where? It is within us! Now!

The Lord has anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor. Jesus commanded us to be witnesses of him. In Acts 1:8 he also told his disciples (which is really all of us, because we are disciples of the Lord Jesus Christ today.) He commanded us to be witnesses of him and commanded us to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ to every creature, to preach the good news of his birth, his life, his ministry, his suffering, death, resurrection, ascension

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

and his future return. We have been sent to heal the brokenhearted too. We are to do the things that he did. People need healing. There is always room for healing. We have been sent to set at liberty those that are held captive by the devil and to preach the recovering of sight to the blind. There are people that are in captivity.

I would not want my sons in captivity. God does not want us in captivity. Our enemy, the devil, wants to put people in captivity. Even though we have been set free by the Lord Jesus Christ and by his stripes we have been healed, he still endeavors to captivate people.

II Corinthians 4:3,4:

But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost:

4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

If we are not able to say that, then we still have work to do. People are blind and they need to see the truth. Then if they do not believe, it is not our fault. We sound out the Word but it is people's responsibility to believe it. I cannot believe for you and you cannot believe for me. People have to accept the Lord Jesus Christ, that God's Word is truth. They have to accept the things of God for themselves but they deserve the opportunity to believe.

Jesus Christ's ministry was one of deliverance. His life and ministry brought salvation and redemption to mankind through his shed blood and broken body. He delivered man from death unto life and delivered man from all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

Now it is our responsibility to walk in this deliverance, first for ourselves, then to reach out to help others. God has equipped us with His power, and we have the authority to minister in the name of Jesus Christ. You have got to believe this. It is not just words on a page or something you heard in a class. "I am equipped!" You have to speak to yourself. Remind yourself to see things, to see situations. There are opportunities all the time for us to minister and to walk in the steps of Jesus Christ. We have to first believe, "I have the ability and I have the authority to minister in the name of Jesus Christ." When you get there, then you are going to go someplace.

Mark 16:17,18b:

And these signs shall follow (accompany) them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
... they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover.

Shall is an absolute tense. The first thing Jesus says is, "In my name they shall cast out devils." Whoa, he gets right to the chase, to the one that folks seem to fear the most. Then he said they shall speak in tongues and they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover. These are the words of Jesus concerning those that shall believe in his name and its authority. We have been given authority to ask in his name. Before Jesus Christ was arrested and beaten and crucified, he spent some time with his disciples, teaching them, sharing his last instructions.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

John 16:24,26,27:

Hitherto have ye asked nothing in my name: ask, and ye shall receive, that your joy may be full.

26 At that day ye shall ask in my name: and I say not unto you, that I will pray the Father for you:

27 For the Father himself loveth you, because ye have loved me, and have believed that I came out from God.

We have the right to speak, to command, and ask in his name.

John 14:13,14:

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. (Sounds like I Peter 4:11.)

14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do *it*.

Jesus gives us authority to ask anything in his name and it shall be done. The name of Jesus Christ is powerful, and he gave us authority to use it. Why? Because it was given unto him by God.

Philippians 2:9:

Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

How many names are there? His name is above every name. Every sickness, every disease, every devil spirit, no matter what their names might be. "Storm," that is a name. Elements have names.

Philippians 2:10:

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of *things* in heaven, and *things* in earth, and *things* under the earth;

God has given Jesus a name above every name and anointed him with holy spirit and power. We have his name, and we have been anointed with that holy spirit and power.

Acts 10:38:

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Ghost and with power: who went about doing good, and healing all that were oppressed of the devil; for God was with him.

God exalted Jesus and anointed him with power. Then Jesus gave us the power and authority to ask anything in his name. We have power of attorney to speak and command in his name.

John 14:12:

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

Was Jesus speaking only to his disciples? No! He was speaking to “he that believeth on me.” Do you believe on him? Then you should do the works that he did and greater. So, this includes you and me. Jesus is giving everyone that believes on him exhortation “... He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater...”

If we believe on him then we should do what he says we should do. We have to quit playing Christian and be one. We have plenty of Christians playing Christian. We have been part of that too, perhaps. I know you have; we all have. It is time to quit playing Christian and be one. You become one by walking in the steps of Jesus Christ, doing the works that he did and even greater because of the new birth that he came to make available. Be one that follows in the steps of Jesus Christ and continues to minister the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. That is what we should be. Preach and teach God's message of salvation and deliverance; heal the sick and diseased; cast out devils that torment and oppress people.

Preach, teach, and minister with the wisdom of God (not the wisdom of men) in demonstration of power and spirit. We must grow up and become mature brothers and sisters in God's family, His household. We must do the things that Jesus did, not be selective and do the things we choose to do when it is convenient or more comfortable. We cannot allow fear and ignorance to stop us from doing the works of Jesus Christ.

Jesus said that we shall receive power after we have received the holy ghost.

Acts 1:8a:

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses....

We are be witnesses because of this power. People can see the power of God, not just talk about it. Earlier Jesus had sent out the twelve apostles to preach and heal. Later in Luke he sent out the seventy to preach and minister in the villages and the cities. It says that they went forth and did the things that Jesus did. They preached the gospel and healed the sick and cast out devils.

Matthew 10:1:

And when he had called unto *him* his twelve disciples, he gave them power *against* unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease. (Luke 10:1 it says he sent out the seventy to do the same.)

Jesus was anointed with holy spirit and with power. He used what he had and went to work. He had the Scriptures for doctrine and he put them into practice. When he needed more information, God gave it to him. There is a lot of revelation that God has already given us. There is always more to learn and more to reread and put it back into your mind because your mind wants to quit on you. You get bombarded with things of the world. Pretty soon this stuff gets hazy. You must constantly be in it. You have the spirit of God so when you need revelation God will give it to you. Jesus took action on God's revelation, and the results were, faith, working of miracles, and gifts of healing.

Let us take a look at the pattern of Jesus Christ. Remember the buttons “What Would Jesus Do?” The only way you are going to find out is to read what he did. A good place to go is the gospels.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

Matthew 4:23:

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

Jesus taught; he preached; he healed; he was among the people. You cannot walk in the steps of Jesus Christ if you do not walk.

Matthew 9:35:

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

The kingdom of God has no beginning, and it has no end. It spans all. Jesus was preaching the Kingdom of God. Prophecies had been made throughout the centuries about his coming, his birth, his life, his ministry, his death, and his resurrection. Many Old Testament prophecies were being fulfilled during his ministry, during his time. But one thing about all prophecies is they all take place in the Kingdom of God. Jesus was preaching and teaching about himself and he was reminding them of the prophecies of the future, the ones they knew about in the Old Testament. He would bring them up while he was teaching and preaching. He was making known God and His plan.

Mark 1:39:

And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils.

Maybe you cannot preach in every synagogue, but you have a house. Open up the doors. You can preach there, right? You might get invited into other houses too. There are plenty of open doors where you can preach and teach. The synagogue is the world for you. You do not need a building. We know Jesus did not just preach in the synagogue.

He manifested his anointed power, he commanded the devil spirits to leave, he healed the sick and diseased, he raised the dead, and he ministered with authority and power because God had given it to him.

Luke 6:17,18:

And He came down with them and stood in the plain and the company of his disciples and a great multitude of people out of Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which came to hear him, and to be healed of their diseases:

18 And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed.

That is what Jesus did. He preached; he taught; he healed; he cast out devils; he delivered. He was in the delivering business. These people came to hear and to be healed, and they were not disappointed because he had the power and authority to do it. He acted on his God-given abilities and authority. That is the way we have to do it too. We have to act on our God-given abilities and authority which we have been given in the name of Jesus Christ. Jesus manifested the revelation and power manifestations. The people came to him for help, and he helped them.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

Luke 7:21:

And in that same hour he cured many of *their* infirmities and plagues, and of evil spirits; and unto many *that were* blind he gave sight.

That is the ministry of Jesus Christ. Exercise the authority and power. He did it whenever and wherever he could. Here it does not say “all,” it says “many.” Some are not ready to receive it, right there and then. Sometimes they have to hear more of the Word. But whoever has faith to be healed can come in and they get it.

So what did Jesus do?

Matthew 12:14,15:

Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him.

15 But when Jesus knew *it*, he withdrew himself from thence: and great multitudes followed him, and he healed them all;

That is what Jesus did; he healed them all.

Matthew 14:13,14:

When Jesus heard *of it*, he departed thence by ship into a desert place apart: and when the people had heard *thereof*, they followed him on foot out of the cities.

14 And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.

Despite his own hurt, he saw the people and had compassion. The compassion of God that he manifested brought him forth, and he healed their sick.

Mark 1:38,39:

And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth.

39 And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils.

Do you see the pattern of what Jesus did? He preached; he taught wherever he had access and opportunity. Of course the people came having needs, and he healed them and cast out devils. This is what Jesus did, and this is what we are going to look at. If we are to do the things that Jesus Christ said to do, then we are going to look at what he did. These are just summary verses.

Mark 3:9-12:

And he spake to his disciples, that a small ship should wait on him because of the multitude, lest they should throng him.

10 For he had healed many; insomuch that they pressed upon him for to touch him, as many as had plagues.

11 And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, Thou art the Son of God.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

12 And he straitly charged them that they should not make him known.

Matthew 21:14:

And the blind and the lame came to him in the temple; and he healed them.

Jesus helped those that needed help. The first thing they needed to do was to hear the Word. Once they heard the Word, they believed he could help them and he did. Here it was the blind and the lame, and he healed them. It was the same pattern over again. Jesus went from city to city, village to village, seashore to seashore. He was on the mountain and in the desert. He was among the people. Wherever Jesus was, the people came, because they wanted to hear what he had to say and they wanted their healing and deliverance and they got both. They heard the Word of God and they also were delivered.

Mark 6:1,2:

And he went out from thence, and came into his own country; and his disciples follow him.

2 And when the sabbath day was come, he began to teach in the synagogue: and many hearing *him* were astonished, saying, From whence hath this *man* these things? and what wisdom *is* this which is given unto him, that even such mighty works are wrought by his hands?

They could not believe that this was the Jesus kid that used to run and play. Now he was teaching these wonderful words of truth with authority and doing these mighty works. They could not believe it was he, but they also could not deny what he was doing. They saw the wisdom. They saw the mighty works.

Mark 6:3,4:

Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, the brother of James, and Joses, and of Juda, and Simon? and are not his sisters here with us? And they were offended at him.

4 But Jesus said unto them, A prophet is not without honour, but in his own country, and among his own kin, and in his own house.

Is this the right guy? Is this that illegitimate boy? Then, it goes on to say, "And they were offended at him." They just could not believe he was worthy of the wisdom nor should he be doing these mighty works. They could not believe it that their home boy that was doing all of these things.

Mark 6:5,6:

And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed *them*.

6 And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching.

He still taught; it did not stop him. He had to handle people too, just like we do. People that you know... people that know you. Sometimes they are your worst enemy, and

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

they were here. In spite of all that unbelief he was still able to lay hands on a few sick folk and heal them even in the midst of all this adversity.

Luke 8:1-3:

And it came to pass afterward, that he went throughout every city and village, preaching and shewing the glad tidings of the kingdom of God: and the twelve *were* with him,

He made known the Word of God. He made known His Father. It says he went from village to village, city to city. That is what Jesus Christ did. There are other works that the believers did in Acts after Jesus had ascended into heaven. He said we shall be witnesses of him.

Acts 5:12:

And by the hands of the apostles were many signs and wonders wrought among the people; (and they were all with one accord in Solomon's porch.

Many signs and wonders happened because they heard the Word of God and they believed. These are summary statements. This is what it said happened. It does not have every detail in here, but this is what happened. It says many signs. How many? I do not know, and you do not know. But, it says many signs and wonders were wrought among the people.

Acts 5:13,14:

And of the rest durst no man join himself to them: but the people magnified them.
14 And believers were the more added to the Lord, multitudes both of men and women.)

Signs, miracles, and wonders have an effect on people. It helps them to believe. Sure it does, it builds them up. It says more were added to the church.

Acts 5:15,16:

Insomuch that they brought forth the sick into the streets, and laid *them* on beds and couches, that at the least the shadow of Peter passing by might overshadow some of them.

16 There came also a multitude *out* of the cities round about unto Jerusalem, bringing sick folks, and them which were vexed with unclean spirits: and they were healed every one.

What were the apostles and believers doing? They were doing what Jesus said. "He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall you do also." They were doing the same. They were following the pattern of the Lord Jesus Christ and that is what we should be doing. That should be evidenced everywhere we go. They brought forth the sick and believed that even if the shadow of Peter passed over the sick, they would be healed. There is no magic in the shadow of Peter, but something happens when people believe. When they have faith to receive healing, they get it. People came for help, they came for healing, they came for deliverance and they received it. Signs, miracles and wonders took place.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

Acts 19:11,12:

And God wrought special miracles by the hands of Paul:

12 So that from his body were brought unto the sick handkerchiefs or aprons, and the diseases departed from them, and the evil spirits went out of them.

God was doing no ordinary works through the hands of Paul. "Body" here means "skin." "Handkerchiefs" or "aprons" are "sweat cloths." These were cloths that were around Paul, next to his skin. Again, there is no magic in these hankies, but when people believe they receive. Just like the woman who believed if she just touched the hem of the garment of Jesus she would be healed. She did it, and she got healed. She got delivered. Believing works. People have faith. These are some of the things that Jesus did, and these are some of things that the apostles and some of the believers in the early church did.

These are the things that you and I should be doing also. We need to do the works that Jesus Christ did. We need to do what he did. We need to see what he did, believe what he did, then act on what he did. That is what they did in the first century church by the power of his name and the authority they had in his name. They did what Jesus did. He knew who he was, and they knew the power and the ability that he had.

What about you? Do you really know who you are? Do you know who that new man is that you have been given? Do we believe it? Are we knowledgeable? Are we ready to act on what we know? These are questions that we have to constantly ask ourselves. You make up your mind. God will act when we act. When we are ready to move, He will move.

We Are Going to Teach You and Help You Understand HOW to Manifest the Same Power Jesus Christ Did.

WHY am I involved in this whole series? The answer should be because I am preparing myself to grow, to learn, and to apply the power of God in my life. That is why it is called the "Power of God Series." What good is the power of God for us if we do not utilize the power that we have? We should desire to walk in God's deliverance and to help others do the same, starting with your family. Sometimes we get so involved with other things we forget about our own family. We started in our home. We had a Bible study in our home with our two little boys. Then I taught. We would witness and people would come, and we would have more children. Mary Lou started teaching the children. We did not have a manual on children's fellowship. We just had the Bible and started teaching it. Why? Because, the family needs to learn. The Word needs to go around the world. It is a constant thing because of new generations. The world is always going to need to hear the Word because there are new ones born. It will never really happen with any strength until you have a family that is strong, then another family gets strong. Never lose that concept. If it lives there, it can live everywhere.

Do I want to do the works of Jesus Christ and to walk in his steps? I want to operate all nine manifestations of holy spirit and serve in the Body of Christ. I want to glorify God in all things. Don't you want to glorify God? As a kid what was the thing you desired the most? To make mom and dad happy. To make them proud, right?

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

I want to do as Paul declared in I Corinthians 2:4. I want to preach the Word of God and be a witness of the Lord Jesus Christ, not only in Word but in demonstration of the spirit and power. Anyone can talk and that is wonderful because the Word needs to be spoken. But it needs to be more than spoken; it needs to be lived and manifested; it needs to be demonstrated. If you are going to talk about the power of God then it has to be demonstrated, otherwise, it is just talk.

God has given us His Word and Power to manifest, but we are responsible to use what we have been given. Paul did; Peter did; Jesus did; we must do the same. We are the ones who must choose. We have free will and we can do it or not do it.

I Peter 4:11a:

If any man speak, *let him speak* as the oracles [utterances] of God...

How are we going to speak the utterances of God if we do not know His Words or how we are to operate the power of God in our lives if we do not allow Him to work within us? God wants us to act, to be His hands and feet and mouth.

I Peter 4:11b:

...If any man minister, let him do it as of the ability which God giveth...

We have been given spiritual abilities. How are we going to minister with the ability that God has given to every believer if no one instructs us or teaches us? We must learn to know our God-given abilities and then we need to learn how to utilize them to His glory and minister deliverance to His people.

I Peter 4:11c:

...that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

How will God ever receive glory or the praise due Him if we do not work, if we do not exercise what GOD has given us? Wayne and I believe that not only will you benefit by the teaching and instruction in this series, but the body of Christ will benefit also, and in the end, the big picture, is that God receives the glory through the Lord Jesus Christ. His power is demonstrated; His deliverance is given so people can walk in it.

II Corinthians 4:5,6:

For we preach not ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord; and ourselves your servants for Jesus' sake.

6 For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, hath shined in our hearts, to *give* the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

We have been sent to preach, to teach, to minister healing and deliverance, and to set free the oppressed. Jesus Christ did. Now we are working in his stead. We walk in his steps, do as he instructed and encouraged us. We are to walk in the steps of Jesus Christ, and we are to continue ministering God's deliverance and salvation to others.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

Churches all over the United States and the world preach about Jesus Christ, and I know they reach people. People believe and accept Jesus Christ. They pray for people. I know their prayers have gone out for people, and they have received healing and deliverance.

But the power manifestations still need to be in operation if we are going to minister healing to people that are sick, diseased, or tormented and possessed with devils. We have got to operate these manifestations. God's Word needs to be preached and taught so people can hear. People need to know that God still heals and delivers. People need to know that there are men and women who can minister God's deliverance unto them. People need to know that the Word of God and His promises are living and real in our day and time.

Gifts of healing is the only manifestation that is called a gift. Every time this manifestation is operated, it is a gift of God's grace. It is both a gift to the one operating it as well as the one receiving it. It comes by God's grace and never indicates any special goodness or merit on the part of the one ministering or the one receiving.

In Acts 3 when Peter and John went to the gate beautiful, it was not by their holiness that this man was healed, but it was God working within Peter through faith that the man was healed.

Some of the purposes of Gifts of Healing:

1. To prove the resurrection of Jesus Christ. (Acts 3:15)
2. To prove God's ability and willingness to forgive sin. (Mark 2:5)
3. Gifts of Healing are to confirm the Word of God. (Mark 16:20b)
4. Gifts of Healing also bring glory to God. (Mark 2:12)

Too many Christian churches today are lacking in both knowledge and practice concerning the manifestations of holy spirit, most especially in the impartation manifestations. A lot of them know little or nothing about these manifestations. They call them gifts instead. They say they do not have the gift, so they cannot do it. That is not true. We have all been given that power to operate all nine. The ones that do know something about them lack in their practice. They are not taught the "how" of properly operating the manifestations.

There are some churches that are instructed enough but are afraid to get involved to help others. They are afraid because it is supernatural and is not readily accepted by the mainstream Christian churches. They profess that this kind of stuff happened in the days of Jesus Christ but not now. Still others who do believe in healing and casting out devil spirits are afraid of the devil. They are afraid that they will make him angry or mad. I have got news for you folks, he already hates your guts, and he is as mad as he can get because you have accepted the Lord, Jesus Christ.

I John 4:4;

Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.

Because of ignorance and fear, churches stay away from this field to help people who need deliverance. And what happens? The church people lack the deliverance that is rightfully theirs.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

The valley of human need is very deep and very wide. The Church as a whole had failed to bring healing to the sick, diseased, and the tormented. They teach salvation and get people born again, but then they leave them there as victims of the adversary. God did not make us victims; He made us victorious.

The church feeds the hungry; they clothe the poor and homeless; they send missionaries around the world. This is all fine, wonderful, and great. What about the hurting church member who walks in that church on Sunday and he walks out of there the same way that he came in. He walks out just as sick as when he came in or just as tormented. Folks, that has to change. It can change with you and I. They can walk into my house, and they can walk out different. You can meet the need anywhere.

People came to Jesus to hear the Word of God and when they heard, they believed. Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God. Then they believed and got healed. They got delivered of their sickness or torment. That is the way it should be. That is the way it has to be. Otherwise, we are not doing the full ministry of Jesus Christ. We are only walking so far in his steps. Do not stop because it is uncomfortable or because of ignorance or because of fear. That has to stop.

It starts with the individual. It starts with you and me. God's intention is for us to walk and bring deliverance. That is what Jesus Christ showed us. Just read Jesus Christ's ministry in the gospels. Read the book of Acts. People came to Jesus, they came to the apostles, they heard the word of God preached and taught. Faith cometh by hearing and all manner of sickness, disease, and torment was healed. The lame walked; the lepers were cleansed and made whole; the blind saw; those that were possessed with spirits had them cast out and were clean.

The power manifestations should shine in you and me. They should shine in the Church and in mature believers and that is the way God intended it to be. Jesus took action on God's revelation and the results were: faith, working of miracles, and gifts of healing.

God has given us deliverance. It is a done deal. He has given us deliverance through the Lord Jesus Christ, but we have to manifest it. We have to claim it. God has blessed us with all spiritual blessings in Ephesians. God gave us the gift of holy spirit. Yes, it is new birth, and it is eternal life. But, it is so much more. It is a power base. God in Christ, in us! With that we have authority and power to minister deliverance (just like Jesus Christ did) to heal the sick, to cast out devil spirits. It is just a deliverance ministry. Anything else is falling short. God has given us deliverance through His son, the Lord Jesus Christ, and He wants us to live and manifest the deliverance and help others realize the same. Let us stamp out sickness and disease, and spirits that torment people.

What do you want to do? We know what the will of God is. What is our will? Jesus Christ said, "I always do the will of my Father." So what are we going to do? Only you and I can answer that question, and you do not do it just one time. We have to answer it every day.

When you start to walk this way you will see things. People will come. They came to Jesus Christ. They wanted to hear the Word, but there was more than that drawing them. There was help there. When they know that you are a believing, born again Christian who believes in all the manifestations of holy spirit—that you can do them all, that you can heal the sick, that you can cast out devil spirits, that you can do whatever needs to be done, that you can lead them to the Lord Jesus Christ and get them born again—people will come! Where did we get the idea that we need to go find people? Did Jesus go looking for

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 1: Ministering With God's Power

anybody? They are everywhere! It is just a matter of what you are will to do. Are you ready every day? When you really get started, you will have many people knock at your door. It is a joy to help people. It is a high to have God work in you to will and do of His good pleasure and it is humbling.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 2: The Impartation Manifestations

Preview of *The Impartation Manifestations*

In *The Impartation Manifestations* we will define the impartation manifestations and discuss what they are not. We will also see that God can heal all sickness and all disease. It does not matter how sick someone is or long they have been in that condition. God can even raise from the dead those who have died.

The Manifestation of Faith

The manifestation of faith, what it is not:

1. It is **NOT** the “faith of Jesus Christ.”

Ephesians 2:8:

For by grace are ye saved through faith, and that not of yourselves, it is the gift of God.

Other related scriptures are: Ephesians 4:5; Philippians 3:9; Galatians 2:16,20; and Romans 3:22.

2. It is **NOT** the natural law of believing, nor renewed mind believing. That is not the manifestation of faith that we are talking about. The natural law of believing works for saint and sinner alike. This type of faith or believing is how we are able to confess and believe. (Romans 10:9 & 10) Nor is it renewed mind believing, which is a higher application of this law, when we renew our minds to trust God and have absolute confidence in accordance with what was revealed by His son and written in His Word. Renewing our minds to the Word is not the kind of faith that is the manifestation of faith.
3. It is **NOT** the Family Faith, Common Faith, or the Household of Faith. This “faith” refers to the Body of Believers. Those of the Family Faith and the Household Faith ALL have the “Faith of Jesus Christ,” that is why it is called the Common Faith.
4. It is **NOT** the Fruit of Faith that is listed in Galatians 5:22. The fruit of “faith” is the result of the cultivation of the nine manifestations in a believer’s life. The more we operate the manifestations of the spirit in our lives, the more spiritual fruit is evidenced in our lives.

Matthew 7:20 says “Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.”

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 2: The Impartation Manifestations

We are known by the fruits we manifest. If someone lies all the time they are a liar. That is the fruit that they bear. If someone is always speaking the truth and is honest as the day is long, or the man that gives the shirt of his back, these are all manifested.

Fruit faith is known by others because it is shared with others. Not only is your personal life blessed, but others are blessed also. Fruit of the spirit cannot stay hidden.

Ephesians 5:9:

(For the fruit of the spirit *is* in all goodness and righteousness and truth;)

Goodness – Right Living or Righteousness – and Truth, cannot be hid. If people try to cover up truth it always floats to the service. Goodness is the same way. People know you.

In the *Living in God's Power* series, Part III, Kevin Guigou has a number of pages in his syllabus dealing with the subject of “faith” and its usages in the Bible on pages 104-107. It might be good to review that.

In I Corinthians 12:9a Weymouth translates “faith” as a “special faith.” When we manifest faith, we manifest a level of trust and confidence, way beyond the natural. It is “faith” to act and or speak according to what God has revealed to you. It is being fully persuaded in your heart and mind that the revelation given you shall absolutely come to pass as you act and as you speak. When you act and you speak, you absolutely believe that things will come to pass.

I Corinthians 13:2b:

...and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains...

Mark 11:23b:

... That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

It takes some faith to move a mountain. We have mountains. They are not necessarily made out of rocks and trees, but there are mountains in our lives. In I Corinthians 13 the context is love. Galatians 5:6 says that love worketh faith; it energizes it. You are not going to operate these manifestations if you do not have love. You love God, you love His gifts, you love others and you move.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 2: The Impartation Manifestations

The manifestation of faith, what it is:

Faith: What It Is

The manifestation of faith is:

**To exercise the authority and ability, which
God gives of absolute trust and confidence
to do whatever God tells you.**

“Faith” is translated in the King James Version from the Greek word *pistis* and it means: “A complete and unquestioning belief and reliance upon something or someone. It reflects firm persuasion, loyalty, assurance, commitment, and dedication in and toward God.”

The Manifestation of Working of Miracles

The manifestation of working of miracles what it is not:

1. It is not a miracle of nature: the beautiful frost on the trees in the winter, how a cut heals, the birth of a baby.
2. It is not a miracle of science. That is all natural ability, no matter what science comes up with. (Test tube babies or cloning)
3. It is not results produced by physical or mental abilities. We get our abilities from God.
4. It is not produced by devil spirit lying signs and wonders.

II Thessalonians 2:9:

Even him (that lawless one) whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power and signs and lying wonders.

The devil can produce lying signs and wonders. Remember Aaron threw his rod down, and it turned into a snake? Then the old Pharaoh brings out his magic boys and they had three sticks that turned into three snakes? What did the one snake do to the other three snakes? It ate them up. (Exodus 7:10-12)

The manifestation of workings of miracle, what it is:

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 2: The Impartation Manifestations

The word “miracles” in I Corinthians 12:10 is translated from the Greek *dunamis* which is potential power in the believer. Although all the manifestations are *workings* or *energizings*, only miracles is listed this way. That is because “*working*” is what God does to change the potential power to kinetic or active power. God does the energizing. The reason the word *dunamis* is used is because God wanted to emphasize God and man working together to do miracles. Man cannot do miracles without God. God can do miracles without man.

In Acts 14: 27, Paul and Barnabas had returned from the churches in the regions of Pamphylia and Lyconia to the church at Antioch of Syria, and they were giving the people a report of what happened during the journey.

Acts 14:27:

...they rehearsed all that God had done with them, and how he had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

God worked with Paul and Barnabas. God works with you and me when we operate the manifestation of working of miracles. He works with all of the manifestations. Like with speaking in tongues, it is God that gives the utterance.

It was in this trip that Paul confronted the false prophet, the child of the devil that was trying to hinder his ministry. It says Paul was filled with the holy spirit, and he engaged this false spirit and sent him away blind for a season.

Acts 14:3:

Long time therefore abode they speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs and wonders to be done by their hands.

Miracles give testimony unto His Word. God worked with Paul and Barnabas. He energized the *dunamis* as they believed, and they were able to do signs and wonders. Man needs God working together with him in order to do signs, miracles and wonders.

Working of Miracles: What It Is

The manifestation of working of miracles is:

To exercise the authority and ability, which God gives, to bring to pass miracles, according to whatever God tells you.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 2: The Impartation Manifestations

The Manifestation of Gifts of Healing:

The manifestation of gifts of healing, what it is not:

1. It is not medicine, herbs, supplements, or arts and practices associated with healing.
2. It is not psychology or psychiatry.
3. It is not Christian Science or any other science.
4. It is not psychosomatics, psychocybernetics, scientology, parapsychology or hypnosis.
5. It is not psychic surgery.
6. It is not the result of disciplining oneself to special exercises or diets.
7. It is not the result of devil spirit power.

The manifestation of gifts of healing, what it is:

Gifts of Healing: What It Is

The manifestation of gifts of healing is:

To exercise the authority and ability, which God gives, to impart healing wholeness in the name of Jesus Christ, according to do whatever God tells you.

Gifts of healing are free gifts of God's grace. They are not given because you are so good. Part of the problem is that people need or want healing, but they do not think they are good enough to get it. They are not given because you are so good or because you "earned" them, but by God's grace... because God loves you. Here is an important key: all of God's gifts, everything that God gives, is given out of love. God so loved the world that He gave. We do not earn it. Did you deserve righteousness? No! But we have it. It is a free gift of God's grace and love.

When any of these three manifestations are evidenced, they inspire believing in others. That is what our lives should do for others. We should so live this Word of God, and be on fire for God, that others are inspired. The manifestations of holy spirit are

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 2: The Impartation Manifestations

important to manifest, not only for ourselves, but for the profit of others. The end result is God is glorified in His son, and God's family and household are edified and **blessed**.

Our goal is to minister with God's power as we are exhorted in:

I Peter 4:11:

If any man speak, *let him speak* as the oracles of God; if any man minister, *let him do it* as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

It is God's will that everyone operates the manifestations. God's will for His children is to utilize His gift. It is God's will that every man or all be healed. Whether it happens or not, that is still God's will. He wants all His children to be healthy, wealthy, and wise with His Word. It does not matter what the sickness or disease or how long they have been afflicted. It is still God's will that all be delivered, all be healed. I Timothy 2:4, says God's will is that all men be saved and come to a knowledge of the truth. He wants all men saved and all men healed.

God can heal those afflicted from birth:¹

John 9:1,6,7:

And as *Jesus* passed by, he saw a man which was blind from *his* birth.

6 When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

7 And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

Here is a man afflicted from his birth and Jesus saw him, spoke to him, made the spittle and put it on his eyes, and told him to go wash. The man followed through and guess what? A miracle happened. A miracle of healing.

Acts 3:2:

And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

Peter and John ministered healing to him, and he was healed. What did Peter give him? Silver and gold? No! But in the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth... the power of the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth... rise up and walk. Peter took action. He reached down and lifted him up, and the man leaped up, and began walking and leaping and praising God. That God might be glorified in His son! If we do not do the works that Jesus Christ did, then nothing happens.

Acts 14:8:

And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked:

¹ For more information on this see Appendix 1, God Wants Everyone Healed of All Sickness All the Time.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 2: The Impartation Manifestations

He was hearing the words that Paul spoke, and it says Paul perceived he had faith to be healed. He did not lift him up; he just said, "Get on up there!" He leaped up too. Paul healed him.

God can heal those that have been afflicted for a long time.

These are the situations that you will face if you are going to do the works that Jesus Christ did.

Acts 9:33,34:

And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, which had kept his bed **eight years**, and was sick of the palsy. (Disjointed and feeble)

34 And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately.

Luke 8:43:

And a woman having an issue of blood **twelve years**, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any,

Luke 13:11:

And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity **eighteen years**, and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up *herself*.

It says she had a spirit of infirmity. Does that mean everyone you see bowed over has a spirit? No, but this woman did. It says so. Jesus said, "Woman be loosed!" She was healed after eighteen years. It says he laid hands on her and healed her.

John 5:5a:

And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity **thirty and eight years**.

The man at the sheep market pool could not walk. It does not say that he had a spirit. Just because someone is sick or diseased does not mean he has a devil spirit called "infirmity." Jesus healed this man. He got him up and got him walking. Is anything too big for God?² If there is not anything too big for God then there is not anything too big for you if you walk in the steps of Jesus Christ and speak with authority.

Mark 9:21:

And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, **Of a child**.

How old was the son? It does not tell you. However old he was, he was not capable to believe for himself. He was under the authority of his father. One thing you need to remember as parents is that your children are under your authority. What you say and what you do has a big effect on them. Here the father had to believe. He said, "If you

² Genesis 18:14; Jeremiah 32:17,27

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 2: The Impartation Manifestations

can do anything, have mercy on us.” Then Jesus told him, “With God all things are possible.” This is a nice phrase, but it needs to mean more than that to you and me. It has to burn deep within our hearts. If someone comes to you with a situation, you want to take a step back and reach into that heart of yours and pull out this scripture.

God can heal those who are on their death bed.

II Kings 20:1:

In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the Lord, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live.

Get your stuff in order and pack your bags! This was from a prophet of God. That is pretty definite.

II Kings 20:2:

Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying,

If you have got your face to the wall you are not looking at anything else. When he turned his face to the wall, it was he and God. There was nothing in between, just him and God.

II Kings 20:3:

I beseech thee, O Lord, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done *that which is* good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

He reminded God and said, “Hey, remember me? Remember my life? Remember all the good things? Remember I instituted the Passover again?” He just poured his heart out to God.

II Kings 20:4,5:

And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the Lord came to him, saying,

5 Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the Lord.

Then it says he got fifteen more years, and he did. Hezekiah was on his deathbed and he prayed to God to deliver him and God heard his prayer. Now it is a matter of, you have been healed. “By his stripes you are healed.” That is the Word of God. You have to go get it. You have got to help people, get it? In the name of Jesus Christ you can move obstacles.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 2: The Impartation Manifestations

Luke 7:2:

And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die.

When we read this record in detail, it was the word of Jesus that healed the centurion's servant. It says speak the Word only, and Jesus Christ spoke the Word and the servant was healed.

In Philippians 2:27, Epaphroditus, Paul's fellowsoldier, was sick unto death and God healed him. So, nothing is too big for God. When you believe in God all things are possible.

If necessary, God has raised those that have died:

I Kings 17:17:

And it came to pass after these things, *that* the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him.

So here, this son of this woman that had blessed Elijah, had died. So, Elijah ministered to him and brought the child back to life again. (I Kings 17:18-23)

II Kings 4:32:

And when Elisha was come into the house, behold, the child was dead, *and* laid upon his bed.

Elisha stretched out over him and the child became alive again. (II Kings 4: 33-35)

II Kings 13:21:

And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band *of men*; and they cast the man into the sepulcher of Elisha: and when the man was let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet.

Luke 7:12:

Now when he came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her.

Here is a widow whose only son died, and they ran into Jesus who got him up off the stretcher and brought him back to life.

Luke 8:49:

While he [Jesus] yet spake, there cometh one from the ruler of the synagogue's *house*, saying to him, Thy daughter is dead; trouble not the Master.

Jesus turned to him and said "Fear not, believe only." He went to the house and Jesus raised the daughter up from the dead. She was twelve years old. (Luke 8:50-55)

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 2: The Impartation Manifestations

John 11:43,44

And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice, Lazarus, come forth.

(He was dead for four days!)

44 And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them; Loose him, and let him go.

Acts 9:37:

And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, and died: whom when they had washed, they laid *her* in an upper chamber.

The believers sent for Peter, who was just a few miles away, to come to minister to her. When Peter got there he raised her from the dead. Jesus said, "He that believeth on me the *works* that I do shall he do also; and greater works than these shall he do..." (John 14:12)

Acts 20:9:

And there sat in a window a certain young man named Eutychus, being fallen into a deep sleep: and as Paul was long preaching, he sunk down with sleep, and fell down from the third loft, and was taken up dead.

In this record a young man was sitting in on a teaching session, fell asleep, fell out of a loft and died. Paul came down and got him up again. In another record in Acts, Paul was stoned to death outside the city. The believers surrounded him and the next thing you know he was back on his feet, back in the city preaching again.

Hebrews 11:35a:

Women received their dead raised to life again...

This was not a one-time event. It happened throughout history.

It does not matter what type of disease or sickness a person has:

Matthew 4:23; 9:35; 11:5; 12:15; & 15:30,31 all declare that Jesus healed "all manner of disease among the people." "He went forth healing every sickness and every disease." All and every takes care of whatever people have.

Blindness – Matthew 9:27; 20:30-34; Mark 10:46-52

Lame – Matthew 21:14; Luke 7:22; Acts 3:2; 14:8-10; Acts 8:7

Deaf – Mark 7:31-35 (deaf & dumb in one record.)

Withered Hand – Matthew 12:10-13; Luke 6:6-10

Speech Defect – Mark 7:32-35

Dropsy – Luke 14:1-4

Leprosy – Numbers 12:10-15; II Kings 5:6-14; Matthew 8:3; Mark 1:40-42; Luke 5:12,13

Fever – Mark 1: 30,31; Luke 4:38,39; Acts 28:8

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 2: The Impartation Manifestations

Insanity (mental illness) – I Samuel 16:14-23; 18:10; Matthew 4:24; 17:15-18;
Luke 8:26-39

Hemorrhage – Matthew 9: 20-22; Mark 5:25; Luke 8:43

Barrenness – Genesis 17:15-21; 20:17,18; 30: 22,23; I Samuel 1:6,7; Judges 13:2,3;
Luke 1:5-25

Boils – II Kings 20:7; Isaiah 38:21

Dysentery – Acts 28:8

The only thing that limits God and His power to heal is man's free will to believe or not believe. God will not overstep your freedom of will. He laid everything out. You have to come get it.

Mark 6:5,6a:

And he (Jesus) could there do no mighty work, save that he laid hands upon a few sick folk, and healed *them*.

6a. And he marveled because of their unbelief.

Unbelief is the only thing that is going to stop anyone. It will stop you from ministering, and it will stop a person from receiving. You must have faith, you must absolutely believe and trust and have confidence that God will heal. We are coming to claim what is ours! We need to get bold. Christians are too wimpy at times. We need to get bold in what we have and who we are. Who are you? A son of God with all power. We can do all things through Christ. You have to get so solid in that, it is just like breathing air. The Word is still the same yesterday, today and forever. The difference is you and I and what goes on in our minds and our hearts. God is always ready to move. He moved in the Lord Jesus Christ; He has done it all. He has already made the banquet. He is waiting on us to go get it.

In all the records of Jesus healing and delivering people, we see that it did not matter how long a person has been sick or diseased. They can even be on their deathbed, and some were even dead. It does not matter what the sickness, disease, or torment and yet if they have faith to be healed and act according to what God tells you in ministering, healing and deliverance can take place. It will take place. There are at least 15 specific sicknesses and diseases named in the Bible and just in case you think you have got something different, the Word of God still says "every" and "all."

We have the faith of Jesus Christ. We have holy spirit power. We have the authority to ask and command in the name of Jesus Christ that deliverance be ours. We minister the same to others. They have a right to it also. We have to make up our own minds. It all comes down to us.

You have got to see yourself doing it. It is nice if we have one or two people doing this but that is not what God intended, any more than just having one or two people speaking the Word. If the only ones speaking the Word in the book of Acts were Paul and Peter, how would the Word of God ever move over the world? If you can witness the Lord Jesus Christ, if you can speak in tongues, if you have done at least the one, then you can do all of them. You have the gift. These are manifestations we are talking about. You already have the gift. God has given us the ability. You must decide.

It is a growth process. We are all unique. God works with us just as we work with our children. Every one is a little different. We are different too. God will work with

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 2: The Impartation Manifestations

each of us a little differently, but He will absolutely work with you if you decide to work with Him.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

Preview of *The Manifestations Working Together*

In *The Manifestations Working Together* we will see that the manifestations by their very nature are designed to work together. God divides manifestations as we will to operate them. Paul was the pattern for the church and he operated all nine of the manifestations and so should we.

**The Manifestations by Their Very Nature
Are Designed to Work Together.**

The manifestations of the Holy Spirit are essential to the Christian walk. Their operation was key to the growth and development of the early Church. Their operation is *still* essential to the growth and development of the present-day Church. The present-day Church is dysfunctional to the extent that the manifestations are neglected.

Operating manifestations is not a “fringe” subject. They are *not* optional equipment or luxury items that are attained only by pastors or some religious elite. God Himself energizes all the manifestations in His people, as they will to receive. They are essential to building up the Church. To do *any* part of God’s work, we exercise our authority and ability to manifest the spirit and produce the fruit of the spirit in our lives.

The absence of manifestations has often caused people to doubt God’s Word. Men who walked with God wanted to see His power in operation. Remember when God called Gideon addressing him as a mighty man? Gideon asked God, “Where are all the miracles?”³ Moses knew without demonstrating God’s power the people would not believe him.⁴ This is why God told Joshua, “As I was with Moses so I will be with thee.”⁵ This is why Elisha asked, “Where is the Lord God of Elijah?” This is why we are required to do the same things Jesus did and take up the work He left for us to do.

The manifestations of Holy Spirit are designed to be used together for the common good of the body of Christ. Every believer when he is born again gets the gift of holy spirit. With that gift comes the ability to manifest the spirit in nine different ways. Every believer born again of God’s spirit can manifest that spirit by speaking in tongues, interpreting tongues, prophesying, receiving word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits, believing or having faith, working miracles, and imparting gifts of healings. These nine are all powered by the one gift of pneuma hagion, holy spirit in the new birth.

Let us go to I Corinthians 12 and review some foundational scriptures.

I Corinthians 12:7:

But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to every man to profit withal.

³ Judges 6:12,13

⁴ Exodus 4:1

⁵ Joshua 1:5

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

The word “but” sets this verse in contrast with what precedes it. Verse 7 moves from the general operations of God to deal specifically with the manifestation of the spirit. Jesus said in Acts 1:8 that “ye shall receive (*lambanō*) power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you.” Manifesting the spirit is the way this power is evidenced. As far as I know there is no other way to operate power, and the Word declares that it is our privilege, our right to do so. The word “manifested” means “shown forth in the senses world,” “demonstrated,” “exhibited,” “displayed,” or “evidenced.” We demonstrate or exhibit or display God’s power by manifesting His gift of holy spirit.

“Manifestation” is in the singular form, although there are nine different ways it may occur. We have one gift with nine different manifestations or evidences. This collective usage shows that the nine function as a unit. It is like the English words “everyone” or “team.” Although there are many members or parts they are spoken of collectively as a unit. These collective nouns take singular verbs, and although singular, they comprise several items.

The manifestation of the holy spirit has nine separate yet united parts making up the whole, and the *whole* is given to every man for profit or benefit to himself and for the common good of the Church. The manifestations are one unit, with nine members. God uses the singular, “manifestation,” to show that they are to work or function together. The believer should never think that they operate only one manifestation. We operate all of them as need arises. (E.g.: There are also nine different members on a baseball team on the field at once. They have different functions, but they work together to accomplish the same goal.)

Every spirit-filled believer has the privilege and responsibility of demonstrating or manifesting the spirit in the Church for the benefit of all. It “is given to every man.” Therefore, everyone who is born again of God and thus filled with the gift of holy spirit, can potentially manifest. Remember, the gift is given to every man, but since the gift is spirit, it comes into manifestation only when man acts believably to manifest it. Unless the recipient operates his God-given authority and believes in his ability to operate these manifestations, they will never be evidenced. It is up to each born again believer to do the speaking in tongues, the interpreting, the prophesying, to work the miracles, to impart the gifts of healing and so forth.

Operation of any one of the manifestations is evidence of the gift. Therefore, if anyone operates any one of the manifestations, he may operate all of them. All nine manifestations of the spirit are energized from the same gift. If you can do one, you can do them all.

If you can speak in tongues then you can interpret. If you can interpret tongues you can receive word of knowledge. If you can receive word of knowledge you can also operate faith, workings of miracles, and gifts of healing. All nine manifestations come from the self-same gift. Therefore if we have learned to operate any one manifestation we can learn to operate all of them.

In *Living In God's Power* we shared some practical keys that helped people manifest speaking in tongues. After the initial overflow of the spirit in new languages, people do not usually need to go consciously through all the mechanics they learned that helped them the first time. Subsequent operation of speaking in tongues becomes very simple and gracious as one becomes more comfortable with it. You no longer have to breathe in

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

or get quiet or close your eyes. You can do it without those guides or helps, which were valuable the first time.

Similarly in *Ministering With God's Power* we will do our best to share similar practical keys to get you started with the impartation manifestations of faith, working of miracles, and gifts of healing. However, the mechanical aspects or conscious steps one may take when initially learning to operate these will also become less rigid and more simple as you become more adapt or more comfortable or more used to operating them, too. There is no magic formula or recipe that you are required to follow.

The standard for our administration is presented in Acts 2:4. They began to speak in tongues as the Spirit gave them utterance. They “began” and God “gave.” That is how the manifestations operate. They will not operate until you begin. You will not give a gift of healing until you begin. You have to begin, and when you do, God gives.

When it comes to operating the power of God in your life, you do not need to understand it all before you begin. Just start! When you begin, God will energize. Your desire to operate the power of God is much more important than you knowing every detail about how to do it. Do not let it get complicated. It is all as simple as speaking in tongues.

The power that it took to change Jesus to his exalted, glorious position at the right hand of God is available to each of us, as we believe. God wrought the power when he raised Jesus from the dead and set him at His own right hand. We are seated together with him. We can reign in life with Christ Jesus. God has moved! It is now our move.

Ephesians 1:17-23:

That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give unto you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge [the full acknowledgment] of him:

18 The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; [#1] that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and [#2] what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

19 And [#3] what *is* the exceeding greatness of his power [*dunamis*] to us-ward who believe, according to the working [*energeia*] of his mighty [*ischus*] power [*kratos*],

20 Which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*,

21 Far above all principality [*archē*; which refers to the rank, dignity, or jurisdiction of a prince. It refers to the right to rule, to initiate actions and lead the way or champion a cause. It emphasizes the position.], and power [*exousia*; which refers to the authority or liberty to do as one chooses. It emphasizes the authority], and might [*dunamis*; which refers to the potential power to effect the course of events in your life. It emphasizes the ability.], and dominion [*kuriotēs*; which refers to lordship. It emphasizes allegiances. There is no allegiance of people or evil forces that can now effect you.], and every name that is named, not only in this world, but also in that which is to come:

22 And hath put all *things* under his feet, and gave him *to be* the head over all *things* to the church,

23 Which is his body, the fulness of him that filleth all in all.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

Now that is power. Do you have the power you need? How does God work within you? “According to His mighty power which he wrought in Christ, when he raised him from the dead, and set *him* at his own right hand in the heavenly *places*.” Can it really be that the power that brought Jesus to life and seated him at God’s right hand, lives in us?

How are we ever going to get a grip on that? Remember verse 18 said: “I pray that the eyes of your understanding [*kardia*, heart] may be enlightened” not the eyes of your head. We need to learn to see the truth of God with our hearts. Most of the time we see with the eyes of the head. But we have to remember that these eyes are not all we have for seeing.

We need to see the truth with our hearts. Seeing things with our heads gives us information and gives us head knowledge which can puff one up (like it says in I Corinthians 8:1,2) if we are not careful. Seeing things with our hearts adds an emotional element... It adds a depth of commitment... It has strength and solidarity behind it. We want God’s Word to sink down into our hearts. We want to acknowledge God and work with God on a heart level, not a superficial one.

Knowing things on a heart level makes it personal, special and the impact is immeasurably increased. The challenge before us is to open the eyes of our hearts today and see Christ seated at the right hand of God far above all else. As you continue to read chapter two of Ephesians it says that we are also seated with him. We have a heavenly standing, position, and authority that we need to acknowledge and understand with our hearts.

Please note the last three words—”to profit withal” at the end of I Corinthians 12:7. “To profit withal” is one Greek word, *sumpherō*, which literally means “to bring together.” It suggests a bestowal or granting of advantage or benefit on those brought together. In Biblical usage, the archaic meaning of “to profit withal” means “for the common good.”⁶ The basis for and the priority of the operation of the manifestations of the spirit is the welfare of the Body of Christ. With this understanding, a better translation of verse 7 could be: “But to every man is given the manifestation of the spirit for profit to him and for the common good of all.” This profit would provide not only immediate benefit, but also an enduring or lasting benefit to the believer individually and the believers collectively.

Every manifestation of the spirit is profitable. Therefore profit will be gained from the evidencing of each manifestation. Refusal to operate any one manifestation denies one its profit, and if no one else within an entire fellowship of believers operates that manifestation the entire fellowship will be without the profit that manifestation of the spirit would bring. The operation of the manifestations produces power that benefits the individual and everyone else involved.

Verses 8 to 10 elaborate on the profit first discussed in verse 7.

I Corinthians 12:8-10:

For to one is given by the Spirit the word of wisdom; to another the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

⁶ “For the common good...” is also how the phrase is translated in The Bible in Basic English, The Revised Standard Version, The Bible in Modern Speech (Weymouth), The Bible in Modern English (Phillips), The New American Standard Bible, and The New International Version.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

To another faith by the same Spirit; to another the gifts [*charisma*] of healing⁷ by the same Spirit;

To another the working [*energēma*] of miracles⁸; to another prophecy; to another discerning of spirits; to another *divers* kinds of tongues; to another the interpretation of tongues.

Many people read verse 8 thinking “one” refers to people. They conclude that one person gets what they call “one gift.” Yet in *Living In God's Power* when we studied Acts, we saw Philip was noted in Acts 6:5 to have the spirit of wisdom and in Acts 8:6 to have worked miracles and in Acts 6:7 to have imparted gifts of healing. So he had at least three.

The first word in verse 8 is “for,” which is a conjunction setting this verse in correspondence with the profit of verse 7. It is used in an explanatory sense. Today we might say “for example” or “for instance.” Verses 8-10 simply inform us of how the profit comes. “One” and “another” do not refer to people, they are relative pronouns and refer to “the profit” explaining how the profit of verse 7 comes.

I Corinthians 12:8-10:

(For [instance] one [profit] given by the Spirit [comes via] the word of wisdom; another [*allos*; profit of the same kind as word of wisdom] [comes via] the word of knowledge by the same Spirit;

Another [*heteros*; profit of a different kind than word of wisdom & word of knowledge] faith [comes via] by the same Spirit; another [*allos*; profit of the same kind as word of wisdom] the gifts of healing [comes via] by the same Spirit;

Another [*allos*; profit of the same kind as word of wisdom comes via] the working of miracles; another [*allos*; profit of the same kind as word of wisdom] [comes via] prophecy; another [*allos*; profit of the same kind as word of wisdom comes via] discerning of spirits; another [*heteros*; profit of a different kind than word of wisdom] [comes via] *divers* kinds of tongues; another [*allos*; profit of the same kind] [comes via] the interpretation of tongues.)

Notice that the Greek word for “another” used with the manifestation of believing and kinds of tongues is *heteros*, which is different from *allos* which is associated with the other seven manifestations. Why is *heteros* used twice and *allos* used six times? There must be a reason for the occurrence of two different Greek words, which in all cases are translated “another.”

The reason for the use of two different words for “another” is to show a distinction in the kind of profit from them. *Allos* is translated “another” and is accurately used as “another” when more than two may be involved or when the others involved are of the same kind.⁹ *Heteros* is used for “another” when *only* two are involved or when the two

⁷ Gifts of healing is the only one of the nine manifestations to be called a gift, *charisma*, also.

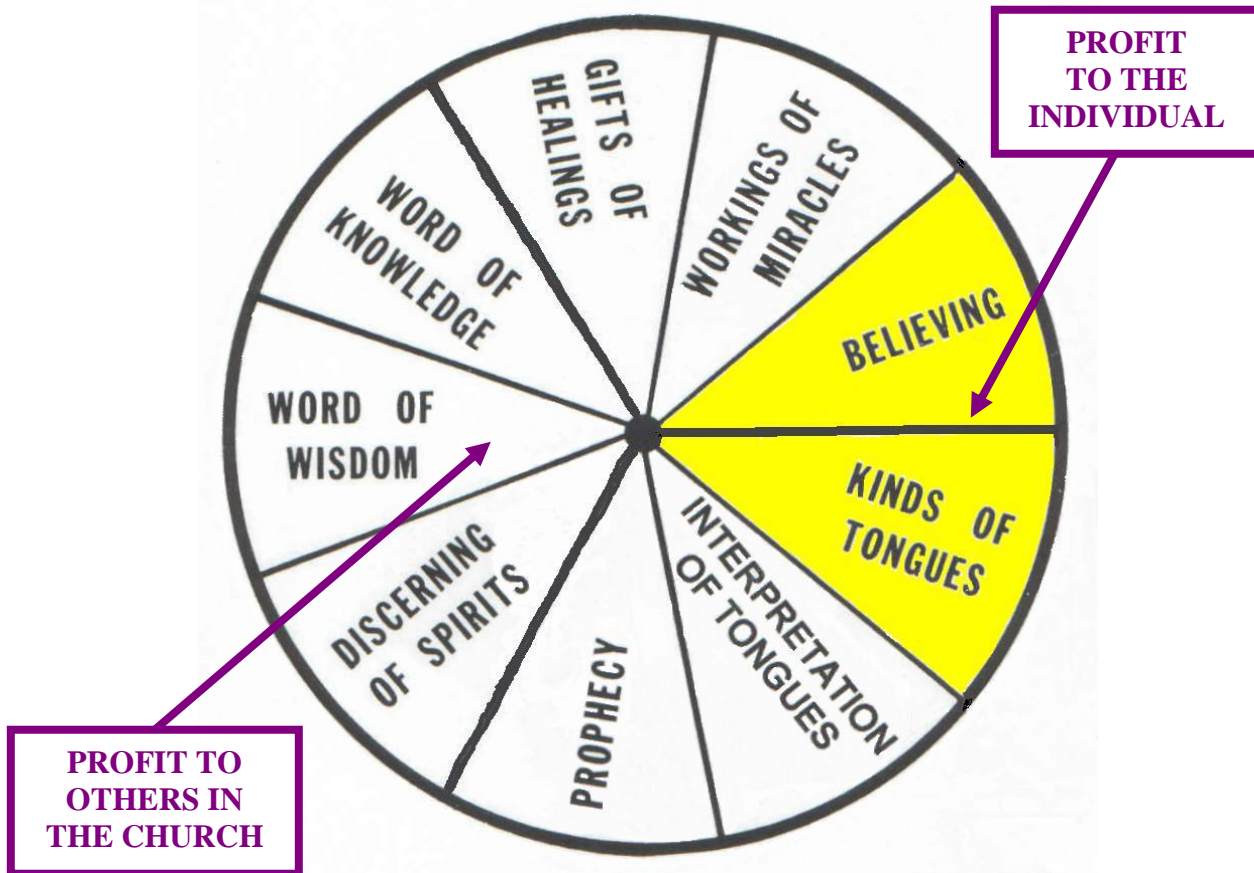
⁸ Workings of miracles is the only one of the nine manifestations to be called a working, *energēma*, also.

⁹ The English word “allomorph” is used of any of the crystalline forms of a substance existing in many forms. It carries over both the numeric and generic nuances of the meaning of *allos* from the Greek.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

are of different kinds.¹⁰ Six manifestations have the same kind of profit as word of wisdom. This profit extends beyond the one operating the manifestations to benefit others, also. Both the numeric distinction (There are more than two.) and the generic distinction (They are of the same kind.) apply in this case. Similarly *heteros* is used with only two manifestations (the numeric distinction) of a different kind (the generic distinction). What is different about the profit?



Two of the nine manifestations are primarily for the individual believer's profit only. The manifestation of speaking in tongues and the manifestation of believing are primarily a profit only to the person operating the manifestation. Speaking in tongues profits the believer edifying his spirit. When operating the manifestation of faith God energizes one to believe to accomplish what He has told them by word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits. It also profits only the believer operating it. Other people may profit from the result of the operation of the manifestation of believing (which would be a working of a miracle or a gift of healing), but not from the manifestation of believing itself. Since no other person profits from the operation of the manifestations of believing and speaking in tongues, *heteros* is used because only God and the believer are involved and only the operator is profited by them. All the other

¹⁰ The English word "heterosexual" is used of one who prefers the other sex (of which there are only two) of a different kind. It carries over both the numeric and generic nuances of the meaning of *heteros* from the Greek.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

manifestations may be of profit to others besides the person operating the manifestations and *allos* is used with them.

Verses 8-10 elaborate on the different profits of the manifestation of the spirit. The different uses of “another” further emphasize the profit, *allos* and *heteros* further distinguishing and explaining more about it. The profit brings advantage and benefit to both the individual believer and others in the Body of Christ. The profit is for not only the individual, but also for the common good of all the believers.

God Divides Manifestations As We Will to Operate Them.

I Corinthians 12:11:

But all these [all nine manifestations with their corresponding profit] worketh [are energized] that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally [*idios*] as he will.

The word “dividing,” is the verb form of *diairesis*. It means “distributing” or “allocating.” Verse 6 stated generally that there is a diversity of workings, but One God who worketh all in all. In verse 11 we have God specifically energizing the manifestations, distributing them to every man.

The word “severally” in verse 11 is the Greek word *idios*,¹¹ meaning “one’s own.” This is the only place in the Bible where it is translated “severally.” It is usually translated “one’s own” or “his own.” It would be more consistent to translate it as, “his own.”

The last three words of verse 11, “as he will,” have caused much confusion. Some say, “God divides to every man severally His own as He [God] wills,” implying that it is not God’s will for a believer to have and operate all nine manifestations of the spirit. If this were true, then God would be a “respector of persons,” which the Word says He is not.¹²

God divides to each man his own. Who determines what “his own” is? Each man by his freewill choice to believe and operate the manifestations does. I will; I desire; I determine what I would like to do, but Who divides? God does. We do not divide or cause them to happen, God does.

The will of God can be determined only from the Word of God. In verse 7 God specifically set forth His will in stating that the manifestation of the spirit is given to *every man* to profit withal. God gave the whole package of the manifestations to each believer who operates it as he wills. All nine manifestations are available to every man; but each person, because of his will to believe, may have a very special adeptness or long-suit in operating one of the manifestations in the Church.

Every spirit-filled believer has the capacity to operate all nine manifestations, but all nine are not always operated in the same person to the same extent because he may not be instructed or he may not believe sufficiently to do so. A believer may have a strong desire to manifest one of the evidences more than others. Then that believer may excel in the operation of that manifestation. Although he can effectively operate the other manifestations, his personal contribution to his local fellowship may repeatedly occur

¹¹ Some critical Greek texts omit the word *idios*.

¹² Acts 10:34; Ephesians 6:9; Colossians 3:25

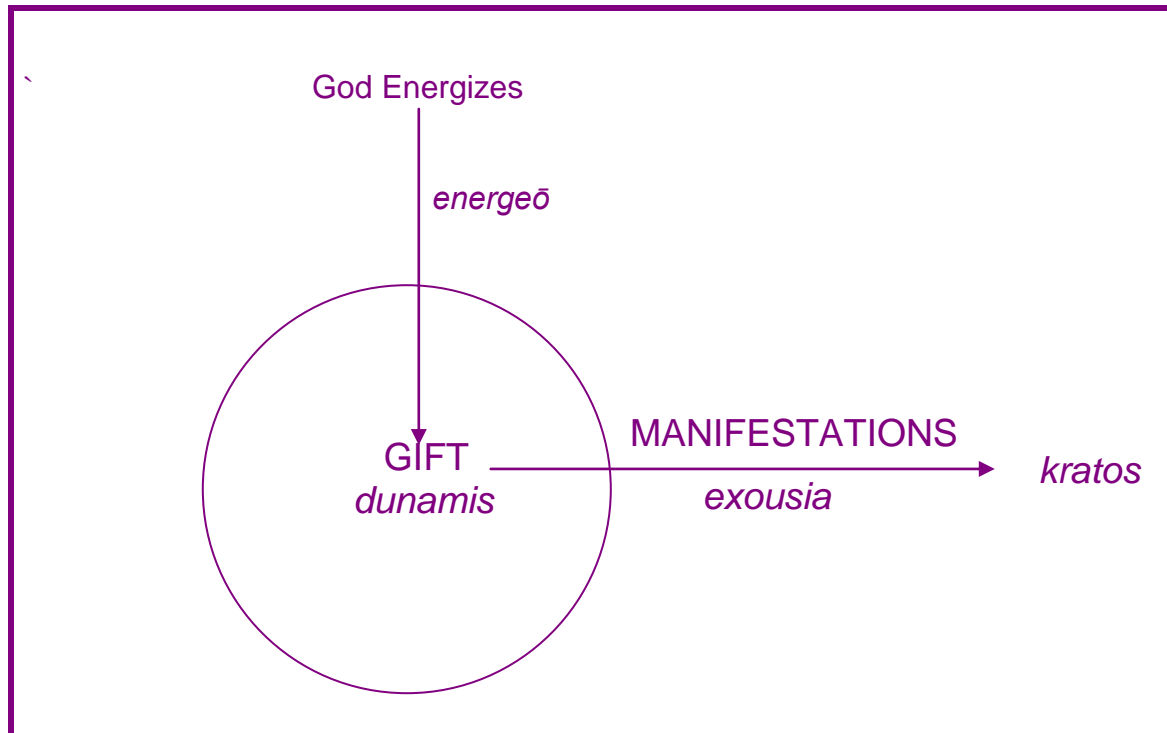
Ministering With God's Power

Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

with the operation of one of the manifestations. This is a believer's prerogative, "as he will." God energizes *all* manifestations in *every* believer, but the believer may manifest, in the Church, *one* of the manifestations more effectively according to his own believing, for the benefit of all.

God gives the gift, which is His spirit. But once given, it is the recipient of the gift, the spirit-filled believer, who is responsible for its operation. We have the ability (that came with the gift which enabled us) to operate all nine, but it happens as each believer wills to do so.

The demonstration of the spirit in the spirit-filled believer is according to *each man's* believing. God is more willing to give than we are to receive. Once born again, all that is required is for us to believe. God makes possible the reality of our receiving into manifestation and energizes each one of the manifestations as we will to operate them. God's will is for these manifestations to be operated by every believer according to the man's believing. If a believer does not act, he will never manifest God's gift.



God is faithful. He always energizes. All the manifestations work that way. You begin and God gives. You start, and then God provides everything you need until you are done. If you want to work a miracle you have to start. You speak or do whatever He tells you and then you are started. If you do not know what to do, ask a question (ask either God or the person you are ministering to) find out what you need to know and then move ahead. They work that simply. You just begin, and whatever you need God provides or supplies.

Do you remember the analogy of the Body in I Corinthians 12 from *Living In God's Power* Part V, hour 4? Verses 12-27 paint a beautiful mind-picture of how God works all

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

in all. In it He uses the analogy of the members of the human body working together to illustrate two great realities: Do you remember what they were?

First, the human body is compared to the nine manifestations of the spirit, where each manifestation is an important and integral member of the whole body of manifestations. It illustrates that all nine manifestations are important to each individual believer. Second, the human body is also compared to the Body of Christ, where each believer is an important and integral member of the whole Body of Christ. It illustrates that all believers are important to entire Body of Christ. One should no more think of isolating one manifestation from the rest of the manifestations than one would think of isolating one believer from the rest of the body of Christ.

The purpose of the analogy is to establish the importance of how all nine manifestations work together and to encourage the believer "to will" to operate all of them. Each individual manifestation with its own profit is incomplete without the other manifestations and is no more important than any of the other manifestations.

Can interpretation of tongues say, "Because I am not prophecy, I am not a manifestation?" Can word of knowledge say, "Because I am not word of wisdom, I am not a manifestation?" No! If all the manifestations were speaking in tongues how would one minister healing? If all of the manifestations were prophecy, how would one discern spirits? God has given nine manifestations, each with its own profit, working together as one unit in each believer as he wills. If a believer only operates one manifestation, he will not have the complete unit. No manifestation is insignificant or unprofitable. Each believer needs all nine manifestations in operation in his life to have the full blessing.

God designed the manifestations to work together for the ultimate profit of the believer and the entire Body of Christ. No one of the manifestations could do the whole job. God knew without diversity within the members, there would be no body. Yet, although there are many members and much diversity, there is only one body, with a unity and majesty that declares the glory and manifold wisdom of God.

Can a believer say, "I need gifts of healings, but I do not need speaking in tongues." Can a believer say he has no need for another believer? No! All the manifestations are necessary to the believer and all the believers are necessary to the Body of Christ.

Verse 21 shows the opposite extreme of thought regarding the importance of the members. No member is so all-important that he does not need the others. No manifestation stands or functions on its own and neither does any believer. That would be the height of egotism to think that although God made a body, I am sufficient in myself. This "no one is as good as me attitude" separates the member from the blessing of the rest of the body. The elevation of any one manifestation above the others does the same thing. They are all necessary. Each has its purpose, and they all need to be operated.

No one member is designed to be independent of the others. Otherwise, what is the purpose of the body. Just like one manifestation needs the others to function properly each believer needs others to help and contribute to their lives. Can one operate gifts of healing without revelation. No, it does not work that way. The manifestations work together, and so must the Body of Christ. No one should ever think, "I do not need help from anyone." There are vital contributions others can make which are necessary to the proper functioning of each member.

John and I find it very beneficial to minister with other believers. We need each others' help. It is great to learn from one another as you do it together. When you are

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

thinking a thought and the other person says it, you know God is working. God establishes things, and you learn about revelation in that way.

Those members, which “seem to be more feeble” and “less honourable” are just as important as others. Some may say that certain manifestations are less significant than others. In religious circles, speaking in tongues is often considered the least important of the manifestations, but God’s Word declares that it is the foundational manifestation and vital to the believer’s spiritual growth.

The word translated “uncomely” in verse 23 is used in profane Greek literature as a sexual term to refer to the private parts. The “uncomely” members are those, which are unpresentable, personal, or private. (In public, we cover up our private parts.)

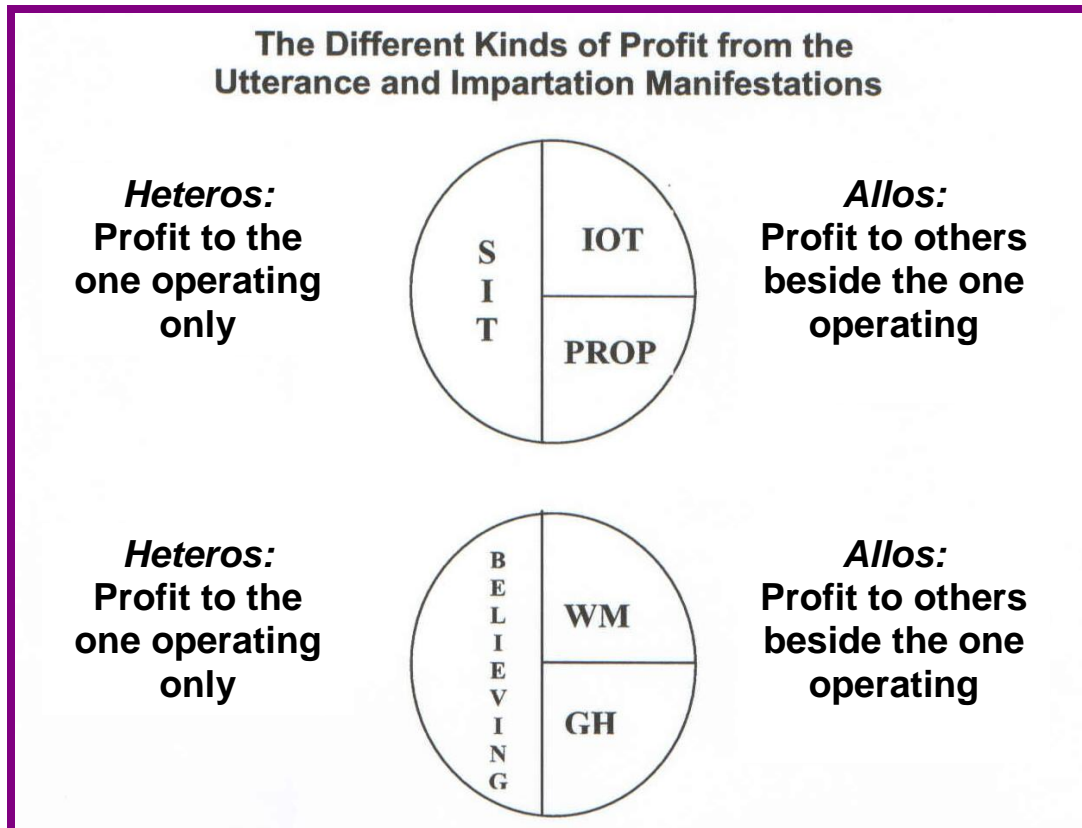
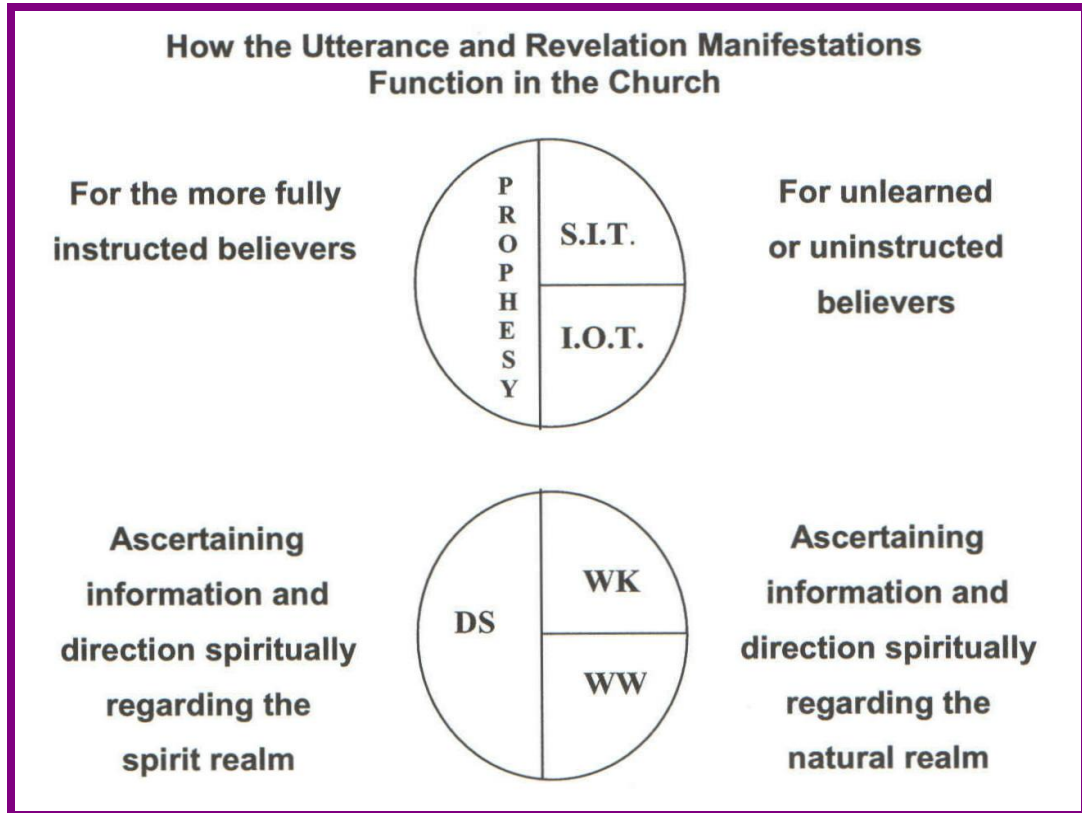
Two manifestations are designed primarily for private use. They are speaking in tongues and believing. No one else is directly involved or benefits except you and God. For the most part, you do not hear people speaking in tongues, unless they are going to interpret. These two manifestations are very private and personal and help us get to know God better.

I Corinthians 12:24 says that God hath tempered the body together. In Greek the word translated “tempered together” means “mixed together to form a new substance.” It implies an inseparable blend. The nine manifestations are an inseparable unit. A believer must operate all nine manifestations, or he will be lacking in his walk.

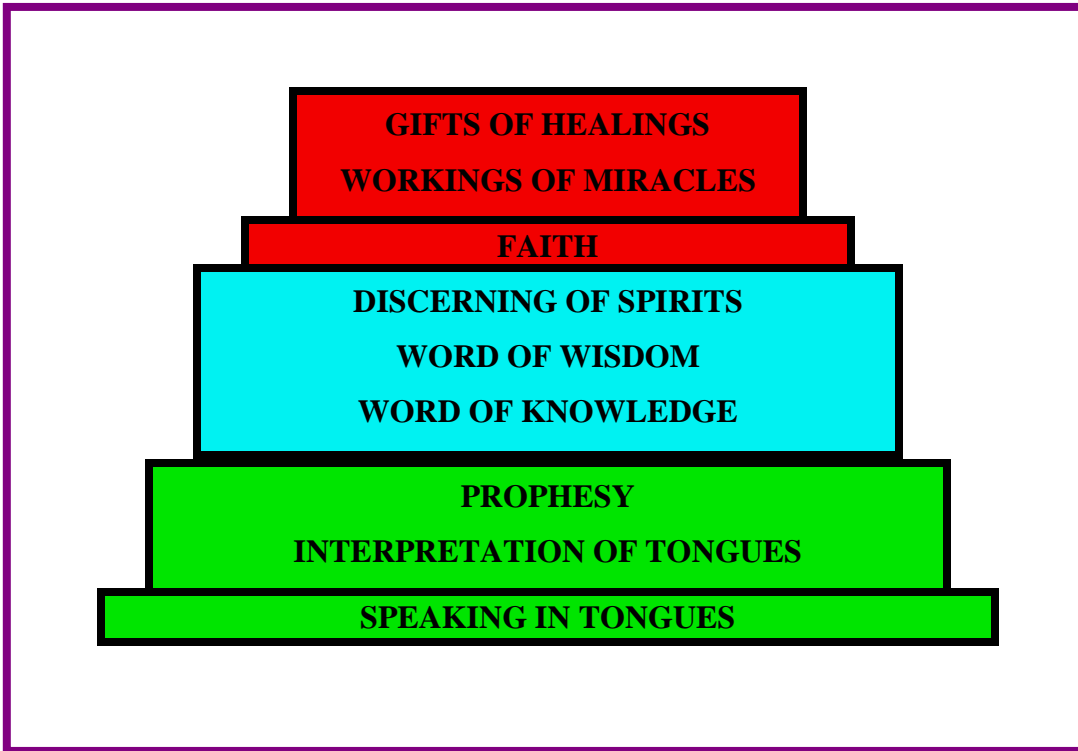
I Corinthians 12:26 says if one member suffers, all the members suffer with it. If a believer is weak in one of the manifestations, it will effect the other eight also. The body of the nine manifestations will not be effectual in the believer’s life. If a believer does not speak in tongues much, how will he bless the Body with interpretation of tongues or prophecy? If a believer does not operate the revelation manifestations, or the manifestation of believing, how will he operate gifts of healings or workings of miracles?

One reason we have problems with the manifestations is because we become so mechanical. First we do this and then we do that, and we try to think through every detail. Is that how you walk physically? Walking by the spirit is just as simple... like a bird flying, like a fish in water. It is what we were designed to do. We were designed to live and move and have our being in Him. It is not difficult, but it takes deliberate effort. The more we do it, the more effortlessly it looks.

Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together



Ministering With God's Power
Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together



Paul Operated All Nine, How About You?

Did Paul speak in tongues? Yes, I Corinthians 14:18 said he spoke in tongues more than anyone else in the whole Corinthian church. Did Paul operate interpretation of tongues and prophecy? In Acts 19:6 he led the about twelve men in Ephesus into prophecy, so he must have done it himself. Did Paul receive word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits? In Galatians 2:2 Paul said that he went to Jerusalem by revelation. That took word of knowledge and word of wisdom. Paul discerned that Elymas the sorcerer was a child of the devil in Acts 13:9,10, and that the soothsayer in Acts 16:16-18 had a spirit of divination. That took discerning of spirits. Did Paul operate manifestation of believing? In Acts 27:23-26 Paul believed the revelation that the angel delivered to him, saying, "For I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me." Did Paul operate workings of miracles? Yes, in Acts 14:8-10 Paul healed the impotent man, crippled from his mother's womb, at Lystra in a miraculous healing where he leaped up and walked. Did Paul operate gifts of healings? In Troas in Acts 20:8-12, Paul raised Eutychus from the dead after he fell out of the third loft.

Does anyone believe that Paul operated all nine manifestations? So do I. But, a more important or telling question is do you believe you can? I am convinced you can. If you can speak in tongues you can do them all, just like Paul did.

But you say, "He was the great Apostle Paul, and I am not him. I could never do all the things the great apostle Paul did." Yes, Paul was a great man wasn't he? But, did you know in his estimation you are greater?

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

Ephesians 3:7:

Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift [*dorea*; the *charisma* benefiting others.] of the grace of God given unto me by [*kata*; according to] the effectual working [*energeia*] of his power [*dunamis*].

Whether the gift here refers to the ministries Paul operated or the new birth, the effectual working of his power is done through the manifestations. Are ministries gifts to individuals? No, they are gifts to the church. If people do not function within the church, no ministries will be in evidence. How does one's life become a gift to the church? It happens by faithfully *Ministering with God's Power* and operating manifestations.

Ephesians 3:8:

Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

Is this God's Word? Is it true? Even if you consider yourself the least of all saints, Paul says he is less than that. And, if he is "less than," what are you? Greater! Then you cannot be the least of all saints.

In Paul's estimation the believers he was talking to were greater than he was. That is a great key to operating these manifestations—having that kind of attitude... that kind of humility. The people we serve are God's best and deserve God's best. When we think that way we do our utmost to give them our best. If Paul is the least of all saints, then you or I cannot be. Indeed, you are a son of God with all power. That is how he felt about the people to whom he ministered.

I Corinthians 15:1-10;

Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; [That is the *doulos* analogy.]

2 By which also ye are saved, if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain.

3 For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures;

4 And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:

5 And that he was seen of Cephas, then of the twelve:

6 After that, he was seen of above five hundred brethren at once; of whom the greater part remain unto this present, but some are fallen asleep.

7 After that, he was seen of James; then of all the apostles.

8 And last of all he was seen of me also, as of one born out of due time.

9 For I am the least of the apostles, that am not meet to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God.

10 But by the grace of God I am what I am: and his grace which *was bestowed* upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all [the ones the lord appeared to]: **yet not I**, but the grace of God which was with me.

It was the grace of God that allowed Paul to minister so effectually. It was not his natural leadership ability or his personality, it was the grace of God. He said, "I labored

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

more abundantly than them all.” Then, just so we did not get the wrong idea and think that it was done by his works, he corrects himself. *Yet not I* is the figure of speech, *epanorthosis*, correction, where what is said is immediately taken back and corrected, explained in another way to make the point, the truth, in an even stronger way. The wonderful grace of God on our lives allows us to go way beyond what we ever thought we could do.

God changed his life, just like he changed everyone of us. That is why he was able to do what he did, because he allowed the grace of God to work in him. It is not by our works, our effort, or our ego... it is by the grace of God that we can do what we do. Paul realized it was the grace of God on his life. We are not on our own when it comes to the manifestations. God will work with us!

I Timothy 1:12-16:

And I thank [have thankfulness for] Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry;

13 Who was before a blasphemer, and a persecutor, and injurious: but I obtained mercy, because I did *it* ignorantly in unbelief.

14 And the grace of our Lord was exceeding abundant with faith and love which is in Christ Jesus.

15 This *is* a faithful saying, [the Word is faithful.] and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief.

16 Howbeit for this cause I obtained mercy, that in me first Jesus Christ might shew forth all longsuffering, for a pattern to them which should hereafter believe on him to life everlasting.

So, if you think you are the chief sinner, think again. Paul is, and he is the pattern, and we are to follow the pattern. Paul operated all nine, and we can do the same. You have most likely already operated all the manifestations whether or not you know it or can identify them. They all work together, and you have worked them all.

In fact, in many of the miraculous healings in the Bible you can see all of the revelation and impartation manifestations in evidence. Let us quickly look at a couple of examples.

Acts 3:1-12:

Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, *being* the ninth *hour*.

2 And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

3 Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.

4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us. [That is inspired utterance by revelation.]

5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive [*lambanō*] something of them.

6 Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have [By word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits he knew he had a gift of

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

healing to give.] give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted *him* up: and immediately [That makes it also the working of a miracle.] his feet and ankle bones received strength.

8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

Not only did the man get healed in his feet and ankles, but his mind was also made whole. What usually takes time to learn (i.e. how to walk) he learned instantly.

Next let us look at the miraculous conception of Jesus.

Luke 1:31-38:

And, behold, thou shalt conceive in thy womb, and bring forth a son, and shalt call his name JESUS.

32 He shall be great, and shall be called the Son of the Highest: and the Lord God shall give unto him the throne of his father David:

33 And he shall reign over the house of Jacob for ever; and of his kingdom there shall be no end.

34 Then said Mary unto the angel, How shall this be, seeing I know not a man?

35 And the angel answered and said unto her, The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee: therefore also that holy thing which shall be born of thee shall be called the Son of God.

36 And, behold, thy cousin Elisabeth, she hath also conceived a son in her old age: and this is the sixth month with her, who was called barren.

37 For with God nothing shall be impossible. [For no Word of God is without power.]

38 And Mary said, Behold the handmaid of the Lord; be it unto me according to thy word. And the angel departed from her. [Its job was completed.]

I called this conception miraculous because, to the best of my understanding it was the working of a miracle. The angels delivered to Mary of a word of knowledge, the truths or facts concerning the birth of this child, which were humanly impossible for her to know by her five senses. This was revelation from God. She believed what God told her, saying, "Be it unto me according to thy word." Verse 31 said she would conceive and verse 35 said her son would be born. She believed to conceive and she had to continue to operate the manifestation of believing throughout the approximately nine months of her pregnancy until her son, God's only begotten son, Jesus Christ, was born. The result of the operation of these manifestations of word of knowledge and believing brought to pass the miracle. That is how one operates the manifestation of workings of miracles. Later, when Mary goes to see Elizabeth, Elizabeth prophesies by revelation, speaking words of knowledge and words of wisdom saying:

Luke 1:39-45:

And Mary arose in those days, and went into the hill country with haste, into a city of Juda; [She wanted to see God's Word come to pass.]

40 And entered into the house of Zacharias, and saluted Elisabeth.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 3: The Manifestations Working Together

41 And it came to pass, that, when Elisabeth heard the salutation of Mary, the babe leaped in her womb; and Elisabeth was filled [*plethō*] with the Holy Ghost:

42 And she spake out with a loud voice, and said, Blessed *art* thou among women, and blessed *is* the fruit of thy womb. [How did she know? It had to be revelation.]

43 And whence *is* this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

44 For, lo, as soon as the voice of thy salutation sounded in mine ears, the babe leaped in my womb for joy.

45 And blessed *is* she that believed: for there shall be a performance of those things which were told her from the Lord. [Whenever you believe the revelation, it shall absolutely happen.]

To arrive at gifts of healings and workings of miracles all of the revelation and impartation manifestations have been operated. We keep ourselves built up and ready to go with the utterance manifestations, then as need arises we work the rest to bring glory to God. And that is where we will be going in the next hour as we delve into being “Laborers Together with God.”

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 4: Working Together With God

Preview of *Working Together With God*

In *Working Together With God* we will see that as members of the Body of Christ we are to work together with each other and with God to bring His will to pass. If we do our part and God does His part, then God's will gets done, and God gets the glory. To do our part, it is necessary that we decide to operate the manifestations; our will is required.

As Members of the Body of Christ We Are to Work Together with Each Other and with God to Bring His Will to Pass.

I Corinthians 3:6-9:

I [Paul] have planted, Apollos watered; but God gave the increase.

7 So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase.

8 Now he that planteth and he that watereth are one: and every man shall receive his own reward according to his own labour.

9 For we [Paul & Timothy] are labourers together with God: ye are God's husbandry [cultivated field], *ye are* God's building.

Paul described the believers at Corinth as a cultivated field. They were primed and ready to produce. He also called them God's building, *oikōdomē*. That is used of edifying or building up. Thayer says it is used of the act of one who promotes another's growth. God actively promotes the growth of everyone who allows Him the access by their free will.

Paul said it so succinctly in Philippians 2:13 where it says, "For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure." God works in us to will via the revelation manifestations and to do via the impartation manifestations. We have the revelation of His Word, and that is the foundation and basis for all our lives. Then, when we need specific information, He can and will tell us what we need to know. Once we know what to do, then He will work with us to see that it gets accomplished. It is His good pleasure to be actively involved in our lives, working together with us to bring the good pleasure of His will to pass. We have the pleasure of His company in our lives as we work and do His good pleasure. It is God's good pleasure to be actively involved in our lives working together with us to bring the good pleasure of His will to pass.

Do you remember the incident in II Kings chapter five regarding the healing of Naaman? Naaman was the captain of the host of the king of Syria, a mighty man of valor. He was also a leper. Naaman's healing was accomplished in quite a wonderful way. It started when a little maid of Naaman's wife lets her know that it is available. Then Elisha plays a part. Elisha's servant also plays a part, as does Naaman's servants who counsel him to do as he was instructed. Everyone had a part to play. Ultimately,

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 4: Working Together With God

Naaman was responsible for his healing. However, all of them worked together to bring it to pass. One without the others would not have gotten the job done. It took all of them working together.

Within the Body of Christ, we all do our part. We plant and water, but God gives the increase. It is important for each of us to do what God has called us to do so that the Body functions properly. Everybody has a function to do and not one part is more important than the other. We function together. We all have responsibilities. We all have things to do.

II Corinthians 5:20-6:1:

Now then we [Paul and Timothy] are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech *you* [the Corinthians] by us [Paul and Timothy]: we pray [desire] *you* in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God.

21 For he [God] hath made him [Jesus Christ] *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.

6:1 We then, *as* workers together *with him*, beseech *you* also that ye receive not the grace of God in vain.

Remember from the last hour, that Paul was what he was because of the grace of God on his life. Now he is beseeching them that they too allow the grace of God to have an impact on their lives. Let the grace of God make a difference in your life. Let the grace of God change you and allow you to be what He has called you to be.

Paul and Timothy worked together with God. That is why they were effective in their ministry. If we will do the same and see ourselves as ambassadors for Christ ministering in his place, we too will be effective. As ambassadors, we represent the One Who sent us. The One Who sent Christ is the Same One Who sent us. We are ambassadors for Christ, and we are acting in his stead with power of attorney in his name. We are workers together with God and Christ, and we boldly say so, like Paul and Timothy.

We have been given so much, let it not be in vain... empty, hollow, without substance. It would be vain if we spoke words with no power behind them, empty words devoid of power. It would be vain if we talked about the grace of God on our lives, but did not let that grace have an impact on how we lived and what we did. The truth of God's Word is supposed to be real life. What we read about in the scriptures should be happening in our lives. When we allow the grace of God to have an impact, our lives will have substance and depth and meaning.

John 14:12:

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth **on me**, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

The greater works would be done after the Day of Pentecost. While Jesus was here on earth with them, the apostles could not be born again. Jesus had to die, arise, ascend, and make it available after Pentecost. It was not until they were born again of God's spirit that they had incorruptible seed. They had power before that. They healed and did miracles before, but Jesus said on the day of Pentecost you are going to receive power, something more than you have now. They were already healing and doing signs, miracles, and wonders. (Jesus saw Satan fall from heaven they were disrupting his

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 4: Working Together With God

kingdom so bad.) He said you are going to get more. What they got was the exceeding greatness of His power available when God got Christ up from the dead and seated him at His own right hand. The power they had after Pentecost was so much greater!

After the resurrection and ascension of Jesus, God made greater power available. Part of the greater works is that we have incorruptible seed now and we can operate the utterance manifestations: speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, and prophecy. The greater works in their basic common denominator is that we can get people born again of God's spirit.

That is what Jesus Christ could not do. The reason he could not is that he had to die, be raised, and ascend, and send the holy spirit before it could happen. We now can get people born again of holy spirit. People can change from death unto life. They can be dead one moment and be alive eternally the next! With the new birth came the ability to operate nine manifestations. In the Old Testament, they could only do six.

John 14:13,14:

And whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.

14 If ye shall ask any thing in my name, I will do *it*. [Does that repetition establish it or what?]

Can we, as Paul claimed in Philippians 4:13, do all things through Christ which strengthens us? Paul did not say, "You can do all things." He said he could. That gives us the right to say the same thing, but we have to say it. We have to make the confession. We have to say the same thing. He said it; he meant it; he believed it, and he did it. He gave us the right to do the same thing. We have to do like Paul did. Let us follow his example and say, "I can do all things through Christ which strengthens us." When we do, we will see the same result.

If Man Does His Part and God Does His Part, then God's Will Gets Done and God Gets the Glory.

Remember our theme verses?

I Peter 4:10,11:

As every man hath received the gift, *even so* minister the same one to another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God.

11 If any man speak, *let him speak* as the oracles of God [That would include the utterance manifestations]; if any man minister [That would include the revelation and impartation manifestations.], *let him do it* as of the ability which God giveth: that God in all things may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom be praise and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.

Man does his part. He has to speak as the oracles of God. If he ministers he has to minister as of the ability that God gives. Man does his part; God does His part; then God gets glorified.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 4: Working Together With God

You know how much I hate formulas and regimen. In *Walking by the Spirit* I spent an entire hour teaching that God desires relationship not regimen. He wants a joyous family life, not formulas. You know it would not be a bad idea to incorporate *Walking by the Spirit* into your study of this *Power of God Series*. But I must digress for a moment to show you a picture in the form of a scientific equation that may help you understand this process of laboring together with God. I trust it will help communicate a very important truth for *Ministering With God's Power*.

$$\mathbf{A + B \Rightarrow C}$$

IF A (Man does his part.) and B (God does His part.) **THEN**, C (The result is that God's will gets done and God gets the glory.) Where do you see the weak link in this equation? Yes, with man doing his part. God is always faithful, and He will do His part.

$$\mathbf{A \Rightarrow C}$$

For the most part God has moved in Christ Jesus, and now we must move. In some respects the first move we make is to get born-again. Then as we learn more of what God has accomplished for us in Christ Jesus we appropriate it by believing.

The biggest problem with healing and miracles is that men refuse to do their part. Because of the principle of scripture buildup, we know that both the man and God must be involved. But, not everywhere a miracle or healing occurs does it note both the man's and God's parts.

Remember the great deliverance of the children of Israel from Egypt? There were ten plagues and miracles associated with them, which happened before they ever left Egypt. Who did those signs, miracles, and wonders? Before they left, God told Moses what would happen.

Exodus 3:20:

And **I [the Lord]** will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt with all **my wonders which I will do** in the midst thereof: and after that he will let you go.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 4: Working Together With God

He further explained that Moses would be involved too.

Exodus 4:21:

And the LORD said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that **thou do all those wonders** before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand [Moses would have the power to do them.]: but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go.

Who was supposed to do the wonders, here?

Exodus 4:28-30:

And Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD who had sent him, and all the signs which he had commanded him.

29 And Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel:

30 And **Aaron** spake all the words which the LORD had spoken unto Moses, and **did the signs** in the sight of the people.

Who did them? It says Aaron did. Does that mean he did them all by himself? No! It means he did it with God. God said he was going to do it. He told Moses he was going to do it, and we see Aaron doing it. They did not do it by themselves, but it says that they did it. It did not say God was not involved did it? They were working together with Him.

Exodus 11:10:

And **Moses** and **Aaron did** all these wonders before Pharaoh: and the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, so that he would not let the children of Israel go out of his land.

Who did them? It says Moses and Aaron did.

Numbers 14:11,20-22a:

And the LORD said unto Moses, How long will this people provoke me? and how long will it be ere they believe me, for all the **signs which I have shewed** among them?

20 And the LORD said, I have pardoned [the children of Israel] according to thy word:

21 But *as truly as* I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD.

22 Because all those men which have seen my glory, and **my miracles, which I did** in Egypt and in the wilderness....

Who does it say did them this time? The Lord. Who actually did them? It was Moses and Aaron who labored with God. Together they did them, and it brought glory to God. In some places it says that Moses and Aaron did them. In some places it God did them. We understand the people did them because they were working together with God. We are never alone when we operate manifestations; God always works with us.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 4: Working Together With God

Sometimes it just mentions what the man does. Here are some examples from our administration in the Book of Acts.

Acts 2:43:

And fear came upon every soul: and many **wonders and signs were done by the apostles.**

Acts 4:16:

Saying [This was the leaders of the Temple in Jerusalem who were speaking], What shall we do to these men [Peter, John, and the other apostles]? for that indeed a notable **miracle** [healing of the man at the temple gate beautiful who was lame from his mother's womb] **hath been done by them** *is* manifest to all them that dwell in Jerusalem; and we cannot deny *it*.

They could not deny the miracle. The entire country side knew about it, and they knew the apostles did it.

Acts 6:8:

And **Stephen**, full of faith and power, **did great wonders and miracles** among the people.

Acts 8:6:

And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which **Philip** spake, hearing and seeing **the miracles which he did.**

Acts 14:11:

And when the people saw what **Paul had done** [This refers to the healing of an impotent man lame from his mother's womb], they lifted up their voices, saying in the speech of Lycaonia, The gods are come down to us in the likeness of men.

Paul did it. If he had not done it, it would not have gotten done. Now we know through scripture build up, that he did not do it by himself. Remember he said in Philippians, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

Acts 28:8:

And it came to pass, that the father of Publius lay sick of a fever and of a bloody flux: to whom **Paul** entered in, and prayed, and laid his hands on him, and **healed** him.

If you want to minister healing, then you will have to do the healing. No place in the New Testament does it say that we are to pray to God for Him to heal. The example of Jesus Christ was that he healed. Paul did the same. We know, however, that we do not do it by ourselves. God works with us.

Some teach that only apostles can do the mighty works of God. However, Stephen and Philip were not of the twelve original apostles. Do you remember Ananias who ministered to Paul? He was a certain disciple. You do not need a gift ministry. You just need to want to.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 4: Working Together With God

Galatians 3:5:

He therefore that ministereth to you the Spirit, and **worketh miracles** among you, *doeth he it* by the works of the law, or by the hearing of faith?

The answer of course is by the hearing of faith. The point is that there were people in Galatia that are doing miracles. It was by the hearing of faith, but he used them as an example because they did it. If miracles are going to happen, you need to do them. If you do not, they will not get done. Who worked the miracles? These were not necessarily apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors, or teachers. They were believers who acted and operated manifestations of the spirit.

John 14:12:

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, **the works that I do shall he do also**; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

These verses we just read and others tell us that men did the miracles. But, we cannot forget the other scriptures that also apply in these situations. Remember the principle of scripture build-up.

Acts 2:4:

And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

Whenever they spoke in tongues the spirit gave utterance. Every time after this does God have to say as the spirit gives utterance? God is faithful to give the utterance every time. If we will do our part, God will do His part. He is always faithful.

Acts 3:12:

And when Peter saw *it*, he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

Who made him to walk? Peter did! He is the one who reached down. He is the one who said, "Get up!" and grabbed him by the hand. Peter was smart enough to know he did not do it by himself, and he was not taking the credit for it. He was giving the credit to God. When you do it, God will always do His part. When God gives you the revelation, you decide. He will energize you; He will make it happen.

Whose power was it? Did Peter do it because he was exceptionally holy? We know our weaknesses better than anyone else. God works with us where we are, as we are. His grace is big enough to cover for our human frailties. When you start working in this field there is a great temptation to get a big head. People can get so prideful thinking that they are the "great power of God!" We must always be sure to maintain our humility.

Acts 19:11:

And **God wrought special miracles** by the hands of Paul:

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 4: Working Together With God

Who wrought them? God. But, when you read it, it says Paul did it. Which is right? They are both right. It takes both. That is how scripture build up works. You have to put this together. We are not doing this by ourselves. We are workers together with Him. We are laborers together with God. That is why we can do it.

Romans 8:37:

Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors **through him** that loved us.

Philippians 4:13:

I can do all things **through Christ** which strengtheneth me.

When we recognize how God works in us to will and to do His good pleasure... when we realize the grace of God upon our lives... Then our report of our activities will be like Paul and Barnabus'.

Acts 14:27:

And when they were come, and had gathered the church together, they rehearsed **all that God had done with them**, and how he [God] had opened the door of faith unto the Gentiles.

Acts 15:12:

Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring **what miracles and wonders God had wrought among the Gentiles by them**.

They realized God worked with them, but they had to do their part. That is how it works. God never leaves us alone. He wants to be involved. It is His will that we are doing. He wants the pleasure of our company. He wants us to have the pleasure of His company. He wants to work with us to will and to do of His good pleasure. He wants to be involved in our lives. That is our joy.

Romans 15:15-19:

Nevertheless, brethren, I have written the more boldly unto you in some sort, as putting you in mind, because of the grace that is given to me of God,

16 That I should be the minister of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles, ministering the gospel of God, that the offering up of the Gentiles might be acceptable, being sanctified by the Holy Ghost.

17 I have therefore whereof I may glory through Jesus Christ in those things which pertain to God.

18 For I will not dare to speak of any of **those things which Christ hath not wrought by me**, to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed,

19 **Through mighty signs and wonders, by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.**

If you are going to see many signs miracles and wonders, you are going to have to preach the gospel of Christ. When we preach the gospel of Jesus Christ (which includes

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 4: Working Together With God

the mystery and the operation of the manifestations) God will confirm it with signs. If we are not out speaking the Word and preaching the Word, you can forget about signs, miracles, and wonders.

Tell people that do not know anything about Jesus Christ that he died for their sins... that he loves them... that he wants them whole... that they can have a life that is full and rich and meaningful... that they can have power in their life... that they do not have to be beaten... that they do not have to succumb to the world... that they can live above it. You tell them, and then you show them how. Then you heal them. Then you tell them, now you go out and heal somebody else. When we fully preach, it is by demonstration of the spirit and of power.¹³ We not only speak the words, but we demonstrate spiritual power.

Many times Jesus is said to do it alone.

John 2:11,23:

This beginning of **miracles did Jesus** in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.

23 Now when **he** [Jesus] was in Jerusalem at the passover, in the feast *day*, many believed in his name, when they saw **the miracles which he did**.

John 4:54:

This *is* again the second **miracle that Jesus did**, when he was come out of Judaea into Galilee.

John 6:2:

And a great multitude followed him, because they saw **his miracles which he [Jesus] did** on them that were diseased.

John 6:14:

Then those men, when they had seen the **miracle that Jesus did**, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.

John 7:31:

And many of the people believed on him, and said, When Christ cometh, will **he do more miracles** than these which **this man [Jesus] hath done?**

John 11:47:

Then gathered the chief priests and the Pharisees a council, and said, What do we? for **this man [Jesus] doeth many miracles**.

John 12:18:

For this cause the people also met him [Jesus], for that they heard that **he had done this miracle**.

¹³ I Corinthians 2:5

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 4: Working Together With God

John 12:37:

But though **he [Jesus] had done so many miracles** before them, yet they believed not on him:

John 20:30:

And many other **signs truly did Jesus** in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book:

Jesus did not do it alone either. He operated manifestations just like we must do. Nicodemus realized that truth.

John 3:2:

The same [Nicodemus] came to Jesus by night, and said unto him, Rabbi, we know that thou art a teacher come from God: **for no man can do these miracles that thou doest, except God be with him.**

What a great acknowledgement: “No man can do these **miracles** that thou doest, except God be with him.” The basis for Jesus ministry was his relationship with the Father. He modeled intimacy; he demonstrated what a Father/son relationship should be. Jesus did nothing on his own.¹⁴ He always sought to honor¹⁵ and please¹⁶ his Father. The Father showed him all that He was doing.¹⁷ Our ministries too, are founded on our relationship with God as dear children through the accomplished work of Jesus Christ.

Jesus never intimated that he ever did anything on his own. He was always doing his Father's will. The first words recorded out of his mouth are: “Wist ye not I must be about my Father's business?”¹⁸ and the last words: “It is finished.”¹⁹ All the time in between he was doing his Father's will. We have the same privilege to do that.

John 5:30:

I can of mine own self do nothing: as I hear, I judge: and my judgment is just; because I seek not mine own will, but the will of the Father which hath sent me.

Remember those verses where he said he did the miracles? Here it says he could do nothing by himself. He acknowledged God working with him. He was not after what he wanted. That is where a lot of people get tripped up in these fields. They want certain things. They want their will done. We are not after our will; we are after God's will. What He wants done. God's will is that He wants healing all the time: every disease, all the time, for everybody.

“I can of mine own self do nothing.” If Jesus said that, how should we act and conduct our lives? Jesus also said in John 14:10 that “The Father that dwelleth in me, He doeth the works.” We also have Peter's testimony in Acts chapter two.

¹⁴ John 5:17-21

¹⁵ John 7:15-18,46

¹⁶ John 8:16,26-29

¹⁷ John 5:20

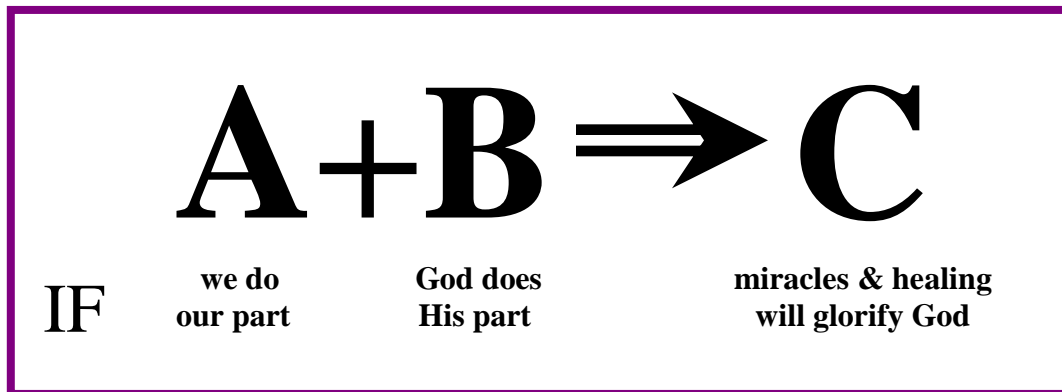
¹⁸ Luke 2:49

¹⁹ John 19:30

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 4: Working Together With God

Acts 2:22:

Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles and wonders and signs, **which God did by him** in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:



It is man and God working together to bring deliverance, which in turn brings glory to God.

**We Must Decide to Operate the Manifestations.
Our Will Is Required.**

I Corinthians 12:11:

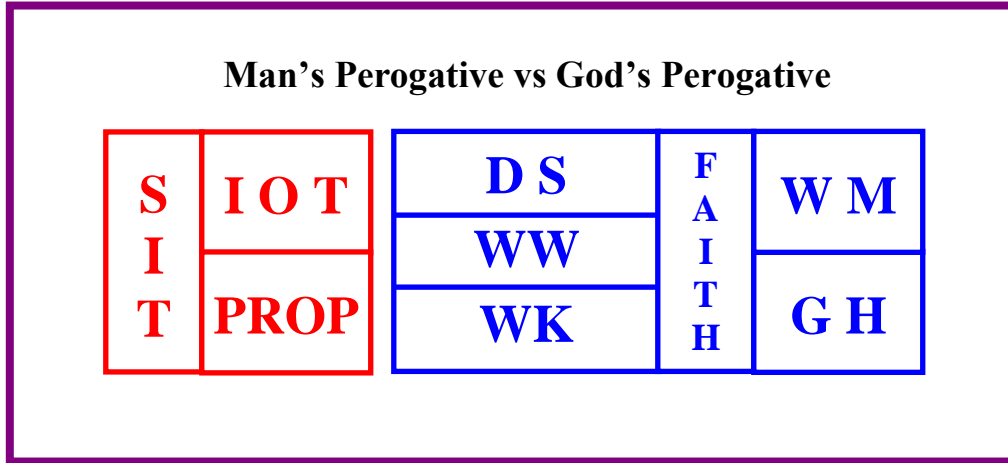
But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will [*bouloumai*].

This still has to fit with I Corinthians 12:6, which says, through the choice or option of God there are energizings. Thayer gives two usages for *bouloumai*. One is “to will deliberately, have a purpose, be minded,” and the other is “to have affection or desire.” Friberg also agrees with the same two usages. One is of a person desiring something translated *wish, want, or desire*. The other is of a person deliberating and deciding something translated *will, determine, intend*. The Louw-Nida Lexicon lists *bouloumai* under synonymous words for “desire” saying it is used meaning “to desire to have or experience something, with the implication of some reasoned planning or will to accomplish the goal.” In this case it should be translated “desire,” “want,” or “will.” It is also listed under synonymous words for intend meaning “to think, with the purpose of planning or deciding on a course of action.” In this case it should be translated “purpose,” “plan,” or “intend.”

It takes making meaningful, purposeful, deliberate decisions or we will not operate any of the manifestations. However, just because we purpose or intend to do something does not mean of necessity that it happens. “To will” does not mean “to cause to

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 4: Working Together With God

happen.” Because I purposefully desire to do a miracle does not mean that I originate one or cause one to happen on my own or of my own volition.



Speaking in tongues, interpretation and prophecy are done at our prerogative. Anytime that you want, you can operate these manifestations. I Corinthians 12, 13, and 14 give us guidelines on how to do it correctly. Why do we need guidelines? Because we can do them incorrectly. We needed instruction because we can do those manifestations whenever we want.

What three chapters give us instructions on how to do the other six manifestations? There are not any because we cannot do them whenever we want. You cannot do a healing wrong. You cannot do a miracle wrong. Because if God is not working with you, you cannot do it all. You do not get discerning of spirits wrong. You do not get word of knowledge wrong. You either get it or you do not. These six are not at our discretion. They are at God's discretion. He gives us word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits and makes available miracles and healing.

Faith is what we do to turn these (discerning of spirits, word of wisdom and word of knowledge) into these (working of miracles and gifts of healing). When He tells us what to do, we do what we are told and then miracles and gifts of healing happen. We have to purpose to do these, but we do not cause them to happen. They are not as we determine, they are as we desire to. God will make opportunities available, and when He does we have to desire them and do them. We do not cause them to happen. We do not initiate them, but the thing you will see is that the more you get involved in this is that it is always God's will in every situation for people to be healed. Always, always, always! Every disease, every time, always. The only thing that will stop it is what stopped Jesus Christ. He did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief. We just want to make sure that that unbelief does not come from us.

The opportunity and the privilege we get when we work with people is that if they are not at the place where they believe to receive the healing, then we help them get there. (Faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word.²⁰) If they are not ready to believe yet, then we make sure they get more Word so that they can believe. Because we know

²⁰ Romans 10:17

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 4: Working Together With God

that God wants them healed. There could be something holding it up. Sometimes there is bitterness; sometimes there is unforgiveness; sometimes there is stuff that has gone on in their lives that they have not gotten rid of that holds them back.

III John 2:

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

If you want health and prosperity there is a standard set. Our soul prospers as we do the Word. You prosper when you put the Word on in your mind. The Word says, "Be ye kind, forgiving one another even as God for Christ's sake has forgiven you."²¹ That is what the Word says, and you will prosper if you do it.

Part of what we have to do when we minister is to make sure there are not things holding the healing up for people. They want to come for healing, but are mad as hell at somebody. Well, the Word says, "as your soul prospers." Your soul cannot prosper if you want to be bitter about something. If you do not want to forgive, your soul cannot prosper. Part of the things we will show you, is to root those things out. Root out the unforgiveness. Get the people to talk to you, and let you know what is going on in their lives. When they get rid of that stuff, the doors for healing can open.

Matthew 1:19:

Then Joseph her [Mary's] husband, being a just *man*, and not willing [*thēlō*; *desiring*] to make her a publick example, was minded [*boulomai*; *intended*] to put her away privily.

Just because you will to do something, you do not cause it to happen. When God gives us the opportunity, we make it happen. But, we do not do it whenever we want. Here, Joseph was minded, *boulomai*, to put her away privily. That is what he wanted to do. Did it happen as he intended? No, it did not. God interceded with revelation, and he did something else.

Acts 12:4:

And when he [Herod] had apprehended him [Peter], he put *him* in prison, and delivered *him* to four quaternions of soldiers to keep him; intending [*boulomai*] after Easter to bring him forth to the people.

Did it happen because that is what he wanted it to? No! It was not according to God's will. It has to be according to God's will. We will have many occasions where it is according to His will.

Acts 19:30:

And when Paul would [*boulomai*] have entered in unto the people, the disciples suffered him not.

²¹ Ephesians 4:32

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 4: Working Together With God

What did he want to do? He wanted to go back in there and mix it up again. He did not want to get run out of town. They interceded and got him out of there. I thought he was the apostle Paul. I thought he had all the answers. I thought he knew everything. Well, he did not have the answers then did he? If those believers had not have interceded for him and helped him, he would have been in a heap of trouble. He would have been dead. They got him out of town. He wanted to go back in and mix it up but it was not God's will to do that. We all need each other; we are not independent. None of us are that smart or that wise that we can handle it all ourselves. We need each other. We need counsel and help.

I want to qualify that phrase, "as he will." It happens "as we will." But that word "will" does not mean that we make it happen or we cause it to happen. It means that we want it to happen or we desire it to happen. When God gives us an opportunity or makes it available, we have to jump on it. When God says go for it, we have to be willing to go. We have to be willing to move. We have to be willing to do it. He is not going to make us do it. He did not make you speak in tongues, did He? No. You had to decide to do it. He is not going to make you heal either. He is not going to make you do miracles. You have to want to do it. When you want to and you are ready, as the occasion comes up, God will say, "Now is your time. Go for it." Then you go as you will. You will heal, and you will do miracles. It is that simple, and it is always God's will to heal.

Acts 28:18:

Who, when they [the Romans] had examined me, would [*boulomai*] have let *me* go, because there was no cause of death in me.

But because of the Jews they did not. Even though they willed it, it did not happen.

Philemon 13:

Whom [Onesimus] I [Paul] would [*boulomai*] have retained with me, that in thy [Philemon's] stead he might have ministered unto me in the bonds of the gospel:

Paul wanted to keep Onesimus with him, but he did not. He sent him back to Philemon.

II Peter 3:9:

The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing [*boulomai*] that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.

Even God does not make everything happen the way He would like it to happen. Not everyone gets saved. Why not? God wants to save them. There is a thing called free will. God will not violate it. He will not violate our free will when it comes to the revelation and impartation manifestations either. He does not make us do it, and He does not make people receive it either. If people do not want deliverance God will not force it upon them.

Hebrews 2:4:

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 4: Working Together With God

God also bearing *them* witness, both with signs and wonders, and with divers miracles, and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will [*thelēsis*, from *thēlō*]?

This is a different word for “will,” but the principle is the same. It is God’s will we are concerned about, not man’s will. But, we should be adamantly convinced that it is God’s will to heal all diseases, at all times, for all people.²² Like we taught in ***Led by God's Power*** we cannot squeeze revelation out of God. We cannot squeeze gifts of healings or workings of miracles either.

Does God want everyone healed? Yes, He absolutely and unequivocally does. Who gets the healing? Those who believe; those who accept it by their freewill. Who knows what is on a man’s heart? Only God does.

God wants everyone healed of all disease all the time. God will is not fickle. It does not change. When we get as adamant as He is, we will see much more healings and miracles. Remember, God always does His part. The only question is, “Will we do our part?”

James 1:17:

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Jesus Christ has borne our grief, and carried our sorrow. He *was* wounded for our transgressions. He *was* bruised for our iniquities.²³ With his stripes we were healed. He paid the price for all healings at all times, but not everyone accepts it.

Hebrews 11:35a:

Women received their dead raised to life again: and others were tortured, not accepting deliverance....

The people who did not accept deliverance are still listed in the “Hall of Fame of Believers.” God still had an extremely high evaluation of their lives, which he recorded forever in His Word. We will get into that chapter in depth next hour.

Sickness is not sin. It is temptation. The temptation is to not trust God for our deliverance. If we are sick we should not condemn ourselves, and if other believers are sick we should think no less of them. We still see the Christ in ourselves and others no matter what troubles and trials we endure.

Galatians 4:13:

Ye know how through infirmity [weakness, feebleness of health, sickness or trials and troubles] of the flesh I preached the gospel unto you at the first.

Paul was sick when he was first at Galatia, but it did not stop him from preaching. What the KJV calls “infirmity of the flesh” the NIV calls “illness”; the NAS calls “bodily

²² Psalms 103:3

²³ Isaiah 53:4,5

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 4: Working Together With God

illness”; the RSV calls “bodily ailment”; the NAB calls “physical illness”; and the NLT calls being “sick.” Paul was sick when he first preached to the Galatians.

Galatians 4:14:

And my temptation [referring to the illness he had] which was in my flesh ye despised not, nor rejected; but received me as an angel of God, *even* as Christ Jesus.

They could have said, “How can you be preaching the gospel? You are sick. You cannot even believe for your own healing.” However, Paul did not let his sickness stop him from preaching. He did not succumb to the temptation to condemn himself, to refuse to speak the Word until he was well. Paul refused to let the sickness stop him from preaching.

The commentary on Asa in II Chronicles 16:12 states that he “was diseased in his feet, until his disease *was* exceeding *great*: yet in his disease he sought not to the LORD, but to the physicians.” Our temptation is to not trust God for our healing, to not go to him first. There is nothing wrong with going to doctors. Luke was a doctor that traveled with Paul. I am sure that on occasion he helped folks with what he knew. Elisha died of a sickness from which he did not believe for deliverance (II Kings 13:14). Does that make him a “bad believer?” Job’s wife wanted to put Job out of his misery and told Job “to curse God and die.”²⁴ Of course Job did not. In fact in everything he endured he did not sin with his lips or charge God foolishly. His confession was to constantly declare the glory of God and his own righteousness before Him.

Sickness is not necessarily our fault. Yes, if I hit my finger with a hammer, I caused the problem. If I sit down and eat an entire pie or cake and then get sick to my stomach, who else am I going to blame for it? However, many of our sicknesses are genetic or inherited. But, whatever sickness or disease attacks us we do not deserve it. Jesus Christ paid the price, and we should not need to endure what he has taken away.

Condemnation never helps. There were several people in the Bible who did not receive a gift of healing, but they were not disparaged or ridiculed. Indeed, just the opposite occurred. They were lauded for their selfless service. Our love for God and our service to Him is much more important and valuable throughout eternity than whether we believe for a gift of healing or not.

Indeed ministers of the Lord Jesus Christ should take on the responsibility to heal the sick and diseased.

James 5:14,15:

Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

It is the responsibility of the elders in the church to help the sick. If they can do nothing else, they can pray and comfort the sick. Ezekiel’s indictment of the shepherds and pastors of Israel was that did not help the sick and diseased.

²⁴ Job 2:9

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 4: Working Together With God

Ezekiel 34:4:

The diseased have ye not strengthened, neither have ye healed that which was sick, neither have ye bound up *that which was* broken, neither have ye brought again that which was driven away, neither have ye sought that which was lost; but with force and with cruelty have ye ruled them.

God did not like the way they were shepherding, because they did not heal the sick. If you are going to take responsibility to run a fellowship, you need to take responsibility for healing the sick in it.

Let us look at Epaphroditus in Philippians 2:

Philippians 2:25-30:

Yet I supposed it necessary to send to you Epaphroditus, my brother, and companion in labour, and fellowsoldier, but your messenger, and he that ministered to my wants.

26 For he longed after you all, and was full of heaviness, because that ye had heard that he had been sick.

27 For indeed he was sick nigh unto death: but God had mercy on him; and not on him only, but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.

28 I sent him therefore the more carefully, that, when ye see him again, ye may rejoice, and that I may be the less sorrowful.

29 Receive him therefore in the Lord with all gladness; and **hold such in reputation:**

30 Because for the work of Christ he was nigh unto death, not regarding his life, to supply your lack of service toward me.

He nearly worked himself to death. That was not God's will, but that is what happened.

Even Timothy seemed to have a lingering problem with his stomach.

I Timothy 5:23:

Drink no longer water, but use a little wine for thy stomach's sake and thine **often infirmities.**

How can Timothy be a man of God and be sick often? He had a weakness in that category, and Paul is trying to help him through it. The point is, if people are sick you do not condemn them. You do not condemn yourself when you are sick. You just believe to get through it. The temptation when we get sick is to not trust God for our healing.

Paul also had to leave Trophimus behind on one journey because he was sick (II Timothy 4:20). That does not mean that Paul had "lost the gift of healing," or that Trophimus was a weak believer. That is just life. Sometimes it happens, and sometimes it does not. Trophimus may have believed and accepted deliverance on many other occasions, but on this one for some reason the sickness lingered, and Paul had to leave him behind.

Fanny Crosby was blind all her life, yet she did not doubt God because she never was healed. She had a different testimony:

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 4: Working Together With God

O what a happy soul am I!
Although I cannot see
I am resolved that in this world
Contented I will be.

How many blessings I enjoy,
That other people don't.
To weep and sigh because I'm blind,
I cannot, and I won't.

--by Fanny Crosby

God has made the human body to heal itself.²⁵ He has built it into the very fabric of life. You are designed to be healthy, not sick. God designed your body to repel sickness. Sickness is a totally unnatural condition. When contagions enter your body, your body activates all kinds of defense mechanisms to get rid of it. Your body does not want to be sick! It wants to maintain its health. Even when people say it is the will of God for them to be sick, their body will fight those words and keep trying to heal itself anyway!

Doctors know they cannot heal. All they can do is administer medicine or remove causes or relieve suffering to help your body heal itself. They do not actually heal; they simply do what they can to help your body heal itself. This is exactly what God designed your body to do. Sometimes sickness is a warning to slow down or to take it easy or to get our emotions under control.

God wants everyone healed of all disease all the time. God's will is not fickle. It does not change. It is our faith or believing that appropriates it.

²⁵ Proverbs 12:25;15:13; 17:22; Psalms 139:14

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

Preview of *The Manifestation of Faith*

In *The Manifestation of Faith* we will see that we can manifest the ability which God gives, of absolute faith and confidence to do whatever God tells us. That is because we do not walk by sight, but by the Word of God in which we have a supreme confidence. Faith requires a “word” to believe, and when we have God’s Word we have His guarantee that we can do whatever He tells us.

The Manifestation of Faith Is to Manifest the Ability Which God Gives of Absolute Faith and Confidence to Do Whatever God Tells You.

A believer should be sure that his heavenly Father will let him know what he needs to know when he needs to know it. The more actively involved that we are in *Ministering with God's Power* in the valley of human need, the more we will need the spiritual “eyes and ears” of the church that we taught about in *Led by God's Power*.²⁶ God will reveal, unfold, and make known the things to your heart that you need to carry out His will.

The primary thing that we need is the Word of God. God has declared His will so magnificently, so precisely, so definitively in His Word. In it He says:

III John 2:

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

This is priority for God. If we have those two things together, we are free to do so much more. If we are in financial bondage or unhealthy we cannot move with the things of God as graciously as we want.

Psalms 103:1-3:

Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, *bles*s his holy name.

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

Philippians 4:19:

But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

There is promise after promise in this wonderful Word of God that declares God’s will. Then, when we need specific details of how to carry it out, He will let us know how

²⁶ Exodus 23:25

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

to regain our health or to prosper or to get all our need met. That is where the revelation manifestations come in.

The Manifestation of Faith is:

**To exercise the authority and ability, which
God gives of absolute trust and confidence to
do whatever God, tells you.**

If God gives you information that something is going to happen, then you can believe with absolute faith and confidence that it will. If God gives you direction or guidance to do something, then you can believe with absolute faith and confidence that you will be able to do whatever He asks.

Why would God ever ask you to do something that you could not do. That would be a dumb God, and we do not have a dumb God. He created the heavens and the earth. He knows the intricacies of life and everything. He knows how to do things, and if he ever asks us to do anything then He will energize us to be able to accomplish what He asks. Sometimes we may wonder if we could believe to do some of the things we see people in the Word believed to bring to pass. However, with God energizing you, surely you could believe to bring them to pass.

That is what this manifestation of believing is. We decide to believe what He tells us to do, and then we do it. Indeed, when you “will” to operate manifestation of faith God energizes you. We decide. We make the decision to do what God tells us, and it happens.

Remember Mary conceiving Jesus. She said, “Be it unto me according to Thy Word.” She decided at that point to believe, and she operated manifestation of believing. If God gives us His Word in revelation, then we can bring it to pass. Remember the angel told her, “For with God nothing is impossible.” Or more literally, “For no word of God is without power.” It is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword.²⁷ When God tells us what to do, then He can energize it to make it happen.

Remember what we covered earlier. We are laborers together with God, and He divides to us our own as we will. We have to will it. We have to desire it. We have to engage. We have to say, “Yes, let’s go!” Then, when we do, He energizes. But he does not break our freedom of will. He does not make us do anything we do not want to do. That is how God works. He does not use us; He blesses us. He works together with us, and that is the joy of operating the power of God.

Weymouth translates “faith” in I Corinthians 12:9 as “special faith”²⁸ as does the New Living Translation. The manifestation of faith (believing) is an extraordinary level of trust, confidence, or assurance necessary to believe what God has communicated to

²⁷ Hebrews 4:12a

²⁸ The New Testament in Modern Speech

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

your heart. It is also a persuasion that God will fully endorse the spiritual insight that He has unfolded to you. It says of Samuel, as we read in *Led by God's Power*, "God did let none of his words fall to the ground."²⁹ It is a unique and exceptional conviction that comes from your operation of your God given spiritual enablements, the ability that God gives in the new birth. The manifestation of believing is not just regular renewed mind believing. It is when we "step up," and God energizes. We accomplish what He asked us to do.

In the manifestation of believing one takes action from a point of loyal assurance and reliance, completely taking God at His revealed Word. The manifestation of faith is a conviction and knowing awareness that God's will is going to come to pass at your command. This certainty is not based upon the believer's previous successful experiences or personal capabilities, but upon the absolute faithfulness and trustworthiness of God.

God says in I John 1:9 that He "is faithful and just to forgive our sins." You will find out if you spend any time with God, that He is faithful and just to do whatever He decides to do. He is not only faithful and just to forgive; He is faithful and just to heal; He is faithful and just to teach us and help us grow; He is faithful and just **[PERIOD]**. Once He says it, He has guaranteed it.

We find the manifestation of believing in the following verses:

I Kings 17:1:

And Elijah the Tishbite, *who was* of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, **As the LORD God of Israel liveth**, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.

How presumptuous of the prophet. Can you imagine saying something like that? The only way you could say something like that is if you knew and were convinced that God told you to say it. Remember that line, "**As the LORD God of Israel liveth.**" Does the Lord God of Israel live? You bet He does, and that is what Elijah is telling the King. Because God is alive and He is telling me this, I am telling you this.

Elijah also said, "Before Whom I stand." That is an illusion to the *doulos* imagery. A *doulos* was a servant.³⁰ Elijah was God's servant. He was ready to do whatever God asked him to do. That phrase communicates Elijah's willingness to do what God wanted done. What God wanted him to tell the king is that it would not rain until he would say so. Elijah spoke boldly. It was three years and six months before it rained again. Why? Because that is what God told Elijah concerning the rain. Until Elijah said so, it did not rain. Now, guess what he had to do for that entire three years and six months. He had to believe! I am sure there may have been some cloudy days. I am sure it rained in other places, but not in Israel. He believed the Word God told him, and he stood on it.

I Corinthians 13:2:

And though I have *the gift of* prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge; and though I have **all faith**, so that I could remove mountains, and have not charity, I am nothing.

²⁹ I Samuel 3:19b

³⁰ Psalms 123:1,2

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

We are nothing in our Christian walk if we do not love. Love is the motivation behind what we do. That is what brings blessing and meaning and fulfillment to what we do. When we do things out of love, we get something back from it. Then there is meaning, purpose, worth, and dignity to what we do.

Sometimes I think we have to ask ourselves how much faith do we have? We have the faith of Jesus Christ. Are we ever going to get any more? Do you need any more? We have all faith. There is nothing that we cannot do. Did Jesus ever have a need go unmet in his life? Jesus had perfect believing. He believed God to the uttermost. In every situation he always did his father's will. Everything he needed, God supplied.

In every situation he always did His Father's will. Do you know what that means? He had to always know what it was. That did not happen by accident. He did not just stumble into it. He did it by deliberate decision. God let him know what His will was, so he could do it. How about you and I? We, too, are His kids; He ought to let us know. God has given us lots of instruction in His Word as to what His will is. Then when we need specifics, He has those for us, too, with the revelation manifestations.

If we are going to do His will, we have to know it. That is what the revelation manifestations are for. That is why we put our head in **the book**. That is why our nose is in **the book**, and we read it. We want to know our Father's will. This tells us we should be talking about the Lord. This tells us we are Ambassadors for Jesus Christ. This tells us to preach, teach, heal, and cast out devils. If that is what it tells us, that is what we should expect to do. Now that does not mean every comment of the day we will be doing those things, but there will be times when it is appropriate, and we will do them.

In our Christian walk we do not amount to much without charity, love. Even if we can do those things... Even if we have done those things... The most important thing for us to always do is love. Not to condescend... Not to patronize... Not to lord it over people... But to love.

Mark 11:22:

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith [*pistis*] in [of] God [genitive case].

How do you have the faith of God; the faith that comes from God? That is what the manifestation of faith is. It is us operating, and God energizing. He gives it to you. He tells you His Word, and you decide to do it, and when you exercise your God given power and authority, God energizes the faith to do it.

Mark 11:23,24:

For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith. [Because we are saying what God says.]

Was there any record in God's Word of someone ever moving a mountain? I do not remember one. There may have been one. I know in the next administration we may part

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

some land and rivers are going to happen where there was none hitherto.³¹ I just am not sure.

Even if Jesus was pointing to a literal mountain, I think we need to consider whether or not this verse has a wider application. Even if no one ever accomplished removing a mountain, the statement is still literally true. If God would ever tell us to do such a thing we would absolutely know it could be done. However, I think there is a bigger application to the spirit realm.

Mountains are used figuratively in the scriptures in many ways. They are associated with pagan temples.³² They are used of continuance and stability.³³ “Mountains are also symbolic of difficult paths in life,³⁴ obstacles,³⁵ and other difficulties,³⁶ the removal of which is possible to those of strong faith.^{37,38}

Understanding the figurative usage of “mountain” would communicate how there is no devilish influence or institution or infiltration or stronghold that cannot be cast down and removed. I believe it literally is true should we ever be told to move a mountain, but in application, the mountains we get to move or remove are strongholds of the adversary in our lives and in the lives of others to whom we minister.

Here again, we see that “special faith” category where God has revealed exceptional insights that He needs to have acted upon. God has given us this unique type or kind of believing faith so that His will can be brought to pass on this earthly plane.

Removing mountains is not something a believer is capable of doing without revelation from God. Then, the carrying out of God’s word to “remove mountains” would require that faith known as the manifestation of believing. God will work within His children so that His will is brought to pass in the senses world. If He asks us to do it, He will absolutely work with us to bring it to pass.

Acts 3:6:

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

That is a gift of healing. Peter was absolutely convinced that he could heal the man. He said, “Such as I have, I give.” God told him to do it, so he knew he had it to give, and he gave it as a gift. How many times had Peter and John walked by him before? I do not know, but this time was different. The man expected to receive, and they perceived it.

Acts 9:15-17a:

But the Lord said unto him [Ananias], **Go thy way**: for he [Paul] is a chosen vessel unto me, to bear my name before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:

For I will shew him how great things he must suffer for my name’s sake.

³¹ Zechariah 14:4

³² I Kings 18:17-46; Isaiah 14:13; 65:7; Ezekiel 6:13

³³ Deuteronomy 33:15; Habbakkuk 3:6

³⁴ Jeremiah 13:16

³⁵ Matthew 21:21

³⁶ Zechariah 4:7

³⁷ Matthew 17:20

³⁸ Marshall, I. H., et al., *New Bible Dictionary*, Third Edition, Intervarsity Press, 1996, page,789.

Ministering With God's Power **Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith**

And **Ananias went his way**, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him....

It had not been his way before, but once he decided to make God's will his will, he acted precisely as God told him and accomplished what God wanted done. If you have questions with what God has told you, ask Him. It will not help you to run all around town asking everyone else. Ask the one Who gave you the instruction. We allow our kids to ask us questions and talk to us about things.

Dynamically evidencing our reliance on God inspires faithful trust in the lives of others. When we operate the manifestation of faith we are absolutely convinced and adamant that something is going to happen, it will have an impact on others. It will inspire believing in them, too.

Acts 27:22,23:

And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of *any man's* life among you, but of the ship.

For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, [He knew he belonged to God.] and whom I serve, [That is the *doulos* analogy again.]

That is the proper attitude. There are only two manifestations that are just for our benefit, the rest are for the common good of the Body of Christ. When we are involved in helping others we will see these manifestations in great abundance.

Acts 27:24,25:

Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee.

Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for **I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me.**

That is basically what the manifestation of believing is. Paul was believing the revelation that would bring deliverance to him and to the others on board the ship. God energized that in Him. Paul walked by faith and not by sight. In the face of everything he saw when everyone else on board had given up hope of being saved, Paul believed what God told him. That belief inspired believing in all the other people. The ship even breaks in half; they make it to shore swimming and on boards. Everybody got there safe just like God told Paul. Paul took charge, and he called the shots, and everybody made it safe to shore.

Paul operated the manifestation of faith. He manifested the ability that God gave him of absolute faith and confidence to bring himself and all those who have traveled with him safely to shore. We, too, have been given the same ability. It came with the new birth. You can manifest the ability that God gave you of absolute faith and confidence to do whatever God tells you.

**We Do Not Walk by Sight But by the Word of God in Which
We Have Supreme Confidence.**

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

One can hardly discuss the manifestation of believing without looking at Hebrews chapter 11. In it we find the trials and triumphs of faith, the hall of fame of believing. Much of the believing seen in Hebrews chapter eleven is also this manifestation of faith. In these accounts, God's people were often involved in acting on what they had received by the word of knowledge, the word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits.

Verses 1-3 are an introduction and set forth two fundamental considerations about faith.³⁹ We will see its basic nature, and its necessity to the fellowlaborer with God.

Hebrews 11:1

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence [proof] of things not seen [*bleptō*; see with the physical eyes].

Hebrews 11:1: ASV

Now faith is assurance of *things* hoped for, a conviction of things not seen.

That word conviction helps me. I know what a conviction is. I know what it means to make up my mind and make a stand on something. There are several times I pulled a "Patrick Henry" – "Give me liberty or give me death."

Hebrews 11:1: NIV

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see.

How can we be certain of something we do not see? We can be certain because God tells us something is going to happen. "Substance" is the Greek *hupostasis* (used five times in the New Testament). It literally means a setting or placing under. It is used of something that under girds or provides a substructure or foundation. It is also used of steadfastness of mind, firmness, courage, resolution, confidence, firm trust, or assurance. That is the basic nature of faith [all five of the Bible kinds of faith that Rev Guigou taught us in Part III of *Living In God's Power*]. It provides an unmovable foundation of confidence or assurance upon which one acts.

Bible Kinds of Faith God's Job:

1. The faith of Jesus Christ. The ability or spiritual enablement that allows us to believe to the uttermost, because it is God in Christ in us.
2. The family faith or common faith. When it talks of the faith of Jesus Christ as being common to all in the family.

³⁹ Walvoord, John F. and Zuck, Roy B. *The Bible Knowledge Commentary*, Chariot Victor Publishing, Colorado Springs, CO, 1983 p. 807

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

These first two are God's doing. He does this. Everyone gets the same. Paul did not have more than Peter or Philip or you or me. We all get the full measure - the measure of faith. God gives the faith of Jesus Christ to all them that believe. These are God's doing. We all get the same amount, and God is no "piker."

Bible Kinds of Faith
Our Job:

1. Simple renewed mind believing.
2. The manifestation of believing.
3. The fruit faith or "faithfulness." The fruit faith is faithfulness. It is the quality of our lives that encourages results. Just hang in there and be faithful and you will see results.

We all believed Romans 10:9 & 10. That is how we got born again. Manifestation of faith is not simple renewed mind believing. It is going out on "that limb" deciding to do whatever God tells us to do whether or not it seems possible to our nature minds. We engage; we decide. Who decides if I am faithful? I do. I decide if I am going to believe God's written word and His revelation when it comes. These three are up to me, and God is always faithful to fulfill His Word as we believe. The last three are my responsibility, but they are based or founded on the first two, what God has done.

God has given me the faith of Jesus Christ, why wouldn't I be able to believe His Word... to believe His revelation... to remain faithful to Him as long as I live. If I have the same ability to believe that Jesus Christ had, I can surely do all things through him who strengthens me. Again we see God's job and our job. Our job is to exercise the authority and the ability that God gave us.

We do not walk by sight, but by the Word of God in which we have supreme and utmost confidence. Faith is like a title to a car or a deed to a property. It is your proof that they belong to you. Often we purchase things without taking possession of them. We pay the price and get the proof that they are ours. Similarly, the price has been paid for our redemption and salvation and all that comes with them. Who paid the price? We did not. God gave his only begotten son. Jesus Christ laid down his life. The price has been paid in full. This Word of God is guaranteed.

The price has been paid so we can speak in tongues, interpret tongues, prophesy, receive word of knowledge, word of wisdom and discerning of spirits, have faith or believe to give gifts of healings and to work miracles. The price has been fully paid, and we have the title deed. Pull it out of your pocket when you need to. Write one up for yourself on a notepad or the back of a business card so you can pull it out when you need to. Stick it in your wallet and pull it out and read, "This is the title deed to all that Jesus Christ has paid for." You are God's child you have it all. Make a list for yourself: I am

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

righteous; I am sanctified; I can do all things through Christ; I am more than a conqueror through him who loves me; I am seated in the heavenlies; I overcome the world. The list can go on and on.

We have the faith of Jesus Christ from our new birth. God's Word guarantees that which it proclaims. To have the promise of God is to have the title deed, if we but believe Him Who spoke the words on which we rely. We do not try to believe. We either do, or we do not. If someone says something, we believe it, if the man has proven himself trustworthy and reliable. God has certainly proven Himself.

Hebrews 11:2:

For [*gar*; *ge ara*; indeed or truly therefore] by it [faith] the elders obtained a good report [*martureō*; were witnesses. Used 79 times and only translated this way in Hebrews 11.]

How is one a witness? Remember what Acts 1:8 says?

Acts 1:8:

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

How did Moses witness to the power of God? He witnessed to the power of God by parting the sea... by bringing water out of the rock... by bringing down manna from heaven. He operated the power of God and bore witness to the greatness of our God. They were made witnesses in that they operated the power of God, and their witness, the good report, we still read today in the wonderful Word of God. They are the great cloud of witnesses of Hebrews 12:1 for our example and encouragement.

Hebrews 11:3:

Through faith [the manifestation of faith] we understand that the worlds [*aiōnes*; ages – the world understood under the aspect of time] were framed [prepared or made perfect] by the word of God, so that things which are seen were not made [happen or come into being] of things which do appear.

How do we know that the world was prepared by the Word of God? Because Moses said so, and we read it.

Genesis 1:1-3:

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

And the earth was without form, and void; and darkness *was* upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

God prepared the world for man by speaking it into being. His Word brought the very world in which we live into being. Again, let me ask you how do we know He did it? We know it because God told Moses and Moses wrote it down so we could read it. Remember, holy men spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. God gave Moses

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

information. He told him how He did it. God also gave Moses the guidance to write it down. Then Moses believed the revelation by manifestation of faith and wrote it down.

This magnificent and perfect Word of God coming into being was a miracle. To think that we can hold in our hands the Words of the Most High God is truly a miracle. Now we have it, and everything we know from the written Word of God came through the manifestation of faith operated by the holy men of God Who wrote it down. It did not come by the will of man. Moses did not decide to write it, God gave him the information and direction as to what to do. Moses believed God and did it.

Faith Requires a Word to Believe.

The basic nature of faith is that it provides an unmovable foundation of confidence or assurance upon which one acts. That assurance or confidence comes from knowing that God's Word declares God's will. We are absolutely convinced that God can bring His Word to pass. Therefore, we walk out upon His Word without doubt or wavering. Without His Word to believe we cannot have faith. Our faith is in God's ability to bring His Word and will to pass.

Those who wrote God's Word did so by manifestation of faith. Operating the power of God requires that we believe what God tells us in His Word and by word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits. The manifestation of faith is necessary for the fellowlaborer with God. By it men witnessed to the goodness and grace of God, and God was well pleased with what they did, as verses 4-16 clearly show us.

Hebrews 11:4:

By faith Abel offered unto God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, by which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts: and by it he being dead yet speaketh. [Margin: is yet spoken of]

How is his witness maintained? By the Word that we read. How did Abel offer his sacrifice? It said he did it by faith, the manifestation of faith. God told him how to do it, and he did just like God said. The difference was not in what they offered, but rather in their obedience to what they were told.

Faith presumes or presupposes or requires a Word to believe. Faith requires first a word to believe. If I asked you, "Do you believe me?" You would by necessity ask, "What did you say?" How can you believe my words without hearing them? The question of "Do you believe?" becomes of necessity a question of "What or Whom do you believe?" We believe God, and God's Word.

Romans 10:17:

So then faith *cometh* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Until you get the Word of God you cannot have the faith, because you have to believe something. When God gives us His Word, then we can believe it. Faith must have a foundation to rest upon, and that foundation must be the Word of Him Who cannot lie.⁴⁰ It is the Word of God that we believe. We have the faith that if God said it, He meant it.

⁴⁰ Numbers 23:19; I Samuel 15:29; Titus 1:2; Hebrews 6:18

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

“Hearing” does not merely refer to the sense of hearing or the act of hearing per se. It refers to what is heard, the matter which is reported in verse 16.

Similarly we cannot believe God's Word until we hear it. If He wants something done and He tells us to do it, then He will energize us so that we can accomplish that which He asks us to do. God gets His Word done through people who believe what He tells them. God was pleased with Abel's sacrifice because he did it as he was told. Scripture build-up shows us that Abel and Cain first got the Word. Then Abel believed, and Cain did not.

Our faith is in God and His Word. Genuine faith is founded on and proceeds from a knowledge of the will of God, and it exists or functions to fulfill that will. Faith is not a means for us to get our will done in heaven. Faith is the means by which God gets His will done on earth. Once we know God's will, only faith or believing will bring it to pass.

People try to live by having faith in faith. They believe that if they believe whatever they believe will come to pass. (People are not God. We do not run the universe.) What we can believe to bring to pass is what the Word says. God's will is the priority, not what we want... not our convenience or ease... not our personal agendas... or what we like. The only valid object of faith is God and the revelation that declares Him to us.

Hebrews 11:5:

By faith Enoch was translated that he should not see death; and was not found, because God had translated him: for before his translation he had this testimony, that he pleased God.

“Translated” means to change from one place, position, or condition to another. The word “see” is not *bleptō*, meaning to see with one's eyes. It is *eidō*, meaning with this usage, “to experience.” Simeon was told that he would not see [*eidō*] or experience death until he had seen the Christ.

This does not mean that Enoch never died. It says he was translated so that he would not die. When people tried to get him, God moved him, and he could not be found. Jude 14 and 15 tells us that Enoch prophesied to ungodly people concerning the coming judgment. Apparently it was not always well received because on several occasions God had to translate Enoch to deliver him from the violence of death. People wanted to kill him so God moved him from one place to another, and he was not found. This is what happened to Jesus in Luke 4 on the day of the official opening of his ministry.

Luke 4:28-30:

And all they in the synagogue, when they heard these things, were filled with wrath,

And rose up, and thrust him out of the city, and led him unto the brow of the hill whereon their city was built, that they might cast him down headlong. [They are going to kill him.]

But he passing through the midst of them went his way,

They were going to kill him, and he just moved through their midst without them being able to find him. Phillip was similarly translated or transported in Acts 8:39 when God caught him away. Enoch eventually died, but before he did there were several

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

occasions where God translated him so he would not. "God delivered him because He delighted in him."⁴¹ We know Enoch died because verse 13 says, in summary, that "these all died."

Psalm 89:48:

What man *is he that* liveth, and shall not see [*eidō* in the LXX] death? shall he deliver his soul from the hand of the grave? Selah.

Enoch was moved from one place to another on earth so that he never experienced death. No one could kill him because God moved him and delivered him from anyone who sought his life. Before he was translated he pleased God by faith. He operated manifestations and believed and did what God told him. He was just too valuable for God to lose. God told him, "I am moving you out of here." and he believed Him.

Verse six is a great clarification verse right in the midst of this section.

Hebrews 11:6:

But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

John handled this verse in Part I of *Living in God's Power* hour 1. God will never overstep the free will He has given us. He will only work in us if we believe. He does not force anything upon us. We must accept it by faith. When we do, we please Him. When we believe we allow Him to do what He wants to do. After all it is His will we are doing. When we seek God diligently He rewards us. Many times that reward comes in the form of words of knowledge, words of wisdom, and discerning of spirit.

Hebrews 11:7-13:

By faith Noah, being warned of God of things not seen as yet, moved with fear, prepared an ark to the saving of his house; by the which he condemned the world, and became heir of the righteousness which is by faith.

8 **By faith Abraham**, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went. [God told him what to do. First he got the Word, then he believed what God said.]

9 **By faith he** sojourned in the land of promise, as *in* a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:

10 For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker *is* God.

11 **Through faith also Sara herself** received strength to conceive seed, and was delivered of a child when she was past age, because she judged him faithful who had promised. [She had the promise, and she believed.]

12 Therefore sprang there even of one, and him as good as dead, *so many* as the stars of the sky in multitude, and as the sand which is by the sea shore innumerable.

⁴¹ II Samuel 22:20; Psalm 18:19

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

13 **These all died** in [*kata*; according to] faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded [they were absolutely convinced even though they could not see them.] of *them*, and embraced [What a great declaration.] *them*, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.

We live as long as we believe, and we can believe unto our dying breath. I had been taught as long as you believed God you would live and when you stopped believing God you would die. That is not true. These men all believed God to the very end. Jacob blessed his sons on his deathbed giving wonderful prophecies over them.⁴² Revelation 14:13 says, “Blessed *are* the dead which **die** in the Lord...” People can be in fellowship with God and stand firm in the Lord until they draw their last breath. Death for us is just sleep. We are getting up again. When we get too tired to continue, we just go to sleep.

Hebrews 11:17-20:

By faith Abraham, when he was tried [*peirazō*; to tempt; that was not from God⁴³], offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten *son*,

Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called:

19 Accounting that God *was* able to raise *him* up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

20 **By faith Isaac blessed Jacob and Esau** concerning things to come.

Without that verse you will never understand Genesis 27. You will think that it was all lies and deception, but it was not. Without this verse I do not think anyone can understand the account in Genesis 27. Scripture build up is so important. It looks like Jacob lied and stole the blessing, but when Isaac blessed Jacob, he did it by faith. He did God's will; he blessed the right person although he did not know it at the time. He knew he was operating the power of God. He knew the prophecy he spoke was true. He just thought he was speaking it over Esau not Jacob. Isaac had a weakness, but God wanted His will done so He got around Isaac's weakness.⁴⁴

Hebrews 11:21-26:

By faith Jacob, when he was a dying, blessed both the sons of Joseph; and worshipped, *leaning* upon the top of his staff.

22 **By faith Joseph**, when he died, made mention of the departing of the children of Israel; and gave commandment concerning his bones.

23 **By faith Moses**, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw *he was* a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

24 **By faith Moses**, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

⁴² Genesis 49

⁴³ James 1:13

⁴⁴ Do you think God was tricked or deceived? I do not think so. When Isaac spoke the blessing he did exactly what God wanted him to do. God just knew where Isaac's head was, so this entire charade was arranged so Isaac would do what he was supposed to.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.

Then there are examples of different occasions or situations

Hebrews 11:27-34a:

By faith he [Moses] forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

28 **Through faith he kept the passover**, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

29 **By faith they passed through the Red sea** as by dry *land*: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

30 **By faith the walls of Jericho fell down**, after they were compassed about seven days.

31 **By faith the harlot Rahab perished not** with them that believed not, when she had received the spies with peace.

32 And what shall I more say? for the time would fail me to tell of Gedeon, and of Barak, and of Samson, and of Jephthae; of David also, and Samuel, and of the prophets:

33 Who through faith subdued kingdoms, wrought righteousness, obtained promises, stopped the mouths of lions,

34 Quenched the violence of fire, escaped the edge of the sword, out of weakness were made strong...

They were weak, and they knew they were weak, but God said, "You can do it." How would you have liked to be Samson and have to fight a thousand men with the jawbone of an ass in hand-to-hand combat? That is being strengthened.⁴⁵

Hebrews 11:34b,35:

... waxed valiant in fight, turned to flight the armies of the aliens.

35 Women received [*lambanō*] their dead raised to life again: and [but] others [*allos*; this is the numeric distinction. This happen to more than just a couple of people.] were tortured, not accepting [*prosdechomai*] deliverance [NIV refusing to be released]; that they might obtain a better resurrection:

The word deliverance there is *apolutrosis*, which "a releasing effected by payment of ransom." It means "redemption or deliverance procured by the payment of a ransom." Who paid our ransom. Right, Jesus Christ did.

⁴⁵ If Samson killed one person per minute, it would have taken over sixteen and one-half hours to kill a thousand men.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

Hebrews 11:36-39:

And [*de*, but] others [*heteros*, here the generic distinction. These were others of a different kind.] had trial of *cruel* mockings and scourgings, yea, moreover of bonds and imprisonment:

37 They were stoned, they were sawn asunder, were tempted, were slain with the sword: they wandered about in sheepskins and goatskins; being destitute, afflicted, tormented;

38 (**Of whom the world was not worthy:**) they wandered in deserts, and *in* mountains, and *in* dens and caves of the earth.

39 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise:

There are two different kinds of faith. There is faith that overcomes, and there is faith that endures.

Hebrews 11:40:

God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

All the people in the chapter are honored whether they believed for the deliverance or not. The difference is not in their quality or caliber of life. Their lives were all outstanding. The world was not worthy of any one of these magnificent men and women. The difference was whether they overcame or endured. Regardless of whether they overcame the trials and troubles of life or they endured them, they remained faithful to their God.

James 5:11a:

Behold, we count them happy which endure...

It takes faith to endure things in life. Deliverance is always available, and we need to accept it. Whether or not we get to the point of accepting it, we can believe to the very end. They stood faithfully even if it cost them their lives. Their faithfulness is recorded for us to see and esteem and duplicate.

Whether we overcome or endure we claim the promises of God and do not budge. We stand firm like Elijah did in the first verse we covered in this hour. He said, "As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand..." Paul said, "And now I exhort you to be of good cheer: for there shall be no loss of *any man's* life among you, but of the ship. For there stood by me this night the angel of God, whose I am, and whom I serve, Saying, Fear not, Paul; thou must be brought before Caesar: and, lo, God hath given thee all them that sail with thee. Wherefore, sirs, be of good cheer: for I believe God, that it shall be even as it was told me."

Why did Paul have to endure the storm? I am sure he knew the accounts where Jesus calmed the storms. Even though the storm occurred and persisted, he believed God's Word and by that Word endured it. Sometimes in life we overcome it, and the storm quiets. At other times the storms do not quiet, and we endure it. *Sometimes God calms the sea, and the other times He calms His child.* There can always be peace, if there is not peace in our environment, then there can always be peace in our hearts. To think that

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 5: The Manifestation of Faith

if I am enduring a trial that somehow I am less of a believer, is a lie. If we have to endure things in life, so what! Having problems does not indicate that we are not believing God. Look at what Paul endured. Read II Corinthians 11:23-33 sometime. He will get rewarded for standing through it, and we will also get rewarded for what we stand through. It does not matter what we go through, we stay put on God's Word without budging.⁴⁶

Whether we triumph over affliction now or endure it for a season. Joy comes in the morning. There is a day coming when we will be rewarded for all we have done for the Lord. He protects and establishes His Word. When we stand upon it, we will have good success.

⁴⁶ Daniel was not **kept from** the lions' den, but he was **kept while he was in** the lions' den. He endured overnight. Similarly Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego were not spared from the fiery furnace, but they endured the heat that killed those who threw them in. All four of them endured the trials and came out on the other end with victory. They believed God and endured the situations.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 6: Release Your Faith

Preview of *Release Your Faith*

Our new birth provides us authority and power. We must believe to release the faith of Jesus Christ within us by speaking and acting on whatever God tells us. One of the keys taught in *Walking By The Spirit* is to “be ready to say and do whatever God inspires.” That is where we are headed in this session on *Release Your Faith*.

In *Release Your Faith* you will see that Jesus taught people to exercise their faith by speaking and acting on God's Word. We will see that people's confessions revealed what they believed, as evidenced in the use of the phrase *o ye of little faith*. We will also see that the phrase, *thy faith has made you whole* shows what appropriates the healing that God has already provided.

**Jesus Taught People to Exercise Their Faith
by Speaking and Acting on God's Word.**

Many people get so concerned about how little faith they have. Certainly faith is important. Ephesians one tells us that the exceeding greatness of God's power is directed unto us who believe. Jesus recognized when people had faith. It is important that all of us who minister do the same. When Jesus ministered he often spoke of it and even marveled at it. He marveled at both great faith and unbelief or no-faith.⁴⁷ Faith is important, because without faith, it is impossible to please God.⁴⁸ Unless we believe what He says, He cannot do in our lives what He wants. He wants to bless and provide for us, but He will not make us be happy or successful. He requires that we believe.

However, much too often people lament their lack of faith and desire to have their faith increased. We realize that we have the faith of Jesus Christ; how can we ever get anymore? I have heard far too many times, “Yes, I know I have the faith of Jesus Christ spiritually, but I cannot seem to believe.” Two things about that statement cause me concern:

1. People use the word “spiritually” as if that has nothing to do with reality. “I have the faith of Jesus Christ spiritually, but in reality I cannot believe to operate the power of God.” What they have spiritually in Christ is so far removed from reality in their minds that they cannot equate the two.

⁴⁷ Matthew 8:10; Mark 6:6.

⁴⁸ Hebrews 11:6

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 6: Release Your Faith

2. “But” indicates that they do not really believe what they just said. It shows contradiction; it shows contrast; it shows that they really did not believe that what proceeds the “but” is true.

Where do our minds go when we think about the great spiritual realities of life? Is it just, “Pie in the sky, by and by!”? It is just a dream, or is it reality? Can it be true and not be real? Doesn't the truth make a difference in our lives? Of course it does.

II Corinthians 4:18:

While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.

We are told to look at the unseen things which are eternal. At first glance, this verse appears to be impossible, a contradiction. How can you look at something that is invisible? This directive is the figure of speech *oxymoron*, wise saying. What at first glance appears to be foolish or impossible is upon further consideration exceedingly wise.

We cannot let ourselves be fooled by the five senses.⁴⁹ (That is another key to walking by the spirit.) God did not magnify our five senses above His name; He magnified His Word above His name. We look at the truth of the Word as being more sure than if we actually saw it with our eyes. The things you are to look at are eternal, even though they may be unobservable by your sense of sight.

Notice that Paul did not say that we look at things that “are not” or “do not exist.” He said that we look at things that are unseen. They exist; you just cannot see them with your natural eyes. This is absolutely critical to understand, and God emphasized it with the figure, *oxymoron*. The things of the Spirit are real, and they exist. They are just invisible. Remember Hebrews 11:1?

Hebrews 11:1:

Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.

Faith gives substance to the truth of God's Word. God's Word is true even if no one believes it. However, when someone does believe it, their faith makes it tangible, giving them the evidence or proof that it is real. Too many people think of the great spiritual realities of life as existing on a different plane than the one on which we live. Our righteousness, our healing, our sanctification, and redemption are real. They are realities; they exist. God's Word declares the truth that they are ours, **now**. Too often people beg and plead with God to do something that God has declared in His Word that He has already done. In that case, our very request indicates that we do not believe what God declares in His Word.

God does not have to “manufacture” your healing. Your healing already exists. If your natural eyes could see spiritual things, you would see that Jesus Christ has already provided your healing for you, and all you have to do is receive it. You were already

⁴⁹ Neither can we let ourselves be fooled by the past or by fears and worries about the future.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 6: Release Your Faith

healed by his stripes. Your healing is there now in the spiritual realm waiting for you to appropriate it... to claim it by faith.

Your faith allows you to receive something that already exists in the spiritual realm. When you receive it, it will manifest in the natural realm where you and everyone else can see it. From man's point of view, you are healed when your healing manifests in your body. From God's point of view, your healing already exists and belongs to you as a believer. God is not doing anything new for you. You are just receiving what he already did 2,000 years ago when "by Jesus' stripes you were healed."

Your faith takes hold of something unseen, and it then becomes seen. This is what God's definition of faith in Hebrews 11:1 talks about. Faith is the certainty of something unseen. It is being certain that you have something real that your regular senses cannot yet detect. Your basis for believing that you have it is the Word of God on the matter. God says you were healed. That means that your healing exists now. You can receive it now and enjoy the benefits now. You have it and are convinced that you have it, even though you cannot see it.

When something changeable collides with something that cannot change, it is the changeable that alters! The eternal will remain unchanged. How you feel and think right now are temporal; they can change. God's Word is eternal and cannot change. When the facts of your situation collide with the eternal Word of God, the Word of God will not be what changes! If anything changes, it is your circumstances that must change to line up with the Word.

How does one, "Look at things that are eternal.?" We look on things eternal when we meditate on God's Word. "Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God."⁵⁰ Speak the eternal truth of God's Word to yourself and others. The Word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword.⁵¹ The Word will do its job (never returning void), as we do our job and speak it upon lips of believing.

Perhaps you are thinking, "I wish I had the faith to do that!" You do! When you feel you need some help, go to someone you know can help you. Even in the face of continued failure we can say, "Lord I believe, help thou my unbelief."⁵² Your faith, the faith of Jesus Christ, is able to do the job. I know you may want more faith, but you do not need it. You will never get more faith than the faith of Jesus Christ that you already have.

Increase Our Faith:

When the apostles asked Jesus to increase their faith, his answer to them was very enlightening. I think we would really benefit from looking at his response to their request.

People get so concerned at times at "building their believing."⁵³ I am just not so sure that is a biblical concept. People can get so "hung up" about the "size" of their believing. If only I had greater faith I could... You fill in the blank. Let us read what Jesus said when his disciples asked him about increasing their faith.

⁵⁰ Romans 10:17

⁵¹ Hebrews 4:12

⁵² Mark 9:24

⁵³ Perhaps what they are really concerned about is about becoming fully persuaded by the scriptures. (Luke. 1:1; Romans 4:21; 14:5; II Timothy 4:5,17)

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 6: Release Your Faith

Luke 17:5,6:

And the apostles said unto the Lord, Increase our faith.

6 And the Lord said, If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and be thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you.

What did Jesus do in response to their request? Did Jesus lay hands on them and impart to them more faith? Did Jesus commend them for wanting to get more faith? It seemed to me that Jesus simply changed their focus. Instead of working to increase the faith they had, he simply exhorted them to realize and utilize the power in the faith they already had. Even the tiniest seed of faith can do wonderfully powerful things if we would attach words to it. Faith is demonstrated in our words and actions. The mighty power of God's Word is unleashed when it is spoken on lips of believing.

Remember those great verses in Mark 11?

Mark 11:22-24:

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God. [Literally "the faith of God."]

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

24 Therefore I say unto you, What things soever ye desire, when ye pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.

Remember Jesus is teaching them after just having demonstrated the truth when speaking to the fig tree. When we walk by the spirit we simply say and do whatever God inspires us to say or do. God empowers us to believe when we operate the manifestation of faith. Faith produces miracles and gifts of healing when we attach words to it.

If we want the same "spirit of faith" that Paul had, we should do as he did.

Remember what Paul said in II Corinthians 4:13?

II Corinthians 4:13:

We having the same spirit of faith, according as it is written, I believed, and therefore have I spoken; we also believe, and therefore speak;

Both here and in Psalms 116:10 from which it is quoted, it is faith in God's saving grace that led to speaking.⁵⁴ As Spurgeon has so eloquently said, "The most powerful speech which has ever been uttered by the lip of man has emanated from a heart fully persuaded of the truth of God."⁵⁵ If you believe, then you speak. Logically then, if you do not speak, then you do not believe.

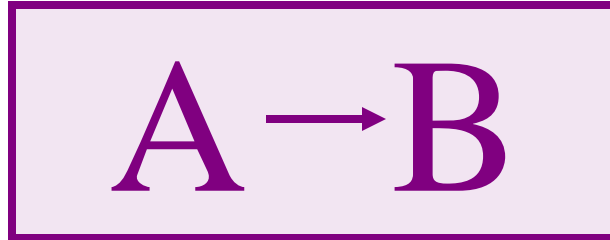
⁵⁴ They were in situations, and they did not know whether they would make it through them. So, they spoke their deliverance into being. They believed that God would deliver them, and they said so. It reminds me of Psalms 107:2: "Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, whom he hath redeemed from the hand of the enemy."

⁵⁵ Spurgeon, Charles, *The Treasury of David*, Vol 3. page 69, under Psalms 116:10, MacDonald Pub Co McClean, VA

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 6: Release Your Faith

Notice that it says first we believe, then we speak. We do not confess something we do not believe. We do not “fake it ‘til we make it.” We do not convince ourselves by confessing it. It is **confession of belief** that yields **receipt of confession**. We do not have the attitude that “I will say it and see what happens.” If we know what God says we simply believe it and tell the world about it.



Let me refresh your memory on a point of logic. Paul said, “I believe and therefore I have spoken. This statement can be represented by the notation $A \rightarrow B$, which we understand to mean, “if A then B.” If this is a true relationship, then whenever A [I believed.] is true, then B [I have spoken.] is also true. If $A \rightarrow B$ is true, then the obverse is also true. If not B \rightarrow not A. If I have not spoken, then I have not believed.

If you have B, what do you know about A? Right, nothing. Just because someone speaks, it does not mean that they believe. People speak all the time and do not believe a word they are saying. The point Paul is making is that we first believe, and then we speak. Speaking without believing produces little results.

Let me give you a couple of tangible, obvious examples:

If I live in Tipp City, Ohio then I live in Ohio.

Now the obverse is:

If I do not live in Ohio, I do not live in Tipp City, Ohio.

If I won the race, then I entered the race.

Now the obverse is:

If I did not enter the race, then I did not win the race.

The point behind all this elaborate teaching on logic is to make the point that speaking does not guarantee believing. Believing results in speaking, but speaking does not necessarily result in believing. People say, “I said it, and nothing happened.” Then, they did not believe it before they spoke. You can say something until you are blue in the face. Unless you believe it you will not receive it. The effort we take to build God’s Word in our minds and hearts and lives on a consistent, daily basis establishes the firm foundation from which we act and speak.

Now I do not want to discourage you from speaking. Just the opposite, I want to encourage you to speak. I just want to implore you to not speak off the top of your head, but from the depth of the Word you have in your heart. When we are convinced it is God’s Word we are speaking we get what we say. God’s Word never returns void.

The bedrock of our lives is the integrity of God’s Word. We simply believe God’s Word at all times under any condition. We believe both His written Word and the words of knowledge, words of wisdom, and discernings of spirits He also tells us. The power is

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 6: Release Your Faith

in the Word. The Word of God is quick and powerful and sharper than any two-edged sword.

It is so unprofitable to try to evaluate how much faith you have. Why does it even matter if we can as Jesus taught, "Have the faith of God." Faith, as a mustard seed, can move mountains if you express it in words. Concentrate on the promises of God (That is the sure foundation of our lives.) and speak to the situation with your mouth out loud. That is what Jesus did.

Jesus told them to "have the faith of God" and then talked about what their faith could do. Jesus could not command to do this if it were impossible! Therefore, you can! You can speak to mountains and have them move. Do not go around saying that you just cannot believe God. Go around saying that you can believe God, because Jesus said you can! Yes, the Word of God says so.

Jesus said, "Verily I say unto you that whosoever shall say unto..." it will get what they say. Remember he qualified that statement adding, "and shall not doubt in his heart but shall believe." When we speak, believing the Word we say, the Word we speak shall come to pass. We receive whatsoever we speak on lips of believing. Confession of belief yields receipt of confession. I do not want to discourage you from speaking, I just want to encourage you to believe as you speak. The power of God's Word is unleashed when we speak it.

Proverbs 18:21:

Death and life *are* in the power of the tongue: and they that love it shall eat the fruit thereof.

If death and life are in the power of the tongue, surely sickness and healing are also in the power of the tongue. James says that if you can control your tongue, you can control your entire physical body.⁵⁶

Although we often emphasize the faith part, Jesus really emphasized the speaking part. The people Jesus commended for great faith were those who believed that when Jesus spoke, something would happen. They believed so much in the power of the spoken word that they did not need Jesus to come and minister personally. Jesus spoke and things happened. What power is available to us as we speak the Word of the Lord, remembering that the Word of the Lord never returns void.

The centurion⁵⁷ understood authority. When Jesus offered to come and heal his servant he said, "Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed." Jesus recognized and marveled at this man's great faith and said that he did know of anyone in Israel with such faith.

A Gentile woman, who was not one of the children of Israel to whom Jesus came to minister, persisted in asking Jesus do something about her demon-possessed daughter even after being told that it was not available.⁵⁸ She just sought for a crumb from the master's table that would heal her daughter. She received her "crumb" when Jesus answered and said unto her, "O woman, great *is* thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou

⁵⁶ James 3:1-12 especially verse 2.

⁵⁷ In Matthew 8:5-13 and Luke 7:2-10

⁵⁸ Matthew 15:22-28; Mark 7:25-30

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 6: Release Your Faith

wilt.” Jesus merely spoke those words; and the woman believed the words he spoke. Jesus spoke and her daughter was healed. What an example of great faith.

They both knew that what was needed was for Jesus to speak the word. When he did it would be done. Their faith was great because they demonstrated an understanding of the power of the spoken word. They received; it was done unto them according as they believed.

“O Ye of Little Faith!”

On five occasions it is recorded that Jesus addressed people saying, “O ye/thou of little faith.” In each of these instances we can see that what they said and how they acted revealed their “little faith.”

The first one is from the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 6:

Matthew 6:24-30:

No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon.

25 Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life [Do not worry about], what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment?

26 Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they?

27 Which of you by taking thought [worrying] can add one cubit unto his stature?

28 And why take ye thought for [or worry about] raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin:

29 And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

30 Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O ye of little faith?

These people knew the care and compassion of God, but for some reason they did not think God would exercise that care over them. Three times in this context Jesus teaches them not to worry.⁵⁹ They had little faith because they exercised little control over their thoughts as was evidence by what came out of their mouths. Remember Jesus said in Matthew 12:34, “Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh.”

Matthew 6:30,31:

Wherefore, if God so clothe the grass of the field, which to day is, and to morrow is cast into the oven, *shall he* not much more *clothe* you, O ye of little faith?

31 Therefore take no thought, **saying**, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

⁵⁹ Matthew 6:25,31,34 “Take no thought” refers to the distracting care and burden of worry.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 6: Release Your Faith

Jesus taught them to not limit their believing by speaking words that bolstered their worry and unbelief. Even if we think those thoughts we should never confess them in our words or actions. Voicing doubts works against the promises of God. We demonstrate our trust by declaring His truth.

Matthew 6:32-34:

(For after all these things do the Gentiles seek:) for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

33 But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.

34 Take therefore no thought for [or worry about] the morrow: for the morrow shall take thought for the things of itself. Sufficient unto the day *is* the evil thereof.

Jesus taught those “of little faith” to control their thoughts by controlling what they said. Worry is one of the first steps away from or in the wrong direction to where we want to go. If you want to release your faith, do not release words of doubt and worry. You cannot do both.

The second was during a storm on the sea:

Jesus was in a ship with his disciples when a storm erupted and waves covered the boat. Jesus corrects them for speaking out of fear and demonstrates the power of his faith by speaking to the winds and sea.

Matthew 8:24-27:

And, behold, there arose a great tempest in the sea, insomuch that the ship was covered with the waves: but he [Jesus] was asleep.

25 And his disciples came to *him*, and awoke him, **saying**, Lord, save us: we perish. [These were seasoned fishermen who were afraid. This must have been some storm.]

26 And he saith unto them, Why are ye fearful, O ye of little faith? Then he arose, and rebuked the winds and the sea; and there was a great calm. [How did he know they were fearful—he heard what came out of their mouths.]

27 But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!

Jesus showed them how to handle the situation. He spoke to the winds and sea, and they marveled when they saw the wind and the sea obey his command. Jesus spoke to them, and they compiled. What a demonstration of the power of the spoken Word. That is how one works a miracle. He speaks it into being. If you want signs, miracles, and wonders you must be willing to believe and therefore speak.

The third was when Jesus walked on the sea:

They got into another storm not long thereafter, and Jesus goes to them walking on the water. He had seen them struggling from the mountain and went to help.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 6: Release Your Faith

Matthew 14:22-24:

And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.

23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

24 But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.

That does not surprise me, Jesus had told them to go to the other side, and they were trying to do what they were told. It is not unusual when we are doing God's will for the adversary to try to prevent us. Mark 6:48 adds that when Jesus was on the mount, "He saw them toiling in rowing."

Matthew 14:25,26:

And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.

26 And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, **saying**, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.

How did Jesus know they were afraid? He heard what they said. He then commands them to do just the opposite, to not be afraid. Natural fear can be controlled. Jesus told them to do it, and they did it. When fear cannot be controlled, there may be a spirit of fear present.

Matthew 14:27-31:

But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid. [Jesus told them to do it, and they did it.]

28 And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water. [Give me the word! Peter wanted to do it he just desired Jesus to confirm what God was working in his heart.]

29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus. [Yeah! Peter did it.]

30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

31 And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

It said Peter walked on the water. It also said that Jesus addressed him as "O thou of little faith." It must not take great believing to walk on water, no not great believing, just a spoken word of invitation on which to **ACT**. Jesus said, "Come." That is what God had been working in his heart; that is what he longed to do; that is what he asked, and it was granted. How many of us, like Peter, ask God for opportunities? Or do we just sit in the boat as opportunities pass us by? Jesus knew Peter's faith by what came out of his mouth. He knew it initially by Peter walking on the water, doing the impossible. But when he looked around and saw the wind boisterous and began to be afraid.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 6: Release Your Faith

Let us be like Peter. Let your requests be made known. Let God know what is on your heart. When you see opportunity jump on it. When you see injustice correct it. When an occasion arises to do good, do it.⁶⁰

It says that the spirit of the Lord came mightily upon Samson. Remember, he sought an occasion. He saw injustice at the hands of the Phillistines, and he wanted to correct them. He sought an occasion, and God provided one. Seek an occasion! Get out of the boat! Say and do whatever God inspires.

Matthew 14:32,33:

And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.

33 Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

In those first three accounts we see people speaking because of doubt, worry, and fear. Jesus corrects them and tells them to speak the truth to the problem. Controlling our tongues allows us to control our lives. We choose whether we build God's Word into our lives or whether we let doubt, worry, and fear take over. Which do you want?

The fourth was during a storm on the sea:

Some people have more faith in their natural knowledge than they do in the spiritual knowledge from the revealed Word of God. Relying on natural knowledge is a leaven that can quickly permeate our entire mind-set. You may remember the parable in verse, which goes:

“Red sky at night, sailor's delight.
Red sky in the morning, sailor, take warning.”

A red sky was a sign that people, especially sea-faring people, learned to pay attention to. Jesus uses that in his teaching in Matthew 16.

Matthew 16:1-4:

The Pharisees also with the Sadducees came, [They did not agree on much, but they united their efforts in attempting to thwart Jesus.] and tempting desired him that he would shew them a sign from heaven.

2 He answered and said unto them, When it is evening, ye say, *It will be fair weather*: for the sky is red. [From their experience they read the red sky at night as a sign.]

3 And in the morning, *It will be foul weather to day*: for the sky is red and lowring. [Same sign, different time of day.] O ye hypocrites, ye can discern the face of the sky; but can ye not *discern* the signs of the times?

4 A wicked and adulterous generation seeketh after a sign; and there shall no sign be given unto it, but the sign of the prophet Jonas. And he left them, and departed.

⁶⁰ Galatians 6:10: “As we have therefore opportunity, let us do good unto all *men*, especially unto them who are of the household of faith.” It does not say “if” we have opportunity. It says “as” we have opportunity. We will have opportunities. The Word guarantees that.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 6: Release Your Faith

People want a formula that they can count on. They want some bit of knowledge that will benefit them and grant or guarantee them success. Success does not come from the works of the flesh, but rather from walking by the spirit. Yet, how many of us when any sign comes that contradicts the truth of the Word, we follow the sign and forsake the Word. That should never be. We never seek signs to confirm God's Word. We direct our actions according to God's word regardless of what is happening in the senses realm. We set our hearts on the Word, and direct our words and actions in obedience to God's Word.

Matthew 16:5-7:

And when his disciples were come to the other side, they had forgotten to take bread.

6 Then Jesus said unto them, Take heed and beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

7 And they reasoned among themselves, **saying**, *It is* because we have taken no bread.

I would call that being sin-conscientious. They blew it, and now they felt were being "nailed" for it. Previously Jesus called them, "O ye of little faith" for allowing doubt, worry, and fear to dominate their speech and actions. Here Jesus reproveth them for wrong reasoning. Again, how did he know they reasoned incorrectly? He heard what they said.

Matthew 16:8-12:

Which when Jesus perceived [How? He heard their conversation.], he said unto them, O ye of little faith, why reason ye among yourselves, because ye have brought no bread?

9 Do ye not yet understand, neither remember the five loaves of the five thousand, and how many baskets ye took up?

10 Neither the seven loaves of the four thousand, and how many baskets ye took up?

11 How is it that ye do not understand that I spake *it* not to you concerning bread, that ye should beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees?

12 Then understood they how that he bade *them* not beware of the leaven of bread, but of the doctrine of the Pharisees and of the Sadducees.

Works based theology always works at cross-purposes to the Word and will of God. The doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees still exist today. It still tries to take root in the hearts and lives of God's people to detour them from simple trust in God.

Proverbs 3:5,6:

Trust in the LORD with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding.

6 In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths.

We do not need to figure out how God's Word works or how He is going to accomplish His will in our lives. We just simply want to trust that He will. Most

Ministering With God's Power **Hour 6: Release Your Faith**

people's understanding is shaped by their emotions and/or their logic. It is usually a combination of both. When it comes to *Ministering with God's Power* we must address both components of people's thinking. How they feel is as important as how they think. Both our feelings and our logic should be subject to the Word of God. When it is not we must address it with the truth of the Word.

They felt condemned because they forgot the food, again. They felt bad about it, and misunderstood the words of Jesus because they were filtered through eyes of sin-consciousness. Jesus said mistakes will never stop the power of God. Remember the miracles with the food. Forgetting the food is not a problem; believing the doctrine of the Pharisees and Sadducees would be a problem. Never let anything steal your trust in God, and His provision for your lives.

Direction requires movement. If we want God to direct us we must move out on what He said. That is why God's Word is so important. When we have God's Word we know God's will. Let us just move out on it.

The fifth occurrence of "O ye of little faith" is in Luke:

The details of this teaching session are similar to what we just covered in Matthew. This is from the sermon in the plain. Here he teaches them exactly what the leaven of the Pharisees is. It is hypocrisy: wearing a mask, putting on a façade or a false front. Let us pick it up in verse one.

Luke 12:1,2:

In the mean time, when there were gathered together an innumerable multitude of people, insomuch that they trode one upon another, he began to say unto his disciples first of all, Beware ye of the leaven of the Pharisees, which is hypocrisy.

2 For there is nothing covered, that shall not be revealed; neither hid, that shall not be known.

You cannot hide anything from God, but people think they can hide their problems from others. They think they can live two lives: one life in secret speaking evil and suffering torment which they think no one sees and then another life in public where they put on a façade and pretend everything is OK. Anyone living a dual life can be assured that they will not be able to keep it hid for long. We are to get rid of evil, we do not reserve it for special times and places that nobody knows about. Deal with it. If you do not, it will not be long until it comes out in public.

Luke 12:3-12:

Therefore whatsoever ye have spoken in darkness shall be heard in the light; and that which ye have spoken in the ear in closets shall be proclaimed upon the housetops.

4 And I say unto you my friends, Be not afraid of them that kill the body, and after that have no more that they can do.

5 But I will forewarn you whom ye shall fear: Fear him, which after he hath killed hath power to cast into hell; yea, I say unto you, Fear him.

6 Are not five sparrows sold for two farthings [They are not worth much.], and not one of them is forgotten before God?

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 6: Release Your Faith

7 But even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. Fear not therefore: ye are of more value than many sparrows.

8 Also I say unto you, Whosoever shall confess me before men, him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God:

9 But he that denieth me before men shall be denied before the angels of God.

10 And whosoever shall speak a word against the Son of man, it shall be forgiven him: but unto him that blasphemeth against the Holy Ghost it shall not be forgiven.

11 And when they bring you unto the synagogues, and *unto* magistrates, and powers, take ye no thought [do not worry about] how or what thing ye shall answer, or what ye shall say:

12 For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

That is how you will work miracles. When you get into the situation say and do whatever God tells you. The relationship you have built with God through the daily moments of life, forms the basis of success in moments of crises.

Luke 12:13:

And one of the company said unto him, Master, speak to my brother, that he divide the inheritance with me.

People are no different today. They still try to use Jesus and manipulate God. They are still for the most part more concerned about their will and personal benefit than about God's will and the profit withal.

Luke 12:14,15:

And he said unto him, Man, who made me a judge or a divider over you? [Figure out your own lives.]

15 And he said unto them, Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth.

Why did Jesus teach on covetousness? He heard the words that came out of the man's mouth and knew he needed to hear it. When we minister we need to pay attention to what is going on. Listen intently to what people are saying. If you do not, you will never ***Minister with God's Power***. Before you minister to people it may be necessary to spend time finding out how they think and feel. You may have to do much teaching before you will be able to minister. The time you spend in the Word beforehand is so very valuable and necessary.

Luke 12:16-29:

And he spake a parable unto them, saying, The ground of a certain rich man brought forth plentifully:

17 And he thought within himself, saying, What shall I do, because I have no room where to bestow my fruits?

18 And he said, This will I do: I will pull down my barns, and build greater; and there will I bestow all my fruits and my goods.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 6: Release Your Faith

19 And I will say to my soul, Soul, thou hast much goods laid up for many years; take thine ease, eat, drink, *and* be merry.

20 But God said unto him, *Thou* fool, this night thy soul shall be required of thee: then whose shall those things be, which thou hast provided?

21 So *is* he that layeth up treasure for himself [He is a fool!], and is not rich toward God.

22 And he said unto his disciples, Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for [do not worry about] your life, what ye shall eat; neither for the body, what ye shall put on. [Sound familiar?]

23 The life is more than meat, and the body *is more* than raiment.

24 Consider the ravens: for they neither sow nor reap; which neither have storehouse nor barn; and God feedeth them: how much more are ye better than the fowls?

25 And which of you with taking thought [or worrying] can add to his stature one cubit? [I thought “if the mind of man can conceive it, it could believe it and achieve it.” Someone forgot to tell Jesus.]

26 If ye then be not able to do that thing which is least [growth happens automatically without trying], why take ye thought for [or worry about] the rest?

27 Consider the lilies how they grow: they toil not, they spin not; and yet I say unto you, that Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these.

28 If then God so clothe the grass, which is to day in the field, and to morrow is cast into the oven; how much more *will he clothe* you, O ye of little faith?

29 And seek not ye what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink, neither be ye of doubtful mind.

In the Sermon on the Mount in Matthew 6:30 & 31 Jesus handled what we say. Here in Luke in the sermon on the plain he handles how we act. We must control both what we say and what we do. We conform both our words and our actions to the Word of God.⁶¹ When we walk with God, we say and do whatever He inspires, believing that God works within us to will and to do of His good pleasure.

Luke 12:30-32:

For all these things do the nations of the world seek after: and your Father knoweth that ye have need of these things.

31 But rather seek ye the kingdom of God; and all these things shall be added unto you.

32 Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

What are you afraid of? The phrase “O ye of little faith” is not a belittling or demeaning appellation. It is like this one, “little flock.” It is a diminutive, it is encouraging, endearing, comforting.

What is the Father's good pleasure in your life? It is God's good pleasure to energize the manifestations in you. Philippians 2:13 says, “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.” It is His good pleasure to will with the

⁶¹ We conform to God's will in word and deed. See Luke 24:19, Romans 15:18,19, and Colossians 3:17.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 6: Release Your Faith

revelation manifestations and to do with the impartation manifestations. It is God's good pleasure to work in you both to will and to do.

Where is our treasure in life? What sets our heart on fire? What excites us and thrills us? That is what we ought to go after. Do not try to figure out what you should do; do what sets your heart on fire for God. What God has taught us of the greatness of His Word is a treasure beyond all comparison. Nothing can replace God's Word and how it ministers to us and sets us free. How did Jesus encourage these folks to act to find their treasure?

Luke 12:32-36:

Fear not, little flock; for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

33 Sell that ye have [Do not let anything burden you down], and give alms [Help people]; provide yourselves bags which wax not old, a treasure in the heavens that faileth not, where no thief approacheth, neither moth corrupteth. [Put your spiritual goals first.]

34 For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.

35 Let your loins be girded about [Be ready to move.], and *your* lights burning [Burning lights in that culture represented the presence of God. Keep God at the center of your life; let Him illuminate your lives.];

36 And ye yourselves like unto men that wait for their lord [That is being a *doulos*, a servant.], when he will return from the wedding; that when he cometh and knocketh, they may open unto him immediately.

That is the kind of expectation we should have. He is coming back at any time and we are ready to open the door for him and receive him. We are ready to follow His lead, immediately. Let us move out saying and doing whatever God inspires.

Thy Faith Hath Made Thee Whole

Jesus could tell people were of little faith by what came out of their mouths. Another interesting phrase in the ministry of Jesus Christ was, "Thy faith hath made thee whole." It is never once recorded where Jesus said, "My faith hath made thee whole." Neither did Jesus ever say, "If you had more faith, brother, you would get healed." If their faith was not adequate for their healing, he taught them more of the Word of God. Then faith came by hearing, and they believed to receive. There are five places where it is recorded that Jesus attributes a healing to someone's faith.

This phrase occurs three times in the accounts of the woman with the issue of blood recorded in Matthew, Mark, and Luke.

Mark 5:25-30: [See also Matthew 9:20-22 and Luke 8:43-48]

And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years, [Leviticus 15:19 and 25 says that this woman would be unclean for the entire time that she had this issue of blood.]

26 And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse, [Sometimes when people have lost all hope, they go to God knowing only He can help.]

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 6: Release Your Faith

27 When she had heard of Jesus [She had heard of the healer, and she went to him to get hers.], came in the press behind, and touched his garment.

28 For she said [*legō*, imperfect tense noting continuous, repetitive, or habitual action in the past over a period of time.], If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.

29 And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt [after having touched him; she took the believing action first] in *her* body that she was healed of that plague.

30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue [*dunamis*, a miracle] had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes?

Can you really feel that? He did not feel it physically, but he knew it spiritually. The reason he gets on this is because there is more that needs to be done for this lady. God brings it to his attention because he needs to help her more.

Mark: 5:31-34:

And his disciples said unto him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?

32 And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing. [He was looking for a lady.]

33 But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth. [She told him how it happened.]

34 And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

That is what she needed to know. She needed to know it was OK; she had not stolen her healing. What she did was all right, she did not need to feel bad or guilty about it. She did not have to wonder if it was the right thing to do... whether she should she tell people about it or not. Matthew and Luke also record this healing and the phrase, "Thy faith hath made thee whole."

The next place this phrase shows up is in the healing of blind Bartimaeus:

Mark 10:46-52:

And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging.

47 And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, *thou* Son of David, have mercy on me.

48 And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, *Thou* Son of David, have mercy on me.

49 And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee.

50 And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus.

Ministering With God's Power **Hour 6: Release Your Faith**

51 And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight.

52 And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

Bartimaeus was no longer blind; his faith had healed him.⁶²

The last occurrence of this phrase is in the healing of the ten lepers.

Luke 17:12-19:

And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off:

13 And they lifted up *their* voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.

14 And when he saw *them*, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass [pleonasm], that, as they went [They obeyed a simple command.], they were cleansed.

15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,

16 And fell down on *his* face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.

17 And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where *are* the nine?

18 There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.

19 And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

Besides the phrase “Thy faith hath made thy whole.” Jesus also spoken many similar truths like: “As thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee.”⁶³ and “According to your faith be it unto you.”⁶⁴ In fact the woman who loved much to whom Jesus ministered in Luke 7 was told, “Thy faith hath saved thee.”⁶⁵ That phrase in the Greek is exactly the same as “thy faith hath made thee whole.” So in Greek we have another occurrence.

We saw from these accounts the persistence of the people to speak their healing into being. They did not let anyone stop them; they persisted until they received what they needed. Their faith healed them because they unleashed its power by attaching words and actions to it. We also noted the difference between just being physically healed and being made whole was giving glory to God.

An important point about this phrase, “Thy faith hath made thee whole.” is that the word “whole” is the Greek word *sōzō*. God uses the same word in the Greek to describe being saved from sin⁶⁶ and being healed from sickness.⁶⁷

God’s idea of what it means to be saved encompasses much more than most people understand. God not only saves by giving eternal life, but He also saves from trouble or

⁶² On the way into Jericho Jesus healed another blind man to whom he said, “Thy faith hath saved thee.” Luke 18:35-42.

⁶³ Matthew 8:13

⁶⁴ Matthew 9:29

⁶⁵ Luke 7:50

⁶⁶ Matthew 1:21; I Timothy 1:15; Mark 16:16; Romans 10:9

⁶⁷ James 5:15; Matthew 9:21,22; Mark 5:28; 6:56; 10:52; Luke 8:26; Acts 4:9; 14:9

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 6: Release Your Faith

sicknesses we face in this life. Now that we are God's children, we should expect to see His salvation in all forms and fashions, as Romans 5:10 says.

Romans 5:10:

For if, when we were enemies [referring to before we were born again], we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled [now that we are born again sons of God], we shall be saved [sōzō] by his life.

This salvation is not from sin, but from sickness and any other difficult situation we may face once we are born again.

We handle ministering situations and crisis situations in life the same way we handle the everyday routines of life. Our faithfulness to speak and do God's Word in the daily routines of life prepares us to handle the bigger or more demanding situations by training ourselves to rely on God and His Word at all times. We shift into God gear and handle situations graciously and smoothly because we have built habit patterns of success in our daily lives. Worry, fear, and reason will limit us as we *Minister With God's Power* if we do not learn the temperance, the self-control, to say and do God's Word along the daily pathways of our lives. Jesus specifically addressed the importance of this in both general teaching situations and as they came up in everyday life.

Do not worry about the size of your faith. You have all the faith that you need. All you need to do is to unlock the power of it by speaking and acting upon the greatness of God's Word, which is the only foundation for our faith.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

Preview of *Miracles of Joshua*

In *Miracles of Joshua* we will see how God is still in the miracle business. Joshua built a solid foundation in God's Word that allowed him to accomplish what God called him to do. We will see how he led God's people across the Jordan at flood stage. We will see how Joshua following the words of the Lord brought down the walls of Jericho. Joshua finished the work God called him to do even when it required that the sun stand still so he could complete what he started.

Important Background Information

God is still in the miracle business.⁶⁸ We just need to tap in; we need to step up. It is our time, and it is our turn. Life is short. So what are we going to do? If you get into the Word of God and start believing God and start moving with Him when you are a teen, that is great. You have got a lot of years ahead of you. Even if you only spend one day or one week with God, you can do stuff that will be remembered for generations. That is how big and powerful it is when we decide to move with God.

I want to look at some non-healing miracles.

Moses had just died. Now, Joshua had to step up to the plate. When you are gone, the ones behind you take over. That is the way it works. Now, it was Joshua's time.

Joshua 1:1,2:

Now after the death of Moses the servant of the LORD it came to pass, that the LORD spake unto Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' minister, saying,

2 Moses my servant is dead; Now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou and all this people unto the land which I do give to them even unto the children of Israel.

God said, okay, it is time to get back to business. There are things to be done. In every generation, including ours, there are things to be done. There is still an inheritance that needs to be claimed. It is there. A lot people do not know it. Maybe you do not know it. You need to go get it. That is what this great book is about. About going and getting what God gave them. That is a challenge we all have. Every generation has a challenge because we have an adversary. God has an adversary, the devil, and he is our adversary. He wants to make sure you do not get yours. He wants to squat on yours. He wants to take away what is yours. Sometimes we may need a miracle. We go and get it.

⁶⁸ For more information on this see Appendix 2, Examples of the Manifestation of Workings of Miracles Not Associated with Healing.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

In Exodus 12:37 it says there were six hundred thousand men before they left Egypt. So we are talking a lot of folks here. If fifty percent of the men were married with an average of four children, that gives us about 2 million folks. There were a lot of folks camping on the East bank of the Jordan. God speaks to Joshua. He gives him revelation. He could speak to him because Joshua had holy spirit upon him.

Numbers 27:18-20:

And the LORD said unto Moses, Take thee Joshua the son of Nun, a man in whom *is* the spirit, and lay thine hand upon him;

19 And set him before Eleazar the priest, and before all the congregation; and give him a charge in their sight.

20 And thou shalt put *some* of thine honour upon him, that all the congregation of the children of Israel may be obedient.

This was his ordination. He had the spirit of God. That is the way it is. You may have the spirit of God a long time before this time arrives. Joshua had been ordained, and it is time for him to take over. He is in the spot light, and he has to do the job. It also said that he had honor and that the people would obey him. Joshua had received the revelation from God, and now he must decide to act on what God has told him. That is the way it is with all of us every time. Whether it be the revelation of the written Word or God tells you. When God first called me to teach, I did not feel qualified, and I argued for a while. But I could not argue as far as the truth of it. It was real. God had called me. There was no doubt about it. I do not care where He calls you.

He said, "It is time for you to teach my Word." I said, "I cannot do that." He never said another word. That was it as far as He was concerned. Then it was up to me. I had to make the decision. We all have to make a decision. Whether you have been called to preach, teach, minister or not, you have been called by God to serve in the Body of Christ. There are things to do. You have to make up your mind. That is what Joshua had to do. He got the Word, and now, he had to make up his mind. The great Moses is dead, and now he is it. That is a frightening thing. He cannot go to Moses and ask him questions. He is going to have to learn to go to God. That is where he should be going anyway.

Joshua's immediate obstacle was this river. There were two and a half million people or more, the river at flood stage, and they are supposed to go over to the other side.

Joshua 1:3:

Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

God reminds him again of the inheritance, the promise. It is his. Why? Did he earn it? No! God gave it to him. Did we earn our inheritance? No! Jesus Christ paid for it. It is the same thing he told Moses back in Deuteronomy 11:24. Then He sets the boundaries.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

Joshua 1:3-5:

From the wilderness and this Lebanon even unto the great river, the river Euphrates, all the land of the Hittites, and unto the great sea toward the going down of the sun, shall be your coast.

4 God gives Joshua the assurance that he will be able to do the job too.

5 There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, *so* I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

He reminds him, “Hey, what about us? Is God not with us?” Yes. Will He fail or forsake you? No. Sometimes we forsake Him. We want to trust in our own wisdom or man’s wisdom or a feeling. I have got a feeling, instead of trusting in the One True God. No sickness, no disease, no devil spirit, no circumstance, should be able to stand before you, because we have God within us. We have the authority in name of the Lord Jesus Christ. We should take charge. It is our inheritance, our bodies, the adversary has no right to make us sick. You have got to get adamant on this stuff. Let him know that you are no push over. You are not a marshmallow. You are strong in the power and the might of God Almighty.

Joshua 1:6:

Be strong and of a good courage: for unto this people shalt thou divide for an inheritance the land, which I swore unto their fathers to give them.

It is going to take courage to do that. If you have children and you try to divide something up, you have trouble. Someone is going to be unhappy. Kids have an eighth sense and can tell if it is a millimeter too small. Can you imagine all these people, and you have to divide up the inheritance? No wonder he said be strong and be of good courage because you are going to have to divide it up.

Joshua 1:7:

Only be thou strong and very courageous, that thou mayest observe to do according to all the law, which Moses my servant commanded thee: turn not from it *to* the right hand or *to* the left, that thou mayest prosper whithersoever thou goest.

Joshua 8:35:

There was not a word of all that Moses commanded, which Joshua read not before all the congregation of Israel, with the women, and the little ones, and the strangers that were conversant among them.

It is easy to turn because there are distractions in this life, even when you are on a mission for God. If you ever want to work miracles with God, you cannot be a fair weather believer. You cannot do things just when you feel like it or when it is popular or easy. You have to make up your mind and do it.

To be prosperous here means to have a good journey, or success, to act wisely. You are not going to have success or act wisely if your running all over the Word of God and not staying put on it; observe to do. Remember, that is how you prosper, as thy soul prospers.

Ministering With God's Power **Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua**

Joshua 1:8:

This book of the law shall not depart out of thy mouth; but thou shalt meditate therein day and night, that thou mayest observe to do according to all that is written therein: for then thou shalt make thy way prosperous, and then thou shalt have good success.

Let it not depart means it is to be constantly in your mouth. If you are going to speak something worthwhile, speak the Word of God. Meditate therein; keep God's Word alive in yourself. You read the Word and think about it. That is what we are supposed to do. How can we prosper and have good success if we are violating God's Word every day. We prosper as our soul prospers.

Joshua 1:9:

Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God *is* with thee whithersoever thou goest.

This is the third time He told him to be strong and of a good courage. What about today? Should we be strong and of a good courage? Things have not changed. The devil is still around, so you have to be strong. You are strong by knowing who you are. If you know who you are, will you let someone take your car. You might have a fight, right? Why, because you know it is yours. Yet people, even preachers, will let the devil come in and push them out of the way, grab their car, and wave goodbye. You have to be strong and have courage.

All this is important background for the miracles of Joshua. God told Joshua over and over again that He was with him. That is the most important thing you have to remember. God is with you. If you say it enough times, then you might believe it. Then you can be strong in that knowledge and have courage. He told him no man can stand against thee. That He would not fail him or forsake him. Then God tells him how to be strong, to observe all His Word and do it. Meditate. Keep the Word alive in your mind. If you want to do miracles, you do not float along in the tulips for a couple of years and say I want to do a miracle today. Keep the Word alive. You do that by keeping your fellowship alive with God. When it is time to do the will of God or a miracle, or a healing, it becomes duck soup. It is not hard. There is nothing too hard for God, right? If I am working, and He is working with me, then it is not going to be hard for me.

The Miracle of Crossing the Jordan

Now Joshua is ready to move on this revelation that God told Him to bring to pass.

Joshua 1:10,11:

Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying,
11 Pass through the host, and command the people, saying, Prepare you victuals; for within three days ye shall pass over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land, which the LORD your God giveth you to possess it.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

They were crossing the river, to get what was theirs. It could be rivers or mountains between you and what is yours. Then you cross it; you climb over it. You cast mountains out into the sea if you have to, but you will not do it if you do not have the attitude of the Word of God. If you do not have the attitude of the revelation, of what He said is true about you. God wants us all to be there. He wants us all to enjoy His inheritance. He wants every one of His kids to enjoy what He has given us. He has given us health. He has given us joy, peace and all the wonderful fruit of the spirit to enjoy. We prosper as our soul prospers in His Word. So He told them to get up and go. Joshua readies the leadership and Israel for crossing the river Jordan and into the Promise Land.

Someone has to lead. Moms and dads have to lead their house. Do not let the kids lead it, or the neighbors lead it, or the world (whatever it comes up with) lead it. That is the first place you take charge, right in your own house. Where you live.

Joshua 3:1-4:

And Joshua rose early in the morning; and they removed from Shittim, and came to Jordan, he and all the children of Israel, and lodged there before they passed over.

2 And it came to pass after three days, that the officers went through the host;

3 And they commanded the people, saying, When ye see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests the Levites bearing it, then ye shall remove from your place, and go after it.

4 Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure: come not near unto it, that ye may know the way by which ye must go: for ye have not passed *this* way heretofore.

God gives more instruction. He says to follow the ark but stay back 2,000 cubits (about three thousand feet).

Joshua 3:5:

And Joshua said unto the people, Sanctify yourselves: for to morrow the LORD will do wonders among you.

Sanctify means to consecrate, devote or dedicate yourself. If we will devote our lives to do the will of God, have fellowship with Him, and enjoy His inheritance and His family. God will do wonders in your life. You will see signs, miracles, and wonders.

Miracles happen because someone acts on what God tells them. That is what Joshua is doing here. He is doing exactly what God told him to do and Israel followed. They followed him because he was honored. He was commissioned. They know who he was. They were to obey him. Moses was gone, now it was Joshua leading.

Joshua 3:6:

And Joshua spake unto the priests, saying, Take up the ark of the covenant, and pass over before the people. And they took up the ark of the covenant, and went before the people.

7 And the LORD said unto Joshua, This day will I begin to magnify thee in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, *so* I will be with thee.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

8 And thou shalt command the priests that bear the ark of the covenant, saying, When ye are come to the brink of the water of Jordan, ye shall stand still in Jordan.

9 And Joshua said unto the children of Israel, Come hither, and hear the words of the LORD your God.

Look at how he is leading! That is what a leader does. You might be the leader in your neighborhood or the leader of your family. There may be somebody you just met that is talking worldly stuff, and you say, "Come, hear what the word of the Lord says." Then they get the privilege to hear it. Whether they act on it or believe it, is their problem. They might. Now, you have someone who is going to follow you, and they are going to want to know more what the word of the Lord says. That is what a leader does. A leader tells the word of the Lord.

Joshua 3:10-16:

And Joshua said, Hereby ye shall know that the living God *is* among you, and *that* he will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Hivites, and the Perizzites, and the Girgashites, and the Amorites, and the Jebusites.

11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth passeth over before you into Jordan.

Now therefore take you twelve men out of the tribes of Israel, out of every tribe a man.

13 And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests that bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of Jordan, *that* the waters of Jordan shall be cut off *from* the waters that come down from above; and they shall stand upon an heap.

14 And it came to pass, when the people removed from their tents, to pass over Jordan, and the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people;

15 And as they that bare the ark were come unto Jordan, and the feet of the priests that bare the ark were dipped in the brim of the water, (for Jordan overfloweth all his banks all the time of harvest,)

16 That the waters which came down from above stood *and* rose up upon an heap very far from the city Adam, that *is* beside Zaretan: and those that came down toward the sea of the plain, *even* the salt sea, failed, *and* were cut off: and the people passed over right against Jericho.

It is around 27 miles to the Dead Sea.

Joshua 3:16: NIV

The water from upstream stopped flowing. It piled up in a heap a great distance away, at a town called Adam in the vicinity of Zarethan, while the water flowing down to the Sea of the Arabah (the Salt Sea) was completely cut off. So the people crossed over opposite Jericho.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

Joshua 3:17:

And the priests that bare the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of Jordan, and all the Israelites passed over on dry ground, until all the people were passed clean over Jordan.

No water touched the ark or the priests or the people. The water flowed from Adam to the Dead Sea. It would have overcome them if it had not stopped. I think it is interesting that the city was named Adam. Where did our flow of sin come from? It was from Adam down through the generations bringing death, the Dead Sea. Jesus Christ did not stand in the middle of the Jordan, but he stood in the middle of the flow. He hung on a cross, and he stopped that flow, once and for all. It stopped when he said in John 19:30, "It is finished." That flow would have stopped man from crossing over to a direct reconciliation with God. The Lord Jesus Christ made a difference. When that happened the curse of the law of sin and death was broken for all who believed on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Joshua 4:4,5:

Then Joshua called the twelve men, whom he had prepared of the children of Israel, out of every tribe a man:

5 And Joshua said unto them, Pass over before the ark of the LORD your God into the midst of Jordan, and take ye up every man of you a stone upon his shoulder, according unto the number of the tribes of the children of Israel:

All twelve of them picked up a stone from the Jordan and put it on their shoulder as they were passing over, and they carried it out.

Joshua 4:6,7:

That this may be a sign among you, *that* when your children ask *their fathers* in time to come, saying, What *mean* ye by these stones?

7 Then ye shall answer them, That the waters of Jordan were cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD; when it passed over Jordan, the waters of Jordan were cut off: and these stones shall be for a memorial unto the children of Israel for ever.

They were into that. Why? Because people forget. They wanted to make sure they had them. Wherever they set up camp, these stones were with them.

Joshua 4:8,9:

And the children of Israel did so as Joshua commanded, and took up twelve stones out of the midst of Jordan, as the LORD spake unto Joshua, according to the number of the tribes of the children of Israel, and carried them over with them unto the place where they lodged, and laid them down there.

9 And Joshua set up twelve stones in the midst of Jordan, in the place where the feet of the priests which bare the ark of the covenant stood: and they are there unto this day.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

Something happened, and they wanted to always remember it. It always amazes me when I read the Word of God and see the mighty things that God did, how soon people would forget. How could they possibly forget that? It still goes on today. I have seen God do some wonderful things for people. Then after awhile they do not even remember God anymore. People forget, and God is always telling us to remember. That is why He had a book written, so we would not forget. It is good to write things down. Maybe you all need to have a journal. What did God do for you today? You might find out He is doing a lot of things if you take a look. Keep your journal for you and God. You do not have to share it with anybody. It is to help you remember the victory when you are challenged. It is to help you remember the good times. When you do not think you need them, go back and take a look.

Joshua 4:10,11:

For the priests which bare the ark stood in the midst of Jordan, until every thing was finished that the LORD commanded Joshua to speak unto the people, according to all that Moses commanded Joshua: and the people hasted and passed over.

11 And it came to pass, when all the people were clean passed over, that the ark of the LORD passed over, and the priests, in the presence of the people.

God fulfilled His Word. Psalm 114 gives tribute to God's mighty power and how He stopped the waters of the Red Sea and the Jordan while Israel safely crossed to the other side.

Psalm 114:1-5:

When Israel went out of Egypt, the house of Jacob from a people of strange language;

2 Judah was his sanctuary, *and* Israel his dominion. (Exodus 29:45)

3 The sea saw *it*, and fled: Jordan was driven back.

4 The mountains skipped like rams, *and* the little hills like lambs.

5 What *ailed* thee, O thou sea, that thou fleddest? thou Jordan, *that* thou wast driven back?

Psalm 77:16:

The waters saw thee, O God, the waters saw thee; they were afraid: the depths also were troubled.

Psalm 114:6,7:

Ye mountains, *that* ye skipped like rams; *and* ye little hills, like lambs?

7 Tremble, thou earth, at the presence of the Lord, at the presence of the God of Jacob;

When God moves something will happen. When you move something will happen for you. We have challenges, so make it tremble; let it shake; let the water depart; move the mountains. Get God involved. God promises and provides whatever is needed. Israel needed a miracle to cross the Jordan. Joshua needed it too. God parted the seas for Moses. What do you suppose it did for Joshua? He was stronger after that. If you want

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

to get stronger, then start doing things in the Word of God and start seeing things in your life. You know that God will not fail. God gave the revelation of how and when to Joshua. He arose and did what God told him. If we get in the habit of doing what God tells us to do, then we see the results. Learn to stay put on the Word. Just try it for a day and see what happens.

Miracles happen when we are actively seeking to observe and do the Word and will of GOD. Revelation comes when it is needed. If you are actively involved, actively observing to do His Word and His will, then things will happen

The Miracle of the Fall of Jericho

Everything is God's, and He gives to whom He will. He gave you health. He gave you healing by the stripes of the Lord Jesus Christ. He gave you prosperity, that you have what you need so that you can give to others that need.

If God says this to Joshua, how much more does it apply now? How much more for you and me?

Joshua 1:5:

There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, *so* I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

God was with Moses, Joshua, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, David, the Lord Jesus Christ, Peter, the twelve apostles, Paul, and He will be with you. God makes a promise to Joshua. He had just given Joshua the responsibility of leading Israel across the Jordan, and now it was time to claim the inheritance. That is always going to be the battle, you have to claim what is yours. You have an enemy who is going to try to take away everything that God gave you.

How many times did Joshua think about those words, "God will not fail." God continues to encourage us by way of the holy spirit. We have manifestations. Do you listen to what He has to say? Do you really believe what He has to say? You better, because He is talking to you. He is encouraging you. That is why we have manifestations. You ought to have them at home around the table. Get the kids involved, and then when you come to church you will be hotter than a firecracker.

The first miracle of Joshua was crossing the Jordan at flood stage. God gave him instructions; He told him what to do. He followed and was obedient to what God told him to do, and they made it across. Now Joshua is ready to lead Israel to its claim, the land God has promised. But they must take possession. You must take possession; you rule with God.

The same is true for us today. We must claim our salvation and wholeness. We must manifest what GOD has given us through HIS son Jesus Christ. We must claim our deliverance and independence from the god of this world and his kingdom. We do not belong to that kingdom anymore. We might live in this world, but we do not belong to it. So, we claim our independence. This world is full of sickness and disease, I do not want to be a part of that, do you? I claim healing wholeness. I claim what God has given me. Jesus Christ's name is above every name. That includes, cancer, TB, multiplesclerosis; it does not matter what the name. It is just a name. They are just names so they can frighten you. That is why we give them names.

Ministering With God's Power **Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua**

Israel had to take a stand against people. Theirs was a physical enemy. Ours is a spiritual enemy. Sometimes there are people involved, but it is all spirits behind it. They had to stand against people, armies, and kingdoms that thought they had a right to their inheritance. Remember, God is with you just as He was with Joshua and Moses. He is with you, and He is in you. It is God in Christ in you; never forget that.

In Joshua, chapter 2, Joshua sent out two spies to scout out the land. He has not even crossed the river, and he is already sending guys over there to go check them out. The spies are staying at Rahab's inn. Of course the king of Jericho finds out they are there. Then he sends for Rahab to find out where they were, but she hides them.

Rahab is referred to as a harlot. For the most part a harlot is a prostitute. However in the context of this record, Rahab the Harlot, is an innkeeper not a prostitute.

Joshua 2:1:

And Joshua the son of Nun sent out of Shittim two men to spy secretly, saying, Go view the land, even Jericho. And they went, and came into an harlot's house, named Rahab, and lodged there.

Joshua 2:9:

And she said unto the men, I know that the LORD hath given you the land, and that your terror is fallen upon us, and that all the inhabitants of the land faint because of you.

Exodus 15:14a:

The people shall hear, *and* be afraid...

Exodus 15:15b:

... the mighty men of Moab, trembling shall take hold upon them; all the inhabitants of Canaan shall melt away.

Exodus 15:16a:

Fear and dread shall fall upon them...

It came. Your enemy is just as afraid as these people. Our enemy today, because we have the Lord Jesus Christ, trembles at that name.

Joshua 1:5:

There shall not any man be able to stand before thee all the days of thy life: as I was with Moses, *so* I will be with thee: I will not fail thee, nor forsake thee.

In Joshua, chapter 5, the Amorites and the kings of the Canaanites had already heard about the miracle the God of Israel had done for Israel when He opened up the Jordan and they walked across on dry land. Their hearts melted.

Joshua 5:1:

And it came to pass, when all the kings of the Amorites, (mayors of a city were often called kings) which *were* on the side of Jordan westward, and all the kings of the Canaanites, which *were* by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

waters of Jordan from before the children of Israel, until we were passed over, that their heart melted, neither was there spirit in them any more, because of the children of Israel.

They lost their courage to fight. This was the enemy they were supposed to fight, but they were scared. They lost their courage.

Joshua 2:3,4:

And the king of Jericho sent unto Rahab, saying, Bring forth the men that are come to thee, which are entered into thine house: for they be come to search out all the country.

4 And the woman took the two men, and hid them, and said thus, There came men unto me, but I wist not whence they *were*:

So, Rahab hid the two spies in the stalks of flax, which was used to cover the roof. When the coast was clear she lowered them down the wall and told them a safe way to get back to Joshua and Israel. When the king's men came, she sent them the other way.

Joshua 2:11:

And as soon as we had heard *these things*, our hearts did melt, neither did there remain any more courage in any man, because of you: for the LORD your God, he *is* God in heaven above, and in earth beneath.

People that is our God! Then Rahab asked them to save her family. She knew that city was gone.

Joshua 2:14:

And the men answered her, Our life for yours, if ye utter not this our business. And it shall be, when the LORD hath given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with thee.

Joshua 2:18,19:

Behold, *when* we come into the land, thou shalt bind this line of scarlet thread in the window which thou didst let us down by: and thou shalt bring thy father, and thy mother, and thy brethren, and all thy father's household, home unto thee.

19 And it shall be, *that* whosoever shall go out of the doors of thy house into the street, his blood *shall be* upon his head, and we *will be* guiltless: and whosoever shall be with thee in the house, his blood *shall be* on our head, if *any* hand be upon him.

When the spies returned to Joshua they said, "Truly the Lord hath delivered the land into our hands; for even all the inhabitants do faint (fear and have no strength) because of us." They came back with a good report. So Joshua said we are going across, and we are going to take it.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

Joshua 5:13,14:

And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted up his eyes and looked, and, behold, there stood a man over against him with his sword drawn in his hand: and Joshua went unto him, and said unto him, *Art* thou for us, or for our adversaries?

14 And he said, Nay; but *as* captain of the host of the LORD am I now come. And Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and did worship, and said unto him, What saith my lord unto his servant?

The Lord's Host is His army. The angel Michael is the "prince" or "captain" of God's army. He does battle for God. He is the one that kicked out Lucifer and his tribe, long, long ago. It says Joshua worshipped. When he asked if he was for the enemy or Israel, he said neither, but as captain of the host. He is God's captain. He was God's and he did whatever God wanted. His obedience was not unto men but unto God. That is something for all of us to remember. Who comes first? Who do we obey first, God or man? God! We do not seek the wisdom of man, we seek the wisdom of God and His power.

Joshua 5:15:

And the captain of the LORD'S host said unto Joshua, Loose thy shoe from off thy foot; for the place whereon thou standest *is* holy. And Joshua did so.

Then Joshua was given instructions. Joshua was to be obedient to the Word of God. Israel was poised to take the city of Jericho, but the gates were shut. Nothing was going in or coming out. In Joshua 6:2-10 he receives his instructions on how this was going to happen. He got his attention and said, "Okay this is how it is going to be."

Joshua 6:2-4:

And the LORD said unto Joshua, See, I have given into thine hand Jericho, and the king thereof, *and* the mighty men of valour.

3 And ye shall compass the city, all *ye* men of war, *and* go round about the city once. Thus shalt thou do six days.

4 And seven priests shall bear before the ark seven trumpets of rams' horns: and the seventh day ye shall compass the city seven times, and the priests shall blow with the trumpets.

Rams horns (called jobels) were the Jubilee trumpets. They were large rams horns with a small hole in the end. They produced a sound that was loud and constant. These trumpets were used to call Israel to gather to worship the Lord God.

Joshua 6:5-9:

And it shall come to pass, that when they make a long *blast* with the ram's horn, *and* when ye hear the sound of the trumpet, all the people shall shout with a great shout; and the wall of the city shall fall down flat, and the people shall ascend up every man straight before him.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

6 And Joshua the son of Nun called the priests, and said unto them, Take up the ark of the covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD.

7 And he said unto the people, Pass on, and compass the city, and let him that is armed pass on before the ark of the LORD.

8 And it came to pass, when Joshua had spoken unto the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns passed on before the LORD, and blew with the trumpets: and the ark of the covenant of the LORD followed them.

9 And the armed men went before the priests that blew with the trumpets, and the rereward came after the ark, *the priests* going on, and blowing with the trumpets.

“Rereward” is the army that follows or the rear guard. According to Number 10:25 this could be the children of the tribe of Dan.

Joshua 6:10-13:

And Joshua had commanded the people, saying, Ye shall not shout, nor make any noise with your voice, neither shall *any* word proceed out of your mouth, until the day I bid you shout; then shall ye shout.

11 So the ark of the LORD compassed the city, going about *it* once: and they came into the camp, and lodged in the camp.

12 And Joshua rose early in the morning, and the priests took up the ark of the LORD.

13 And seven priests bearing seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD went on continually, and blew with the trumpets: and the armed men went before them; but the rereward came after the ark of the LORD, *the priests* going on, and blowing with the trumpets.

First the armed men. Next the seven priest with 7 trumpets. Then the ark of the covenant of the Lord. The rereward followed the ark. They were to march around Jericho one time each day for six days in silence except for the trumpets continually blowing. On the seventh day they were to march around Jericho seven times, with trumpets blowing, and at the command of Joshua all of Israel was to shout with a great shout! God gave Joshua the revelation of the miracle that was to happen. All the details were given, and now it was time to move.

**The requirements that lead to a Miracle:
Revelation Given + Revelation Believed + Obedient Action Taken
= a Miracle happens.**

When you are actively seeking the will of the Lord and you are moving, if a miracle needs to happen, God will let you know.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

Joshua 6:15,16, 20-26:

And it came to pass on the seventh day, that they rose early about the dawning of the day, and compassed the city after the same manner seven times: only on that day they compassed the city seven times.

16 And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the LORD hath given you the city.

20 So the people shouted when *the priests* blew with the trumpets: and it came to pass, when the people heard the sound of the trumpet, and the people shouted with a great shout, that the wall fell down flat, so that the people went up into the city, every man straight before him, and they took the city.

21 And they utterly destroyed all that *was* in the city, both man and woman, young and old, and ox, and sheep, and ass, with the edge of the sword.

22 But Joshua had said unto the two men that had spied out the country, Go into the harlot's house, and bring out thence the woman, and all that she hath, as ye sware unto her.

23 And the young men that were spies went in, and brought out Rahab, and her father, and her mother, and her brethren, and all that she had; and they brought out all her kindred, and left them without the camp of Israel.

24 And they burnt the city with fire, and all that *was* therein: only the silver, and the gold, and the vessels of brass and of iron, they put into the treasury of the house of the LORD.

25 And Joshua saved Rahab the harlot alive, and her father's household, and all that she had; and she dwelleth in Israel *even* unto this day; because she hid the messengers, which Joshua sent to spy out Jericho.

26 And Joshua adjured *them* at that time, saying, Cursed *be* the man before the LORD, that riseth up and buildeth this city Jericho: he shall lay the foundation thereof in his firstborn, and in his youngest *son* shall he set up the gates of it.

Joshua said that if any man rebuild the wall and gates it would be at the cost of the lives of his born and youngest sons, the first and last.

Joshua 6:27:

So the LORD was with Joshua; and his fame was *noised* throughout all the country.

The city of Jericho was the first of the cities that Israel took as they possessed the land. There were two passes that went into the city. They took out the main one. It was burned, set on fire as an offering to God. It was the first fruits of their inheritance. Jericho was also set up in a heap as a memorial, a reminder that the God of heaven and earth was Israel's God.

Joshua 23:1-5:

And it came to pass a long time after that the LORD had given rest unto Israel from all their enemies round about, that Joshua waxed old *and* stricken in age.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

2 And Joshua called for all Israel, *and* for their elders, and for their heads, and for their judges, and for their officers, and said unto them, I am old *and* stricken in age:

3 And ye have seen all that the LORD your God hath done unto all these nations because of you; for the LORD your God *is* he that hath fought for you.

4 Behold, I have divided unto you by lot these nations that remain, to be an inheritance for your tribes, from Jordan, with all the nations that I have cut off, even unto the great sea westward.

5 And the LORD your God, he shall expel them from before you, and drive them from out of your sight; and ye shall possess their land, as the LORD your God hath promised unto you.

Judges 1:19:

And the LORD was with Judah; and he drave out *the inhabitants of* the mountain; but could not drive out the inhabitants of the valley, because they had chariots of iron.

Joshua 17:15-18:

And Joshua answered them, If thou *be* a great people, *then* get thee up to the wood *country*, and cut down for thyself there in the land of the Perizzites and of the giants, if mount Ephraim be too narrow for thee.

16 And the children of Joseph said, The hill is not enough for us: and all the Canaanites that dwell in the land of the valley have chariots of iron, *both they who are* of Bethshean and her towns, and *they who are* of the valley of Jezreel.

17 And Joshua spake unto the house of Joseph, *even* to Ephraim and to Manasseh, saying, Thou *art* a great people, and hast great power: thou shalt not have one lot *only*:

18 But the mountain shall be thine; for it *is* a wood, and thou shalt cut it down: and the outgoings of it shall be thine: for thou shalt drive out the Canaanites, though they have iron chariots, *and* though they *be* strong.

As soon as Joshua was gone, they were already slacking. You do not win with God going half way there. You do not get healed going half way. Later on in Joshua 12, five kings come up against them. Joshua went to God and said what do we do about this. God said, go get them. Go after them. The battle is yours and I will fight for you. They went after them and chased them for eighteen miles.

Joshua 12:12-13:

The king of Eglon, one; the king of Gezer, one;

13 The king of Debir, one; the king of Geder, one;

Joshua needed another miracle here to finish the job. They wiped them out. They got the five kings that were hid in a cave.

So where is the adversaries neck to you? It is under your foot unless he talks you out of it. That is all he has left, just tricks.

God had promised Joshua that He would be with him, that he would prosper, and that he would have success if he would be strong and of a good courage and stay put on His

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 7: Miracles of Joshua

Word. Joshua claimed the promise of God, and he believed and acted on God's Word. Miracles were worked to confirm the promises.

Miracles, signs and wonders accompany or follow those that believe. Let us continue to believe on him. Claim what is rightfully ours by believing and taking action on His Word. Be strong and be of good courage. Why? Because you can. That is why we fellowship. We are the rocks. We have to collect together to remind ourselves. Why? Because the adversary is a smart cookie and bothers us. You have brothers and sisters. You have the whole household of God. You have a big pile of rocks to remind you of who you are.

You do not need to be sick; you do not need to be condemned; you do not need to be poor. We are to be what God says. Read what God says about you, then believe it. Then you will be strong and have great courage. Be loving with the family and people's hearts. But when it comes to the adversary, be adamant and do not give up. You have teeth in your mouth. He just growls like a dog with no teeth. He growls a lot and people get scared. Get rid of the fear. You cannot do miracles with fear. You cannot heal with fear. The only way you are going to get it is to stay put in your life. The Word will get rid of the fear because as you walk on it you are going to see results. Every time you see results you get stronger. I am not afraid there anymore. Then if you get tempted maybe God will send down an angel who says, "Fear not."

Take action on His Word. Be strong and of a great courage as Joshua was. Follow in the steps of Jesus Christ. Preach and teach the gospel; heal the sick; cast out devils. God is a God of miracles; He is a God of might. God will confirm His Word if we have enough gumption to get out and do it.

Today and everyday we must claim what GOD has given us. We must believe and act on the revelation of God's Word whether it is written in Holy Scriptures, or God just tells you.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 8: The Miracles of Jesus

Preview of The Miracles of Jesus

In *The Miracles of Jesus* we will see that a miracle is instantaneous and supernatural. Like all the other manifestations workings of miracles are done by our free will choice. We must refuse to fear, and say and do whatever God tells us. We should be specific and speak to the problem directly. We are to do the works that Jesus Christ did and glorify God, and inspire believing in others.

Introduction

The Manifestation of Workings of Miracles is:

To exercise the authority and ability, which God gives, to bring to pass miracles, according to whatever God, tells you.

A miracle is instantaneous and supernatural. The manifestation of faith is involved because one must have absolute trust and confidence in God, that He will perform that which he has revealed to you. It is having the faith of God as Jesus declared in Mark 11:22,23.

Mark 11:22,23:

And Jesus answering saith unto them, Have faith in God.

23 For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

“Faith to move mountains” is figurative. It means to do the impossible, something you could not do on your own, or to do whatever is needed. God has given us the ability to manifest faith. We do not lack it. You have all you need; you need to manifest it. If there is lack it is due to free will choice. We choose not to. Usually that happens because of fear.

You can know this Word of God, but you still have to believe it. Fear and ignorance are just plain unbelief. People choose not to have faith. We do not judge anybody. Faith cometh by hearing, maybe they need to hear a little more. We do not lack faith to work

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 8: The Miracles of Jesus

miracles. We do not lack faith to minister healing. We do not lack faith to cast out devils if that is what needs to be done. We do not lack faith! You have to get that into your mind. I have what God says I have, and I can do what God says I can do. It is God working within me. You are to do His good will and pleasure. We do not work miracles without Him, but we do it with Him.

Another key point is that God never oversteps your free will choice. God's will is to give us utterance as we speak in tongues, but what if we do not speak? Then, it will not happen, will it? He will not possess our mouth, our lips, our throat, our tongue. He will not move it for you. You must move it. When this manifestation of faith comes, you are going to do whatever needs to be done. You literally step out. You do that with all of the manifestations. God will not make you speak in tongues, interpret, or prophesy. He cannot make you because of freedom of will. The reason God gave us free will is because by our free will He wanted us to love Him because that is the only way that it works. You cannot make somebody love you, can you? It has to be a free will choice that is why God gave it to us; He wants us to love Him.

Jesus worked miracles. Most of them were miracles of healing, but some did not have anything to do with healing. They are still a miracle.

This free will choice is a big thing. We must choose. We must choose to speak in tongues, to interpret. We must choose to speak forth a word of prophecy. We must listen to revelation. We choose to listen to word of knowledge, word of wisdom, and discerning of spirits. We must choose to take action or ignore the revelation. We choose to manifest faith by having absolute trust and confidence in God that He will perform that which He has said.

We must choose to work miracles when the opportunity arises or we can get scared and not do anything. Fear is the thing that stops you. You know why I say that because you cannot have fear and faith in the same spot. We must choose to minister gifts of healing when the opportunity arises. God never oversteps our freedom of will. God's will is to give us what He has promised. God's will for us is to manifest faith to move mountains, to work miracles, and minister healing. God always does His part. This must be your belief and attitude every time we are given the opportunity. God's will for our lives is to manifest faith to move mountains, to work miracles, and to minister healing so that His deliverance may be manifested in all. He wants His kids delivered, and He gets glorified.

In I Corinthians 12:6 the word "miracles" is *dunamis*. Another meaning is capable power to do anything, wrought by divine power, work with reference to power required for its performance. It is inherent power. Inherent according to Webster's dictionary is: existing in someone or something as a permanent characteristic. When you got born again it is permanent. It came in and it is not going to get washed out. "Let him minister with the ability that God giveth." Remember I Peter 4:11?

The Miracle at the Wedding in Cana

Jesus' first miracle is in John 2. This takes place shortly after Jesus begins his ministry. He just picked up a few disciples, Simon Peter and his brother Andrew and Philip and Nathaniel. The four of them were traveling along with Jesus and they got invited to this wedding.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 8: The Miracles of Jesus

John 2:1-3:

And the third day there was a marriage in Cana of Galilee; and the mother of Jesus was there:

2 And both Jesus was called, and his disciples, to the marriage.

3 And when they wanted wine, the mother of Jesus saith unto him, They have no wine.

4 Jesus saith unto her, Woman, what have I to do with thee? mine hour is not yet come.

Now this verse never made any sense to me, to say to your mother, “Woman, what have I do to with you?” Another translation of this verse, which is better, reads, “Gracious mother, what concern is this of yours or mine? My turn has not yet come.”

This term “my turn has not yet come” refers to customs of wedding where they would serve the wine in order according to age. To the oldest guests they would serve the wine first. Another key here is the woman. For instance if I was there then Mary Lou would be responsible to have the wine there. So, the older ones would always get the best wine and when that over the it was the next ones turn not quite as good and then the next age would have a turn. What would happen here? This would continue until they got to the younger ones with the quality of the wine degenerating. Apparently the wine ran out before it was their turn. Their turn was coming up and guess what, mama did not have the wine. That is what he is saying, “It is not my turn.” Nevertheless there is a problem here.

So, Jesus addressed his mother, “gracious mother,” not “woman.” How disrespectful would that be? Jesus loved his mother and she was gracious and she was concerned about the guests. She was concerned because she was responsible.

John 2:5:

His mother saith unto the servants, Whatsoever he saith unto you, do *it*.

Mary believed her son was going to do something, but she did not know what or how. Nevertheless, she knew he was going to do something.

John 2:6:

And there were set there six waterpots of stone, after the manner of the purifying of the Jews, containing two or three firkins apiece.

These water pots were stone jars that held between six and nine gallons. A firkin is three gallons. Jesus never touched these pots. They were just there and he began to speak. There is power in words. That is something you have to remember, too. There is power in words. There is power in the Word of God. When you say the Word of God there is power, it has life in it.

John 2:7:

Jesus saith unto them, Fill the waterpots with water. And they filled them up to the brim.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 8: The Miracles of Jesus

I love that. It is kind of like a new believer. You get filled to the brim with holy spirit.

John 2:8-11:

And he saith unto them, Draw out now, and bear unto the governor of the feast. And they bare *it*.

9 When the ruler of the feast had tasted the water that was made wine, and knew not whence it was: (but the servants which drew the water knew;) the governor of the feast called the bridegroom,

10 And saith unto him, Every man at the beginning doth set forth good wine; and when men have well drunk, then that which is worse: *but* thou hast kept the good wine until now.

11 This beginning of miracles did Jesus in Cana of Galilee, and manifested forth his glory; and his disciples believed on him.

This miracle caused his disciples to believe on him, and God was glorified in His son. Also, the wedding did not lack. It was a great deal for all of them. That is the way God works. Jesus took some stone jars and filled them with water, and when it was served, it was wine. The impossible happened. The mountain was cast into the sea. Water was changed into wine; this was just a warm up. Six water pots were used. In *Numbers in Scriptures*⁶⁹ it says that the number six is representative of man's short coming of spiritual perfection. In this case, man ran out of wine, he fell short. The six water pots without divine intervention would have fallen short; they would have just been water. There would have been lack. Jesus commanded they be filled with water. He commanded the servants to draw it out, and the lack vanished.

God fills us to the brim with His holy spirit and power. If you are diligently seeking to do the things of God and to walk in the steps of Jesus Christ, you will not lack! You have the power. You have the authority in the name of Jesus Christ.

The Miracle of Walking on the Sea

Matthew 14:22-24:

And straightway Jesus constrained his disciples to get into a ship, and to go before him unto the other side, while he sent the multitudes away.

23 And when he had sent the multitudes away, he went up into a mountain apart to pray: and when the evening was come, he was there alone.

24 But the ship was now in the midst of the sea, tossed with waves: for the wind was contrary.

The disciples were on a ship. The word ship means transport. Jesus was on a mountain by himself, praying. As the ship was in the midst of the sea, it got caught up in a storm.

Matthew 14:25:

And in the fourth watch of the night Jesus went unto them, walking on the sea.

⁶⁹ Bullinger E.W., *Numbers in Scripture*, Kregel Publications, Grand Rapids MI, 1967

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 8: The Miracles of Jesus

Man does not walk on water, folks. That is a miracle. Bugs do, but man does not walk on water. That is not in our genes.

Matthew 14:26:

And when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were troubled, saying, It is a spirit; and they cried out for fear.

“Troubled” is the Greek word, *tarassō*, and it means, “emotionally stirred up.” They were cranked; inside, they were a bundle of emotion. They were full of fear.

Matthew 14:27:

But straightway Jesus spake unto them, saying, Be of good cheer; it is I; be not afraid.

“To be of good cheer,” means to have your thoughts well arranged on the Word of God. When you are tempted to fear you go to the Word of God. What does the Word of God say? God has not given me the spirit of fear, but of power, and love and a sound mind. Jesus knew that their thoughts were not well arranged. There was one that had a little bravery. His name was Peter.

Matthew 14:28-30:

And Peter answered him and said, Lord, if it be thou, bid me come unto thee on the water.

29 And he said, Come. And when Peter was come down out of the ship, he walked on the water, to go to Jesus.

30 But when he saw the wind boisterous, he was afraid; and beginning to sink, he cried, saying, Lord, save me.

Fear will always work against faith. That is what the devil uses to try to take your faith, your believing that you can do all things through Christ... that you can be more than a conqueror. Maybe for you it is a medical report or a financial report or some other report, or something on you body, to try to put fear into you. If he can do it then he just shoved out your faith. You are not going to manifest it because you are going to manifest fear.

You will never work miracles or exercise any of the other manifestations of holy spirit if you allow fear to be a convincing part of your life. Now is there a temptation? Yes. Everybody is tempted to fear, but you do not hang onto it. Cast it off; kick it to the curb so to speak. Get rid of it. Peter was doing fine. He had the desire to do the things that Jesus Christ did. I wonder how many people started out that way? I wonder how many ministers started out that way? They say, “I am going to walk in the steps of Jesus Christ.” Then some fear comes and starts to take it away. I do not read in the scriptures any place where it says any of the 11 stepped out there. At least Peter tried, but trying does not get it.

A few years ago, a few of us read a book called *If You Want to Walk on Water You Have To Get Out Of The Boat*. It was written by John Ortberg. If you are ever going to work miracles or minister gifts of healing you are going to have to get out of the boat.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 8: The Miracles of Jesus

Everybody puts a name on a boat. The boat that most people are in is called FEAR. You have to get out of that boat. That boat focuses on your fleshly inadequacies instead of on that God is able and I have authority to do what Jesus Christ said I could do... that I can command in the name of Jesus Christ and that thing will happen.

[John Lake incident.]⁷⁰

God takes care of you if you move with Him. Remember, the manifestations of holy spirit all work the same way. If you can speak in tongues then you can do miracles, you can do wonders, you can minister, you can cast out devils, you can do whatever needs to be done but the manifestation of faith is necessary for these manifestations.

Matthew 14:31-33:

And immediately Jesus stretched forth *his* hand, and caught him, and said unto him, O thou of little faith, wherefore didst thou doubt?

32 And when they were come into the ship, the wind ceased.

33 Then they that were in the ship came and worshipped him, saying, Of a truth thou art the Son of God.

The Miracle of Calming the Sea

Mark 4:35-39:

And the same day, when the even was come, he saith unto them, Let us pass over unto the other side.

36 And when they had sent away the multitude, they took him even as he was in the ship. And there were also with him other little ships.

37 And there arose a great storm of wind, and the waves beat into the ship, so that it was now full.

38 And he was in the hinder part of the ship, asleep on a pillow: and they awake him, and say unto him, Master, carest thou not that we perish?

39 And he arose, and rebuked the wind, and said unto the sea, Peace, be still. And the wind ceased, and there was a great calm.

Jesus worked another miracle. He calmed a great storm instantly at his command. Jesus had no fear, only faith. He knew that his Father would do it. Jesus handled two elements, the wind and the sea and this was something that needed to be done right away. One key here is be specific. When you minister find out what it is and nail it. Speak to it and tell it to move. Speak to it! Jesus certainly did. (Headache be gone!, Bone heal!)

Jesus spoke to the wind and to the water. Tell it what to do. Be of good cheer, have your thoughts well arranged and get it done.

Mark 4:40:

And he said unto them, Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no **faith**?

Jesus is saying, "What have you watched me do?" These are disciples and they are supposed to follow the one teaching. He asked, "Why are you so fearful? Why have you no faith?" Faith eliminates all reason for fear. Fear will give you every reason in the

⁷⁰ Lairdon, Robert *God's Generals: Why They Succeeded and Why Some Failed*

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 8: The Miracles of Jesus

world for not receiving healing or deliverance. If you do not get rid of fear you will never manifest faith to do any of the manifestations. You will never have the courage to speak to the problem you are facing. We do not command out of fear, we command out with faith. We command in the name of Jesus Christ.

We must absolutely trust and believe that God will bring to pass whatever He has told us. Why, because we know Him. Get to know God better; love Him bigger. We know that He is able and therefore we are able to do signs, miracles and wonders. We can minister gifts of healing; we can exercise all the manifestations of holy spirit.

God has given us much to do and He has equipped us to do all the He has asked. Signs follow, accompany, those that believe not those that fear in unbelief. People of all nations live in a world of fear it is time we choose to live in a world of faith. You are going to be living in one or the other.

Mark 4:41:

And they feared exceedingly, and said one to another, What manner of man is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?

I will tell you what manner of man it was. Jesus Christ was a man of faith. He is our example. He was a walking, talking, man of faith. He was the son of the Living God. He was powerful. God gave him authority and he used it. Now we have authority, when are we going to use it? Jesus confronted his disciples and said, "What is a matter with you? You could have done the same thing if you had gotten rid of your fear." The wind and the sea must be obedient to the words spoken on the lips of believers. When we exercise the manifestations of faith, working of miracles, and gifts of healing then stuff happens.

The Miracle of the Fig Tree

Matthew 21:17-19:

And he left them, and went out of the city into Bethany; and he lodged there.

18 Now in the morning as he returned into the city, he hungered.

19 And when he saw a fig tree in the way, he came to it, and found nothing thereon, but leaves only, and said unto it, Let no fruit grow on thee henceforward for ever. And presently the fig tree withered away.

Be specific. What was the problem here? The tree was the problem; it did not have any good stuff on it. That very moment means right now. Jesus was looking for those buds on the fig tree. It was the time of year there should have been buds on the tree. Jesus spoke to the fig tree, condemned it, and the tree withered away immediately.

Matthew 21:20,21:

And when the disciples saw *it*, they marvelled, saying, How soon is the fig tree withered away!

21 Jesus answered and said unto them, Verily I say unto you, If ye have faith, and doubt not, ye shall not only do this *which is done* to the fig tree, but also if ye shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; it shall be done.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 8: The Miracles of Jesus

The mountain is the problem, the difficulty. It is the challenge. We see the pattern of Jesus speaking to the problem (in this case it was the fig tree before it was the sea and the wind) and making a command and seeing it come to pass. When the disciples marveled Jesus would confront them with the truth.

In Mark 11 is another record of a fig tree. It did not die immediately, but it died over night. Again, Jesus directed his command to the object in this case it was the fig tree. Again, after the miracle took place he confronts his disciples about what is possible if you manifest faith. What is possible? All things. What is possible for you? Get specific. What do I need? What are my old squatters trying to steal from me?

The Miracle of the Coin in the Fish's Mouth

In another account Jesus needed some money to pay taxes, tribute. Jesus told Peter to go to the sea, cast a hook, and when he catches the first fish; open his mouth and ye shall find a gold coin. Pay the tax. Peter did what he said and guess what, a gold coin.

Miracles inspire believing in others. Miracles are the glory of God shown. Do not you want to shine for God? In all the miracles of Jesus he manifested the power of God and he showed his disciples and others that they could do it. It is possible if they would have the faith of God. Signs, miracles, and wonders follow those that believe and people follow those that work signs, miracles, and wonders in their lives and ministries.

The Miracle of Feeding the Multitude

John 6:1-6:

After these things Jesus went over the sea of Galilee, which is *the sea* of Tiberias.

2 And a great multitude followed him, because they saw his miracles which he did on them that were diseased.

3 And Jesus went up into a mountain, and there he sat with his disciples.

4 And the passover, a feast of the Jews, was nigh.

5 When Jesus then lifted up *his* eyes, and saw a great company come unto him, he saith unto Philip, Whence shall we buy bread, that these may eat?

6 And this he said to prove him: for he himself knew what he would do.

Jesus already knew. He already had the revelation. Philip said we do not have enough cash for that. We do not have enough bread to buy bread for all of these folks. We only have 5 loaves of bread and 2 fishes. Then Jesus commanded the people to sit down, and then he took the loaves and fishes and gave thanks to God and distributed the food to everyone. After the multitude was fed they gathered 12 baskets full. People our God is a God of more than enough. It would have been nice if they had all been fed, but they had leftovers. God never falls short.

John 6:14:

Then those men, when they had seen the miracle that Jesus did, said, This is of a truth that prophet that should come into the world.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 8: The Miracles of Jesus

The miracles of Jesus validated who he was. He was not just a man named Jesus. He was Jesus the Son of God with power. He validated his life and his ministry that he was the son of God, the Messiah, the Promise Seed. The miracles confirmed the scriptures about Jesus Christ. When he taught them about the kingdom of God, these miracles helped confirm his ministry.

Summary

The manifestation of holy spirit, exercised and energized, validates our sonship too. You do not have to tell people that you are a son of God or a daughter of God. You do not have to say, I am a minister of the Lord Jesus Christ. You get out there and be and do. It gives testimony of God's gift of holy spirit, which is given to everyone that believes on the lord Jesus Christ, that God raised him from the dead. Miracles are witnesses of Jesus Christ's life and ministry plus God's plan of redemption and salvation for mankind and also for his future return. He is coming back folks.

We are given the example of Jesus Christ in the gospels plus the apostles and believers in the book of Acts. We have the testimony of the miracles and healings they did as they exercised the manifestations. Remember Peter and John at the temple gate Beautiful. Paul and others, even a certain disciple Ananias.

The gospel of Christ was preached, it was taught, and the power of God was manifested. The ministry of deliverance continued, and God was glorified. That is why he said, "He that believeth on me the works that I do...." We are to continue his ministry. What kind of ministry did he have? He preached; he taught; he healed; he cast out spirits; and he ministered deliverance to people. What they need first is to hear the Word of God, the good news about Jesus Christ and the new birth, his death and resurrection, and ascension and the day of Pentecost. That is what they preached in the Book of Acts. They needed to hear that but they also needed to know that they could be delivered, that they could be healed.

I Corinthians 2:4:

And my speech and my preaching *was* not with enticing words of man's wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power:

People, that has to be our testimony. That is where we want to live. That is where you are living, not on the edge but right in the midst of everything. You get the joy of being a part of all that and it is humbling. It is a blessing, and it is so exciting. When you are involved in the deliverance of somebody it is like speaking in tongues for the first time.

This is a big family God has. It has a whole household, and it is not just here in the USA. There are people all around the whole wide world. We need to help each other. We need to believe what the Word of God says and do it.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 8: The Miracles of Jesus

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

Preview of *Signs, Miracles, and Wonders*

In *Signs, Miracles, and Wonders* we will see miracles are represented and understood by many Greek words in the Bible, all of which contribute to our understanding of what miracles are. We will also see that Satan uses miracle, signs and lying wonders to try to deceive even the very elect of God. However, it is our love for the truth and maintaining our freewill that will keep us from being deceived. Freewill distinguishes between God at work in people's lives and the counterfeit.

**Miracles Are Represented and Understood
by Many Greek Words in the Bible.**

In our culture the word “miracle” is used commonly in non-Biblical senses. The traditional definition is an event or effect in the physical world deviating from the known laws of nature or transcending our knowledge of those laws. It is also described as an extra-ordinary, anomalous, or abnormal event brought about by super-human agency.

Lockyer says it is a work wrought by a divine power for a divine purpose by means beyond the reach of man.⁷¹ He goes on to say, “The Biblical conception of a miracle is that of some extraordinary work of deity transcending the ordinary powers of nature and wrought in connection with the ends of revelation.” However, current usage also includes: “any remarkable event or marvel” (There is a movie entitled, “Miracle.” It was about the US victory over the Soviets in the Olympics in 1980. Even child-birth is described as a miracle.) or a “wonderful example” (such as a miracle of diplomacy).

Even in the Bible distinctions can be made between miracles and people operating the manifestation of the working of miracles. The creation of the world as recorded in scripture is surely miraculous.⁷² God can do whatever He chooses, whenever He chooses. When God delivered His people from Egypt, He provided the cloud to cover them by day and the fire to protect them at night. He also worked miraculously in the burning bush without Moses' assistance.

He can act independent of human agency if He wants. However, the manifestation of workings of miracles is God working with men to bring His will to pass. As laborers together with Him we can bring to pass what He tells us to do through the operation of the manifestations of the spirit. Indeed, the end result of revelation when believed and acted upon will be a gift of healing or a working of a miracle or both.

⁷¹ Herbert Lockyer, *All the Miracles of the Bible*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI 1961, p13.

⁷² Genesis 1; Hebrews 11:3; Psalms 104; Job 26:8; Proverbs 8

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

Right now I am particularly concerned with the operation of workings of miracles. I do not presume to present an exhaustive study, but I would like to give you a foundation upon which you can begin to work the Word on this subject. There are several synonymous words used in the Bible to describe these operations of God. Generally we use the term “miracle” to describe the manifestation of supernatural power. However the Bible uses a variety of terms, because no one term can possibly exhaust all the significance of a miracle. All the terms that are used refer to the exercise of divine power with different emphases.

Trench in *Synonyms of the New Testament* lists seven synonymous Greek words: *teras*, *sēmeion*, *dunamis*, *megaleion*, *endoxos*, *paradoxos*, and *thaumasios*. Although only *dunamis* and *sēmeion* are translated miracle in the King James Version of the Bible, all the above terms describe the wonderful, awe-producing, glorious, significant works of God. Since different terms are used to describe the same working we should not so much as think of different “classes or kinds of miracles” but of “different aspects or qualities or effects of the same miracle.” As Trench says, “Each term embodies some essential quality of the same thing; and not from the contemplation, exclusively, of any one, but only of all these together will an adequate conception of that which we desire to understand be obtained.”⁷³

Sign - *Sēmeion*⁷⁴

This word carries particular reference to the significance of the miracle to authenticate the miracle-worker or to demonstrate something of significance. When *sēmeion* is used the purpose of the miracle is most prominent and points out something as significant. The Gospel of John particularly notes the turning water to wine as the beginning of miracles, *sēmeion*, signs John 2:11. The second, the healing of the nobleman’s son, was noted in John 4:54, and so forth. A *sign* shows, by the proof or evidence furnished by one thing, the reality and genuineness of another. The miracles that Jesus Christ did authenticated that he was Messiah. Paul refers to the “signs of an apostle” in Corinthians. It occurs 77 times in the N.T. and is translated “sign” 50 times, “miracle” 23 times, “wonder” three times, and “token” once.

⁷³ Herbert Lockyer, *All the Miracles of the Bible*, Zondervan, Grand Rapids, MI 1961, p15.

⁷⁴ *Sēmeion* in the New Testament: Matthew 12:38,39; 16:1,3,4; 24:3,24,30; 26:48; Mark 8:11,12; 13:4,22; 16:17,20; Luke 2:12,34; 11:16,29,30; 21:7,11,25; 23:8; John 2:11,18; 2:23; 3:2; 4:48,54; 6:2,14,26,6:30; 7:31; 9:16; 10:41; 11:47; 12:18,37; 20:30; Acts 2:19,:22; 2:43; 4:16,22,30; 5:12; 6:8; 7:36; 8:6,13; 14:3; 15:12; Romans 4:11; 15:19; I Corinthians 1:22; 14:22; II Corinthians 12:12; II Thessalonians 2:9; 3:17; Hebrews 2:4; Revelation 12:1,3; 13:13,14; 15:1; 16:14; 19:20
Sēmeion in the LXX: Genesis 1:14; 4:15; 9:12; 9:13; 9:17; 17:11; Exodus 3:12; 4:8; 4:9; 4:17; 4:28; 4:30; 7:3; 7:9; 8:19; 10:1; 10:2; 11:9; 11:10; 12:13; 13:9; 13:16; 31:13; 31:17; Numbers 14:11; 14:22; 17:3; 17:25; 21:8; 21:9; 26:10; Deuteronomy 4:34; 6:8; 6:22; 7:19; 11:3; 11:18; 13:2; 13:3; 26:8; 28:46; 29:2; 34:11; Joshua 2:18; 4:6; Judges 20:38; I Samuel 2:34; 10:1; 10:7; 10:9; 14:10; II Kings 19:29; 20:8,9; 2 Chronicles 32:24; Nehemiah 9:10; Esther 4:17; 10:3; Psalms 64:9; 73:4; 73:9; 77:43; 85:17; 104:27; 134:9; Job 21:29; Isaiah 7:11; 7:14; 8:18; 11:12; 13:2; 18:3; 19:20; 20:3; 33:23; 37:30; 38:7; 38:22; 44:25; 55:13; 66:19; Jeremiah 6:1; 10:2; 28:12; 28:27; 31:9; 39:20; 39:21; 51:29; Ezekiel 4:3; 9:4,6; 20:12,20; 39:15; Daniel 4:37; 5:9

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

Miracle - *Dunamis*⁷⁵

Dunamis more generally refers to the inherent, potential power within the child of God once born again of God's spirit. It is also used of the working of that potential power or the manifesting of that power through the operations of God in the believer. We get our English word "dynamite" from it. *Dunamis* is used of God's explosive power, not just the potential of "dynamite," but the explosion of it in workings of miracles. When used as "miracle" the emphasis is on the power required for its performance. It occurs 120 times, and when used of miracles, it is translated "mighty work or deed" twelve times, "miracle" eight times, "virtue" three times, and "wonderful work" once.

Wonder - *Teras*⁷⁶

This word emphasizes the state of mind produced on the *eyewitnesses* when they see it. Astonishment and awe are excited in them as the extraordinary character of the miracle is observed and kept in the memory. "*Wonder*" emphasizes the amazing or surprising character of the event, and God's care demonstrated by it. "*Wonder*" is used 16 times (Only once in each Matthew, Mark, and John) and always occurs in the plural and with *sēmeion* or *dunamis*.

These three words are combined in several verses.

On the Day of Pentecost Peter speaks to those assembled saying:

Acts 2:22:

Ye men of Israel, hear these words; Jesus of Nazareth, a man approved of God among you by miracles [*dunamis*: mighty workings of God's power for His people] and wonders [*teras*: amazing demonstrations of God's care for his people] and signs [*sēmeion*: significant displays that authenticated his ministry to the people], which God did by him in the midst of you, as ye yourselves also know:

The next one is in II Corinthians chapter 12.

⁷⁵ *Dunamis* in the New Testament: Matthew 6:13; 7:22; 11:20,21,23; 13:54,58; 14:2; 22:29; 24:29,30; 25:15; 26:64; Mark 5:30; 6:2; 6:5; 6:14; 9:1; 9:39; 12:24; 13:25; 13:26; 14:62; Luke 1:17,35; 4:14,36; 5:17; 6:19; 8:46; 9:1; 10:13,19; 19:37; 21:26,27; 22:69; 24:49; Acts 1:8; 2:22; 3:12; 4:7,33; 6:8; 8:10,13; 10:38; 19:11; Romans 1:4,16,20; 8:38; 9:17; 15:13,19; I Corinthians 1:18,24; 2:4,5; 4:19,20; 5:4; 6:14; 12:10,28,29; 14:11; 15:24,43,56; II Corinthians 1:8; 4:7; 6:7; 8:3; 12:9,12; 13:4; Galatians 3:5; Ephesians 1:19,21; 3:7,16,20; Philippians 3:10; Colossians 1:11,29; I Thessalonians 1:5,7,11; II Thessalonians 2:9; II Timothy 1:7,8; 3:5; Hebrews 1:3; 2:4; 6:5; 7:16; 11:11; 11:34; I Peter 1:5; 3:22; II Peter 1:3,16; 2:11; Revelation 1:16; 3:8; 4:11; 5:12; 7:12; 11:17; 12:10; 13:2; 15:8; 17:13; 18:3; 19:1

Dunamis in the Lxx: It occurs 380 times, much too many to list here. Of course all of the occurrences of *dunamis* do not refer to miracles. Most refer to the usage as "power."

⁷⁶ *Teras* in the New Testament: Matthew 24:24; Mark 13:22; John 4:48; Acts 2:19,22,43; 4:30; 5:12; 6:8; 7:36; 14:3; 15:12; Romans 15:19; II Corinthians 12:12; II Thessalonians 2:9; Hebrews 2:4
Teras in the LXX: Exodus 4:21; 7:3; 7:9; 11:9; 11:10; 15:11; Deuteronomy 4:34; 6:22; 7:19; 11:3; 13:2; 13:3; 26:8; 28:46; 29:2; 34:11; I Kings 13:3,5; I Chronicles 16:12; II Chronicles 32:31; Esther 10:3; Psalms 45:9; 70:7; 77:43; 104:5; 104:27; 134:9; Joel 3:3; Isaiah 8:18; 20:3; 24:16; 28:29; Jeremiah 39:20,21; Ezekiel 12:6,11; 24:24,27; Daniel 4:37

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

II Corinthians 12:12:

Truly the signs [*sēmeion*] of an apostle were wrought among you in all patience, in signs [*sēmeion*: significant displays that authenticated his ministry to the people], and wonders [*teras*: amazing demonstrations of God's care for his people], and mighty deeds [*dunamis*: mighty workings of God's power for His people].

Hebrews 2:3,4:

How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard *him*; God also bearing *them* witness, both with signs [*sēmeion*: significant displays that authenticated their ministry to the people] and wonders [*teras*: amazing demonstrations of God's care for his people], and with divers miracles [*dunamis*: mighty workings of God's power for His people], and gifts of the Holy Ghost, according to his own will? [Who's will? Yes, God's will.]

God wants something done, and He allows us the privilege to be involved. He wants to work with us. That is what we are concerned about getting done—God's will. We are not so interested in our little agendas and what we want done.

Other Descriptive Words

We read about how the conception of Jesus was miraculous. Mary described the miracle of the conception of Jesus Christ as a “great thing.”

Luke 1:49:

For he that is mighty [*dunatos*, adjective from the same root as *dunamis*, having *dunamis*] hath done to me great things [*megaleion*, emphasizing great esteem for the thing accomplished]; and holy *is* his name.

The multitude which understood the tongues spoken on the Day of Pentecost described the miracle as a “wonderful work.” The twelve each spoke in several tongues which switched from one to another as they walked around.

Acts 2:11:

Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works [*megaleion*, emphasizing great esteem for the thing accomplished] of God.

After Jesus healed the woman with the spirit of infirmity, the people described the miracle as a glorious thing.

Luke 13:17:

And when he had said these things, all his adversaries were ashamed: and all the people rejoiced for all the glorious things [*endoxos*, emphasizing how the result glorified God] that were done by him.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

You cannot just study one of these words and think you know it all. His working is so big, we will never understand it all. We will just keep working the Word and learn more about it.

After seeing the events surrounding the healing of the man with palsy the people described the miracle as a strange or remarkable thing.

Luke 5:26:

And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear [reverence; the positive aspect], saying, We have seen strange [remarkable] things [*paradoxos*, emphasizing how the result glorified God] to day.

The Word calls Jesus' healings of the blind and lame in the temple as "wonderful things."

Matthew 21:15:

And when the chief priests and scribes saw the wonderful things [*thaumasios*, emphasizes the admiration for the one doing it] that he did, and the children crying in the temple, and saying, Hosanna to the Son of David; they were sore displeased,

They saw the admiration the people had for Jesus. The people loved Jesus and came from miles to just be with him. *Thaumasios* emphasizes the admiration for the one doing the miracle.

The recounting of God's deliverance from the land of bondage is also spoken of as "works," "wonders," and "marvelous things."

Psalm 78:10-16:

They kept not the covenant of God, and refused to walk in his law;

11 And forgat his **works**, and his **wonders** that he had shewed them.

12 **Marvellous things** did he in the sight of their fathers, in the land of Egypt, *in* the field of Zoan. [Now He lists some of them.]

13 He divided the sea, and caused them to pass through; and he made the waters to stand as an heap.

14 In the daytime also he led them with a cloud, and all the night with a light of fire.

15 He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave *them* drink as *out of* the great depths.

16 He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers.

Psalm 105:5:

Remember his marvellous works that he hath done; his wonders, and the judgments of his mouth;

Why is it important to remember those things. Because they are over and past and you will never see them again! NO! We remember so we can properly anticipate more happening. This is the way God works; God has not changed. We expect Him to

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

continue to act as He has done before. He does not change.⁷⁷ We remember so we can anticipate more happening.

Isaiah 29:14a:

Therefore, behold, I will proceed to do a marvellous work among this people, *even* a marvellous work and a wonder....

The Gospel of John generically refers to Jesus' miracles as "works." (Greek *ergon* used 176 times in the New Testament. It only occurs nine times in Matthew, Mark, and Luke, and 27 times in John.) They asked Jesus, "What must we do to **work the works** of God?"⁷⁸ When Jesus spoke of the healing of the man born blind he said, "I must **work the works** of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can **work**."⁷⁹ Jesus described what he did as the works of God. They are called "workings of miracles." If we do not do the work, they will not happen.

Everyone has the *dunamis*, but unless it is energized, it will not work. God divides as we will to do. Working of a miracle is quite a descriptive phrase. "Working" is *energeō*, energizing, and "miracle" is *dunamis*, potential power. It is the energizing of the potential power. It is the explosion that results from lighting the dynamite. Jesus said, "I must work the works of Him that sent me." That is exactly what we get to do, too.

John 5:36:

But I have greater witness than *that* of John: for the works which the Father hath given me to finish, the same works that I do, bear witness of me, that the Father hath sent me. (See also: 7:21; 10:25,32,37,38 etc.).

These are just some of the words God uses when speaking of the operation of His wonderful power in the lives of believers. Throughout the scriptures God has declared His nature and His love for His people. He has demonstrated and proven His will and love with signs, miracles, and wonders. He confirms His Word with signs following to authenticate the message and demonstrate His power to bring His will to pass. The last verse in the Gospel of Mark, which presents Jesus Christ as Jehovah's servant, shows how God continued to work with His servants after the ascension of Jesus Christ.

Mark 16:20:

And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

It is the speaking of the Word that opens the doors for the signs, miracles, and wonders. We speak it everywhere. If we want the Lord working with us, we will have to speak His Word. Later Paul declared how God worked mightily with him, also. When we speak the truth of God's Word, God is going to confirm it.

⁷⁷ Malachi 3:6

⁷⁸ John 6:28

⁷⁹ John 9:3

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

Romans 15:18,19:

For I will not dare to speak of any of those things which Christ hath not wrought by me, to make the Gentiles obedient, by word and deed,

19 Through mighty [*dunamis*, miraculous] signs [*sēmeion*] and wonders [*teras*], by the power of the Spirit of God; so that from Jerusalem, and round about unto Illyricum, I have fully preached the gospel of Christ.

Biblically signs, miracles, and wonders are associated with the preaching of the gospel. God uses them as a calling card or business card. They get people's attention so they will hear the good news. Throughout the Book of Acts we see the believers continuing in the instruction and doing signs, miracles, and wonders.

Acts 2:43:

And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders [*teras*] and signs [*sēmeion*] were done by the apostles.

Acts 5:12a:

And by the hands of the apostles were many signs [*sēmeion*] and wonders [*teras*] wrought among the people....

Barnabas also did the same as he and Paul continued to move the Word together.

Acts 14:3:

Long time therefore abode they [Paul and Barnabas] speaking boldly in the Lord, which gave testimony unto the word of his grace, and granted signs [*sēmeion*] and wonders [*teras*] to be done by their hands.

When they got back they told the believers all about it, too.

Acts 15:12:

Then all the multitude kept silence, and gave audience to Barnabas and Paul, declaring what miracles [*sēmeion*] and wonders [*teras*] God had wrought among the Gentiles by them.

God confirms His Word with signs following. We must remember the centrality and importance of God's Word. God magnified His Word above the rest of His creation. It declares His will and purposes. It directs us to worship God in spirit and in truth. The manifestations are part of His revealed Word and will and are necessary if the believer is to live in the wisdom and power of God. When we, like Jesus, speak God's words on lips of believing we, too, will see healings and miracles occur at our command in obedience to our words.⁸⁰

⁸⁰ Matthew 8:27: But the men marvelled, saying, What manner of man is this, that even the winds and the sea obey him!

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

**Satan Uses Signs and Lying Wonders to
Try to Deceive Even the Elect**

The words we just studied regarding signs, miracles, and wonders are not only used of the workings of the True God, but they are also used of the signs, miracles, and lying wonders that Satan uses to attempt to deceive even the elect of God.⁸¹

II Thessalonians 2:9,10:

Even him [referring to the wicked one of verse 8], whose coming is after the working of Satan with all power [*dunamis*] and signs [*sēmeion*] and lying [*pseudos*] wonders [*teras*],

10 And with all deceivableness of unrighteousness in them that perish; because they received [*dechomai*] not the love [*agapē*] of the truth, that they might be saved.

That is why love is so important. When we love the truth... when we want to know the truth... when our hearts cry out to know the One True God... Then we are much less likely to be deceived by lying, signs, miracles, and wonders. Notice that it does not say “lying powers” or “lying signs.” It says “lying wonders.” The power is real, and its manifestation signifies something or someone as noteworthy. What is false is the awe and wonder it produces in the eyewitnesses. Awe and wonder rightly reserved for God, is stolen deceitfully by those operating devil spirit power.

It is our love for the truth that guards us from being deceived. If you just want to see power, then go to wicca meetings... go to séances... go to the local hypnotist. You may find power there, but you will find little truth. People who do not love the truth, can get fooled by the power. That is why it is so important for us to rightly divide the Word and hold fast to it. We must not let the experience of seeing the power, signs, and lying wonders seduce us. We must keep ourselves pure and uncontaminated by the evil.⁸²

II Thessalonians 2:11,12:

And for this cause God shall send them strong delusion, that they should believe a lie: [Do you want to believe a lie?]

12 That they all might be damned who believed not the truth, but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Do you want to find pleasure in unrighteousness? Many people find pleasure in unrighteousness and run away from the pressures of the world. They drink; they do drugs. They forget their problems by hiding on the internet. There are a lot of different ways people find pleasure in unrighteousness. Our pleasure is in the truth of the Word and helping people with it.

If you were the devil would you make unrighteousness unpleasurable? Yes, we may get fooled and tricked at times, but it is our love for God and His truth that keeps us testing and proving His Word. God's Word works for those who work it... those whose hearts thrill to know Him through His Word. His Word will be confirmed with signs

⁸¹ See also Revelation 13:12-14; 16:13,14; 19:20

⁸² II Thessalonians 3:3; John 17:14-19

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

following. The greatest thing that keeps us unaffected in this area is our love for the truth.

Jesus not only declared that signs would follow believers, but also warned that to seek after signs was dangerous. In Mark 8:12 and Luke 11:29 he talks about an evil generation seeking a sign. Satan's counterfeits abound, but they should not deter us in our pursuit to walk by the spirit and *Minister With God's Power*.

Matthew 24:24:

For there shall arise false Christs, and false prophets, and shall shew great signs and wonders; insomuch that, if *it were* possible, they shall deceive the very elect.

The adversary wants to take out the top men, the elect, God's kids. You are too valuable to God. That is why we stay put on this WORD! That is why we say chapter and verse, please! Why does God say rejoice in the Lord, if I cannot control it. How can He command me to do something, if I have no control over it. It has to be a counterfeit.

Exodus 7:8-12,20-22:

And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, saying,

9 When Pharaoh shall speak unto you, saying, Shew a miracle for you: then thou shalt say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and cast *it* before Pharaoh, *and* it shall become a serpent.

10 And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and **they did so as the LORD had commanded**: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent.

11 Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments.

12 For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods...

20 And Moses and Aaron **did so, as the LORD commanded**; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that *were* in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants; and all the waters that *were* in the river were turned to blood.

21 And the fish that *was* in the river died; and the river stank, and the Egyptians could not drink of the water of the river; and there was blood throughout all the land of Egypt.

22 And the magicians of Egypt did so with their enchantments: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, neither did he hearken unto them; as the LORD had said.

There is plenty of genuine healing done by ministers of God. There is plenty of counterfeit healing done, too. Remember they accused Jesus of doing his mighty works by Beelzebub, the prince of the devils. That is how the counterfeit works; bigger devil spirits in the ministers tell the little spirits in the sick people what to do. That is how the seven sons of Sceva, the chief priests in Acts 19, did it.

Exodus 8:6,7,17-19:

And Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt; and the frogs came up, and covered the land of Egypt.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

7 And the magicians did so with their enchantments, and brought up frogs upon the land of Egypt....

17 And they did so; for Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod, and smote the dust of the earth, and it became lice in man, and in beast; all the dust of the land became lice throughout all the land of Egypt.

18 And the magicians did so with their enchantments to bring forth lice, but they could not: so there were lice upon man, and upon beast.

19 Then the magicians said unto Pharaoh, This *is* the finger of God: and Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he hearkened not unto them; as the LORD had said.

Simply producing a sign, miracle, or wonder is not enough. If those miraculous things are designed to draw people away from the true God and His love, they are not from God. If it brings glory to the man and not God, it is not from God.

Deuteronomy 13:1-3:

If there arise among you a prophet, or a dreamer of dreams, and giveth thee a sign or a wonder,

2 And the sign or the wonder come to pass, whereof he spake unto thee, saying, Let us go after other gods, which thou hast not known, and let us serve them;

3 Thou shalt not hearken unto the words of that prophet, or that dreamer of dreams: for the LORD your God proveth you, to know whether ye love the LORD your God with all your heart and with all your soul.

The point is not: Does the sign or wonder happen? But rather, what is the purpose; what is behind it; what is the profit from it. If it takes you after other gods it is wrong. It is not genuine.

They do these false signs and wonders to get people to follow after other gods. You can see it in wicca. You can see it in the occult. You can see it in meditation where people levitate off the ground. You can see it in pagan religions. People want so badly to be loved they will do anything. They will make "love potions," say chants, and do anything, just to get people to love them. If it works, they are happy; even if they have to sell their souls to do it. We can get involved and bring them deliverance. We can show them genuine love of God. We can show them the genuine power of God and tell them what Jesus Christ can do for them.

Yes, there is power, but there is no truth. I do not care if the sign happens. I do not care if everyone else is mesmerized by it and deceived; don't you be.

**Freewill Distinguishes Between God at Work in Peoples' Lives
and the Counterfeit.**

God will never take away your freewill choice. God will never "use" you without your compliance. He works together with us. For example the phenomena called "being slain by the spirit"⁸³ is not from God. Do you see that in the Word? Is that the tenth manifestation?

⁸³ See Appendix 3, Slain By The Spirit.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

The only examples of falling I find in the Bible is where people fall down prostrate in worship or in fear, and even then, they are usually told to get up. Cornelius falls down and worships Peter, and Peter says, "Get up!"⁸⁴ Ezekiel in the Old Testament falls down in awe of the glory of God and he is told to get up.⁸⁵ However, on no occasions did they ever lose consciousness. On none of those occasions did they ever go blank or get knock out, because the angel or whoever talked to them. They were conscious; they knew what was going on.

Why would God want us to lose consciousness when it takes our consciousness to worship Him... to acknowledge Him and His goodness in our lives. It takes our consciousness to operate manifestations and speak in tongues. Why would He take that away so we could not do it? Why would God ever knock you unconscious? When would God ever not want you to know what is going on?

How about uncontrollable laughing? Where is the profit in it? Where does the Word talk about it? Where did anyone break into uncontrollable laughter before Jesus? Does the word "uncontrollable" give you a clue? We are to always be in control, so we can worship God as we will.

Hypnosis is another example. People go to someone to get hypnotized so they can stop smoking. Is that how God works? Does he take away or override our freewill? If there is something overriding our freewill, then there is the presence of something that should not be there.

So what if people say, "Praise God!" So what if people say, "Hallelujah!" Who are they praising? They are praising that God who slayed them, and as far as I can see from the Word that god is not the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. They are "proving how spiritual they are" by giving their will over to the spirit who knocks them out. Why would God say that the manifestations work as we will, and then take our will away so that we could not work them. We have to will to do them; we have to keep our will active and controlled so we can do them. Our freewill is important. I know sometimes we get lazy and want God to make us do things. That is such devilish, lazy, worldly thinking.

When did Jesus ever slay anyone in the spirit? When did he ever hit someone on the forehead? When did Jesus ever cause someone to laugh uncontrollably?⁸⁶ When did Jesus ever put someone into a trance and then say, "When you awake you will no longer have a withered hand." God does not work that way. The Word is the standard, and if you do not stay put on the standard you will end up believing a lie and taking pleasure in unrighteousness. It is your decision.

I need to qualify what I just said a bit. There have been instances when I have ministered and took spirits out of people where the spirit has caused them to fall. It is like they are instantly drained of strength, and they can no longer support themselves. That is why I generally have people sit down before I begin removing unclean spirits.

⁸⁴ Acts 10:25,26

⁸⁵ Ezekiel 1:28-2:1; 3:23; 43:3,4.

⁸⁶ People could also ask, "When did Jesus speak in tongues?" He never did. He had to die, arise from the dead, ascend to heaven, and on Pentecost make it available. Jesus never spoke in tongues, but he taught his disciples how to receive the holy spirit when it became available. (John 20:22) God's Word in Acts and the church epistles records many examples of God's people doing it. Where in Acts or the church epistles does it teach about "slain in the spirit" or "uncontrollable laughter."

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

However, in none of those cases did the individuals lose consciousness; I immediately spoke to them and they responded to my voice.

When Jesus removed the spirit from the child in Mark 9, the child fell down and was motionless; they thought he was dead. There is no indication that he lost consciousness for Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up. It was not God or Jesus that did it. It was the spirit that did it when it left. When the spirit left it threw him on the ground. When someone is slain by the spirit it is a devil spirit, not the spirit of God, that throws them to the ground. The boy was delivered from unclean spirits, which rent him sore when it left. Jesus did not touch the child's forehead causing him to fall down "under the anointing." The child was not "slain in the spirit for the sake of being slain in the spirit." The end that Jesus sought was not for the child to fall down, but to be delivered from his captivity.

We must always protect our freewill. We never give our will over to anyone for any reason.

Jeremiah 5:1,2:

Run ye to and fro through the streets of **Jerusalem**, and see now, and know, and seek in the broad places thereof, if ye can find a man, if there be *any* that executeth judgment, that seeketh the truth; and I will pardon **it**.

2 And though they say, The LORD liveth; surely they swear **falsely**....⁸⁷

I do not care what they say. So what if they cry, "Jehovah liveth!" If they declare that Jehovah does what Jehovah says in his Word He does not do, who do you think is lying? It is no different today.

Jeremiah 5:11-14:

For the house of Israel and the house of Judah have dealt very treacherously against me, saith the LORD.

12 They have belied the LORD, and said, *It is* not he; neither shall evil come upon us; neither shall we see sword nor famine: [After God said they would.]

13 And the **prophets** shall become wind, and the word *is* not in them: thus shall it be done unto them.

14 Wherefore thus saith the LORD God of hosts, Because ye speak this word, behold, I will make my words in thy [Jeremiah's] mouth fire, and this people wood, and it shall devour them....

We never want to ever let ourselves get to that place ... Where we go after lies... Where we are just blown about by every wind of doctrine following others to our own destruction.

Jeremiah 5:23-31:

But this people hath a revolting and a rebellious heart; they are revolted and gone.

⁸⁷ Now Jehovah did live. That was not a falsehood. What was a false was the way they misrepresented Jehovah. When they spoke of Him they were swearing falsely. What they said He did, He did not do. What they revered was not the Jehovah of the Bible, but the brand that they were promoting at the time.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

24 Neither say they in their heart, Let us now fear the LORD our God, that giveth rain, both the former and the latter, in his season: he reserveth unto us the appointed weeks of the harvest.

25 Your iniquities have turned away these *things*, and your sins have withholden good *things* from you.

26 For among my people are found wicked *men*: they lay wait, as he that setteth snares; they set a trap, they catch men. [We do not want to be caught. We want to be on our feet and stay on our toes, so we do not get caught.]

27 As a cage is full of birds, so *are* their houses full of deceit: therefore they are become great, and waxen rich.

28 They are waxen fat, they shine: yea, they overpass the deeds of the wicked: they judge not the cause, the cause of the fatherless, yet they prosper; and the right of the needy do they not judge.

29 Shall I not visit for these *things*? saith the LORD: shall not my soul be avenged on such a nation as this?

30 A wonderful and horrible thing is committed in the land;

31 **The prophets prophesy falsely, and the priests bear rule by their means; and my people love to have it so: and what will ye do in the end thereof?**

Basically people get what they want... what they desire. The reason the priests were prophesying falsely is because that is what the people wanted. They did not want the truth. They just wanted to keep doing what they had been doing. Today people are taught that being slain in the spirit is a sign of spirituality, and they go after it. They want a work to boast about. They want to establish their own righteousness. Nothing you can do can make you one iota more righteous. Our identity in Christ is the bedrock of our lives, nothing we do can ever supplant or replace it.

Ask, "What is the profit in the long run." When people get tired of being used and abused they can always go somewhere else. Until they see that what they are enduring is not from God, they will sit in the middle of it and wonder what in the world is going on.

Jeremiah 14:14:

Then the LORD said unto me, The **prophets** prophesy lies in my name: I sent them not, neither have I commanded them, neither spake unto them: they prophesy unto you a **false** vision and divination, and a thing of nought, and the deceit of their heart.

This is what happened to God's people. Do not let it happen to you. Demand God's best from your leaders and from yourself. We have to be smarter than that. Divination and other forms of the occult can only cause problems for people. The occult is not something you want to dabble in or express curiosity for. Any apparent good that comes out of occult involvement is dearly paid for in the long run.

Jesus Christ warned people of this.

Matthew 7:15-20:

Beware of **false prophets**, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

16 Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles?

17 Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit.

18 A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither *can* a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit.

19 Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire.

20 Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them.

Their words may sound good, but we to judge them by their fruit. Everyone uses the Word of God. What is the fruit? What do you see in their lives?

Matthew 7:21-27:

Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven; but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven.

22 Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name have cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? [*Dunamis*]

23 And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

24 Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and **doeth them**, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock:

25 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock.

26 And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and **doeth them not**, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand:

27 And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house; and it fell: and great was the fall of it.

Let me ask you a question. What is the difference between the two men? Does the man who stands for God have no problems, and the godless man have all the problems? It does not say that, does it? It says the rains and storms of life come upon all. What is the difference? The difference is that one man does the Word and that man will endure the storms of life. The wise man has built a sure foundation on the Word that takes him through the storms of life. Paul made it through the shipwreck when everyone else had given up. He took charge and got everyone else through it, too. Those without the foundation of the Word are taken out by the storms of life.

Obedience is the key. If you think you will not have storms in your life, maybe you ought to reread that section. It does not say that believers will not have storms; it says the believer will endure them. How can you be more than a conqueror if you never face any adversity? ... if you never have anything to conquer? ... if everything is down hill, and you only have to coast in life? We have an adversary, but God will never leave us or forsake us. Our victory is our faith that God is good always and that He will deliver us. Faith is not believing that God can deliver us; it is knowing that He has delivered us.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

We do not have time to follow after other ministries and speak evil of them... or point out where they err. If they are off the Word, their work will come to nought. We just need to teach and preach and heal with the authority Jesus Christ gave us.

Matthew 7:28,29:

And it came to pass, when Jesus had ended these sayings, the people were astonished at his doctrine:

29 For he taught them as *one* having authority, and not as the scribes.

We have power and authority. We have power of attorney to use the name of Jesus Christ. There is no greater name! Everything bows to it. If what I say and do offends people, I am sorry. That is not my intent. I just want to do my Father's will and work together with Him.

Matthew 15:12-14:

Then came his disciples, and said unto him, Knowest thou that the Pharisees were offended, after they heard this saying?

13 But he answered and said, Every plant, which my heavenly Father hath not planted, shall be rooted up.

14 Let them alone: they be blind leaders of the blind. And if the blind lead the blind, both shall fall into the ditch.

Do not be concerned with what others think or how they feel. Just do what God tells you to do. We do not have to police the whole world. We are not God's Gestapo. If we hear them cry for help from the ditch, then we can go pull them out.

Acts 8:9-13:

But there was a certain man, called Simon, which beforetime in the same city used sorcery, and bewitched the people of Samaria, giving out that himself was some great one:

10 To whom they all gave heed, from the least to the greatest, saying, This man is the great power of God.

11 And to him they had regard, because that of long time he had bewitched them with sorceries.

12 But when they believed Philip preaching the things concerning the kingdom of God, and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women.

13 Then Simon himself believed also: and when he was baptized, he continued with Philip, and wondered, beholding the miracles and signs which were done.

Simon could not understand working miracles and signs by freewill and not by possession. That is how he had done it before, by possession. But possession cannot keep someone from being born again of God's spirit. Even though Simon was possessed, the spirits could not keep Simon from being born again. Simon believed and was born again. However, he still needed deliverance from the gall of bitterness and the bond of iniquity, and he gets it when Peter and John get there.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

Acts 13:6-12:

And when they had gone through the isle unto Paphos, they found a certain sorcerer, a **false prophet**, a Jew, whose name *was* Barjesus:

7 Which was with the deputy of the country, Sergius Paulus, a prudent man; who called for Barnabas and Saul, and desired to hear the word of God.

8 But Elymas the sorcerer (for so is his name by interpretation) withstood them, seeking to turn away the deputy from the faith.⁸⁸

9 Then Saul, (who also *is called* Paul,) filled with the Holy Ghost, set his eyes on him,

10 And said, O full of all subtilty and all mischief, *thou* child of the devil, *thou* enemy of all righteousness, wilt thou not cease to pervert the right ways of the Lord?

11 And now, behold, the hand of the Lord *is* upon thee, and thou shalt be blind, not seeing the sun for a season. And immediately there fell on him a mist and a darkness; and he went about seeking some to lead him by the hand.

12 Then the deputy, when he saw what was done, believed, being astonished at the doctrine of the Lord.

There is no one who can withstand us when we are holding forth the Word. When evil people operating devil spirit power oppose us, we can put them out of commission (like Elijah did with the prophets of Baal). Even those born of the seed of the devil cannot stop the power of God that we operate. The hold that they exercise over people can be broken and shattered as we walk by the spirit and operate the power of God.

II Peter 2:1-3:

But there were **false prophets** also among the people, even as there shall be **false** teachers among you [So, do not be surprised when it happens. Do something about it.], who privily shall bring in damnable heresies, even denying the Lord that bought them, and bring upon themselves swift destruction.

2 And many shall follow their pernicious ways; by reason of whom the way of truth shall be evil spoken of.

3 And through covetousness shall they with feigned words make merchandise of you: whose judgment now of a long time lingereth not, and their damnation slumbereth not.

Do not let people make merchandise of you. Do not let people use you... handle you as if you were a commodity, where your only worth is what you can do for them... what they can get out of you. Stand against their heresies and speak up. We are responsible to rightly divide the scriptures. When you have questions speak up! Ask, confront, reprove, prove all things.

⁸⁸ You will notice that Paul did not deliver this man. Neither did he let the devilish influence in the man's life stop him from ministering to the deputy. If spirits try to resist or hinder you, take charge and do not let them.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

I John 4:1:

Beloved, believe not every spirit, but try the spirits whether they are of God: because many **false prophets** are gone out into the world.

Do not just accept everything everyone says. Take it to the Word, prove it. I appreciate you all being here. I appreciate your love and excitement, but do not blindly swallow everything I say, just because I say it. However, if I am speaking the word of God I trust that you will receive it as such (like Paul said in I Thessalonians 2:13).

Does this fit with the Word? Does this help me out? Does this bring me closer to God? Does this help me realize who I am in Jesus Christ? The question is not, "Is the Word confronting?" The Word is good for doctrine, reproof, and correction. The Word should be confronting. If I am not confronted in a teaching, I wonder if the teacher did his job. You may not always like it, but is it true? Does God confirm what is taught by speaking to you about it? God will talk to your heart. God works in you, and that is the only way you will know. If you are fighting it, then you decide. Am I fighting God or am I fighting bad habits? Am I fighting devil spirits that are trying to run me out of here, or am I fighting God? You figure it out. It is your life.

II Corinthians 11:13-15:

For such *are* false apostles, deceitful workers, transforming themselves into the apostles of Christ.

14 And no marvel; for Satan himself is transformed into an angel of light.

15 Therefore *it is* no great thing if his ministers also be transformed as the ministers of righteousness; whose end shall be according to their works.

They know all the right things to say. They know all the clichés. They say, "Praise the Lord! Give God the glory, brother!" It is the Word that is the standard. We do not seek signs and wonders; what we seek is the truth. We seek the truth, and we want a relationship with our heavenly Father. That will help us keep everything in proper perspective.

We should see signs, miracles, and wonders when the Word is rightly divided. Our allegiance should remain with God, and we should enjoy Him working with us to will and to do of His good pleasure.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 9: Signs, Miracles, and Wonders

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

Preview of Casting Out Devil Spirits

In *Casting Out Devil Spirits* we will see that devil spirits work in secret and try to weave their way into people's lives. They can enter through trauma and curiosity of the supernatural. It is not God's will for believers to have consistent, chronic problems. Many times these are due to devil spirits. Preaching and teaching God's Word opens doors for people to identify problems and go for deliverance. This session includes some practical keys and techniques for exercising our authority and power over the devil spirit realm and to cast them out.

Introduction

In *Led By God's Power*, I taught about the two kingdoms—God's kingdom and the devil's kingdom. Devil spirits, evil spirits, unclean spirits, and demons—whatever you want to call them—are all part of the devil's kingdom, the fallen third. They are his subjects, and they do his bidding. They have different names and different functions. For example, a devil spirit that deceives people to believe a lie rather than the truth is called a deceiving spirit. A devil spirit that keeps people afraid is named *fear*. Remember II Timothy 2:7: "God has not given us the spirit of fear."

In the Word of God, Jesus commands an unclean spirit to name itself. It said its name was *Legion* because there were many. No matter what its name, its intent is the same as their boss', to steal and to kill and to destroy. They torment people and endeavor to hurt and ruin their lives. That is not what God wants.

Some other spirits are depression, oppression, lying, suicide, murder, death, strife, envy, anger, wrath, rage, violence, fantasies, hallucinations, hurt, pain, rebellious, cutting. In the sexual category you have sodomy, nymphomaniac, homosexuality, lesbianism, sadism, bestiality, lust, and so on. There are many, many names.

**They Work in Secret and Try to Weave Their Way
into the Lives of People**

They weave their way into people's lives in a number of ways. **Trauma** is one such way. Trauma itself does not give access to somebody's life. We all experience trauma in our lives at one point or another. It is traumatic when you lose somebody, when a family member or a friend dies. How one responds to trauma may open doors and give evil spirits access. If people are not helped through their trauma with love and God's Word, but are left alone without counsel and understanding, spirits can weave their way in and get into the minds and bodies of people (including children, teens, adults, and older persons).

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

What kind of trauma can do this? Molestation is one kind. We think of child molestation, but there are other kinds of molestation. Rape or even attempted rape can be very traumatic, as can physical or mental abuse, a devastating injury, or disease. War is another one. Soldiers from the Viet Nam war are still dealing with stuff after all these years. They get traumatized because “war is hell,” as they say.⁸⁹ The death of a loved one, a broken marriage, or home, a relationship gone bad, job loss—all can be traumatic. Trauma is a big thing.

Whenever people hang on to their fears, anger, or hurt they are prime candidates for devil spirits to enter their physical bodies to cause torment, hurt, and even bring destruction to their lives and to others. People need to get rid of the cause of their fear. Remember I said, “Get rid of your fear?” If you get afraid that does not mean, “Uh oh, here they come.” but if you hang on to it, you invite problems. Get rid of fear. The same way with anger and hurt, unforgiveness—whatever it is—get it resolved. This is important especially for you parents working with your children. A lot of things happen during childhood or teens. Get things resolved. Cast away your fears. Cast them away with perfect love. That is what the Word says in I John 4:18.

Ephesians 4:26,27:

Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath:

27 Neither give place to the devil.

Ephesians 4:26,27: [Amplified Bible]

When angry, do not sin; do not ever let your wrath (your exasperation, your fury or indignation) last until the sun goes down.

27 Leave no [such] room *or* foothold for the devil [give no opportunity to him].

It says to resolve your anger; do not carry it into the next day. To sin would be to hang on to it. Anger is an emotion. It is part of us, right? Like it says in Ecclesiastes 3:1: “To every *thing there* is a season, and a time to every purpose under heaven:” There is a time and a place for it. In Mark 3, Jesus got angry when he was helping the man with the withered hand. He looked at the people with anger because of the hardness of their hearts, but I guarantee to you, he did not hang onto it. There is a time to be angry. We should be angry at the devil, right? Anger and hurt lead to unforgiveness and bitterness. In Hebrews 12:15 it talks about the root of bitterness. It can be a root, and when it gets deep down, it is tough to get rid of.

These are ways that people get devil spirits. Some traumatic thing happens; they hang on to fear. It works the same with hurt. You hang on to it, then you get bitter and you do not want to forgive. Then we are working with folks we just say, “Why don’t you get rid of that?” So they do. It is a sin to hang on to it. Nobody is worth staying angry at or being bitter towards because they do something really horrible to you. Who is behind that? The devil. We wrestle not against flesh and blood but against principalities the powers of this world. You do not like what the people did to you, but they were used. If you are going to get angry, get angry at the devil and his crew because they are the ones that deserve it.

Another way that unclean spirits get in is through **curiosity of the supernatural**. It always seems to be so attractive, especially to the youth. You have Wicca (witchcraft), which is popular among the teens. Incidentally, the Wicca creed is: *Harm no one, do*

⁸⁹ First attributed to General William Tecumseh Sherman 1820-1891.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

what you will. Now is that a big lie or what? How are you going to do what you want to and not hurt somebody else? That is like absolute freedom. Some groups think we should have absolute freedom in this country. You cannot have absolute freedom because absolute freedom means I can do what I will. Maybe I want to sacrifice your child tomorrow. I do not think that would go over, would it? You cannot have that. Here their creed is *harm no one*, when really what they do is have potions to try to control somebody. Don't you think that is going to harm someone and make them do what they do not want to do? They go to an Ouija board or to a séance. These paths lead to destruction and you end up worshipping devils, and you do not even know it. God makes it very clear about this activity.

Deuteronomy 18:10-12:

There shall not be found among you *any one* that maketh his son or his daughter to pass through the fire, *or* that useth divination, *or* an observer of times, or an enchanter, or a witch,

11 Or a charmer, or a consulter with familiar spirits, or a wizard, or a necromancer.

12 For all that do these things *are* an abomination unto the LORD: and because of these abominations the LORD thy God doth drive them out from before thee.

These things always involve devils spirits and they are after your worship in one form or another. What happens when a person confesses and believes Romans 10: 9 and 10? When he believes that Jesus is Lord and God raised him from the dead, they get born again of God's spirit. They become sons and daughters of God. They receive God's inheritance. They become righteous, sanctified, redeemed, justified before God. Their slate becomes clean. But, what about the problems believers still have in their lives after the new birth?

New believers still have the same old mind. That is why the Word of God encourages us to renew our mind; we just decide to do what the Word says. If you did some of these things in the past, the habits might still be there. You might get your slate cleaned one minute and in the next minute you are back in your habit opening up doors again, and they are back in. God cleaned us up spiritually, but we need to renew our minds to the Word of God and believe what He says about us.

We know who we are in Christ. We claim our inheritance, our freedom, and our independence from the kingdom of the world. I am not saying everyone has devil spirits occupying his mind or his body. We are born in the god of this world's domain, therefore we have been exposed to his kingdom and his rule. If we do not believe what the Word of God says, then we are susceptible to this. When we are born again, we change kingdoms. We are now part of God's kingdom, yet we still live in the world.

When I see believers that have a chronic problem, I know that it is not God's will for their lives. It is God's will for everybody to be healed no matter what it is or how long you have had it, from birth or even if you die He wants you to get up and live for Him. Especially when I see someone trying to change things, and they never quite get there. Then it is a good idea to check. Just maybe they have spirits that are obstructing them, hindering them, causing them to not get delivered. God wants us delivered.

Jesus Christ's ministry was one of deliverance. He preached the word of deliverance; he taught it; he healed and he cast out spirits. This does not make a person evil or bad. If

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

you have a squatter, it just means the rats have snuck on in this way; it does not mean you are bad. It does not make you a horrible person or an evil person. Yet some have allowed themselves to become captive, and they need to be freed.

The devil and his kingdom and his subjects are evil, and their product is evil. The devil has his machinery set up in the world to cause evil in individuals, families, communities, nations, and the world. The devil and his spirits hate God and they hate God's children. Why? Because when we accepted the Lord Jesus Christ, he lost all legal power over us. Once a believer realizes his position in Christ and he chooses to walk in that authority and the power that he has been given in Christ, the devil loses his grip and hold on that believer. If a believer does not know what he has, or does not walk in the authority and power that he has, then the devil will continue to dominate him. Not because he has a legal right, but because he allows it, maybe unknowingly. He lets the spirits squat on what is legally his as if it were their legal right.

No sickness or devil spirit has a right to you and me. We are the Lord Jesus Christ's; we are God's. We are one of His kids, and God wants hands off. If you allow that to happen, that is living with a lie. It is freewill choice to do so. He will occupy and influence you until you kick him out, get him off your land. The devil knows he has no right over you, but that does not stop him from seeing how serious you are about claiming your inheritance, crossing your Jordan. If you do not know your rights or you do not know what is yours then he will claim it and take it for his own. The devil has no right over you unless you give it. He can only try to trick you or bribe you or pressure you into giving in. That is all he has left, but it is sad to say, he has been too darn successful and that is what we are going to do something about.

Jesus cast out the unclean spirits. He freed those that were demonized, and those that were captive, he set free. Jesus said in Mark 16:17, "In my name shall they cast out devils."

John 14:12:

Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that believeth on me, the works that I do shall he do also; and greater *works* than these shall he do; because I go unto my Father.

It is part of our privilege, as a son of God, to walk in power and authority. God wants His people freed. He wants you free, and He wants your neighbor free. He wants everybody free.

There are some things we need to recognize concerning this topic. Different countries and cultures (especially third world countries and poor nations) have a different attitude about the subject of devil spirits and their possession of people and animals. For example, in India, Sangat Bains shares a lot of different records and stories of people being delivered. They believe in the supernatural.

In our culture, we train our kids right away to believe in something that does not exist (like Santa Claus), then when they get to be adults they have a hard time believing in God. I wonder why. Do you see how the god of this world is intertwined in our culture? In India, they grow up believing in God. God is not a problem; the impossible is not a problem. They see the results of it because they believe it. They also see the evil. They more readily accept the supernatural, sorcery, evil spirits, etc. They see the witch doctor curse people, and they wither away.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

Godwin Allomassor from Togo was sharing with me one time that there was a couple that came to his church, and the husband got moved with his company. She came to him and wanted him to minister to her, to heal her and set her free because a witch doctor had put a curse on her. He said that you could see the top of her head going up and down (like a babies soft spot). So, he shared the Word with her and told her that Jesus Christ broke those curses. The witchdoctor cannot put those curses on you. So, he ministered to her, and commanded in the name of Jesus Christ for it to be gone, and her head stopped beating, and it was perfect.

In America or other more sophisticated countries we do not readily accept the supernatural or the possibility of the existence of devil spirits. At least the masses of people do not. One of the reasons is that the mainstream secular church does not even believe that the devil exists. They believe that he is a figure for evil. There is not an entity called the devil. So, if he does not exist then devil spirits do not exist. So they try to explain it away by man's intellect and man's sciences and psychiatry.

In America people get possessed with devil spirits, and they send them to psychiatrists for their deliverance because they do not understand spiritual matters. Their psychiatrist speaks to a Bob, Mary, Bill, and Sally, and they believe the person has four personalities. They call it MPD (multiple personality disorder). They talk to Bob and Sally, and they think that is who it really is, but they do not know that it is not Bob and Sally at all. We have seen some Bobs, Sallys, and Marys. We ask them what they do, how they function. That is how they fool them. They do not understand spiritual matters, so the person goes on and he does not get really helped. They shoot him up with drugs and he can go year after year after year with no deliverance—none. Praise God we have seen people who have been in these situations delivered.

Intellectualism does not help in the spiritual realm. We even see the same problem leading people into speaking in tongues. Sometimes people have so much intellect they think they have to learn a language instead of letting God give the utterance. They allow their intellect to get in the way and try to think of all the words they need to speak instead of allowing God to give them the utterance. So it is with the super intellectual or a prideful person. Sometimes they have difficulty receiving deliverance from devil possession because they will not allow God to deliver them. Instead of helping themselves they hinder the whole process.

This topic was accepted in the days of Jesus Christ. God had it written down. Why would Jesus say, "in my name you shall cast out devils" if you cannot do it? You can. Logically I do not understand how ministers of the gospel of Jesus Christ want to accept the other things that Jesus did but when it comes to this they want to close their eyes and make up stories because they are not helping. Remember I told you, you can go to church and you can sing songs and that is great, but you can walk in and walk out just like you came in. If you have a lot of problems, especially if there are spirits, you can walk out with them. You do not get them out with prayer; you throw them out! Jesus said, "In my name shall they cast [them] out," not *pray* them out. There is a time to pray and a time to act. That is the way it always is with the things of God.

They ignore the records of Jesus Christ, and they ignore the accounts in the Book of Acts when Paul and Philip were casting out devils. They dealt with them. How can they honestly look at the world they live in and not see all the evil that exists and not see the answers in God's Word? How can a minister of God read this book and ignore that? A lot of it is just ignorance; they do not want to know. They are afraid of the supernatural.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

The minister who is supposed to be the guy who shares with other people about God's supernatural power, the power of the holy spirit. They talk about it and pray in the holy ghost. They go on and on, but when it is time to get at it they are either afraid, or they are stupid about it. (They do not know.)

Don Basham, who wrote the book, *Deliver Us From Evil*, was a minister. He did not believe in this. He had problems in his church, and he could not understand why. Then God blessed him and moved him to another area. What I love about the book is that he is honest, and he just tells of stumbling and learning. But, he finally figured it out. The first time, he had this woman with this chronic problem and he said, "Did you ever think about it being spiritual?" and that just freaked her out. She was running up and down the street going crazy. The spirits just went nuts and he did not know what to do. He said, "By golly there is going to be a court jester dancing in the living room before he would ever bring this topic up again."

Low and behold, about two weeks later, he gets a call and he gets invited to go to a church to preach. They believed in speaking in tongues, and he had moved in that area so he was going to be the authoritative one. So he goes to this church, about seventy or ninety miles away. He is sitting there as the guest preacher, and they have this other old pastor, and he is preaching and the old guy leans over and says to him, "Tonight you get to cast out a spirit." and he said he did not hear any more of the music, could not hear anything. After it was all over with, he went to the church basement. He gets down there, and they are all looking at him because they thought he was an expert. They were waiting for him to go at it. There was an old guy whose name was Sam. He asked him what the problem was and he said, "I cannot remember anything." Then the other old preacher said, "We have been giving him scripture and giving him scripture and he cannot remember anything." So he says, "Okay, what is your name?" He says, "My name is Sam." Then he says, "No not you, not you." Finally the spirit spoke up and said, "My name is forgetfulness." So he said, "In the name of Jesus Christ come out.", and he cast him out. When they were walking out of the church Sam says, "Oh boy, you are really something. You are a brave man. They (the spirits) told me if I showed up tonight I would die here. The preacher said this was my first one and I was afraid. This tells you that, you do not have to be an expert, you just start.

One of the recent ones I did was when I was going to Venezuela to teach at a leaders meeting. We were getting ready to do a couple's advance, and I was concerned about it. I did not know what I was going to teach or share and I had that on my heart. Then I stopped in St. Louis, and I had a three hour layover, so I went into the bookstore. I thought I left my glasses at home so I bought a pair, and I saw a book. *Twenty Things You Need To Know About Life* was the title of it. I picked it up and I got so blessed with it. When I read a book I have pen in hand and I start marking it. Scriptures come to my mind and I put them in there. So, then I went into Cheers, and I had lunch and I read this whole book and I was so excited and blessed and I am thinking, I know what I want to teach. So now it is review time because I am on the way to Miami and I am going through and looking, and all of a sudden the old "CNN ticker tape" starts going through my head: "When you get to Venezuela you are going to cast a spirit out of a woman." I thought, wow, I do not speak Spanish. Then I started to go kind of nuts about it, until I thought He will tell me when I get there, I guess. So, I went back to my book. Twelve hours after I got there it happened. Juan and I went to have lunch at the WOW ambassadors and then we had fellowship right after lunch. There was a lady that lived

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

next door that had two teenage kids; she had red hair, and a lot of eye makeup, big eyes. She was there. So I started teaching. I was teaching about how God is a God that delivers and all of a sudden this woman starts saying something. I looked at Diane Martinez, and she said, "She said she wants you to pray for her." I said, "Tell her when I am done, I will pray for her." So, I went back to teaching again and out again she came. "She needs deliverance. She has depression, and she wants you to minister to her, to pray and to get rid of her depression." I said, "Okay, when I am done." So, she sat down and I finished.

So now we are done and they are going to go outside to the little grassy courtyard area and I asked the leader, "Do have someplace where we can meet privately?" So, we went down this hall and went into the last bedroom and walked in there, and they had an air conditioner with every bearing worn out. God said it was okay. I brought Diane, the interpreter, in there with me. This woman was Roman Catholic, and she did not have a whole lot of knowledge. So, here I am. I know what her problem is but where do you start? So, I said, "Ask her if she believes in God." "Yes." "Do you believe that God is able to heal you?" "Yes." "Do you believe if I minister to you, God will heal you?" "Yes." I said, "Ask her if she believes in angels." "Yes." So, I explained to her the two kingdoms and how one third rebelled against God and I read the scripture and the revelation about how they were cast out. I went on to explain that they do not like you; they hurt you. What had happened is that her husband had been cheating on her, and I asked, "When did this happen?" She said that it was either three or seven months, I forget. God told me right away that she was lying and that it had been over three years. I said, "You tell her she is lying, and it has been over three years." Her eyes got big, and she said, "Yes." I said, "If you want God's deliverance, you have to be honest." So once we got that settled; we began, and I called them out.

The depression was the big one, and when I asked it to speak, her mouth looked like one of those shrunken head dolls with their lips sewn shut. There were deep lines in her lips, and she would not speak. So God said, "Because it defies Me, you take it right out of her mouth." So I said just what God said: "You dare defy the God of the Lord Jesus Christ you are coming right out of that mouth. You are coming out screaming now." And when I said that her lips split open, and she screamed. She did not pass out; she just slumped forward she was so weak. That scream was so loud and later on I asked someone, and they said no one heard it. In there she about blew your eardrums out. I put my arms around her and started praying and said, "Father, in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, You fill her with strength right now." It was like filling a balloon, her head raised up, and she had mascara running all down her eyes and she had big smile. She hugged me and thanked me and praised God. She got delivered. She did not even speak English. Even if they do not speak your language you can get the job done. God will work it out. He will show you.

America and other sophisticated nations need to break through their pride and ignorance and intellect, and they need to accept the truth. The churches do and the believers do believe that devil spirits exist just like God's angels do exist. Then you seek the help of God and His ministers that are knowledgeable, and you get the job done.

I have known about devil spirits for a lot of years, and a lot of you have too. One thing you always have to do is filter things through the Word of God. A lot of the past teachings as well as the future materials, you must always take them to the Word. The same is true with practical application in ministering and deliverance. We need to know

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

and we need to understand the revelation and impartation manifestations—how to receive them and what do we do after we have them. I was taught when someone comes up to you to get ministered to, if you get the green light, you do. I think that became a doctrine, and I do not believe that was ever the intent. People used that as an excuse and people got afraid to minister. It was easy. If you did not want to minister you just say, “I did not get a green light.” But I say and the Word of God says, “We have a green light.” The green light is on! It takes a red light to stop. Green means *go*, it always has and it always will. If you get a red light, and that is the way God works with you, fine. God has given us the green light so *get 'er done*.

Another thing you have to remember is: “Greater is He that is in you than He that is in the world.” You are greater. You are greater than anything the god of this world has. People need to come to you; you cannot drag them there. They must, by their own choice, come. When people earnestly, almost desperately come and just so desire deliverance, it is going to happen for sure. Because if they want it, they are going to get it; that is just the way it is. You cast them out. Did Jesus say, “In my name, God shall cast them out.” No, it says you are to. He has given you authority and ability to do it. Do not pray them out, cast them out. There is a time to pray. Usually we pray when we are working with somebody in that category. Why? We want to thank God that they are here. I am always thankful. We are very thankful when somebody comes to the door. It is humbling because they pour their heart out because they want deliverance. They can throw you on the surgery table and that is okay because they cover everything up and you are out. It is not the most exciting place to go but you are pretty happy when you get out and that old leg is working again or that arm is working. You do not have to go to a big hospital room. You can just see one or two of us and get the job done. We could have a sign up that says, “Devil spirits, if you come in you are going out.”

Another thing is when someone is delivered, you instruct them to change habits. If you have an alcoholic spirit, what do you do? You get rid of the junk. You do not have it in your house, and you do not go where it is. Just change your habits. Change your way of life. The same way with homos, do not go the post office and ride around there late at night or some other place wherever their meeting places are. You stay away from those places. You stay away from those bars; you stay away from that stuff; you stay on the Word of God. You keep moving there and you hang around folks that are going to help you stay on track. Changing habits is a big key.

Keys to Casting Out Devil Spirits.

1. Preach and teach God's Word of deliverance.

The preaching and teaching of the Word gets the attention of those that are tormented and in need of help and deliverance. A lot of people do not know it is available until someone teaches it and preaches it. That is what Jesus Christ did. He went and preached and he taught. He was making known God; he was making known the prophecies about him and what was coming. He was there. When people came, he did healing, and he threw the spirits out. When Jesus was about to ascend into heaven, he gave his disciples and those that would believe on him instructions in Mark 16.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

Mark 16:15,17,18b:

And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature....

17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18 ... they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

In Mark 1, Jesus entered the synagogue and he taught.

Mark 1:21-26:

And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

22 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

23 And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

24 Saying, Let *us* alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.

25 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.

The people were astonished because Jesus taught with authority. A man that had an unclean spirit cried out. The preaching and teaching of God's Word with authority can flush out unclean spirits. They get agitated. They may not come like this one in Mark 1:23, but people need to come for help. Recently, we did a series of teachings like this and I was at home in my PJ's. I went down to check my email, and the phone rings. It was one of our other ministers. He said, "Can you come to your office, *now*? We need help *now*." When I got over to my office there was not any asking of questions, it was moving, and these spirits were manifesting right there. The person was down, and when I came in he looked up at me and his eyes were black, and the spirit said, "I want to hurt you." I said, "You are not going do it." I got right in his face. "You are not hurting me or anybody else." Then Wayne came in.

Wayne and I like to do things together. We are a good team. We could do it by ourselves. He was not there in Venezuela. Find somebody you can work with when you are dealing with this stuff, especially when you are learning. So, away we went and when it was all over with, the person was delivered, and he was so happy. He was walking on air. We asked, "Are you going to be all right?" He said, "I am going to sleep like a baby." He had not slept one night since he arrived here. Those spirits were agitated because the Word was being spoken, and they knew their cover was going to get ripped off. They are dogs without teeth. The thing of it is, the person got delivered. The first thing I did was to let the spirit know that I was not in control. This person, after saying it was going to hurt me, said, "That is not me, I love you." I said, "I know it; just relax." Hatred, anger, rage—you dig out stuff and find out what it is and you kick it out and deliver him. He walked out of there delivered, happy and blessed.

So, fear not! Take charge! How are you going to know this stuff is someone does not teach you? One of the things I bring up in *Led By God's Power* is that you do not go on a devil spirit hunt. You have license to get rid of them. God gave you that and He

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

gave you the ability to do it but you do not go on some hunt. You do not have to hunt. You get out and preach and teach the Word and you will be in business. You do not have to hunt them, they will show up. Jesus Christ did not. You show me one scripture where he went hunting for some. "Let us go over to this mental hospital and see how many we can take care of today." No. He went and preached the Word. What is our primary thing? Preaching and teaching. You have to get around to teaching people because if you do not know then you do not know what to do. We are trying to teach just some simple things. Now there is a lot of stuff. We are talking about a lot of practical things, alive things, truthful things, that we have learned and know that it works. Every believer, if you believe on him, you are supposed to be able to do this, and you can. God will work with you no matter how stupid you are. We all are stupid. Remember when you were trying to walk for the first time? We do not do everything perfect, but we have a perfect God in Christ in you and you can get the job done.

Sangat's youngest daughter, Priya, has cast out devil spirits, and she is thirteen years old. To her it is not a big thing; it is easy; you get rid of them. She knows the power that is in her is greater and that scares the bejesus out of them. Because when they know that you are there for business, they get very agitated, very uncomfortable.

Always remember that you are in charge because "greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world" and you just do not back off of that. If you have that down then you can work. The rest of the stuff you can learn. You fear not, and you take charge. The name of the Lord Jesus Christ is more powerful than you have ever dreamed when you get in that situation and you are able to see that—when you are able to see those people delivered and the joy in their hearts and the lightheartedness. That is usually all of their remarks. "How do you feel?" "I fell light." Some of them have been carrying these things for years and years. One lady we asked, "Are you sure you want to drive home tonight?" She said, "I am going to love driving home tonight. I am going to talk to the Father and we are going to have a great time."

2. People that desire to be delivered must be the ones that come for help.

Go to someone you can believe in, someone that you believe can minister to you and bring deliverance.

3. Set a time and a place for privacy.

Find a place where you will not be interrupted. Sometimes it can be difficult, but we shut all the doors here or try to do it late at night when we know there is no one in the building. If possible, have another minister with you to assist you or support you. Like Wayne and I—we like to work together. Sometime I might miss something, or he might miss. We hit with different approaches. Everything is different. I would like to sit here and write out a perfect schedule, this is going to happen then this is going to happen, but there are so many things that can happen but the end thing is deliverance. Some of them go out with a growl and some just like a pussycat. I remember when there were three ministers and I said, "You know you are leaving now don't you?" And it said, "Oh yes, there are too many of you."

Another good piece of advice is when you council a woman have another person there with you. Sometimes that is not always available but you really should make that a rule. Have married couples together.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

4. Ask questions; listen and observe.

Ask questions. Jesus asked questions, even when ministering. Remember the blind man came up and said "Have mercy on me." He was blind and Jesus said, "What do you want me to do?" And the guy said, "What do you think I want? No, that I might see." It is good to ask questions. He asked the spirit what is your name and he said legion for we are many. A lot of time they start revealing themselves by their emotions. Sometimes you get revelation, and sometimes they just say their name right out. Sometimes they do not want to talk. I already said, "He is just a punk, he probably just got here last week." "Seventeen years." he said. They are pretty proud and they do not like it when you belittle them. It worked. Will that work every time? I do not know. I doubt it, but it sure worked then. A lot of times we just jot down notes. Whether God revealed it or we just know it, we just jot it down so when you minister to someone you take a look. We are human; we cannot remember everything, right? We just want to make sure we do not miss anything or you could just hook them all together and get rid of them one time. Find out who the leader is and ship them out.

A lot of times the family and personal history is good to know when you are dealing with people. The more information you know the better you can help them because these spirits love to travel down through the generations. They can set up some little kid and before you know it, he is zipped, before he even gets to walking. One guy I ministered to years ago, he was beating up on his wife and that was how I met him. She came up to me and her eyes were black and blue. When she left she would not tell me where she was going because she said her husband would probably try to find her. He came to me and that is when I met him for the first time. I talked to him. He beat his wife and his dad beat his mother and his grandfather beat his grandmother so that spirit just traveled down through. So the door was open.

Sometimes they will try to discourage the people when you are ministering to them, and all of a sudden they will develop a sudden headache or a pain. A lot of times they have pain but it does not last long because all they are doing is trying to hang on, they do not want to leave the house. You just take charge. Sometimes they get weird feelings in their hands or their arms. All these are little tricks, but these are things you run into. You just say, "Stop it." It is not working. You can dance or you can sing, but you are coming out today." Sometimes they will tell the person to hit the minister. They say, "It wants me to hit you." You are in control; you shut it down. They have to bend to the name of Jesus Christ. All these things can be stopped by those ministering with the power of God and the authority we have in the name of Jesus Christ.

During this time of asking questions, discerning of spirits really comes into play. One time, Wayne and I thought we were all done. It was a great session, and we got tremendous things done. Wayne got something; and he named it; it left; he could feel it go right on by. Sometimes we will ask the person to help us by closing his eyes and asking him if they see anything weird. When you are in it, it is serious business but sometimes it is funny because they are not as smart as everyone makes them out to be. They are arrogant and boastful and if they think they can pull one off they like it and they like to laugh.

5. Before you begin casting out spirits you should have a word of prayer.

Thank God for His protection upon the families. Thank God for the deliverance of the person. Thank God that they desired help and that they came forward and that they

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

are going to get it and thank God for the power and authority that we have to get the job done.

6. Remember there is no set way of dealing with people. That is why the revelation manifestations are necessary.

You always have to remember that there is no set way because if they do something different you will wonder what do I do now. You keep driving. You keep moving. God will show you, God will reveal it. Sometimes you just need to sit back, you do not get upset about it. We have run into that. Nothing seems to be happening. Sit back, take a breath, go get a drink of water and come back, so if we have to take a break we do. A lot of times that is a real key time too, that is when God can give you some revelation that will make the difference.

7. There is a transitional time between asking questions and the actual engaging.

During that time we have the person pray and reassure him that nothing is going to happen. They are going to be fine. Then you ask permission. The reason you always ask permission is because it is free will. You do not step into somebody's life unless he says you can. God does not do it and neither do you but when they say yes then it is show time.

8. You can use many different techniques.

When a person is learning to speak in tongues for the first time, he may have difficulty getting started. One guy knew German and was going to skip the last session because he did not want to have to speak in tongues. I convinced him to come anyway because I brought him every night to class. He went for a walk and a minute before class here he came. So when it came time for him to speak in tongues he stood up and thought it was going to be a piece of cake because he was just going to speak German. So he started speaking German and all of a sudden it was something else but that is what got him started and then he started speaking in tongues. Sometimes we need techniques, but as we continue to mature in this thing it will be more like Jesus. Say, "Go!" and they go.

One technique we use is to ask God to send down a box. Then we tell the spirit, "In the name of Jesus Christ, get in the box." The person can see the box, and know that they went in there. They actually know they went in there. Then you get rid of the box. Father in the name of Jesus Christ you cast this box as far as the east is from the west. Sometimes I just say, "Go." and I ask the person, "Where did it go?" They say, "It went into the ocean". What went when that box went? The spirit of fear, the spirit of anger, they are gone. It really helps the person to realize they are really gone. That they have really left. I have used trash cans and I have used dump trucks. I say, "You hear that beeping that is that dump truck backing up for you boys." Sometimes I ask, "Are they in there?" They say, "No it is hanging on." So I say, "You throw it in there." Get the person involved. "Do you want this?" No! We have used a train too. Wayne was inspired to use that one. We would load up the first car then the next one would come and we would load that one and the next one. Then we say see that track right there in front then they are gone. One time I had a really ugly one. I mean it was ugly. It did not want to go, and it was freaking out the person. "Father let us get rid of this, you send down a big old cable and wrap it around his neck and you yank him out of the water like a fish." Then it is gone. It helps establish that it is gone and then they are light, they are

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

free. These are techniques to help you get started. We have to learn somewhere don't we? Like I said we should be able to just order them and they go.

Sometimes we will ask the person to close their eyes and see if God is giving them revelation. Wayne worked with one lady who had six of them. She saw six red dots. So then he just started getting rid of those. The last one was the spirit of bondage. You command them to attention, and then you go to work. Bind them in the name of Jesus Christ and just send them. They have got to go. They have got no right. A lot of times they want to fight. No you are not fighting me, you are fighting the Lord Jesus Christ. You already lost that one over two thousand years ago. This person has been washed by the blood of Jesus Christ; by his stripes they are healed. "Casting" is a good word; you cast or throw them out.

9. Command them to attention and tell them they are leaving.

A good point is the less you talk to them the better. We do not care that much about talking to them. They are going to lie to you anyway. You are dealing with a hostile witness. They do not want to tell you the truth. So the less you talk to them the better. A lot of times if you let them talk they say hurtful things and try to hurt the person, get in their last dig on the way out. You tell them to shut up like Jesus did. You have to cast them out because they never want to leave. You have got to take charge in the name of Jesus Christ and you cast them out.

Sometimes it is important to know how they got there. You have to break or cut the ties. They ride in some way. Find out what it is and you cut it, so they cannot come back, the string is gone. You want to help that person seal the door. Another thing we have done is just blow them out. Remember Jesus breathed on them and said, "Receive ye the holy ghost."⁹⁰ If you can breath in the holy ghost, why not blow out what you do not want. Whatever the technique, you command in the name of Jesus Christ and you speak with authority and you be not afraid.

Sangat told me he had a guy over there that just got born again. So, Sangat goes over. There is a beautiful, sixteen year old girl with long black hair, gorgeous young lady. The father said, "Oh, everything is okay. I saw the magic man." See they get the magic man. The magic man is the one who gets them in there in the first place. So the father says everything is okay and Sangat says let us just talk a little bit. He says to the girl, "Now you look at me. You look at me and I am going to speak to your father." So, he started to speak and her head would go down. "No, no, no, no, no, you keep your eyes on me." This went on about three times and she kept dropping her head. Then finally the father got real indignant and he jumps up and says, "You disrespect this man!" All of a sudden her hair went straight up into the air. Do you remember one of those static electricity balls? Her hair was way out everywhere and he said her eyeballs just popped out and they turned blood red and her head was swiveling back and forth. So Sangat commanded it, "You stop!" Her hair dropped down and her eyes went back in, then he cast out the spirits. He asked them, "How did you get into this woman?" They said they had come in on this little idol that her friend had given her. "Where is it?" "It is in her room." So they went in there and they took the idol down and they smashed it and said, "Now you have no home there and you have no home here." So they can do the magic tricks but you are in charge, remember? You make sure they know it and you make sure you know

⁹⁰ John 20:22

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

it. The reason we are is because Jesus Christ's name is above every name. It has authority over every name, every sickness, every disease, and every name of every devil spirit that exists.

10. Take the necessary time to minister to the person.

Sometimes you may need even more than one session and that is fine. You do not say that person is really bad. It has nothing to do with it. If you are going to be in the business then do the business. Whatever it takes. I have done it on the phone. You know something? The name of Jesus Christ is just as powerful here as where the action is. Words have authority and they have power and we saw deliverance in that situation but you have got to be ready and you have got to be convinced. I can do all things through Christ, which strengtheneth me. Greater is he that is in me than he that is in the world. I can do, I have the authority to do it. *It* is not in charge, *I* am. Not because of who I am, but because of who Jesus Christ is and who God made me—His son.

11. Sometimes when you cast devil spirits out, they will try to fight you.

Sometimes when casting out devil spirits they will try to put you on the defense. I told you they want to fight with you. It is easy, I tell you they can tick you off sometimes and before you know it you want to get in the fight. That is why I like to have Wayne because I am more the old veteran fighter and he has to give me a little tap and I say, "Oh yeah, you are right, I need to back off." Then we will try another way. Sometimes they really have these ties. When you are having difficulty there is always a tie somewhere.

Sometimes it can be unforgiveness. A person can have a lot of unforgiveness in their life; people have hurt them. They have a right to be angry, they have a right to be mad, but they do not have a right to hang on to it. So you have to go find out. Then you find out if it is unforgiveness or they have anger with some person, whatever the tie is, you find out what it is and you say, "Okay let us break this right now." If it is unforgiveness, you say, "You know that person that hurt you? They were controlled; it was not them so forgive that person." The greatest reason we forgive anybody is for ourselves.

12. After casting out a spirit, bless the person with the opposite of what left. After casting out spirit—whatever it's name or function—bless the person with just the opposite. If they have fear, bless the person with great courage and boldness. Bless them with just the opposite. Whatever you took out you bless them with just the opposite, if it is anger then peace, if it is hatred then love.

13. People that have allowed themselves to be hypnotized have prepped themselves to receive unclean spirits.

Do not give your freewill over to someone or something else. Do not do that. It may be an innocent thing but you have opened up the door. You do not want to give them any place.

Freedom of will is something God does not overstep and neither do we. That is why people must come to us for help. They must desire deliverance for themselves not because other people ask them or push them into it. I will tell you that is a real natural thing. You just want it so bad, but the person has to want it for himself or herself. That is hard, but if they are not ready just keep encouraging them. They have to want it. I am not talking about little children. Parents, you have authority over your children. Your

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

life affects your child because you have authority. God has put you in authority over those children. It even says so in the Word, that they are bound for heaven. Even if one of the parents is a believer that child is protected until it grows up and then it makes up its own mind.

14. Practical Keys and Follow Up.

Stay in touch with those you have helped cast out spirits and help them re-enforce and realize their deliverance. Quit worrying. They are not coming back if they do not let them back. Now you know the string they rode in on; they know the habit; get rid of them. It will be a lot easier too. People have dropped habits. “That is just the way I am.” “No, that is the way you thought you were.” They interweave and make you think that you are thinking stuff, bad thoughts and everything else.

Mark 5:18,19:

And when he was come into the ship, he that had been possessed with the devil prayed him that he might be with him.

19 Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee.

We encourage that. Tell your close friends or somebody that helps reaffirm that you have been delivered. A lot of times that helps others to step forward because somehow they thought that they just have to live with this. Like I said, others’ testimonies inspire others to believe.

Conclusion

Casting out devil or unclean spirits is part of the full gospel ministry of Jesus Christ. The ministry of Jesus Christ was one of deliverance and it requires preaching the Word, teaching the Word, ministering healing to the sick and diseased and casting out devil spirits. If you are going to do the works of Jesus Christ, then where do you stop? I just like teaching; I just like preaching; I just like healing folks. Then someone says. “I just want to do the devil spirit part. It is so good.” No, you cannot do that. If we do not do all four we are limiting God’s deliverance. We are limiting the ministry that God has called every believer to do. To walk in the steps of Jesus Christ, to do the works that he did. If our focus is only on casting out devils or only on preaching or only on teaching or only on ministering then we are limiting the ministry of God that He has given us. We are not doing the works of Jesus Christ.

That is why it is important for us to teach on this topic—so the believer can do the complete ministry of Jesus Christ. At least you are going to be taught. If you want to start, if you want to get involved, you are not going to be stupid about it. Get out your journals and go to work.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 10: Casting Out Devil Spirits

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

Preview of Accounts of Casting Out Devils

In *Accounts of Casting Out Devils* we will see that we rely upon God working in us and not upon techniques when it comes to casting out devil spirits. God teaches us everything we need to know in His Word. We never need to be afraid when we approach these situations. God has equipped us, and He will work with us to bring His will to pass. It is important that we not quit or give up, but push through the obstacles until we see God's deliverance manifested.

Introduction

When it comes to casting out devils, if there were directions that were foolproof, they would be in the Word. If there was a technique or key that worked 100% of the time it would be listed in the Word. The reason the Word does not teach specific techniques is because there is not one that always works. The Word always works. The Word is guaranteed to work for anybody, anywhere, at any time.

The Word simply says, "Heal the sick" and "Cast out devils."⁹¹ That is all the instruction we need. If we needed more, then God would have written more. God's Word contains "all things that pertain to life and godliness,"⁹² and we are going to look at all these accounts on casting out devils in the Bible. We will see things that Jesus Christ did, and we will see things that Paul and Peter and others did. We will learn from them all. Everything that we need is in the Word. Part of the Word is the revelation manifestations.

The last time I helped somebody, I did it totally different than any time I had done it before. We prayed together, and that was the only thing similar to any other time I have done it. That is how God worked this time. It was exciting for me.

You just do what God tells you. He will work with you. He will let you know what you need to know. If you ask them to name themselves, and they do not want to name themselves, then God will give you the name or work it out some other way. You get in there and get involved, and God will work you through it. You are able, and you can do it. All it takes is desire. All it takes is wanting to do it. If you want to do it, God will make a way. He wants it done more than we do. It is His Word; it is His desire; it is what He wants. So He is going to work with us to get it accomplished. One thing we did not talk about is that people can cast them out of themselves. You can handle it, because greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world.

God will work with you specifically and personally as you begin. Acts 2:4 says they "began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." That is the

⁹¹ Matthew 10:8

⁹² II Peter 1:3

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

underlying principle for all the manifestations in our administration. We begin, and God gives. We engage, and then you get what you need. Do not expect to know ahead of time. Sometimes it works that way. Remember on the airplane, John said he got the ticker tape about the lady in Venezuela. That has happened with me on maybe four or five different occasions, but you cannot expect it. You just move with what God tells you.

Jesus ministered to blind people on at least five or six occasions, and each time it was done differently. What does that tell you? You cannot expect it to be the same way every time. The next time that you do it you cannot expect it to be the same as the first time. People are different; the situations are different; their backgrounds are different; the reasons the spirits got in are different, and it may be different every time. But whatever it is, you can handle the situation.

A good place to start is in asking the name. That is just a simple way to start, and then you go from there. John shared about the walls of Jericho falling down. That was a fantastic account. The first battle going into the Promise Land is Jericho. They marched around and blew trumpets; the wall fell down. They marched straight ahead, and they took care of the situation. I bet when they went to the second city they started to get the trumpets out. But, that was the only time it worked that way. They never repeated that. They never blew trumpets again.

Every situation is different, and you cannot expect everything to be the same. It is all different; it is all unique. What you know is that you are able, and whatever it is going to take, you are going to get it done. When you have that kind of determination, when you have that kind of love for the people you are helping, you will get what you need because love energizes believing.

God is working with you and with the person. If you do not know, then the person knows. You ask them, "What is going on here? What is the problem?" If they know what the spiritual problem is then you do not have to mess around with asking names and doing all that. The more you rely on techniques and formulas, the less you rely on God.

Experience provides confidence, but it does not guarantee success. When you think you know all the answers, it becomes harder to learn more. We know that we do not know everything, and we expect God to teach us. He did today. He taught me stuff today that blew my mind. I was excited. The person was responsible. The person had to do it. God told me what they were, but He said you have to tell the person to get rid of them. So that is what I did. The person named them all. God told me, and He told him too, and he took care of them all.

Experience is no guarantee for truth. Just because it worked one way, one time, that does not mean it will work the same way every time. I know God loves me, and He wants me to have what I need. If there was a sure fire way to do it, our loving heavenly Father would have written it in His book. All He says is *heal the sick* and *cast out devils*. That is all we need to know. When you engage and you start, then God will see you through.

Some people are auditory. Some people get pictures. If one thing does not work, try something else. You have to be so tender with the people, and yet you are so adamant with the spirits. You just do not budge with the spirit, but you are just so tender with the people. Coming out of the same mouth is the person speaking and the spirit speaking. You are aggravated and speak with resolve to the spirit, but you talk to the person so lovingly and so tenderly.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

The person is aware of what it going on. He hears it. Sometimes they apologize and get embarrassed by what happens. Before you get started you might want to warn the person about that. "You might say things. Do not worry about what comes out of your mouth; we are not going to be offended."

You can buy book after book on this subject. You can read for hours and hours. Some things people agree on, and some things they do not agree on. It is good to learn from their experience. It is good to learn form our own experience, too. But, experience is no guarantee for truth. Truth is eternal and always works. Romans 10:9 & 10 always works. The "sinner's prayer" does not always work. The box does not always work. Asking spirits to identify themselves does not always work. Walking by the spirit always works. Doing what God tells you, always works.

In *Living in God's Power*, Part V we lead people into speaking in tongues. We do it in a way that works most of the time. 99.9% of the people all end up speaking in tongues when they do it as we instruct them in the class. In my years there have been two occasions where those techniques did not work. One time I had to take out a spirit of fear before the lady spoke in tongues. Another time I had to explain language, before they manifested. Whatever you need to do, you do.

How many times now when you speak in tongues do you get quiet, close your eyes, breathe in, and open your mouth wide? No, that was the way you learned it, the techniques that were used to teach you the first time. We do not do it that way any more because we do not need them. The more you get into casting out spirits, the techniques will go by the wayside. You will know when you are in the situation what to do just like you know how to speak in tongues without a second thought. You know to interpret and prophesy without a second thought. The first time you interpreted tongues, maybe you were a bit uptight. The next time you had more confidence, and it is easier. By the third or fourth time you are convinced.

It will get that way in this casting out of spirits. We are convinced. Anyone that comes to us wanting deliverance will absolutely get it. We know what God says and if we need to get help we will get help. Desire is the most important. We know God wants them delivered, and we want the same. We believe we can do what God says we can do, so we do it. After desire, obedience to do what God tells us is important, too. I do not care how stupid it sounds. If God tells you something just do it.

I remember asking one guy, "What about this extra marital affair you had?" "Well, yeah, I forgot about that." "No, you did not forget about that, you were ashamed of it. So, you can keep the shame and you can keep the spirit of shame, too, if you want it or you can be honest with me and we can get rid of this stuff." If they want to keep covering, then they can keep the spirits.

Do not rely too much on technique; rely on the Christ in you. When you rely on technique, you get hard on people when it does not work. When you get into techniques and when they do not work you say, "They really did not want deliverance. It is because they have some secret sin, or it is their fault." We are honest and say, "I am sorry; I am not able to help you." I have told people that before, but if you want to try again we can try again. Come back later on in the class after you have heard some more Word. We will have at it again." Whatever it takes—it is important that we not criticize, condemn, or complain.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

**The Healing of the Man with Legion: Matthew 8:28-34;
Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-39**

We have also handled this account at length in hour 15 of *Led By God's Power*.

Luke 8:26,27:

And they [Jesus and his disciples] arrived at the country of the Gadarenes, which is over against Galilee.

27 And when he went forth to land, there met him out of the city a certain man, which had devils [*daimonion*] long time, and ware no clothes [It is not unusual for people who have evil spirits to lose a sense of personal modesty.], neither abode in *any* house, but in the tombs.

Devil spirits drive people to extremes, but you cannot assume because people are peculiar or eccentric or extreme that it is due to devil spirits. In this case it was, but Jesus operated discerning of spirits in order to know. Neither can you assume that if people do not wear clothes or do not live in a home that they have devil spirits. The only way that you will know is if God tells you by discerning of spirits. If you think you can know it by your five senses, why would you need discerning of spirits. You do not know unless God tells you.

There are a lot of observable symptoms that may indicate that people may have spiritual problems. If people are addicted, there is a good likelihood, but you cannot assume it. You do not assume anything. If God tells you, then you know. This is not a list so that you can evaluate everybody that you know. If the person has torment, then he knows. Here are some observable symptoms:

Addictions	Irrational behavior
Appetites that are out of balance	Lack of mature relationships
Behavior extremes	Legalism
Bitterness and unforgiveness	Spiritual bondage
Compulsive behavior patterns	Nightmares
Deceitful personality or behaviors	Occult involvement
Depression	Out of control tongue
Emotional disturbance	Recurring or long-term sicknesses
Escapism	Self-centeredness
Fears and phobias	Sexual aberrations
Guilt and self condemnation	Suicidal tendencies
Hearing voices	Undiagnosable symptoms
Hereditary illnesses	Violent tendencies
Heretical beliefs	Withdrawal or anti-social behavior
Involvement in false religions	Witchcraft involvement

People in those situations could have spiritual problems, but the only way you will know is if God tells you. Jesus knew this guy had a spiritual problem. Not every situation is a spiritual problem. Not everybody on medication has a spiritual problem. The only way we know is if God tells us. Sometimes it is physical. We are going to read accounts in here where there are deaf people. Sometimes it is physical deafness;

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

sometimes there is a spirit involved. You cannot assume it is one way or the other. God has to tell you. Mark records one caused by a spirit and one that is not. But, they are both deaf and Jesus heals them both.⁹³ One time he takes a spirit out and the next time he does not. You cannot assume anything, you just go with what you get.

The word “devils” in verse 27 is the Greek word *daimonion*. It is the diminutive of *daimōn*. *Daimōn* is the word for demon or devil spirit, evil spirit, and unclean spirit. The “*ion*” is a diminutive, like John or Johnny; the “*y*” is a diminutive. Johnny grows up and you call him John or when Kenny grows up you call him Ken. Juan calls me Waynecito. “Cito” is the Spanish ending for my dear little Wayne.

The Greek word family has six different and related words. The *daimōn* are the higher ranking or ruling devil spirits, and the *daimonion* are the lesser ones. That is why it is a diminutive. *Daimonizomai* is the verb meaning “having devils.” It is sometimes translated “possessed” in the Bible but it just really means “having devils.” Then there are adjectives *daimoniōdēs*, meaning “devilish” and *deisidaimonesteros* meaning “too superstitious” or “fearful of devil spirits.”

But this man had devils. We just read that in the verse before.

Luke 8:28:

When he saw Jesus, he cried out [the spirit spoke using the man's vocal cords], and fell down before him [Jesus], and with a loud voice said, What have I [the spirit] to do with thee Jesus, *thou* Son of God most high? I [the spirit] beseech thee, torment me not.

It immediately speaks to Jesus, and Jesus knows what is going on. When they speak to you, you will know. You will be able to tell the difference. You will be talking to somebody and their voice will sound the same and all of a sudden, you will know it is not the person speaking. You are talking to a spirit. Jesus knew that here. They said, “What have I to do with thee Jesus, thou Son of God most high? I beseech thee, torment me not.” That is what spirits do—they torment people. Here it is accusing Jesus of what it has been doing all the time it has been in there.

The devil spirit recognized the authority of Jesus. In Acts 16:16-19 it also recognized the authority of Paul and described him as a servant of the Most High God. When we walk confidently in the spirit, they will recognize you too. They know the One True God and those who work for him.

James 2:19:

Thou believest that there is one God; thou doest well: the devils also believe, and tremble.

You need to understand that they are afraid of you. You have no need to be afraid of them. They have used the media to promote their agenda.

Luke 8:29:

(For he [Jesus] had commanded [was commanding; this is the imperfect tense which means continuous, repetitive, or habitual action in the past over a period of

⁹³ Mark 7:32-37 and Mark 9:25

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

time. He did not just say it once, and it happened just like that. It is the imperfect tense, he was commanding. It took a period of time.] the unclean spirit [*pneuma*] to come out of the man. For oftentimes it [the spirit] had caught him [the man]: and he [the man so held captive] was kept bound with chains and in fetters; and he [the man so held captive] brake the bands, and was driven of the devil [*daimōn*] into the wilderness.) [What a horrible way to live. That is torment.]

Instead of saying, “for oftentimes it had caught him,” the Aramaic reads: “for a long time had passed since he [the man] was first held captive by him [the spirit].” That is what spirits do; they captivate people; they torment people. This guy was bound with chains and fetters, and he broke them. They may have super-human strength. But when you deal with them, you do not have to be a bit afraid of it. Just tell them to shut up.

Mark adds more details. It says in Mark 5:5 that he was “always, night and day, in the mountains, and in the tombs, crying, and cutting himself with stones.” That is that cutting spirit. This is similar to what the prophets of Baal did in I Kings 18:28,29.

Luke 8:30:

And Jesus asked him [*daimōn*], saying, What is thy name? And he [*daimōn*] said, Legion: because many devils [*daimonion*] were entered into him [the man].

The *daimōn* spoke because he was in charge of many *daimonion*, many small spirits. As far as I can remember, this is the only time in the gospels that is recorded where Jesus asks spirits a question and gets a response. He spoke to them a lot. He said, “Shut up and get out; quit tormenting this guy and leave.” This is the first time that he inquired, and he asked, “What is your name?”

Oftentimes it is necessary to speak to them while casting them out. Doing it at other times can be very tormenting to the people.

Luke 8:31:

And they [*daimonion*] besought him [*daimōn*] that he [*daimōn*] would not command them [*daimonion*] to go out into the deep.

The *deep* is the Greek *abussos*, the abyss. This is the first of nine uses. They did not want to be sent back to *Abaddon* or *Apollyon*, the king of the bottomless pit, for reassignment. They wanted another assignment. They wanted to be able to go into the pigs.

Luke 8:32,33:

And there was there an herd of many swine feeding on the mountain: and they [*daimonion*] besought him [*daimōn*] that he [*daimōn*] would suffer [allow] them [*daimonion*] to enter into them [the pigs]. And he [*daimōn*] suffered [allowed] them [*daimonion*].

33 Then went the devils [*daimonion*] out of the man, and entered into the swine: and the herd ran violently down a steep place into the lake, and were choked.

They wanted to get their last licks in, and cause as much trouble for Jesus as they could. Yes, it is true, that they prefer animals to nothing, but they did not go into the pigs

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

because they wanted another habitation, because they were not there very long, right? The pigs ran off a cliff. They were just trying to cause trouble, trying to get their last licks in. What an economic tragedy the loss of the many swine must have been to their owners. Of course, Jesus did not kill the pigs; the devil spirits did.

This shows the nature of the spirits. If they did that to the pigs, what do think they wanted to do to the man? They had him cutting himself. That is their vicious nature, and when they were allowed to run rampant, they destroyed the pigs. It would have eventually destroyed the man if it had stayed there.

The drowning of the pigs demonstrates the power and terror of demonic influence. In light of a large herd of swine destroying themselves, we should not be surprised at the self-destructive history of the demonized man. He had been in the tombs. He could not live with people. People tried to chain him, and he would just break the chains. He just lived in the wild. It does show us that it was not just a psychological problem; the reality of evil spirits is only too evident. It was not just mental illness. This is something to take seriously. In other words, if the guy was just mentally ill then what caused the trouble with the pigs? What happened to the pigs was due to what had left the man.

Luke 8:34-36:

When they that fed *them* saw what was done, they fled, and went and told *it* in the city and in the country.

35 Then they went out to see what was done; and came to Jesus, and found the man, out of whom the devils [*daimonion*]⁹⁴ were departed, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed, and in his right mind: [*sōphroneō*, whole thoughts] and they were afraid.

36 They also which saw *it* told them by what means he that was possessed of the devils was healed.

A lot of people do not like to use that word, “possessed.” Then do not use it. Use “captivated,” that is what the word says. Or use “has a devil.” The devil does not own the people. We know that, but (to help clarify) the man was under the control or influence of a demon.

Luke 8:37-39:

Then the whole multitude of the country of the Gadarenes round about besought him to depart from them; for they were taken with great fear: and he went up into the ship, and returned back again.

38 Now the man out of whom the devils [*daimonion*] were departed besought him [Jesus] that he [the delivered man] might be with him [Jesus]: but Jesus sent him away, saying,

39 **Return to thine own house, and shew** [from a Greek word meaning “to lead or carry a narration through to the end” or “set forth, recount, relate in full, describe at length”] **how great things God hath done unto thee.** And he went

⁹⁴ Some who note that the word for devils is *daimonion*, wonder if that indicates that the *daimōn* stayed. Although *daimonion* is a plural noun sometimes (like in this instance) it takes a singular verb. When this is the case, it is used as a collective noun (like “everyone or team” in English). It indicates that the entire devilish influence in his life was gone.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

his way, and published [*kerussō*, announce as a herald] throughout the whole city how great things Jesus had done unto him.

We have found that recounting one's deliverance maybe a very necessary part of maintaining one's deliverance.

The Healing of a Dumb (Mute) Man: Matthew 9:32-35

Matthew 9:32,33:

As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil.

33 And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel.

Jesus cast out the devil spirit; then the man spoke. The spirit was controlling his brain or tongue or whatever it was to stop him from speaking. Once it was removed, the man was healed. You will see that when it talks about someone being delivered or something is cast out, it is referred to as a healing. It talks about Mary Magdalene being delivered of seven devils. Remember, not every dumb man that cannot speak is possessed. The only way you will know is if God tells you. This particular man was.

Matthew 9:34:

But the Pharisees said, He casteth out devils through the prince of the devils.

Rather than rejoicing in this man's deliverance, the religious leaders criticize and accuse Jesus. You get criticized in this business. If that is going to stop you, just forget it. We stand approved before God. The minute you try to make men happy your ministry is pretty much over. It might look mighty fine for a while, but it is over.

Matthew 9:35:

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

He kept on moving. That is the way it is. God is a moving God. We have a savior who was a moving savior. That is what we do—we keep moving. We do not have time to argue with men. They can say what they want. We want deliverance.

The Healing of a Blind and Dumb Man: Matthew 12:22

Before we get to this account I want to handle concerns people have about Matthew 12:43-45.

Matthew 12:43-45a:

When the unclean spirit is gone out of a man, he walketh through dry places, seeking rest, and findeth none.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

44 Then he saith, I will return into my house from whence I came out; and when he is come, he findeth *it* empty, swept, and garnished.

45 Then goeth he, and taketh with himself seven other spirits more wicked than himself, and they enter in and dwell there: and the last *state* of that man is worse than the first....

Sometimes the devil has used that to get us afraid. So, you cannot throw a spirit out, what if it comes back? The person is going to be in a worst state than when he was before. Who would ever want to do that? Who would ever want to take that chance? First of all, it does not say when a spirit is *cast* out. It says when a spirit *goes* out of its own accord. They can flit in and out. They can work in multiple people. They can work in several people in a family.

Sometimes they are working their way into different places and different people. Sometimes they take scouting trips. "Where can I get in next?" "Where can I go next?" Or there are different spirits, and they are calling each other. They call for help, and they get things going. But it says, "When the unclean spirit is **gone** out of a man...." It does not say when it is **cast** out of a man. There is a big difference.

Spirits can come and go as they please. When he comes back he finds the house empty, swept, and garnished. When you cast them out, make sure that home is no longer empty. Put the Word in there. You tell the people, "Look you have a right to your freedom of will. The spirit is not coming back. You can keep it out, and you never have to worry about this again." You put the Word in there, and it is no longer empty. It does not come back in. I never have a concern that when I throw a spirit out that it is going to come back in. That is the last thing from my mind. That is just devilish fear to get you afraid that you are not going to be able to help somebody.

If you study the life of Saul, you see how one spirit led to the next spirit, led to the next spirit, and then you have a spirit of murder. He tried to kill David. He had this pride and this jealousy and that led to the next one and they just went out and got some friends and came on back. We need some help. I have room for you over here. Then they just come over. That verse does not refer to throwing them out. It refers to the access they have to come in and out of people and go get friends and say, "I have a nice home here, come join us, we have room for some more." That has nothing to do with casting spirits out. The word *cast* means *throw*. It means you get rid of them; you get them out. That is not what it is talking about. You do not have to be afraid of that because that home is no longer empty; it is filled. You fill it with the Word. Hopefully you fill it with the holy spirit. If the person was not born again before, get him born again now.

Matthew 12:22:

Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw.

Now it does not say necessarily here that the cause of the blindness and dumbness was a spirit. This may be referring to three problems. He was possessed with a devil, he was blind, and he was dumb. You cannot assume that the blindness and the dumbness were due to a spirit. They might have been. He did cast a spirit out. Obviously, Jesus dealt with the spirit and cast it out because in the ensuing discussion the Pharisees accuse Jesus of casting out devils by Beelzebub, the prince of devils. If this kind of disparaging

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

comment was leveled against Jesus, do not be surprised if it is leveled against you when you begin to do it.

Not every disease is due to the presence of a spirit. Even some diseases that on occasion have a spiritual cause do not always have a spiritual cause. Sometimes sickness is due to a spirit and sometimes it is not. That is why we have manifestations.

Healing the Vexed With Devil Spirits: Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30

Matthew 15:21-24:

Then Jesus went thence, and departed into the coasts of Tyre and Sidon.

22 And, behold, a woman of Canaan came out of the same coasts, and cried unto him, saying, Have mercy on me, O Lord, *thou* Son of David; my daughter is grievously vexed with a devil.

23 But he answered her not a word. And his disciples came and besought him, saying, Send her away; for she crieth after us.

24 But he answered and said, I am not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel.

This lady was not an Israelite. We will read later on that she was a Syrophenician; she was a Greek. She had a daughter that was vexed, held captive, by a devil spirit, and she wanted Jesus' help. Jesus tells her that he came to minister unto the lost sheep of Israel. How would that make you feel?

Matthew 15:25-28:

Then came she and worshipped him, saying, Lord, help me.

26 But he answered and said, It is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast *it* to dogs.

27 And she said, Truth, Lord: yet the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their masters' table.

28 Then Jesus answered and said unto her, O woman, great *is* thy faith: be it unto thee even as thou wilt. And her daughter was made whole from that very hour.

Great is thy faith. She refused to accept anything less, she wanted her daughter to be healed, to be whole, to be clean and she would not stop. She reached Jesus' heart. He saw the faith, the believing, she had for her daughter to receive it. He just could not deny it. You are going to have it. She desperately wanted healing. People have got to desperately want it. Nobody likes to be sick, but do you believe God can do it? If I believe it, I go. Nothing is going to stop me. Tear down the walls, whatever I have to do to get there. That was the heart of this mother.

Mark 7:24-30:

And from thence he arose, and went into the borders of Tyre and Sidon, and entered into an house, and would have no man know *it*: but he could not be hid.

25 For a *certain* woman, whose young daughter had an unclean spirit, heard of him, and came and fell at his feet:

26 The woman was a Greek, a Syrophenician by nation; and she besought him that he would cast forth the devil out of her daughter.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

27 But Jesus said unto her, Let the children first be filled: for it is not meet to take the children's bread, and to cast *it* unto the dogs.

28 And she answered and said unto him, Yes, Lord: yet the dogs under the table eat of the children's crumbs.

29 And he said unto her, For this saying go thy way; the devil is gone out of thy daughter.

30 And when she was come to her house, she found the devil gone out, and her daughter laid upon the bed.

Jesus just spoke the Word and the devil was gone because the mother had faith for her daughter. As parents, we have authority for our children. She persevered and she got it. That is what you have to do at both ends. You have to persevere when you are ministering, and you have to persevere when you need help.

**Healing the Child with the Unclean Spirit: Matthew 17:14-21;
Mark 9:14-29; Luke 9:38-42**

Matthew 17:14-16:

And when they were come to the multitude, there came to him a *certain* man, kneeling down to him, and saying,

15 Lord, have mercy on my son: for he is lunatick, and sore vexed [suffers greatly]: for oftentimes he falleth into the fire, and oft into the water.

16 And I brought him to thy disciples, and they could not cure him.

This is the situation that Jesus walks into. The father had a son that needed healing, deliverance. He brought him to his disciples and they were not able to heal him. The father asks for help.

Matthew 17:17-21:

Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long shall I suffer you? bring him hither to me.

18 And Jesus rebuked the devil; and he departed out of him: and the child was cured from that very hour.

19 Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out?

20 And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

21 Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

Jesus chastises them for their unbelief, and their perversion from the truth of God's Word. He asks them how long it will take them to rise up and believe and act on what he taught them and showed them. Jesus commanded the devil spirit to leave. He cast it out, and the boy was healed. He was delivered from his devil spirit possession. The disciples wanted to know why they were not successful in casting it out. After all, they had cast

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

out spirits in Matthew 10. Jesus said, "Because of your unbelief." What was their unbelief? I am sure they had rebuked the spirit. They did what they did before, but nothing was happening. Why not? Jesus said *this kind*. What kind? He was not talking about the name of the spirit, but he was talking about the condition and the circumstance that was hindering the boy's deliverance, allowing the spirit to remain. They cannot squat if they do not have some kind of thing to hang on to. This is what he was telling them. They did not believe to push through.

You talk about this condition requires prayer and fasting. Fasting means you do what needs to be done. We have the idea that fasting has to do with going without food. Sometimes it does mean that. God's fast is in Isaiah 58:6.

Isaiah 58:6:

Is not this the fast that I have chosen? to loose the bands of wickedness, to undo the heavy burdens, and to let the oppressed go free, and that ye break every yoke?

Deliverance, that was the fast of God. If you read earlier in Isaiah they were complaining that God was not paying any attention. "You are not looking. We are doing without all this food and we have lost fifty pounds and you do not even notice." God says, "That is not the Lord's fast. Do the work." He was telling the disciples that they did not push through, they stopped.

Mark 9:20,21:

And they brought him unto him: and when he saw him, straightway the spirit tare him; and he fell on the ground, and wallowed foaming.

21 And he asked his father, How long is it ago since this came unto him? And he said, Of a child.

A key point here is that he asked questions.⁹⁵ You will see this when we read about other healings. Jesus did not just jump with this particular situation. That is what his disciples did. They were jumping all over the place without getting the job done; they did not succeed.

Mark 9:22,23:

And ofttimes it hath cast him into the fire, and into the waters, to destroy him: **but if** thou canst do any thing, have compassion on us, and help us.

23 Jesus said unto him, If thou canst believe, all things *are* possible to him that believeth.

In these two verses the problem is revealed and so is the solution.

Mark 9:24-27:

And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief.

⁹⁵ For more on this see Appendix 4: Questions Jesus Asked in Ministering Situations.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

25 When Jesus saw that the people came running together, he rebuked the foul spirit, saying unto him, *Thou* dumb and deaf spirit, I charge thee, come out of him, and enter no more into him.

26 And *the spirit* cried, and rent him sore, and came out of him: and he was as one dead; insomuch that many said, He is dead.

27 But Jesus took him by the hand, and lifted him up; and he arose.

Jesus took his time. He knew something had stopped his disciples from healing this man's son. He pursued with God's fast; he asked questions; he helped the father to discover his unbelief. The father recognized that *he* was the problem. He was allowing that unclean spirit to stay. He confessed that he now believed, and he was sorry for his unbelief. The hold of the spirit was gone. Jesus walked right in and yanked him out. The disciples apparently had just kept commanding. They did not push through to find out what was stopping it. There is great learning in this record.

If this father had not believed even when Jesus had showed him his unbelief then Jesus would not have failed, God would not have failed. Who would have failed then? The father would have failed. Jesus could not overstep the father's free will, and neither can you or I. God gave it and we have to respect it.

Faith or believing is not optional for receiving healing deliverance; it is absolutely required every time.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 11: Accounts of Casting Out Devils

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

Preview of More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

In *More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits* we will see four more accounts of deliverance from devil spirit possession. We will see how the teaching of the Word of God can flush out devil spirits. We will learn more about dumb spirits, and spirits of infirmity and see that God's people ought to be healed. We will see Paul dealing with a spirit of divination. We will also see that we can always defeat or repel any personal attack of the spirit realm and we can obstruct their purposes and limit their impact.

The Healing in Capernaum Synagogue – Mark 1:21-27-43; Luke 4:31-37

Mark 1:21,22:

And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

22 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

We have mentioned it before, but it is the teaching of the Word with conviction, love, and boldness that opens the door on a lot of occasions. The teaching of the Word can flush spirits. They cannot stand it. They do not like it. They do not want to hear the Word. That is what they are going to have to here. He was teaching with the authority that he had.

Mark 1:23,24:

And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

24 Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.

Right in the middle, as Jesus is teaching, the man speaks out. It sounds like the man, but, Jesus knew what it was, and he rebuked him saying

Mark 1:25-27:

And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. [Luke 4:35 adds "and hurt him not."]

26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him. [Luke 4:35 adds that the devil had thrown him in the midst. The man was thrown to the ground, but it was the devil that did it, not God.]

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

27 And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

This really was a new thing. Like they said, “What new thing is this?” You do not see very much of this in the Old Testament. There is a little bit written about devil spirits in the book of Job (That Satan goes before God), and there is a spirit of lying mentioned in Kings. For the most part, you do not hear much about devil spirits. Jesus exposed this evil spirit realm. There was the witch of Endor, and they had wizards, and all of that stuff

But, I cannot remember an account of anyone in the Old Testament, having a spirit cast out like Jesus did. When David played with his instrument, the evil spirits that was in Saul left. But, it is not like we see in the ministry we see in Jesus. Where on a regular basis, it begins to happen. Because, he is the one, like it says in Colossians, that exposed this whole realm, making a “show of them openly,” “triumphing over them in it.” He exposed this whole realm, and how the Devil worked and how you can take care of people. Get them out of people. This was a new thing. For with authority, he commanded the unclean spirits, and they obeyed him.

That is one of the biggest keys, when you get involved in this. You realize your authority. You command them. You tell them what to do. You tell them to be quiet. Tell them not to speak. When you are working with somebody, and they start getting manifestations you can stop it.

I do not always stop it. Because, I think, sometimes it helps the people to realize this is real. That something is going on here. Then again, it is a walk. You do it as you go. But, he commanded even the unclean spirits, and they obeyed him. Just like the sea obeyed him. Just like the wind obeyed him. The unclean spirits obeyed him.

You have his authority, he has given it to you. We are going to get to those accounts. Now, when you speak, the same thing will happen. If they talk and you do not want them to talk, tell them to be quiet or hold their peace. Remember you have the authority. You are in charge. Do not allow them to ramble away, it will only be hurtful to the people.

Healing of the Man with the Dumb Spirit – Luke 11:14

This is a Dumb Spirit. This is one verse. I may read a few others.

Luke 11:14:

And he [Jesus] was casting out a devil, and it was dumb. And it came to pass, when the devil was gone out, the dumb spake; and the people wondered.

This person could not speak. Jesus did not pray it out, did he? When you start reading these records of healing, you will see there is a time to pray. Then when it comes to healing, you get the job done. You get at it.

He did not pray, “Oh Father, get this spirit out.” No, he cast it out; he told it to go. (It is the same way with the healing, too.) Jesus he cast it out. The person could not speak; the cause was a dumb devil spirit. Once removed, the person was healed of his muteness. He could speak. Is every mute possessed with a dumb spirit? The answer is “No.” In this case it was. You will not know, unless you get involved in ministering and

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

exercising the manifestation of discerning of spirits. Maybe he had an accident that caused the problem.

Luke 11:15:

But some of them said, He casteth out devils through Beelzebub the chief of the devils.

They were not doing it, and they accuse Jesus because he did.

Luke 11:16-19:

And others, tempting *him*, sought of him a sign from heaven.

17 But he, knowing their thoughts, said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and a house *divided* against a house falleth.

18 If Satan also be divided against himself, how shall his kingdom stand? because ye say that I cast out devils through Beelzebub.

19 And if I by Beelzebub cast out devils, by whom do your sons cast *them* out? therefore shall they be your judges.

When you are in the ministry, and casting out devils or unclean spirits, God can show or tell you what spirit it is. A lot of times it is not as evident. God will tell you; He will show you; you will find out. If you get involved, "roll up your sleeves." Do not be afraid; just get in there and help somebody. You make up your mind, "I can help this person." Because, "I can do all things through Christ." I am a minister of the Lord Jesus Christ.

You do not have to have something framed, up on the wall, saying I have been ordained publicly, someplace. God has anointed you with His Holy Spirit. You are born again of His Spirit. You have the power to do these things. You just need to rise up and do them. If there is a need in your fellowship and your family; you need to believe you can do something about it. You are not helpless, like in the movies.

Hollywood has really screwed this thing up. They make out that everybody is helpless. You show me where Jesus Christ was ever helpless, or Peter, or the Apostle Paul, or Phillip. They were not helpless. When the situation arises, they got in and "rolled up their sleeves." They asked God what to do and went at it.

You know Jesus Christ did not heal everybody. It says he "healed many" not that he healed them all. He did not cast out all of the spirits either. There are reasons. If people want it, they can get it. How are they going to know it is available and want it, if you do not teach them? You have to help people. So, you do what you can. You encourage them. You help them with the Word. Everybody has their own will. Sometimes, it will not happen for them. But, you can still do what you can do.

If everything else fails, we know one thing; Christ is coming back. It is going to be a new day and time. I like to torment those spirits, when I throw them out. "I am just tossing you out. Christ is coming back. He is going to destroy you." I like telling them that, because that is the truth. The return of Christ is as real as ever when you are in the middle of one of those, because you see the Word alive... because it is happening here. You see the power of God going, and everything becomes real again (like speaking in tongues for the first time again). It is just that real.

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

Once a person brought to me their kid and they needed help. So, I started talking to them, and God told me what the person was thinking. What I heard was "I am not talking to you and you cannot make me." Nothing came out of the mouth, but that is what I heard. I asked her a question, and she did not say anything. I asked her another question, and she refused to talk. So, I asked her, "Are you going to listen to the dumb spirit, who is telling you to keep your mouth shut, or are you going to open up and talk to me?" She did not say anything. I said, "it is your choice. You have a spirit telling you to keep your mouth closed. Are you going to let it keep your mouth closed, or are you going to open your mouth and tell me something?" Then finally, she began to speak. Then we got into the situation there. The dumb spirit does not always keep the person from talking. It chooses points and times, to make them not talk. It can choose points and times to make them not talk.

We had been to a Sunday service, and this woman in her 70's brought her daughter over. I knew them both. The daughter is probably in her 30's with a history of a "slow learner." I am not sure what her physical problems were. They came over to congratulate me and talk to me. The mother started to talk. The daughter went to talk, and could not say anything to me. She kept looking at me. She tried to say a couple more words. Her mom said she had not been able to speak since she came up here. She said she was hoarse. She gets that; it comes and goes a couple times a year. I knew instantly what it was, but we are in a public place. We are up front there, and I knew just what we had to do. I said, "Why don't we come over here. I look right at her. I said, "Do you want me to pray for you?" She shook her head yes. So, I went to the side.

What John and Wayne said was so true. When you do not know, your sufficiency is not of yourselves. So, you just ask God. I told Wayne this morning, "you just know." A lot of people say that is common sense. Well, that is God. You just know.

So, I knew we would all have to touch each other. We stood together. I started to pray for the girl, and I stopped myself. I went back and I asked her, "Do you believe in Jesus Christ?" She shook her head yes. "Do you believe Jesus Christ died, and rose again?" We went through Romans 10:9 and 10; basically, because I did not know. I knew I should not get involved until I knew that and handled that with her. So, we went through that. She shook her head; so on we went.

We went back into praying. It did not freak me out, that I stopped the prayer. We handled that, and went back into it. I actually named the spirit and bound the spirit. It came out in such a way, that I knew that it was totally non-threatening to them. They did not have a lot of experience with the Word. They come from a Catholic background. It was easily entreated. God gave me the words to say. Then, right when we got to the spirit part, and that was basically cast out. I severed some ties between the spirit and the family. I just knew to tell her to cough, and she did. I mean, it was like a violent coughing. She coughed, then she could speak. It was just so easy. It was another way that God just, right then, shows when they have a need, what you speak and they will come.

You can start out with prayer, but you have to get to the problem. She was at a business conference. She was just acknowledged, with the big award of the year. Everyone is congratulating her, and an opportunity arises. She could have said it was not the place or the time. You have to make up your mind. What are you going to do? There are ways of doing things. God will work with you. Say God, how will I do this?

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

You can cast out a spirit, without saying it is a spirit. Jesus rebuked a fever. He did not say, "Spirit of Fever." He said fever. He handled it just like it was a spirit. He spoke to the fever, and told it to leave. Was it a Spirit? I do not know. You do not have to call it a spirit. Sometimes, it is a spirit and you handle it that way. "Spirit of Cancer" or sometimes, I have just said "Cancer." Other times, I have not said anything. I have not named a thing. I just spoke to the organ that it was in. Then you just speak to it. You take care of it. God will tell you. Why say something that will cause trouble for people? He will help you with that, with how to say, with what to say. That is cool.

The Healing of a Woman with a Spirit of Infirmary – Luke 13:11-13

This is the healing of the woman with the spirit of infirmity. Infirmity is sickness. The spirit of sickness. There are spirits, who do not effect the mind, but cause sickness in the body. Spirits of infirmity, are spirits of sickness. Not every sickness has a spiritual origin. Some of them do; some of them do not. Again, you can have the same disease and one of them will be a spiritual cause, and in the other person it will not be. It will be physical. It will be chemical. The only way you know is by revelation and God working with you.

Since January, I have had the opportunity to confront different spirits of infirmity. There has been diabetes, arthritis, epilepsy, cancer, spirit of pain (They have described it as a big knot in their back. It was like a knot and when I talked to the pain, I did not say, "Spirit of pain." I knew it was the spirit of pain, but I said, "Ok pain, it is time for you to go." When it left, the person was able to stand up straight. He sent greetings, to me, through somebody that came. They told me, this person is now standing up straight; he is excited; he has his posture back.

I have handled spirits of pressure, even a spirit of heat. That was weird for me. I was an observer on that one. I mean, we were working together. But, I was not the one handling that. The person said, "Oh, I feel heat, I feel heat." I said, "That is ok honey, it is going to go." First, there was pressure. We took care of the pressure. Then there was heat.

Sometimes, there is shaking and trembling. Those are spirits of infirmity. There is a spirit of weakness. One time, after taking that one out, I said, "Do some pushups here." He had felt weak, and had not been able to do that before. It was a spirit of weakness, and we took it out. He was not weak anymore. Those can all be causes. These spirits of infirmity cause physical maladies, physical sickness, physical illness. That is their job.

Luke 13:11a:

And, behold, there was a woman which had a spirit of infirmity eighteen years

Spirit of infirmity, is like a class of spirits. There are animal spirits, that takes those characteristics. Then, if they end up in the person, they make the person act that way. In some churches, they have people barking like dogs during the service. That is an animal spirit. They think it is God working. I do not think there is "a" single spirit of infirmity. It is a class of spirits, which includes a lot of spirits. Diabetes can be a spirit of infirmity. Epilepsy can be a spirit of infirmity. Arthritis can be a spirit of infirmity. They cause sickness.

It was a spirit that caused sickness. When you are dealing with people, sometimes when you minister, it is important to know if this is a physical problem or a spiritual

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

problem, because you sometimes have to handle it in a different way. But, she had a spirit of infirmity 18 years and was “bowed together and could in no wise lift up herself.”

Luke 13:11b,12a:

... and was bowed together, and could in no wise lift up herself.
12 And when Jesus saw her, he called her to him,

This is important, to know, that you let people come to you for healing. You do not approach people, saying, “Can I heal you?” or “Do you want to get healed?” You do not coax people. Here are exceptions. This is one of them. The other one is in John 5.

Luke 13:12b-14:

... and said unto her, Woman, thou art loosed from thine infirmity.
13 And he laid his hands on her: and immediately she was made straight, and glorified God.
14 And the ruler of the synagogue answered with **indignation**, because that Jesus had healed on the sabbath day, and said unto the people, There are six days in which men **ought** [*dei*, must or is necessary] to work: in them therefore come and be healed, and not on the sabbath day.

What I want you to see is the attitude. When you get into situations like these, you may face attitudes. Sometimes, no matter what you do you, will have done the wrong thing.

This ruler did not have the “guts” to talk to Jesus. He tells the people they are wrong and acts like he is concerned about them. What a façade! His words say one thing while his actions demonstrate another. The leader admits that the sick should come for cures, but just not on the Sabbath. He is apparently not opposed to the healing Jesus can do; in fact, his words suggest that he encourages people to come for healing.

It is interesting that the ruler does not address his words to Jesus (though obviously Jesus hears them because he will react to them vigorously). He does not want to pick a fight with Jesus, but he does want to assign blame to those who come for healing. They need instruction because they should not on be coming on the Sabbath to get it. (It is always easy for the people who are not sick to tell the people who are sick to wait and be healed later.) Perhaps that is why Jesus called for this woman rather than wait for her to come to him. Jesus interceded to take the brunt of the indignation.

There was a reason the ruler of the synagogue did not address Jesus, but rather spoke to the people. His indignation and judgmental attitude was designed to keep the people under his thumb. That was their mode of operation... Uphold your traditions at all costs... Maintain your control over the people by whatever means necessary. It seems that every generation faces their own peculiar temptations for traditions and programs to take priority over the needs of people.

One of the traditions that have crept into some of the church people I know is: When people do not get healed, they pretend that they did. (Now there is a principle of confession at work, too. We will handle that later.) Another one is that you can only get minister once for something. (Remember the man who took his son to the disciples and then to Jesus, Matthew 17:14-21.) Many fellowships have their own traditions. If your does, it is time to break those molds.

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

Luke 13:15,16:

The Lord then answered him, and said, Thou hypocrite, doth not each one of you [This is just common sense.] on the sabbath loose his ox or his ass from the stall, and lead him away to watering? [They care more about their “things” than God’s people.]

16 And **ought** [*dei*, must or is necessary] not this woman, being a daughter of Abraham, whom Satan hath bound, lo, these eighteen years, be loosed from this bond on the sabbath day?

Jesus recognized their hypocrisy. Jesus said, “She ought...” to be healed. She should not have to wait one second more than she wants to. Every believer ought to be healed. If people in your fellowship are sick, they ought to be healed. It is the pastor’s responsibility to take care of his “flock.” Ezekiel got on the pastors because they did not bind the wounds. They did not take care of the sick.

This ruler tried to put these people under condemnation, and that is why Jesus interceded. Their self-interest seems to always be the issue. They cared more about their animals than the people they were responsible to minister to. They respected their animals more than God’s people. Their desire to maintain control over the people was much more of a priority than helping them.

Jesus did not break the Sabbath law by healing on the Sabbath. Just like the priests who ministered on the Sabbath, he was doing the work of God. He was declaring God’s will on healing and the Sabbath.⁹⁶ Jesus said that this woman ought to be healed because she was a believer, a daughter of Abraham. Galatians 3:7 and 29 says we are children of Abraham and heirs according to the promise. The work of the devil is to bind, and the work of Jesus Christ was to loose people from his bondage.

What a tremendous attitude to minister with! The people who come to be ministered to ought to be healed. They have just as much right to healing as she had. We need the same mind-set that Jesus had. They ought to be healed!

Luke 13:16 describes sickness as *being bound by Satan*. Acts 10:38 describes sickness as *oppression of the devil*. Job 42:10 describes sickness as *captivity*. Deuteronomy 28:15ff describes sickness as a *curse*. It is never God’s will. Sickness is never a “*blessing in disguise*.” If you are sick, you ought to be healed, too!

Only wrongly taught religious people are dumb enough to believe that for some reason they ought to be sick. Look at all the money people spend trying to get well. Think of the desperate lengths to which people go. They travel around the world; they try anything people suggest to find a cure for their illnesses. People exhaust their life’s savings, as the woman with the issue of blood did, trying to be well again.

People just do not naturally accept sickness. It is not normal to not want to get better. If illness is ever the will of God, then God would have to redesign our bodies because their very nature is healing. Why would He work at cross purposes with His own will. Only silly church people embrace sickness. They do that because they have had their minds polluted with stupid and unscriptural doctrines about sickness being the will of God to teach us things.

⁹⁶ Of course it was God’s will to heal. God was laboring with Jesus to do it. John 5:16,17.

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

Every time you hear people say that, you ought to fix it or confront it. Do not let people speak about our God like that. Ask any sinner, if he had a choice of being sick or being well, what he would choose? Maybe a few would not because they like the attention and sympathy, but for the most part, normal, sane people want to get well.

It is unnatural to even want to be sick. People in general do not want to be sick. Think about this: If people really wanted to stay sick, why would whole cities show up bringing the sick on stretchers and beds to be healed by Jesus Christ, or Peter, or Paul, or healing evangelists today? Given a choice, people want healing. They show up to be healed when someone preaches to them that they do have a choice. We must preach and teach that they have a choice, then follow through and heal as they believe and claim what we teach.

Thank God, our family physicians are not as stupid as some of these religious people. I am glad they do not ask, "Do you think you ought to be sick? Aren't you learning anything from this?" He does all he can to get you well. No one blames your doctor for trying to get you well without checking the will of God first.

If you go to the doctor for relief when you think your illness is God's will, you are a hypocrite. I think it is fair to say that most unsaved doctors have a better attitude than many Christian teachers about wanting to see you get healed. They even wear a caduceus, snakes on a pole, which is both a symbol of healing and of Jesus Christ, whether they personally know the story or not.⁹⁷

God's people ought to be healed! The question remains: Are we going to part of that healing process?

Paul Delivering Damsel of a Spirit of Divination – Acts 16:16-18

Paul wanted to go to Asia, but God said no.

Acts 16:9,10:

And a vision appeared to Paul in the night; There stood a man of Macedonia, and prayed him, saying, Come over into Macedonia, and help us.

10 And after he had seen the vision, immediately we endeavoured to go into Macedonia, assuredly gathering that the Lord had called us for to preach the gospel unto them.

God has called us to preach the gospel everywhere. Paul had a green light, and he was going to go wherever he wanted to go unless God said no. It is interesting that the woman he gets is from Asia. He goes down by the water where the women are praying and sees this woman, Lydia, a seller of purple.

Acts 16:14-16:

And a certain woman named Lydia, a seller of purple, of the city of Thyatira, which worshipped God, heard *us*: whose heart the Lord opened, that she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul.

⁹⁷ See Numbers 21:7-9 and John 3:14-17.)

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

15 And when she was baptized, and her household, she besought *us*, saying, If ye have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come into my house, and abide *there*. And she constrained us.

16 And it came to pass, as we went to prayer, a certain damsel possessed with a spirit of divination met us, which brought her masters much gain by soothsaying:

She was a fortune teller, manipulating things around.

Acts 16:17:

The same followed Paul and us, and cried, saying, These men are the servants of the most high God, which shew unto us the way of salvation.

Was that the truth? Sure it was.

Acts 16:18:

And this did she many days. But Paul, being grieved, turned and said to the spirit, I command thee in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her. And he came out the same hour.

Bullinger has it as the spirit of python, which is the equivalent of soothsaying. You wonder, "Why did he put up with it?" Why did he not do something right a way. She was following him. What was she hearing? The Word. Was she getting an opportunity? Sure she was. She could have believed at any time. She could have said, "Help me! Deliver me!" But, she never did that. Paul being grieved, got tired of it. Maybe the woman did not want to be delivered, but Paul did. She stepped into his holy ground space. So he cast it out. What was she following him around for? She certainly did not want to hear the Word. After Paul left, maybe she would start influencing others. This woman lost her devil spirit power to manipulate business situations and conditions and make them money. What happens?

Acts 16:19,20:

And when her masters saw that the hope of their gains was gone, they caught Paul and Silas, and drew *them* into the marketplace unto the rulers,

20 And brought them to the magistrates, saying, These men, being Jews, do exceedingly trouble our city,

If you are troubling something, there is a reason. You are agitating the evil that sits there. If you are having trouble in your community, and they do not want to listen, then maybe you want to move. It is up to you.

Closing Comments

So, these are the records. There are not a lot of them, maybe 8 or 9 of them. But you see where Jesus just stepped in and took care of it. There is a time to pray and a time to minister, a time to get the job done and a time to get at it. It does not matter what day. When the people come, they come. I love it when someone comes to me and says, "Today is my day." I say, "You are right." You know why? Because they have faith to

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

be healed. They are ready. I do not care how long it has been. Like the minister's wife, who was born deaf in one ear. She came up to me after we taught, and we went through all the records, she came bounding up to me afterwards, and said, "Today is my day." She had been ministered to and prayed for trying to get rid of this thing.

I asked her if she had been ministered to for this before, and she said, "Yes, but it never worked." I said, "Why do you think today is going to be any different?" She said, "Well, I really do not have anything to loose by trying again." That was honest. "Do you think we can heal you?" "Yes." When you are asked that question, it is best to be honest. If you do not believe that they can heal you, tell them. If you go to somebody to get ministered to because you are hoping or you are thinking or wishing that maybe... When they ask you, "Do you think I can heal you?" You do not say yes unless you mean yes. If you say, "I do not know. I hope so." If that is how you feel, that is what you say. You have to be honest. If someone says, "I do not know." Then I would say, "What is stopping you? What do you think is holding you up?" "Well, I have tried this before and I cannot ever seem to believe for healing. It is a weakness in my life." So then I say, "Well, it should not be a weakness. You deserve to be healed. Do you think that for some reason you should not be healed?" Then you find out that there this a sin, or there is something else that they are condemning themselves for, which is why they cannot believe. You say, "That is wrong! That is not causing this." Then you can take care of that problem. Get rid of that condemnation. Get rid of that unforgiveness. Get rid of that bitterness that they are holding for somebody that has been stopping them from getting healed. Then you ask them again, "Do you think I can heal you now?" "Yeah, I think it will happen now." Then you go. Why say yes, if you do not mean yes? That is being a hypocrite. If you do not know then you say "I do not know." You have to be honest. If you are not convinced, it is not going to happen.

There is room to be ministered to and not get your healing immediately. Sometimes it is immediate. Sometimes you get half of it right away and the other half you do not get until later. It took Hezekiah three days. That is what Isaiah told him. "Three days from now you are going to get it."

I ministered to somebody at the youth camp. He came up to me after the meal and said, "Will you minister to me?" I ministered to him, and told him to throw his arms up. "How do you feel?" "I feel better." But he still had pain. Then we get out to the campfire, and he decides he is going to share about his deliverance. When he gets up to come to the line the pain left, to share about how he had been delivered. Then he had a complete story to tell.

The Word allows for that. Jesus said, "Be it unto you according to your believing." If you are only believing to get so much now, it might take you awhile. I have told people to go home and go to bed. I have told people to drink a glass of water. I have told people to take a couple of aspirin, and it might take a few minutes. I have ministered to people for headaches and I say, "How does it feel now?" "It still hurts." "Well, it will not last long." Then they start working and all of a sudden they realize, "Oh, it is gone." When they stop thinking about it.

When that women left I told her "I know you have been one hundred percent healed." She said, "I know I have really improved." "Very soon you will know you are one hundred percent healed." When she left, fifteen minutes down the road, her phone rang, she put it to the wrong ear and she could hear her daughter loud and clear. She turned

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

around and drove back to tell us. She had tears in her eyes and she said, "You were right!"

There are other times as we have read in these summary verses where Jesus healed the sick and cast out devils, does not have all the details. The details of life happen when you get in the arena. Then God works with us in so many different ways. There are still needs out there. People need healing and people need deliverance from torment. You have been equipped. As we read in Peter, you minister with the ability which God giveth that you might glorify His son, Jesus Christ. We have that ability. You have it; you need to know it; and then you just go out and do it.

We are teaching so you to do, not just to fill your ears up with something. That is the reason you teach. You teach people to act on it otherwise knowledge just does not make it. You can become a well of knowledge and do nothing. Just like the Pharisees. They could quote and debate the scriptures, but they did not do anything. The minute someone did their job, then they got upset. They would want to stone them and ridicule them. That is the world we live in. They were playing church dressed up in their uniforms. Our uniform is Christ in us. We need to put that on the outside and wear it, Super Christ, cape and all.

There are two major purposes for discerning of spirits. The first one is to stand and with stand (Ephesians 6:13); so we do not get fooled; so we do not get deceived. The second one is to destroy the works of the adversary (I John 3:8) and bring deliverance to God's people. We have to destroy them. They have worked their way into people's lives. They have weaved their way in. We have to help separate them. We have to help bring that deliverance.

When you are confronted with spirits and situations there are four points I want to make:

1. You can always defeat or repel any personal attack.

If you are being tempted or accused, if you have a spiritual attack on you personally, you can always win. You can always defeat it. You just know this is spiritual. When you know, you just use the name of Jesus Christ and you say, "I am not going to be afraid. Get out of here fear." You can be victorious in any situation.

The incident where Jesus was walking on the water, he commanded them to fear not. That was a command in the imperative mood. He said, "Fear not!" So that is a decision we can make. You can control whether or not you are afraid unless it is a spirit. When you cannot calm your mind ("Be not afraid of sudden fear."⁹⁸), there is a reason. Some things happen and you get afraid but it does not last forever. You get yourself under control, and it is over. When it lingers and goes on then you know you better take care of it. Go get some help or you speak to it and tell it to leave.

If you are tempted, then you can beat it. God will make a way for you to escape. It says escape not examine. He does not make a way for you to examine the situation. He does not make a way for you to investigate the situation. He makes a way for you to escape.

What was the difference between Joseph and David's reaction to the sexual temptation? What did Joseph do? He ran from it. What did David do? He ran to it. He

⁹⁸ Proverbs 3:25. Besides the 63 verses that say, "Fear not." There are also twelve verses which say, "Be not afraid of..." Deuteronomy 20:1; II Kings 1:15; 19:6; Isaiah 10:24; 37:6; Jeremiah 1:8; 10:5; 42:11; Ezekiel 2:6; Luke 12:4; and I Peter 3:14.

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

looked for it. When the temptation comes, you do not examine it; you do not check it out to see how much you want to get involved. How can I do a little of it? I am going to dabble; I am going to see how much I can get away with. I am not really going to do it; I am just going to stick around and look. No, you flee. Joseph fled. That is what it says in Corinthians. What do you do with fornication? Flee fornication.⁹⁹ You run from it. You do not put yourself in a back seat and say, "Let me see if I can control this. Let me see if I can handle this situation. I am in charge, it is God in Christ in me." No, you flee from it. You do not put yourself in those situations. When it comes to attack you get out of it. If it is a temptation you get out of the tempting situation

2. You are guaranteed protection from devil spirits.

Any spell, curse, or evil that they want to do to you, they cannot do it. You have been freed from the curse of the law. Christ has been made a curse for us. He took it. There is no curse, there is no evil, and there is nothing that the adversary can put on you. We know that in our administration and even in the Old Testament, God told His people that there is no divination against My people. That was the Old Testament servants. We know that they did not always walk that way, but that is always God's heart. There is no curse on you. There is no evil spirit influence. There is no devil spirit that can override your free will.

You are God's kid, and you have protection. It does not matter if they are in you or somebody else. If they are in somebody else that have no right to bother you. You say, "Look you are not going to bother me. Leave me alone." What if you work with a person you know has problems? Well you either get a new job, or you stop those problems from bothering you. When I am at work and you are in my presence, you are not going to affect me. Sometimes you talk to the person. But when you are talking to the person you are really not talking to the person. If someone starts being bitter and biting and nasty, you say, "Be quiet." You are not talking to the person you are talking to the spirit. You do not have to say, "Spirit, be quiet." But if you know it is a spirit, and you know you have authority, then you say it. "Be quiet." Then the person will be offended, but they will be quiet. They will move; they will get away; they will do something.

Remember the story I told you of Godwin and the woman who was afraid of the devil spirits. She was fearful, and she accepted it. She let that happen. She believed the curse. If Jesus Christ redeemed us from the curse of the law, then we are redeemed. You claim it. You do not allow anybody to talk you into something.

Do not be afraid. If your dad beat your mom and your grandfather beat your grandmother, and you are afraid to get married because you do not want to beat your wife. You do not have to live with that fear. We must teach the new birth properly, and we tell them that when they are born again all their sin is forgiven. We must tell them that anything they have ever done wrong has been washed away; Jesus Christ has taken away the curse of the law; they do not have any consequences spiritually for anything that they have done before. All that curse stuff from the past can be eliminated. The reason that does not happen for people when they get born again, is because they do not know. If they do not know then they cannot appropriate it. They cannot claim it.

How come people do not speak in tongues when they get born again? It is because they do not know. They do not do it, because they do not know. When people get born

⁹⁹ I Corinthians 6:18

Hour 12: More Accounts of Casting Out Devil Spirits

again they have power. You have been changed. All your past has been obliterated. We need to tell people that. We need to tell people, "Yeah, you used to do drugs. Well it is over. You do not have to worry about that." If you come from a bad background it is over. That influence, that effect in your life is nullified. You have Christ in you now. You do not have to worry about that. It is done. If we do not tell them that and they start thinking back, "Oh, I was such a bad kid," and they bring that stuff back in. They have to know what the Word says to appropriate it. You have to tell them when you lead them into the new birth. It is nice to say that it is as simple as Romans 10:9 & 10 but you have to get to know the people. That is what undershepherding does. Maybe you do not get to do it the first day, but as you get to know them and you find out things, you tell them, "Hey, that ended. That is over." If they say, "I am an alcoholic." You say, "Well, you are not anymore. Maybe you do not want to drink again, but you do not have that problem." Just stop drinking.

God's Word encourages you to renew your mind. Remind yourself who you are and what you have. If you allow the same old mind and the same old habits to remain, you just welcome trouble from the past. Jesus delivered us from the curse of the law. The only people that have to suffer the curse of the law are those that put themselves back under the law. If you put yourself back under the law then you will suffer from the curse of the law. If you feel that your sin is going to make you sick, it is going to make you sick. You can read a verse in Deuteronomy that says if you do the Word you will be healthy and if you do not you will be sick. So, put yourself under the curse of the law and be sick as much as you want. No, you do not have too. Jesus Christ took that; it is over. We appropriate that.

3. You can obstruct their purposes and derail their plans.

God can keep you one step ahead if we walk. You know they are trying to obstruct you, that spiritually they are trying to oppose you. God can let us know what to do ahead of time so that we can beat them. We can always be a step ahead. We can always be in front. Sometimes that is important in your work situations. Especially if you are a salesman when you are going into different places, and you know the adversary is trying to get there before you to prepare the people. You claim that and you do not allow that kind of stuff.¹⁰⁰

4. You can limit or negate their impact.

Do not let the evil that he inflicts on one person spread to others. If you have a fellowship and there is one person who is running off at the mouth (just evil and vicious), and you know that is spiritually motivated. You stop that impact. You do not let them spew. You do not let them regurgitate upon every one in the fellowship. If they have that problem and they want to keep that attitude, fine. They can keep them, but they are not going to affect the rest of the people in you fellowship.

You can always defeat or repel any personal attack. You are guaranteed protection from them in every situation. You can obstruct their purposes and derail their plans. You can limit or negate their impact even when they have the right to act as people give it to them, you can limit what they are able to do because of who you are in Christ.

¹⁰⁰ Mark 3:10-13 records that Jesus "straitly charged" the spirits to not make him known. He severely rebuked them and would not allow them to speak. Even though they were speaking the truth at that moment, he did not want it to continue or to have any further influence. There is no indication that Jesus cast the spirits out, but he controlled them.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 13: Healing Foundations

Preview of *Healing Foundations*

In *Healing Foundations* we will see that if we want to minister healing, we should first preach healing. God wants people healed from all sickness and disease all the time, and we announce the good news that God wants people healed right now. God's Word establishes the foundation for healing which is the completed work of Jesus Christ. Our healing is not up to God; He has already done His part. We must appropriate our healing by believing. God still does signs, miracles and wonders, today, and they are valuable in adding people to the Body of Christ.

Introduction

When Jesus Christ began his public ministry in Luke 4 he declared its purpose.

Luke 4:16-19:

And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up: and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read.

17 And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,

18 The Spirit of the Lord *is* upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel [*euangelizō*, to teach the good news and teach it well.] to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted [Healing is not just physical broken arms and legs; people's hearts must be healed, too.], to preach [*kērussō*, to proclaim or herald forth boldly and publicly; to tell them what God has made available; announce with a clarion call.] deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

19 To preach [*kērussō*, to proclaim or herald forth boldly and publicly; to tell them what God has made available; announce with a clarion call.] the acceptable year of the Lord.

Part of our responsibility is to not only be able to heal, but to preach healing. We announce the good news that God wants you healed right now. We need to be able to show from God's Word that healing is God's will. God wants people healed from all sickness and disease all the time. Our culture has so accepted sickness and looked to the medical field for all the answers in this category, that to think that men of God can have anything to do in this category is like science fiction. Jesus was able to recover sight for the blind because he first preached recovering of sight to the blind. He first told them it was available, and then when they believed what he said, he healed them. People not

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 13: Healing Foundations

only need to want to be well, but they need to believe that it is possible. They not only need to believe that it is possible, but that it will happen for them.

God's Word Establishes the Foundation for Healing.

God's will has been and will always be to heal the sick. There was no place for sickness and disease in the original plan of God. There is no mention of sickness or disease in Genesis until after the fall of man. Indeed, God's creation in the beginning was very good.¹⁰¹ God does not change,¹⁰² and it has always been His desire for man to enjoy health in body, soul, and spirit.¹⁰³

I Thessalonians 5:23:

And the very God of peace sanctify you wholly; and *I pray God* your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Did you notice the words “wholly” and “whole?” “Wholly” is the Greek word, *holotelēs*, meaning “perfect, complete in all respects.” “Whole” is a related word, *holokleros*, which means complete in all its parts, in no part wanting or unsound, entire, without blemish or defect, complete in all respects, consummate. We are threefold beings of body, soul, and spirit, and it is God's will that we be preserved blameless in each part. We should not have physical sickness. We should not have mental diseases or weaknesses. We should not have spiritual problems. The repetition of these words “wholly” and “whole” from the same root is a figure of speech emphasizing our completeness in every category of life. We are to have and maintain this wholeness until Christ comes back for us. After that, there will absolutely be no more tears, no more sickness, and no more death.¹⁰⁴

III John 2:

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

You can understand why God would make a priority of these two because if you are sick or financially strapped you are not free to move with the things of God. God does not want us bound that way. He wants us to have to give.¹⁰⁵ If these two things are taken care of we are so much more free to do the things that we want to do with God.

God's will is health, and it does not vary. God is not fickle, at one moment wanting us healthy and at the next wanting us sick. We can be absolutely convinced that His will is health and healing at all times. Let me also make the point here that God's will is not only healing, but health. God's desire is for us to be in health. That is much better than getting sick and getting healed and getting sick again and getting healed again. Yes,

¹⁰¹ Genesis 1:31

¹⁰² Malachi 3:6

¹⁰³ Exodus 15:26; 23:25; Deuteronomy 7:14,15; I Kings 8:56; Psalms 30:2; 103:1-5; 107:19-21; Isaiah 40:28-31; Malachi 4:2

¹⁰⁴ Revelation 21:1,4

¹⁰⁵ Ephesians 4:28

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 13: Healing Foundations

healing is available when we are sick, but health is also available so that we do not have to get sick in the first place.

James 1:17:

Every good gift [*dosis*] and every perfect gift [*dorēma*] is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

Every time anyone is healed, they can thank God, because it comes from Him. He is the one Who made the body to heal itself. He built it into the very fabric of life, and we ought to be ever so thankful for it. God does not change. He does not vary. He does not want us healthy some times and sick other times. However, when sin came into the world, so did sickness and death.

Romans 5:12:

Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

Before sin came, nobody got sick; nobody died. However, when sin entered the creation fell and things changed. Sickness and death were then introduced.

Genesis 2:17:

But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.

The Thief wants to steal and to kill and to destroy.¹⁰⁶ Jesus came to destroy the works of the adversary.¹⁰⁷ He did it by teaching, preaching, and healing the sick.¹⁰⁸ Sickness is from the devil, and the devil uses sickness and disease to oppress and to tempt.¹⁰⁹

However, at Calvary, Jesus provided release from both sin and sickness. His blood was shed for our sin, and his body was broken for our healing. Through the work of the cross, the believer has the right to physical health, as well as the remission and forgiveness of sin.

Isaiah 53:4,5:

Surely he hath borne [*nasa*] our griefs [*choliy*], and carried [*cabal*] our sorrows [*makob*]: yet we did esteem him stricken, smitten of God, and afflicted.

5 But he *was* wounded [external injury, the skin is broken] for our transgressions, *he was* bruised [internal injury] for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and with his stripes we are healed [perfect tense].

In Hebrew the perfect tense generally expresses a completed action. Although the perfect tense is often used in Hebrew where the present tense is used in English, one of the ways the perfect is used in Hebrew is to show completed action from the point of

¹⁰⁶ John 10:10

¹⁰⁷ I John 3:8

¹⁰⁸ Matthew 4:23; 9:35

¹⁰⁹ Acts 10:38; Galatians 4:13-15

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 13: Healing Foundations

view of another action yet future. (I will draw for thy camels also until “they have done” drinking.) Sometimes in Hebrew, future events are conceived so vividly and so realistically that they are regarded as having virtually taken place and are described by the perfect. The stripes that Jesus would endure for them although yet future was so certain to happen that it is described with the perfect tense. Remember when God told Joshua that everyplace where the sole of their foot shall tread on (future tense) that have I already given unto you (past tense). From man’s point of view it was still future; from God’s point of view it had already happened. The realization of what Messiah would do in the future was the basis for their healing in the present. Their faith in what Messiah would do, provided healing for them now.

The first word in Isaiah 53:4 is “surely.” That Hebrew word only occurs 18 times in the Old Testament. It means “surely,” “truly,” “indeed,” and it carries a strong assertive force. Isaiah is convinced, and he wants God’s people to be also. Malachi 4:2 says the Messiah, the Sun of righteousness shall arise with “healing in his wings.” They expected Messiah to heal, and the rising of the sun every morning was a reminder to expect his arrival.

Jesus has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows. “Griefs,” *choliy*, means sickness (20 out of 24 times it is translated sickness or disease). “Sorrows,” *makob*, means both physical and mental pain. “Wounds” are external injuries, and “bruises” are internal injuries. Jesus bore both external illness as well as internal illness. He is a complete deliverer, healing physically, mentally, and emotionally. *Nasa* is used over 600 times and usually means “lift up,” or “bear/carry (away).” One of its usages is “to bear, in the sense of suffering the consequences for sin.”

Leviticus 5:1:

And if a soul sin... then he shall bear [*nasa*] his iniquity.

Some one had to bear the consequence of the sin. That is what Jesus did for us; he bore the consequence of our sin. The synonymous *cabal* stresses the process of bearing or transporting a load.¹¹⁰ It is a figure of servitude.¹¹¹ Like *nasa* its root is also utilized in contexts which deal with the bearing of punishments or penalties.

Isaiah prophesies that the coming servant, Messiah, lifts up and carries upon himself man’s sicknesses and bears the weight of his worrisome pain and sorrow. Nothing could more graphically portray the vicarious sacrificial work of Christ. He bore the penalty for man’s sin so that man may receive God’s righteousness and stand healed and justified before him.

Isaiah 53:6:

All we like sheep have gone astray; we have turned every one to his own way; and the LORD hath laid on him [Messiah] the iniquity of us all.

Since Jesus had no sin, what he bore was the iniquity or consequences of our sin. He became our substitute. He took our sin upon himself. He became as we were so that we

¹¹⁰ Isaiah 46:7

¹¹¹ Genesis 49:15

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 13: Healing Foundations

might become **as he is.**¹¹² II Corinthians 5:20 says, “For he [God] hath made him [Jesus] *to be* sin for us, who knew no sin; that we might be made the righteousness of God in him.”

This same word *nasa* is also used in Isaiah 53:12.

Isaiah 53:12:

Therefore will I divide him *a portion* with the great, and he shall divide the spoil with the strong; because he hath poured out his soul unto death: and he was numbered with the transgressors [He was treated in the worst way, like a common criminal.]; and he bare [*nasa*] the sin of many, and made intercession for the transgressors.

People do not seem to argue too much about Jesus bearing our sin, but they often have difficulty believing that he also bore our sickness, poverty, and pain in exactly the same way. Jesus also suffered emotionally being rejected. We have been rejected and hurt emotionally, but it does not compare to what he endured. The perfect one... the one who always walked in love and light was condemned and rejected by the very people he came to save. He took all the emotional pain, the hurt, the rejection, the shame, the guilt; he took it all upon himself. He endured that so we would not have to.

Corinthians says that we are bought with a price. Jesus Christ paid the price for our sin and sickness (just like the Passover lamb of the Old Testament) his blood was shed for the forgiveness of sin, and his body was broken for our health and healing. When they did the Passover sacrifice they shed its blood and sprinkled it on the side posts and the upper doorposts so the angel of death would pass over the house. There would be no consequence for their sin, and they ate the meat for their strength and healing. At the “last supper” where Jesus instituted the memorial of communion he said when handing them the bread, “Take eat this is my body which is broken for **you**.” Jesus knew what he was doing as he endured the stripes.

Deuteronomy 28 describes in detail the curse of the law. In the Old Testament, if the people did the law they were blessed with health and strength and abundance, and if they did not do the law they were cursed with sickness, poverty, and lack.

Please make no mistake sickness is a “curse.” It is not a “blessing in disguise”; it is not something God gives you to teach you a lesson. Now surely we can turn lemons into lemonade as the modern-day proverb states, but make no mistake. God never sent it in the first place. Jesus has redeemed us from the curse of the law. He has paid for our health and abundant life.

Galatians 3:10-13:

For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, *it is* evident: for, The just shall live by faith. [Faith in what? The incredible power of the human mind? No! Faith in what God says! Faith in what God said he provided by Jesus Christ!]

¹¹² I John 1:7; 3:2,3,7; 4:17

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 13: Healing Foundations

12 And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.
13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed *is* every one that hangeth on a tree:
14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith. [We just have to believe.]

Jesus did it for us when he gave his life on Calvary. He proved that he could and would by doing it beforehand when he walked and established God's will by demonstrating God's willingness to forgive sin and to heal. Remember the times when Jesus said to the sick, "thy sins be forgiven thee." He equated sin and sickness. When one went, so went the other.

Matthew 8:16,17:

When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with *his* word, and healed all that were sick:

17 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, and bare *our* sicknesses. [This was the guarantee that when he went to Calvary it would work. He demonstrated it before hand so we would know and be convinced.]

Some people quote these verses in support of their opinion that there is no healing in the atoning sacrifice of Jesus Christ. They say, "Yes Jesus took our sickness, but that was when he was here walking around on the earth. He healed while he was here ministering, but healing is no longer available because he is not here to do it."

There are major problems with that in my opinion. Jesus Christ was the Lamb of God,¹¹³ and like the Passover lamb of Exodus 12, he provides relief from both sin and sickness in his sacrifice. Furthermore it says, "By his stripes we are healed." It does not say by gifts of healings, we are healed. That is what gives God the legal right to turn any oppression or sickness or captivity of the devil in our lives. He has given us the right to do the same for each other. When did Jesus receive those stripes? Jesus had not endured the beatings that Isaiah prophesied would provide for our healing yet in Matthew 8. The healing that Jesus Christ did while here on earth was the proof of God's will to heal and deliver. Jesus forgave sin and healed the sick. He proved God's good, acceptable and perfect will. It was the guarantee that the stripes would do the job.

I also take issue with the statement that Jesus Christ is no longer here to do it. Isn't he in you? We are to act in his stead; we are ambassadors for Christ. What does it mean to have "Christ in you, the hope of glory"? We are to do the things he did and more. That is because his sacrifice was perfect and complete and accomplished what it was supposed to.

When Peter quotes Isaiah 53:4 he adapts it putting the action that Jesus did on our behalf in the past tense. Why? Because the action is now past.

¹¹³ John 1:29,36

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 13: Healing Foundations

I Peter 2:24:

Who his own self bare our sins in his own body on the tree, that we, being dead to sins, should live unto righteousness: by whose stripes ye were healed. [That is past tense, aorist tense in the Greek.]

The same God that forgives our sins, also heals our diseases. To deny one of those realities erodes the truth of the other.

Psalms 103:1-3:

Bless the LORD, O my soul: and all that is within me, *bless* his holy name.

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy **diseases**;

When God dealt with the sin problem, he also eradicated the sickness problem. We know that in the future with the redemption of our bodies we will absolutely not have to face sickness anymore.

Isaiah 33:24:

And the inhabitant shall not say, I am sick: [WHY?] the people that dwell therein *shall be* forgiven *their* iniquity.

God has made provision for man's sin and sickness in the completed work of Jesus Christ. Jesus was our complete substitute. He was our Passover, who was sacrificed for us. We no longer live under the curse of the law. Jesus has freed us from it. We now live by grace through faith in the finished work of Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Your Healing Is Not Up to God

One of the biggest hindrances to both giving and receiving gifts of healing is the wrong idea that whether or not you are healed is up to God. Let me ask you a question. Was your salvation up to God? In both cases whether dealing with sin or sickness, God has already made provision for you through Christ's sacrifice. Whether dealing with sin or sickness we must accept what God has already done. We do not have to wait for Him to do something; He has already done it in Christ.

Suppose someone thought their salvation was up to God. They might conclude that, "If God wants me saved He will save me; if not, it must be His will that I remain unsaved." Does that make any sense? If someone said that to us, we would just quote Romans 10:9 & 10 to them and ask them if they want to receive it or not. We know what God's will is. He wants all men to be saved and come unto the knowledge of the truth.¹¹⁴ Salvation is available to anyone who obeys Romans 10:9 and 10.

Thinking, "If God wants me healed, He will heal me; if not it must be His will that I remain sick." is no less absurd. Our salvation from both sin and sickness has been accomplished; we just need to accept the free gift. Our healing is a done-deal; it is past tense in God's eyes. Remember both the new birth and gifts of healing are called *charisma*, free gifts of God's grace. God has moved; it is now up to us. Remember we

¹¹⁴ I Timothy 2:4

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 13: Healing Foundations

have already covered the Greek word *sōzō*. It is used in Romans 10:9 of being saved from sin and its consequence. It is also used in Romans 5:10 of sicknesses and difficulties we have after we are born again.

Romans 5:10:

For if, when we were enemies, we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, being reconciled, we shall be saved by his life.

God gave Jesus Christ the power and authority to heal. He did not pray to God to heal the people who were sick, did he? He healed by the power and authority God had given him. He spoke to sickness and disease. He cast out devils spirits with his words. We are now ambassadors for Christ functioning in his stead. We must do the healing. Jesus conferred the power on his disciples and after Pentecost we all received that same power and authority. We must do it. We “work” miracles, and we give “gifts of healings.”

When we preach the full gospel of Jesus Christ and understand the mystery of God in our administration we will see more signs and wonders. When we preach Christ and *Minister with God's Power* in his stead, we will enjoy the same light and life that they did in the Book of Acts.

Signs and Wonders Are Valuable in Winning People to God's Word

Signs, miracles, and wonders happen for a reason. They are given both for the blessing of the Body of Christ and for its increase. God desires both rise and expansion. He wants rise, increase in the quality of our lives and ministries, and expansion, increase in the quantity of people who know and enjoy a personal relationship with God as His sons. The signs, miracles, and wonders are designed to care for those we have and add others who see the power of God in operation.

Jesus teaches a continuity between his own ministry and what we are supposed to do, today. He said, “As the Father has sent me so send I you.”¹¹⁵ He said, “The works that I do shall ye do also.”¹¹⁶ He said, “Ye shall receive power when the holy ghost is come upon you and ye shall be witnesses unto me.”¹¹⁷ We saw clearly that the authority Jesus had over sickness and disease he conferred upon those he taught. When Jesus sent out the twelve in Luke 9:2, “He sent them out to preach the kingdom of God and to heal.” When he sent out the seventy in Luke 10:9 he commanded them, “Whenever you enter a town... heal the sick in it and say to them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near you.’” We now function in his place, as ambassadors for Christ.

Some say it was only the original apostles whom Jesus Christ taught and upon whom he conferred the power and authority to heal that could do so. The seventy that Jesus sent out included much more than the twelve. Furthermore, in the Book of Acts it is not just the apostles who did signs and wonders. Two of the seven chosen “to serve tables” in Acts 6:5, Stephen and Philip, also do signs and wonders.

¹¹⁵ John 20:21

¹¹⁶ John 14:12

¹¹⁷ Acts 1:8

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 13: Healing Foundations

Acts 6:8 says, "Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people." Acts 8:6 says, "And the multitudes with one accord gave heed to what was said by Philip, when they heard him and saw the signs which he did." Acts 9:11 describes Ananias as a certain disciple, and he ministers healing wholeness to Paul. You do not have to be an apostle; you do not have to have a ministry. All you have to do is to be willing to do what God tells you. Healing is the responsibility of everyone born again of God's spirit.

Galatians 3:5 also notes that believers in Galatia were also working miracles. I Corinthians 12:7 states that the manifestation of the spirit was given to every man. I Corinthians 12:28 also distinguishes apostles from others who work miracles and heal when it says, "God has appointed in the church first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healings..." So it seems pretty clear that there were gifts of healings and miracles that were not limited to the apostles.

The question we should be asking ourselves is, do we desire it as much as the first century believers did?

The tremendous prayer that the church prayed in Acts four showed their solidarity and likemindedness on this. They were determined to continue in what they were instructed to do.

Acts 4:23-31:

And being let go, they went to their own company, and reported all that the chief priests and elders had said unto them.

24 And when they heard that, they lifted up their voice to God **with one accord**, and said, Lord, thou *art* God, which hast made heaven, and earth, and the sea, and all that in them is: [They are repeating God's Word; they are claiming God's promises.]

25 Who by the mouth of thy servant David hast said, Why did the heathen rage, and the people imagine vain things?

26 The kings of the earth stood up, and the rulers were gathered together against the Lord, and against his Christ.

27 For of a truth against thy holy child Jesus, whom thou hast anointed, both Herod, and Pontius Pilate, with the Gentiles, and the people of Israel, were gathered together,

28 For to do whatsoever thy hand and thy counsel determined before to be done.

29 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, [It is the spoken Word that opens the doors to the manifestations.]

30 [How?] By stretching forth thine hand to heal; and that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child [servant] Jesus.

31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

They received what they prayed for, the boldness to speak the Word. These godly men and women prayed for signs and wonders to happen in the name of Jesus. They are not a "wicked and adulterous generation" seeking signs. They are seeking the boldness to continue to preach, teach, and heal. This is what got them in trouble in the first place.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 13: Healing Foundations

They did not want to succumb to the pressure the adversary was putting on them to stop. Indeed, they responded, "We ought to obey God rather than men." They wanted the Word to move, and they wanted the privilege to do it. That is because they knew how to do it, by speaking the Word and operating the power of God.

Throughout the book of Acts we see how valuable signs and wonders are in winning people to Christ. They do not sidetrack people from the gospel; they are an integral part of it. People have separated it from the Gospel. It should not be. Jesus did not separate it. He did it all, and so should we. The reason they prayed so passionately in Acts 4:30 for signs and wonders to happen is because God was using them to bring multitudes to Christ.

I count at least seventeen times in the book of Acts where miracles led to people being added to the Lord. Two of the clearest examples are in Acts 9. The first example is in Lydda and Saron.

Acts 9:32-35:

And it came to pass, as Peter passed throughout all *quarters*, he came down also to the saints which dwelt at Lydda.

33 And there he found a certain man named Aeneas, which had kept his bed eight years, and was sick of the palsy.

34 And Peter said unto him, Aeneas, Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: [What a neat way to say it.] arise, and make thy bed. [His wife was glad he said that.] And he arose immediately.

35 And all that dwelt at Lydda and Saron saw him, and turned to the Lord.

Like in Lydda and Saron, a miracle in Joppa opened the door for great outreach.

Acts 9:36-42:

Now there was at Joppa a certain disciple named Tabitha, which by interpretation is called Dorcas: this woman was full of good works and almsdeeds which she did.

37 And it came to pass in those days, that she was sick, [Why didn't they heal her? I do not know, and it does not matter.] and died: whom when they had washed, they laid *her* in an upper chamber [prepared for burial].

38 And forasmuch as Lydda was nigh to Joppa, and the disciples had heard that Peter was there, they sent unto him two men, desiring *him* that he would not delay to come to them. [We all work together.]

39 Then Peter arose and went with them. When he was come, they brought him into the upper chamber: and all the widows stood by him weeping, and shewing the coats and garments which Dorcas made, while she was with them.

40 But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning *him* to the body said, Tabitha, arise. [A command in the power and authority in the name of Jesus Christ.] And she opened her eyes: and when she saw Peter, she sat up.

41 And he gave her *his* hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive.

42 And it was known throughout all Joppa; and many believed in the Lord.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 13: Healing Foundations

It had an impact. That is how it works! That is what the signs, miracles, and wonders are designed for. They get people's attention and confirm the Word that was spoken. It is the same God that forgives sins that heals sickness. Many times the healing of the sicknesses is the proof people need to believe their sins were forgiven.

These two accounts show us how the healing of a single person can trigger a great movement of the Word in an area. The healing of Aeneas resulted in the conversion of two cities, and the raising of Tabitha from the dead caused many in Joppa to believe in the Lord. After Paul's shipwreck, the healing of Publius open doors for many others on that island also to be healed.

Yes our ministry deals with and revolves around the centrality of the Word of God. We have a great zeal for it and its perfection and magnificence. Just because Jesus cautioned to not seek after signs, we should not think that we ought to avoid them. Nobody was more zealous for the power of the spoken Word than Paul, yet he described his mission as Christ working through him "in the power of signs and wonders."¹¹⁸ We, too, who preach the gospel of the mystery of God should likewise have signs, miracles, and wonders following the Word we preach.

¹¹⁸ Romans 15:19

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 13: Healing Foundations

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 14: Healing Realities

Preview of Healing Realities

In *Healing Realities* we will look at four great healing realities. We will see how the spoken Word, holy communion, gifts of healing, and prayer and natural recovery are all avenues of healing. We will also look at different kinds of healing and see that ministering may include restoration, removing causes, making whole, and reconciling.

HEALING REALITIES

**THE SPOKEN WORD
HOLY COMMUNION
GIFTS OF HEALING
PRAYER & NATURAL RECOVERY**

The Spoken Word

The greatest healing power in the world is the Word of God spoken on lips of believing. During the 12 years at a Bible college I saw people healed from physical sicknesses (headaches, allergies, sprained ankles, upset stomachs, and many other things) while listening to the Word being taught. Of course we taught them to expect the Word to heal them, and we taught it with authority. While in Colorado teaching this year, a man was healed sitting in the audience as I taught this very thing to him.

Isaiah 55:10,11:

For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:

11 So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper *in the thing* whereto I sent it.

12 For ye shall go out with joy, and be led forth with peace: the mountains and the hills shall break forth before you into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap *their* hands.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 14: Healing Realities

God's Word never returns "void." "Void" is the Hebrew, *reqam* meaning "in an empty condition, in vain, without effect." It is an adverb used 16 times in the Old Testament.¹¹⁹ It is used in the sense of "not fulfilled" or "unsuccessfully," but also less commonly of "without reason" (Psalm 7:5), or "without cause" (Psalms 7:4; 25:3).

This beautiful, figurative language is drawn from the rain and the snow. Rain and snow accomplished the purpose of their descent. And so with the Word of Jehovah, which goes forth out of His mouth; it will not return without having effected its object... without having accomplished God's will, or His "good pleasure"... without having attained the end for which it was sent.

Psalm 107:20:

He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered *them* from their destructions.

God sent His Word to accomplish what His will was. It does the same thing today. We know the will of God because we know the Word of God. When we read it in the

¹¹⁹ Its first occurrence is in the story of Laban and Jacob. Jacob confronts Laban saying had not God interceded for me you would have cheated me and sent me away empty, *reqam*, with no blessing or reward for working for you for 20 years.

In Exodus 3:21 God told His people that they would not leave Egypt empty, *reqam*, He would bless them with Great wealth. In Deuteronomy 15:13 when a Hebrew slave was set free he was not to go empty, *reqam*. His master was to bless him and provide for him when he left. Three times in the law God told His people to not appear before Him empty, *reqam*. They were supposed to bring an offering of blessing. In Deuteronomy 16:16 God required that all males appear before the LORD God three times a year, during the feast of unleavened bread, and the feast of weeks, and the feast of tabernacles. They were not to appear before the LORD empty.

Both *shub*, "return," and *reqam*, "void" or "empty" appear in Ruth 1. Naomi returns to Bethlehem empty, without the blessing of her husband and two sons. Later in Ruth 3:17 Boaz refuses to let Ruth return to Naomi empty; he sends with her a blessing.

I Samuel 6: 2-4:

And the Philistines called for the priests and the diviners, saying, What shall we do to the ark of the LORD? tell us wherewith we shall send it to his place.

3 And they said, If ye send away the ark of the God of Israel, send it not empty [*reqam*]; but in any wise return [*shub*] him a trespass offering: then ye shall be healed, and it shall be known to you why his hand is not removed from you.

4 Then said they, What *shall be* the trespass offering which we shall return [*shub*] to him? They answered, Five golden emerods, and five golden mice, *according to* the number of the lords of the Philistines: for one plague *was* on you all, and on your lords.

II Samuel 1:22 says that "the sword of Saul returned [*shub*] not empty [*reqam*]." It accomplished what it needed to; it shed blood.

Jeremiah 14:3:

And their nobles have sent their little ones to the waters: they came to the pits, *and* found no water; they returned with their vessels empty; they were ashamed and confounded, and covered their heads.

Jeremiah 50:9:

For, lo, I will raise and cause to come up against Babylon an assembly of great nations from the north country: and they shall set themselves in array against her; from thence she shall be taken: their arrows *shall be* as of a mighty expert man; none shall return in vain. [The army would accomplish what it was sent there to do.]

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 14: Healing Realities

Word, then we know what His will is. As we read it we can be assured of it. We never take it for granted.

The figures chosen are rich in analogies. As snow and rain promote growth and are responsible for the enjoyment of what is harvested; so the soil of the human heart is softened, refreshed, and rendered productive by the word out of the mouth of God. This word furnishes the one who speaks for God, who resembles the sower, with the seed, which he scatters, and brings with it bread which feeds the soul. For every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God is the bread by which we live.¹²⁰

Does God have a mouth? No, but he speaks. This is the figure of speech condescension. God's words do not return to him without accomplishing what they were sent to accomplish. Did you notice that it says that His words return to him? I often wonder if that is a figure of an echo. Once He speaks something how is it that His words come back to him? Do they have boomerangs on them?

His words return to Him when we speak them out of our mouths. When we speak God's Word we are returning His Word to Him and insuring that it does not come back void. When we speak it, it performs what it was sent to do. It takes our involvement in returning it... in speaking it. Like verse 12 says, when God's Word is spoken the entire creation is blessed and profited.

God's word accomplishes what God intends it to. After the fall of Lucifer God healed His creation by speaking His Word to it.

Genesis 1:1-3:

In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.

2 And the earth was [became] without form, and void; and darkness *was* upon the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters.

3 And God said, Let there be light: and there was light.

God simply spoke light into being. This is how God began to heal His creation after the adversary made it without form and void. There is power in the spoken word. Throughout chapter one we read time after time, "And God said... And God said..."

The new birth is the greatest miracle. When someone confesses that Jesus is Lord and believes God raised him from the dead, he passes from death unto eternal life. The Word that we heard, received, and obeyed (Romans 10:9&10) accomplished it. This is the miracle of all miracles, and it came to pass as the Word is spoken and believed.

There is a wonderful attitude that we have toward the Word. It is the Word of God, and we reverence them. We have respect unto them. In Psalm 119 the psalmist talks about his delight in the Word of God.¹²¹ He respected it, and so should we.

¹²⁰ Deuteronomy 8:3; Matthew 4:4

¹²¹ Like the Psalmist, we delight in God's wonderful matchless Word. Nine times in Psalm 119 it records his delight in the Scriptures. (Psalm 119:16,24,35,47,70,77,92,143,174) In verse 92 it says, "Unless thy law had been my delights, I should then have perished in mine affliction." We can make it through any assault from our adversary when God's Word is our delight. In Job 23:12 while Job was under such great distress and attack, he boldly declared, "Neither have I gone back from the commandment of his lips; I have esteemed the words of his mouth more than my necessary food." Our love for God's communication of Himself will bring delight to our souls, and keep us from perishing in our affliction also.

Ministering With God's Power **Hour 14: Healing Realities**

Proverbs 4:20-22:

My son, attend to my **words**; incline thine ear unto my **sayings**.

21 Let them not depart from thine eyes; keep them in the midst of thine heart.
[See how it progressively builds.]

22 For they *are* life unto those that find them, and health [*marpe*] to all their flesh.

That is the process of how things get to our hearts. If things got into your heart the first time you heard them, life would be dangerous. It takes repetition and habitual work to get things into our hearts. We decide what goes into our hearts, and when it is God's Word that goes in, it has such a profound effect. God's Word are life-giving. "Health" is *aarpe*, used 16 times (eight of which are in Proverbs) means "health," "healing," and "cure."

II Chronicles 36:15,16:

And the LORD God of their fathers sent to them by his messengers, rising up betimes, and sending; because he had compassion on his people, and on his dwelling place:

16 But they mocked the messengers of God, and despised his words, and misused his prophets, until the wrath of the LORD arose against his people, till *there was* no remedy [*marpe*].

There was no healing for the people because they rejected His Word. There was no change in their lives because they did not receive the life-changing Word. When people reject God's Word, there is no remedy; there is no healing possible because it is the Word that brings the healing.

Proverbs 12:18:

There is that speaketh like the piercings of a sword: but the tongue of the wise *is* health [*marpe*].

The tongue of the wise brings healing because it speaks the Word. It decides on what it wants to say and returns it to Him allowing it to accomplish what He wants it to accomplish.

Proverbs 13:17:

A wicked messenger falleth into mischief: but a faithful ambassador *is* health [*marpe*].

Faithful to speak the word he was sent to speak.

Proverbs 15:4:

A wholesome [*marpe*] tongue *is* a tree of life: but perverseness therein *is* a breach in the spirit.

When we do not speak the right thing, it hurts us. That is why it is important to control it.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 14: Healing Realities

Proverbs 16:24:

Pleasant words *are as* an honeycomb, sweet to the soul, and health [*marpe*] to the bones.

Psalms 107:20:

He sent his word, and healed them, and delivered *them* from their destructions.

Do not make the mistake of substituting belief in healing for actually doing God's His Word. Do not say, "I believe in healing" without actually acting on the Word. What good would it do you to believe in food if you did not eat it? You would starve. What good would it do you to believe in water if you did not actually drink any? You would die of thirst. It is not just that we believe it; we take it; we do it; we act on it. That heals.

People believe more in natural medicine than they do in God's Word. They will take medicine. Why not take God's Word. God's Word is like medicine. If you want its benefits, take heed to it. Do it! Be kind one to another, be forgiving, speak the truth in love, rid yourself of strife and bitterness, let not the sun go down upon your wrath. Take your medicine.

First, God's Word is a healing agent just as natural medicine is a healing agent or catalyst. In other words, the medicine itself contains the capacity to produce healing. God's Word contains inherent within it the capacity, the energy, the ability, the nature to effect healing in your body.

Hebrews 4:12:

For the word of God *is* quick, and powerful, and sharper than any twoedged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and *is* a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.

The Word itself contains the power to produce what it says, just as when God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. Healing scriptures contain within them the capacity to produce healing. The key to partaking of the life and healing energy in the Word is feeding on it until it penetrates your heart, where it releases that life and energy.

Second, we might say that medicine is no respecter of persons. It will work for anyone who takes it. It is not a matter of God willing or not willing the healing of any individual, but whether or not the individual will receive healing by taking the medicine that produces it.

Third, medicine must be taken according to directions to be effective. We already read the directions for taking God's medicine in Proverbs 4:20,21. Attend to it; incline your ear to it; do not let it depart from before your eyes; keep them in the midst of your heart. We might say that attending to them, inclining your ear to them, and keeping them before your eyes cause them to get into the midst of your heart. Now, when they penetrate to the heart and stay there they will surely bring health to all your flesh. Instead of wondering whether you have enough faith to be healed, just take the medicine.

Fourth, remember that it takes time for medicine to work. Most people give natural medicine time, and they take the prescription back for more refills. They are diligent about it. They do not take just one dose and expect a miracle. Keep taking God's

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 14: Healing Realities

medicine. Give it time to work. Take a full course. The spoken Word is the first and greatest of the healing realities.

Holy Communion

Communion is the memorial that Jesus instituted before he gave himself as the final Passover lamb. Like the Passover that looked forward to Jesus' sacrifice, communion looks back at it. The bread and the cup, as did the lamb and the blood, represent respectively the broken body and the shed blood of Jesus Christ.

I Corinthians 11:23-30

For I have received of the Lord that which also I delivered unto you, That the Lord Jesus the *same* night in which he was betrayed took bread:

24 And when he had given thanks, he brake *it*, and said, Take, eat: this is [represents] my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me.

25 After the same manner also *he took* the cup, when he had supped, saying, This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink *it*, in remembrance of me.

26 For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew [proclaim; make a legal pronouncement] the Lord's death [declare the accomplishments and significance of his death] till he come.

27 Wherefore whosoever shall eat this bread, and drink *this* cup of the Lord, unworthily [improperly], shall be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord.

28 But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of *that* bread, and drink of *that* cup.

29 For he that eateth and drinketh unworthily, eateth and drinketh damnation [judgment] to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

30 **For this cause** [not discerning the Lord's body] many *are* weak and sickly among you, and many sleep [die prematurely].

We need to understand the sacrifice that he made. He did it to take our sickness and disease, so we do not have to have it. He did it willingly. He instituted this observance of holy communion so that we would take the time to solemnly remember and reflect on his sacrifice. What other memorial did he set up? He knew how important what he was going to endure was, and he wanted us to remember it, too.

When you do things without understanding, without acknowledging the truth by believing, it simply becomes a ritual. His body was broken that we might have physical healing, and his blood was shed that we might have remission and forgiveness of sin, and live without guilt and condemnation.

Holy communion is similar to the Passover of the Old Testament. In the Old Testament under the reign of Hezekiah the people had wandered so far off that they had not been keeping the Passover. Hezekiah had it re-instituted, and although they did not do it perfectly in every detail God still healed the people as they did it,

II Chronicles 30:18-20:

For a multitude of the people, *even* many of Ephraim, and Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves, yet did they eat the passover otherwise

Ministering With God's Power **Hour 14: Healing Realities**

than it was written. But Hezekiah prayed for them, saying, The good LORD pardon every one

19 *That* prepareth his heart to seek God, the LORD God of his fathers, though *he* be not *cleansed* according to the purification of the sanctuary.

20 And the LORD hearkened to Hezekiah, and healed the people.

When they observed the Passover, and recognized what the blood of the lamb was and what the eating of the flesh was. They acted on the Word, and when they did, they received the benefits. The Passover looked forward to the atoning sacrifice Christ would one day supply, and the memorial of communion looks back at it. They both effect healing because they taught about what the actual atonement itself would be and do. When we remember and appropriate it by our believing, we too can realize God's healing wholeness.¹²²

Gifts of Healing

Gifts of healings are specific energizings of holy spirit in the believer in which a believer imparts healing in the name of Jesus Christ by the power and authority given unto him as a son of God and an Ambassadors of Jesus Christ. God has given us the power and authority to heal and we must operate it by our free will to bring God's good, acceptable and perfect will to pass. This manifestation of the spirit is one of the three impartation manifestations we are studying in *Ministering With God's Power*.

When someone operates gifts of healings something real transpires in the life of the person ministered to. It does not involve sleight of hand or trickery. There will be conclusive proof that a healing has occurred that will stand up to medical tests. X-rays, MRIs, blood work, etc. will substantiate the reality of what has been wrought.

The energizing of the gift makes a noticeable impact that could be measured if we knew how to do so. A "24 hour" or a "48 hour" flu that leaves after you wake up from a short nap after having been ministered to is a gift of healing. Often times a gift of healing will also prevent or eliminate damage that is likely to occur naturally. For example, on occasion when someone drowns being dead for a prolonged period of time, the lack of oxygen that may normally may cause brain damage, can be negated and reversed. Sometimes gifts of healing are ministered in succession one after another over a course of time, as people believe.

Not all gifts of healing happen immediately, when they do they are also workings of miracles. Although most of the Biblical accounts record immediate healing. There are specific accounts that show how gifts of healing may occur over a period of time. Jesus ministered to a blind man who received his sight back in two stages.¹²³ Hezekiah was healed in three days as Isaiah told him he would be.¹²⁴ Jesus also made allowance for gifts of healing to not be instantaneous with the phrase, "be it unto you according to your believing."¹²⁵ It is always available to be healed right now, but it is also always according to the person's believing.

¹²² **For Further Study:** "The Broken Body and the Shed Blood" chapter 9 in *The Bible Tells Me So*

¹²³ Mark 8:22-26

¹²⁴ II Kings 20:5-8

¹²⁵ Matthew 8:13; 9:29; 15:28

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 14: Healing Realities

One can operate impartation manifestations even when those around them are fearful or unbelieving. Jesus calmed a storm when all those on board with him were afraid.¹²⁶ Elijah defeated the prophets of Baal, when everyone else was against him.¹²⁷ Paul brought deliverance to all that were on the ship with him, even though they had given up hope.¹²⁸

Although the impartation manifestations may not engage until we begin. There are several Biblical accounts where people knew by revelation ahead of time that the people to whom they were going to minister had the faith to be healed. Peter said to the lame man at the temple gate, Beautiful, "Such as I have I give..." Paul perceived ahead of time that the impotent man at Lystra would be healed.¹²⁹ We must stay flexible, and not expect healings and miracles to always occur in the same manner.

Prayer & Natural Recovery

If people do not have the faith to receive a gift of healing, they may still be healed by the natural healing processes of the body. Big doses of rest, the love of God, and prayer can comfort the sick and encourage them until they manifest the healing that is rightfully theirs in Christ Jesus. Since we know God's will is to heal always, we can pray for the sick according to the promises of the written Word. Anytime during this natural recovery process when the sick decides to appropriate the healing that is rightfully theirs by the broken body of Christ. They may receive a gift of healing.

When a child is conceived by natural procreation, that is a blessing from God.¹³⁰ If the father and mother prayed for the child, it would be an answer to prayer. However, it is not a miracle or gift of healing when it occurs by natural means. The conception of Jesus was miraculous, because it did not occur by natural means. However, sometimes a healing has to occur before conception is possible through natural means. Many children are the result of a gift of healing allowing for the natural process of procreation to occur. The Bible records many barren women who conceived when whatever prevented the natural conception was removed, healed, or otherwise fixed.

We also pray and believe for health as promised in God's Word.¹³¹ God may bless us with health and healing according to the natural process by which the body heals itself. This natural process may be aided by medical or surgical treatment, diet, supplements, exercise, casts, and other mechanical devices such as braces and crutches. It is important to remember, however, that every good gift comes from God. We can speak of "natural processes" for healing knowing that God is the one Who established them. Therefore when body tissue repairs itself and the immune system works, it is doing what God intended it to do.

Jesus spoke of the value of physicians.¹³² We can, in a sense, also speak of "medical healing." Medicine is rooted in the understanding of how God designed the body to work and heal itself. Removing causes, clearing obstructions, and replacing defective parts

¹²⁶ Mark 4:35-41

¹²⁷ I Kings 18:20-40

¹²⁸ Acts 27

¹²⁹ Acts 14:8-10

¹³⁰ Psalms 127 & 128

¹³¹ III John 2

¹³² Matthew 9:12; Mark. 2:17; 5:26; Luke 4:23; 5:31

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 14: Healing Realities

may restore health. Although the medical profession may do some things that nature does not have the ability to do on its own, but they still rely on the power of the body to heal itself. Although doctors can set a bone, they cannot heal it. It heals by itself. When we go to physicians we should believe they can help, but we should remember that we put our trust in God to heal us and not physicians.

II Chronicles 16:12:

And Asa in the thirty and ninth year of his reign was diseased in his feet, until his disease *was* exceeding *great*: yet in his disease he sought not to the LORD, but to the physicians.

Luke 8:43:

And a woman having an issue of blood twelve years, which had spent all her living upon physicians, neither could be healed of any,

Physicians are limited, but God is not. Jesus can save to the uttermost all Who come to God by him.¹³³ Although God charged us to heal the sick and not to simply pray for them, when there is no faith to be healed we can still pray according to the will of God and believe for the natural healing processes of the body to be spurred in answer to our prayer.

Conclusion of Healing Realities

God's Word establishes the foundation for healing. God established four great healing realities. The spoken Word, holy communion, gifts of healings, and prayer and natural recovery are all avenues whereby God's healing wholeness may be imparted to man.

Kinds of Healing

We have already handled the truth that God wants all people healed of all sickness all the time. It is always God's will to heal. As we have discussed before it does not matter if the problem was from birth or chronic over a number of years or even terminal. We have looked at the foundation of healing and the four great healing realities. In this section I want to handle four kinds of healing that we may do when operating gifts of healings.

¹³³ Hebrews 9:25

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 14: Healing Realities

Kinds of Healing

- 1. To heal is to restore to health.**
- 2. To heal is to remove a cause.**
- 3. To heal is to make sound or whole.**
- 4. To heal is to reconcile.**

A restoration to health is just that. One has had health in a category before, and it gets restored. The adversary tries to steal and to kill and to destroy. Sometimes he succeeds in stealing one's health. A restoration simply returns the health one has enjoyed before.

Examples of restorations can be found in the following accounts:¹³⁴

1. Jesus healing the blind man at Bethsaida (Mark 8:22-26).
2. The raising of the Shunamite's son (II Kings 8:1,5).
3. Jesus healing the noble's son (John 4:46-54).
4. The healing of Jeroboam's hand (I Kings 13:1-6).

Sometimes a sickness is due to the presence of something that should not be there. Our immune system is designed to attack and remove contagions that cause disease. Causes may be microscopic like germs or viruses, or they may be larger like splinters, bullets, or shrapnel. Casting out evil spirits is also removing causes of sickness and disease.

Examples of removing causes can be found in the following accounts:¹³⁵

1. Jesus healing father's son (Matthew 17:16-18).
2. Jesus healing woman with spirit of infirmity (Luke 13:11-13).
3. Jesus healing the leper (Matthew 8:1-4; Mark 1:40-45; Luke 5:12-15).
4. Jesus healing Peter's mother-in-law (Matthew 8:14,15; Mark 1:29-31; Luke 4:38,39).
5. Ananias ministering to Paul (Acts 9:1-19).

Sometimes parts of the body never develop as they should. At times people are born with parts missing. In either of these cases those parts of the body, which atrophied or are missing can be strengthened and inserted where they should be. Being made sound or whole often involves something coming into being, which was not there before. This is what takes place in the new birth when one receives holy spirit, power from on high.

Examples of being made sound or whole can be found in the following accounts:¹³⁶

1. Healing at temple gate, Beautiful (Acts 3:1-8,16; 4:9,12,22).
2. Healing of one of the ten lepers (Luke 17:13-19).

¹³⁴ See also Ruth 4:15; Psalms 23:1-3; 51:12; Isaiah 58:11,12; Jeremiah 30:17

¹³⁵ See also Exodus 8:31; Psalms 119:22,29; Proverbs 30:8; Hosea 5:13; Matthew 17:20; I Corinthians 11:29-30.

¹³⁶ See also Acts 4:12; 14:9; Romans 10:9; 5:10.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 14: Healing Realities

3. Jesus healing the woman's issue of blood (Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:43-48).
4. Jesus healing in Simon's house (Luke 7:36-50).
5. Jesus healing man born blind (John 9:1-11).

Sometimes the return to health requires that something that has been severed be reconciled. Fingers, limbs, nerves, and bones, which have been severed, can be reconciled. We can bring back together that which has been separated.

Examples of being reconciled can be found in the following accounts:¹³⁷

1. Healing Malcus' ear (Luke 22:49-51)
2. Healings throughout Galilee (Matthew 4:23-25; 9:32-35).

These are four ways you may heal when you operate the manifestation of gifts of healing. They all are means of bringing deliverance to God's people. There is no limit to God. He can deliver to the uttermost all those who come to him. As laborers together with Him we may find ourselves in situations where we restore health to people, where we remove the causes for their sickness, where we make them whole, and where we reconcile what has been separated.

¹³⁷ See also Romans 5:10; II Corinthians 5:18-20; Ephesians 2:16; Colossians 1:20.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 14: Healing Realities

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 15: Healing Accounts #1

Preview of Healing Accounts #1

In *Healing Accounts #1* we will read the healing of the centurion's servant, a man full of leprosy, a man with palsy, Peter's mother-in-law, a woman with an issue of blood, and Jairus' daughter. We will see the importance of the spoken Word in opening doors for healing, and we will see how forgiveness of sin is an integral part of ministering.

The Healing of the Centurion's Servant – Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 5:12-15

We are going to start going through the healing accounts in the New Testament. I would like to start in the gospels and see how far we get as we travel through these records. I am going to be sharing from Matthew 8 and also Luke 7. When you have different records of the same incident you can learn more information and more detail from each.

Matthew 8:5,6:

And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,
6 And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

Here it says there came unto him a centurion.

Luke 7:1-5:

Now when he had ended all his sayings in the audience of the people, he entered into Capernaum.

2 And a certain centurion's servant, who was dear unto him, was sick, and ready to die.

3 And when he heard of Jesus, he sent unto him the elders of the Jews, beseeching him that he would come and heal his servant.

4 And when they came to Jesus, they besought him instantly, saying, That he was worthy for whom he should do this:

5 For he loveth our nation, and he hath built us a synagogue.

He was not an Israelite, he was a Gentile but he loved the nation of Israel. This happened a lot. I taught how the Word really moved back in Acts 19, in 2 years and 3 months. It says that Paul taught in synagogues. Well, how did they get there? These synagogues were not in Jerusalem. You find that these people loved him and they were rich and wealthy, and they helped build the synagogue and that is what happened here.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 15: Healing Accounts #1

So the elders went on behalf of the Centurion. The Centurion was not an Israelite but he believed in and supported the nation of Israel. He had heard of Jesus and he knew of him.

Matthew 8:7:

And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.

Luke 7:6-8:

Then Jesus went with them. And when he was now not far from the house, the centurion sent friends to him, saying unto him, Lord, trouble not thyself: for I am not worthy that thou shouldest enter under my roof:

7 Wherefore neither thought I myself worthy to come unto thee: but say in a word, and my servant shall be healed.

8 For I also am a man set under authority, having under me soldiers, and I say unto one, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth *it*.

The Centurion understood authority, and he believed that Jesus had the authority to speak the words of healing so that his servant would be healed. He understood that when one has authority he speaks and things get done. Something happens. He knew it when he did it. So he knew that Jesus had authority, and he believed that.

Matthew 8:9,10:

For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this *man*, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth *it*.

10 When Jesus heard *it*, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

Jesus had been preaching and teaching the gospel. He had been ministering to the people of Israel. He had healed the sick and diseased, cast out devils, and performed miracles. Jesus expected Israel to rise up to believe in his words like this. He wanted them to have the faith of God yet they had not arrived to the level of this Gentile centurion. No wonder he marveled. The centurion had just heard of Jesus, and he had no doubt that he could heal his servant if he spoke because he knew there was authority in the words of Jesus Christ. I am telling you there is authority in the name of Jesus Christ, and we have that right to use it. He asks us to.

Matthew 8:13:

And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, *so* be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

Luke 7:10:

And they that were sent, returning to the house, found the servant whole that had been sick.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 15: Healing Accounts #1

The servant was healed because the one that had authority sent for Jesus. He believed on him. He had great faith in him to heal his servant. That is the same truth with us as parents. We have authority over our children and we need to believe for our children. We need to have faith in our children. There is no reason why our children should not do great, should not prosper, should not learn. You keep them in your heart. You pray. You talk to them. When you send them out every day you can have a believers meeting with them and at supper time we would talk about the day. Those are your children. You have to teach them and watch over them. You have to believe for them at times. Teach them how to believe. They are great believers. Children are born to believe. They even believe in the man with the red suit and the white beard, and the bunny with the pink eggs.

Jesus told us to ask anything in his name and he will do it. That is why we pray and minister in the name of Jesus Christ. There is power in his name. God gave him a name above every name, above every sickness and disease and so on. This man believed and he received. He believed in the authority. In the name of Jesus Christ we have authority. There is power in that name just as there was power in his words. There is power in his words because he was the living word, right? There is power in the Word of God. When you speak the Word of God, people believe it and get it. They get healed; they get delivered.

The Healing of a Leper – Matthew 8:1-4; Mark 1:40-45; Luke 5:12-15¹³⁸

Matthew 8:1,2:

When he was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him.

2 And, **behold, there came** a leper [Luke 5:12 says, “a man full of leprosy.” There was no way he could disguise his leprosy.] and worshipped him [fell down prostrate before him.], saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst [*dunamai*, to have the power to] make me clean.

Notice the word "Behold." That is the figure asterismos. It literally means to take notice of, to consider, to think and meditate upon what happens next. This word "behold" is for the benefit of the reader, to call our special attention to this event, God doesn't want us to miss this. Ordinarily lepers did not come into the company of clean persons, even in the best of circumstances. The law commanded that lepers were to dwell alone without the camp, and when clean persons approached, they were to shout "unclean, unclean"¹³⁹ so as to identify themselves as lepers. Lepers were not permitted to touch, or to even come close to clean persons. Contact with a leper would make one ceremonially unclean, whether he contracted the disease or not. This leper was on a mission, and he was determined. The people must have made way for him and given him a hard time about it.

He had a need that he knew Jesus could meet. He had to fight his way through the crowd. The leper knew Jesus was able; he just needed to know he was willing. It is very important that we establish the will of God for people. When folks have this kind of

¹³⁸ Although many commentators agree that these are identical accounts, Bullinger believes that these accounts do not record identical healings. See the Companion Bible Appendix 138

¹³⁹ Leviticus 13:45

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 15: Healing Accounts #1

believing then you can really help them. A lot of people believe that God can heal, they are just not sure God is willing to do it for them.

Matthew 8:3:

And Jesus [Mark 1:41 adds, “moved with compassion.”] put forth *his* hand, and touched him, saying, **I will; be thou clean.** And [Mark 1:42 says, “as soon as he had spoken.”] immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

The words “put forth” are the Greek word, *ekteinō*. It means to reach out or stretch out. *Ekteinō* is used in a narrative to bring emphasis by adding detail. Kittel says it adds a graphic element in a story to make it more vivid. It was not by accident that Jesus touched him. It was deliberate action; he put forth his hand and touched him. It also established the will of God for this man. Reaching out and touching this man was the action that corroborated the words Jesus spoke.

We, too, must be willing to speak and to act in such a way that it has an impact on those to whom we minister. Jesus touched him in seeming contradiction to Leviticus 5:3. I believe the man was healed as Jesus spoke and reached for him. He was no longer a leper when Jesus actually laid his hands upon him. How important this touch must have been to him. How long it had been since he had known the tender touch of anyone besides those outcast with him. The master touched him. Some commentators suggest that this touch was an embrace full of love and compassion and joy.¹⁴⁰

Matthew 8:4:

And Jesus saith unto him, See thou tell no man; but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

When Jesus said, “I will.” the man had his answer and his gift of healing. Jesus also knew the law, and instructed the man to present himself to the priest as the law required. When you are healed, there will be verifiable, positive proof. You can go to the doctor and have an x-ray or get blood work done, and it will substantiate the reality of the truth.

Jesus told him to present himself to the priest, because for him to be accepted back into the congregation, he had to be checked and cleared by the priests. Jesus sent him to the priest because he was healed, and he wanted him back with the believers. The result of this healing is recorded in Luke.

Luke 5:15:

But so much the more went there a fame abroad of him: and great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by him of their infirmities.

You are not going to do much healing without doing some speaking. This opened the door for many others who wanted to both hear him and be healed by him.

¹⁴⁰ Young's Analytical Concordance entry “touch.”

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 15: Healing Accounts #1

**The Healing One With Palsy – Matthew 9:2-8; Mark 2:1-12;
Luke 5:17-26**

Matthew 9:1,2:

And he entered into a ship, and passed over, and came into his own city.

2 And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.

They brought this man to Jesus. He was paralyzed. Jesus seeing their faith, that is the word, *oida*, which mean to perceive in his mind. Jesus received revelation; he saw in his mind that they had faith for this healing, for this miracle to take place. Jesus said to the man of the palsy, “Be of good cheer.” He encourages him and says, “Thy sins be forgiven thee.”

Matthew 9:3,4:

And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This *man* blasphemeth.

4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

The word “knowing” is the same word as “seeing.” He knew it. You can really see the revelation taking place here. That is how God works with you as you move. Someone was asking me if you had to have revelation in order to minister to somebody. She was telling about how one time when somebody came up and asked her if she would minister to them, she asked, “What is your problem?” “What is my problem? You mean you do not know? You are not going to minister to me!” Then they walked away. How stupid.

People get that idea, but most of the time you do not get it. For one thing God wants to know if you are serious or not. You “roll your sleeves” up, and you start talking. What do you want to know? Or if you get stuck somewhere. Just like if you were helping a child. They are off and running, and they need something. Then you get in there, and you help them. Then you let them go a little further, and you help them again. That is how they learn to do things. Make up your mind, get ready, then God will go. If you do not believe that God can do it, and I can minister it to you then find somebody else. You start, and a lot of time it starts with questions. We will see this as we read these records. We will see how often Jesus said, “What do you want?”¹⁴¹

I Corinthians 2:11:

For what man knoweth the things of a man, save the spirit of man which is in him? even so the things of God knoweth no man, but the Spirit of God.

The only way he is going to know is if God shows him and God tells him. A lot of times that is what happens when you are ministering, you are not going to know. They can answer all your questions and you are still not going to know unless God tells you because people can look sincere, right?

¹⁴¹ See Appendix 4: Questions Jesus Asked in Ministering Situations

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 15: Healing Accounts #1

Matthew 9:5-8:

For whether is easier, to say, *Thy sins be forgiven thee*; or to say, *Arise, and walk?*¹⁴²

6 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) *Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.*

7 And he arose, and departed to his house.

8 But when the multitudes saw *it*, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.

We minister with the ability which God giveth that God may be glorified in His son. Jesus exercised the power that God had given him and he had the power to forgive sin and to heal. How often we can do that with somebody when we witness and share. God forgives sin through the lord Jesus Christ (Romans 10:9 &10). You are cleaned. You believe and you accept that and you are cleaned. In verse 8 it said that the people marveled, they were amazed and astonished that God gives power. Jesus acted on that power.

Mark 2:2:

And straightway many were gathered together, insomuch that there was no room to receive *them*, no, not so much as about the door: and he preached the word unto them.

In this account we found out that the house was crowded, that there was not any room and also that Jesus preached the Word. It did not say that in the other record. Jesus preached the Word that is the basis, that is how they get there. A lot of people believe, faith cometh by hearing and hearing by the Word. The Word of God has to be preached. Remember I said Jesus did not go on devil hunts to the mental hospital. He did not get to Capernaum and say, "Okay boys let us check out the hospitals. Let us go find out where the rooms are. We are going to clean house here." They heard the word and they believed. They came to him. The preached and taught Word is the basis for all faith.

Mark 2:3,4:

And they come unto him, bringing one sick of the palsy, which was borne of four.

4 And when they could not come nigh unto him for the press, they uncovered the roof where he was: and when they had broken *it* up, they let down the bed wherein the sick of the palsy lay.

¹⁴² Knowing their thoughts, Jesus asked them whether it is easier to say one's sins are forgiven, or to tell him to arise and walk. While either statement could be *spoken* with ease, the first would be "easier" in that it could not be disproved by onlookers. Jesus would use the second statement to prove the first. That the man believed his sins were forgiven was corroborated by him rising up and walking. The fact that the man was healed was a clear indication that his sins were forgiven. Jesus therefore spoke not only the easier words, but He also spoke of healing, thereby proving He has power to perform both acts, healing and forgiving sin. Gifts of healings is the manifestation which proves God's ability and willingness to forgive sins. It is important that we do the same for people when they need it. Jesus told Peter he would do this before he ascended as recorded in John 20:23. When we know people are born again of God's spirit by confessing Romans 10:9 & 10 we should tell them their sins are forgiven. If they want proof we can have them speak in tongues.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 15: Healing Accounts #1

That is an attitude isn't it? That is the kind of attitude you have to get if you are going to help someone get delivered or if you are the one you go after it. Rip the roof off the house if that is what you have to do. But you do not stop. You do not let anything discourage you.

Mark 2:5-12:

When Jesus saw their faith, he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.

6 But there were certain of the scribes sitting there, and reasoning in their hearts,
7 Why doth this *man* thus speak blasphemies? who can forgive sins but God only?

8 And immediately when Jesus perceived in his spirit that they so reasoned within themselves, he said unto them, Why reason ye these things in your hearts?
9 Whether is it easier to say to the sick of the palsy, *Thy* sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and take up thy bed, and walk?

10 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (he saith to the sick of the palsy,)

11 I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house.

12 And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.

When you preach the Word of God and desire to help, you will minister to others. God will work within us and give us the revelation we need when we need it. We must be ready to hear and see and get at it.

Many times when people come for healing they carry unworthiness. Sometimes they are carrying unforgiveness towards others who have hurt them. This unforgiveness and unworthiness needs to be handled. Sometimes they are not ready to start; you need to find out things. You ask questions, and God gives you revelation. That is how you work through things. You may have to remind them that they have been washed clean by the blood of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Sometimes the unworthiness or unbelief is hidden. They will make excuses for themselves like: you are too busy; you are too tired. So what? If you want it you interrupt. We are going to be busy. If we were not busy, we would not be doing our job. But, our job is you! Do not let yourself get talked out of it. Do not be afraid to confront your doubt and unbelief. You are a big deal to God, and your healing is important. Jesus Christ died so you could have it.

When people are sin-conscious, it is like "standing on the hose to receive." God wants to give; we want to minister; but they are standing on the hose. They let their sin and unworthiness hold them back. You can get confused that way, and where there is confusion there is every evil work.¹⁴³

Jesus knew this man needed to know that his sins were forgiven. That is why he said it. Once that was taken care of then he could heal him. Gifts of healings are gifts of God's grace, like salvation. God gives them because He loves, not because we earn it. If

¹⁴³ James 3:13

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 15: Healing Accounts #1

people get that straight right away, it will help them. God does not heal you because you earn it. He heals you because you are His kid, and He loves you in spite of your faults, weaknesses, and failures.

Luke 5:17:

And it came to pass on a certain day, as he was teaching, that there were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting by, which were come out of every town of Galilee, and Judaea, and Jerusalem: and the power of the Lord was *present* to heal them [The Pharisees and doctors of the law].

Did they get it? No! Was it there? Yes! Neither did they stop the power of the Lord from healing the man with the palsy. They could have all been healed that day.

Luke 5:26:

And they were all amazed, and they glorified God, and were filled with fear, saying, We have seen strange things to day.

The power of God in manifestation is always amazing. It is always humbling to be a part of it. What an awesome God we have. What an awesome savior the Lord Jesus Christ is.

The Healing of Peter's Mother-in-Law – Matthew 8:14,15; Mark 1:29-31; Luke 4:38,39

In each of these of these accounts the gospel writers note different specifics, but none of the accounts contradict.¹⁴⁴ The accounts are handled simply and quickly with specific detail.

Matthew 8:14,15:

And when Jesus was come into Peter's house, he saw his wife's mother laid, and sick of a fever.

15 And he touched her hand, and the fever left her: and she arose, and ministered unto them. [Here it does not say he even said anything.]

Mark shows Jesus acting as a servant assisting the woman to arise.

Mark 1:31:

And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them.

In this account he responds to their request and stands over her and rebukes the fever.

¹⁴⁴ Although the accounts differ in the details they present, none of them contradict. Matthew does not say that Jesus did not say anything, that he lonely touched her. It simple says he touched her. Neither does Mark say that he did not speak. The accounts present different details but none of the details contradict.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 15: Healing Accounts #1

Luke 4:38b,39:

... And Simon's wife's mother was taken with a great fever; and they besought him for her.

39 And he stood over her, and rebuked the fever; and it left her: and immediately she arose and ministered unto them.

Jesus “rebuked” the fever. Today we use “rebuke” in the sense of “to blame or scold in a sharp way; reprimand.” However, an obsolete usage means “to force back or check.”¹⁴⁵ Jesus stopped the fever. It left. This is the same Greek word used in Mark 1:25 where Jesus rebuked an unclean spirit. Jesus handled this fever in the same manner as he handled the unclean spirit; he rebuked it; he forced it out. He commanded it with his word, and it had to leave.

All three accounts agree on one detail. After she was healed she ministered or served them. Her healing was followed by service, as well it should be. We do not serve to be healed. We are healed to serve. Obedience and service are to be the fruit or result of salvation, wholeness.

The healing of Peter’s mother-in-law opened a flood-gate as people brought their sick and demon possessed, and Jesus healed them all. This healing of Peter’s mother-in-law was the first of several miracles that involved Peter in one way or another.

Peter Special Miracles:

1. The healing of Peter’s mother-in-law was the first of several miracles that involved Peter in one way or another.
2. On two occasions, Peter had a miraculous draught of fish acting upon Jesus’ direction (Luke 5:1–11; John 21:1–8).
3. Peter was the one to catch the fish with a coin in its mouth (Matthew 17:24–27).
4. Peter walked on the water to go to Jesus (Matthew 14:22-33).
5. When Peter cut off the ear of Malchus’, Jesus healed it (Luke 22:50–53).
6. Peter’s shadow passing on people caused them to be healed
7. Peter was delivered from prison and death when Herod sought to kill him (Acts 12).

In all these accounts Peter was involved with doing the miraculous. Therefore, when Peter writes in I Peter 5:7, “*Casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you*” he had an experiential wealth of first hand knowledge of that care. He had done that on many occasions. He had experiential knowledge of that care. All these incidents built understanding and commitment in his life.

Jesus Healing Woman’s Issue of Blood – Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34; Luke 8:43-48

Matthew 9:20-22:

And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind *him*, and touched the hem of his garment:

¹⁴⁵ Webster’s New Collegiate Dictionary.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 15: Healing Accounts #1

21 For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole.
22 But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole. And the woman was made whole from that hour.

Mark 5:24-28:

And *Jesus* went with him; and much people followed him, and thronged him.
25 And a certain woman, which had an issue of blood twelve years,
26 And had suffered many things of many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was nothing bettered, but rather grew worse,
27 When she had heard of Jesus, came in the press behind, and touched his garment.
28 For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.

The hem of the garment was significant culturally.

Matthew 14:34-36:

And when they were gone over, they came into the land of Gennesaret.
35 And when the men of that place had knowledge of him, they sent out into all that country round about, and brought unto him all that were diseased;
36 And besought him that they might only touch the hem of his garment: and as many as touched were made perfectly whole.

She knew she had this disease, but when she heard of Jesus and the power of God he manifested toward others she believed he could help her. She had faith to receive her healing, and she acted on it.

There was not any magic in that hem, but she believed that it would do it. The power of God was energized because she had faith to be healed. She took action on her faith.

Mark 5:29,30:

And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in *her* body that she was healed of that plague.
30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes?

Jesus knew that power had gone out also.

Mark 5:24-28:

And his disciples said unto him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?
32 And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing.
33 But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth.
34 And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 15: Healing Accounts #1

Jesus told her what healed her. It was her faith. Jesus did not do anything; he did not say a word. She acted and got the results.

After she was healed, why would God tell Jesus something was going on. The woman still had a need. She was healed physically, but there was more Jesus needed to do.

A woman with an issue of blood like this is unclean. She is not supposed to touch anyone. Her coming to Jesus was wrong, she was not supposed to touch him. She is sneaking up to get this healing without anyone knowing because she is unclean. When it happens she knows she is healed, but she still has the guilt and condemnation that she has done something wrong. She knew she was unclean, and that she should not have been in the crowd.

Yes, she had her physical healing, but Jesus knew the job was not finished. The woman was fearing and trembling. Why was she fearing and trembling if she was healed? That was because she thought she did something wrong. She wanted it so bad that she did not care if she did the wrong thing. In her mind, she did something wrong because she was fearing and trembling. If felt like she had been caught, like the kid with his hand in the cookie jar.

After she told him all the truth, he told her to go in peace. Not only did she receive physical healing, but she got peace. Her mind was calmed. Jesus said it was OK. She did not do anything wrong. It was right for her to do it. It was God working in her. Jesus not only took care of the physical ailment, but he handled her heart and head.

When you minister, make sure you do the whole job, body, soul, and spirit. God interceded to make Jesus aware of the unmet need. God wanted her heart taken care of.

**The Healing of Jairus' Daughter – Matthew 9:18,19,23-26;
Mark 5:22,23,35-43; Luke 8:41,42,49-56**

Luke 8:41,42,49-56:

And, behold, there came a man named Jairus, and he was a ruler of the synagogue: and he fell down at Jesus' feet, and besought him that he would come into his house:

42 For he had one only daughter, about twelve years of age, and she lay a dying. But as he went the people thronged him...

49 While he yet spake, there cometh one from the ruler of the synagogue's house, saying to him, Thy daughter is dead; trouble not the Master.

50 But when Jesus heard it [Mark 5:36 says, "as soon as Jesus heard the word that was spoken."], he answered him, saying, Fear not: believe only, and she shall be made whole.

Jesus interceded as soon as the negative came to the father. That how we need to respond, too, especially when you are helping people in accident situations or critical situations. When the doctor comes out of surgery, you want to be with them. You do not know what they are going to hear. You want to be there in case what they hear does not help them. Be ready to stand in the gap. As soon as the word came that it was too late, Jesus immediately spoke.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 15: Healing Accounts #1

Luke 8:51:

And when he came into the house, he suffered no man to go in, save Peter, and James, and John, and the father and the mother of the maiden.

Jesus is training people. When you minister together everyone is involved. Everybody contributes.

Luke 8:51,52:

And all wept, and bewailed her: but he said, Weep not; she is not dead, but sleepeth.

53 And they laughed him to scorn, knowing that she was dead.

So, she is dead. Jesus is trying to comfort the mom and dad. He had told them he would handle it, and everyone else was saying it was over.

Luke 8:54:

And he put them all out [That's key #5 from *Walking By The Spirit*, Be ready to move or remove people or things.], and took her by the hand, and called, saying, Maid, arise.

He does not pray to God; he does not ask God to get her up from the dead. He speaks to the corpse.

Luke 8:55,56:

55 And her spirit came again, and she arose straightway: and he commanded to give her meat.

56 And her parents were astonished: but he charged them that they should tell no man what was done.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

Preview of Healing Accounts #2

In *Healing Accounts #2* we will read three different accounts of Jesus healing the blind. We will also look at the healing of the man with the withered hand and the healing of the woman in Simon the Pharisee's house. We will see how vicious religion and religious people can be. We will also see how healing transcends the physical and encompasses the mind and emotion also.

The Healing of Two Blind Men – Matthew 9:27-31

Matthew 9:27:

And when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying, Thou son of David, have mercy on **us**. [It does not say “me.” It says “have mercy on us.”]

They came together with unity of purpose. They wanted this for each other. They wanted together to receive God's best. They came united in this. Healing is a gift of God's grace, a *charisma*. It is not earned, neither can it be. Here, as in many accounts, we will be covering, those coming for healing pleaded for mercy.

Mercy is a very central concept for healing since no healing is earned or deserved. In the days before firearms, when duels were fought with swords, when the loser fell to the ground, and the sword was at his throat, he could cry, “Mercy!” The victor had the right to run his opponent through, but often times he would heed the cry for mercy and grant life to his defeated foe. Mercy was granted to those who asked, and had given up the fight.

Jesus responded to the request of the two blind men for mercy. The close relationship between mercy and healing will also be seen when we get to the accounts of the Canaanite woman, because she said, “Have mercy on me, Oh Lord, thou son of David. My daughter is tormented with a devil.”¹⁴⁶ The father of the epileptic son cried, “Lord, have mercy on my son.”¹⁴⁷ Later, Jesus passed by two more blind men sitting by the roadside who shout, “Lord, have mercy on us, son of David.”¹⁴⁸ Jesus' instructions to the man healed of Legion was, “Go home to thy friends and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion [mercy] on thee.” Blind Bartimaeus, when he knew Jesus passed by, cried, “Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me!”¹⁴⁹ Elizabeth's neighbors and relatives rejoiced with her when they heard that the Lord had

¹⁴⁶ Matthew 15:22

¹⁴⁷ Matthew 17:15

¹⁴⁸ Matthew 20:30

¹⁴⁹ Mark 10:46,47

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

shown great mercy on her, with her pregnancy with John.¹⁵⁰ The ten lepers in Luke 17:13 also cried out saying, “Jesus, master, have mercy on us.” Paul, when he described Epaphroditus’ deliverance said, “God had mercy on him, and not on him only, but on me also, lest I should have sorrow upon sorrow.”¹⁵¹

Mercy is a central concept with healing. It is closely related. Our God is a great and merciful God. Accurately picturing our Heavenly Father as merciful encourages our healing, for we are often so aware of how undeserving we are. Healing is not dependant on our worthiness, but on His grace and mercy. In working with people, you have to make sure they know that. If they do not come asking for mercy, sometimes you have to let them know that they cannot earn it. It is a *charisma*, a gift of God’s grace. There is nothing you have done, that denies it to you.

Ephesians 2:4:

But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

Hebrews 4:16a:

Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need.

Mercy! It does not matter if we have made mistakes. It does not matter if we have blown it. That is when you need mercy. When you make a mistake, you just go to God. He knows! I guarantee, He already knows. But we go to Him, and we expect mercy. That is what it says, “That we may obtain mercy.” Not only do we get mercy, it says, “And find grace to help in time of need.” We get the mercy that we need, and we get more to give, to give out to people, to help.

Matthew 5:7:

Blessed are the merciful: for they shall obtain mercy.

These two blind men pleaded for mercy and their request was granted. They also addressed Jesus as “the son of David.” This phrase is first used in Matthew 1:1. In the next eight places it occurs in Matthew, it is associated with healing. It indicates that they recognized him as the promised Messiah. The Messiah was to come with healing in his wings, as we read in Malachi. The Messiah would recover sight for the blind because he first would preach recovering of sight to the blind. He would let them know it is available. Once they knew it and they came for it, they came to get what he made available when he taught, then he would heal them. They knew that the Messiah would do that. These men came expecting Jesus, the son of David, to fulfill the Old Testament prophecies that they knew, and heal them. Their belief that Jesus was the Messiah convinced them that Jesus could, and would, heal them.

Matthew 9:28a:

And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him: ...

¹⁵⁰ Luke 1:57,58

¹⁵¹ Philippians 2:27

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

That is one of those keys. You do not go to people, you let them come to you.

Matthew 9:28b-31:

... and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, Lord.

Then touched he their eyes [No spit this time, he just touched their eyes.], saying, According to your faith be it unto you.

And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straitly charged them, saying, See that no man know it.

But they, when they were departed, spread abroad his fame in all that country.

They received as they believed, but they could not keep their mouth closed. This must have made things more difficult for Jesus. Why did Jesus sometimes say, "Do not tell anybody," and then sometimes say, "Go tell everybody."? That takes revelation. It is done because of what the people need, or because of what he needs. Sometimes it was so that he would have the freedom to move and not be mobbed. There was a reason for it, but that was always done by revelation. Most of the time, I do not give people that guidance. I let them figure it out. But, if God tells me to say something, then I say something. I have said, "You need to tell your wife about this." We have ministered to people and said, "You need to talk to your parents about this." That was the direction that God gave. When He tells you that, then you say that. But if He does not, then you do not flip a coin and say, "I will tell them or I will not tell them." You just do as you are told. If you are not told specific instructions to give, then you let God handle that. If He wants you to be involved, He will tell you to tell them. Otherwise He will tell them Himself.

It was according to their faith, and he touched their eyes. We just passed out a sheet to you here. It is a list of how healing was ministered in the Bible.¹⁵² These are some of the ways:

- a.) With compassion, speaking words and touching
- b.) Through the laying on of hands
- c.) By anointing of oil
- d.) Through prayer
- e.) By the teaching of God's Word
- f.) By using other things
- g.) By commanding the sick to do the impossible
- h.) Through the simple faith in his promises. (That is basically what this is. Jesus said, "Be it unto thee according to your believing." All he had to do was simply believe. But he also touched his eye, and that is another one.)
- i.) By an individual's act of faith
- j.) By obedience to a simple command, like "Dip in the Jordan." or "Wash in the Pool of Siloam."
- k.) By practical advice
- l.) By speaking to the malady, like Jesus rebuking the fever.

¹⁵² See Appendix 5, How Healing Was Ministered in the Bible

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

- m.) By assisting the person to do what he could not do before. They are lame, so you grab their hand and help them up.
- n.) By touching the affected part of the body.

That is what they did here. It was their eyes that were their problem, and that is what he touched. He touched their eyes. Now, he did not do that every time, but a lot of times he did that. One time (with a deaf person) he put his finger in his ear. He did not do that every time, but he did it that time. That is what we do: we do what God directs.

Sometimes you do more than one of these. Sometimes you will touch him; sometimes you will lay hands on him; sometimes you will touch the affected part of the body. You may do five or six of them. You may do seven or eight of them. There are a lot of them here. In a lot of the accounts, he does different things. You just do whatever you feel like doing. You are in fellowship. You believe God is working in you, and if you want to put your hand on their shoulder, if you want to give them a hug, if you want to hold their hand, then you do what you want to do. How do you think revelation works? God is going to make you do something you do not want to do? You just do what you want to do. You do what God lays before you. It is not going to be “THOU SHALT DO THIS” most of the time. Sometimes it will be. Sometimes He will tell you that before they come. I have had that happen. “This is the way you are going to handle it.” Oh, boy! Then you get excited because now you know what you are going to do. But it does not happen that often. Most of the time, you just do it as you go. Sometimes you hold their hand, and then you let go of their hand. You get up and take a walk, you come back; you just do what you need to do. God lets you know.

**The Healing of the Man with the Withered Hand – Matthew 12:9-13;
Mark 3:1-5; Luke 6:6-10**

Matthew 12:9-12a:

And when he [Jesus] was departed thence, he went into their synagogue:

10 And, behold, there was a man which had his hand withered. And they asked him, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath days? that they might accuse him.

11 And he said unto them, What man shall there be among you, that shall have one sheep, and if it fall into a pit on the sabbath day, will he not lay hold on it, and lift it out?

12 How much then is a man better than a sheep? Wherefore it is lawful to do well on the sabbath days.

People treat their animals better than they do other men. They will treat their dog or their cat better than they do other people. That is not right. He said, “Hey, if your sheep fell in a pit, what would you do? Would you go down there and get it out? Would you say, “No, we have to wait until Sunday!”?”

Matthew 12:13,14:

Then saith he to the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it forth; and it was restored whole, like as the other. [This was a restoration healing.]

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

14 Then the Pharisees went out, and held a council against him, how they might destroy him.

That is religion. Religion stinks. Religion always wants to control. They could not control Jesus Christ, could they? So if you cannot control it, what do you do? You get rid of it. Religion wants to control. God wants you free in Christ Jesus; free to walk; free to love; free to have compassion; and free to serve. Religion wants to control. It wants to control the results of everything that happens.

Religion tells people stuff they have to do before they can get healed, when we know that it is a gift. You do not go to religion to get healed, you go to God and you thank Him for it. You go to God and you cry out to Him, and He always hears. You do what God tells you to do to get it. It is a gift; nobody controls it. We do not control the healing. No religion does, but they think they do. So they have people doing all this, this, this, and this. And, if they stumble along the way then, for sure, they will not get it because now they are not worthy. Religion creates more unworthiness than anything going, all under the guise that they are "the man." Religion tries to withhold the blessings of God, or to mete it out, with their blessings. Then it is okay. They want to set up the rules for God's blessings, but it is a lie. That is religion, but, thank God, it is Christianity that we want. It is the way of a Father with His family. We are the family of God, and it is by grace.

I love to read that section in Ephesians, because you read all that Jesus Christ did, and ask, "What did you do to get into the household of God?" The answer: "Nothing!" The only thing, it says, is you said, "Okay, I want to be there! I accept what Jesus Christ did for me. I knew that I could not get in without him." But God does not say, "Come to my religion." He says, "Come to my house, my family," and you are part of it. Religion says to worship God, but in reality they say, "Worship us. Worship our system."

Religion seeks the high seats and demands obedience unto themselves. Religion is a leech. They leech off the lives of good people, that only want to love God, and serve. They want you to conform to their system. That is why these Pharisees were always running against Jesus Christ, because he was showing them the way of God. See, they want you to conform instead of living the simplicity and the freedom of being in Christ Jesus. So it stinks.

In Mark 3 is a man with a withered hand. He was there where he should be helped. He did not get help until Jesus Christ walked in that day. And then he had to take a stand.

Mark 3:3:

And he saith unto the man which had the withered hand, Stand forth.

That is all Jesus said. "You want it? Come up here with me. You are going to have to stand up here with me against the religion that is sitting out there, that has filtered in and is contaminating the synagogue. Let us go with God and stand forth. Stand in the middle of all this." Now the man had a choice. The word of the Lord Jesus Christ was "Step out. Take your fresh step." That was a believing step. He knew that when he stepped forth, he was going to be marked, just like Jesus Christ was that day. But he wanted it. You know, if you want God, if you want that fellowship with Him, if you have a need and you want it met, you step out with God. Maybe you will have people that will encourage you along the way and help you, and that is what ministers are all about. You

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

are the one that gives it. When we minister to people, they are involved. We are not out there with a magic wand. They are involved! Why? Because, it is their life.

Mark 3:4,5a:

And he saith unto them, Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? to save life, or to kill? But they held their peace.

And when he had looked round about on them with anger...

That is strong passion. “What’s the matter with you people? Don’t you care?” They had little regard for this man, and yet, they all knew that they would pull that sheep out. They would take care of their animals, rather than help somebody.

Mark 3:5b:

... being grieved for the hardness of their hearts he saith unto the man, Stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and [as he moved] his hand was restored whole as the other.

That was an act. He told him what to do. “Stretch it forth.” The man believed the words of Jesus Christ, he acted on them, and he got the results. His hand was restored whole as the other. He got his deliverance; he got his healing that day. He did not get it with the help of religion. He got it with the help of the Lord Jesus Christ, the same way we get it today. This man was restored, he was healed. His hand was made whole as the other, and he had to identify himself with the Lord Jesus Christ. He had to step up, and he humbled himself before God, and he got what he wanted. So the man was healed.

The key is that Jesus Christ summoned anger to meet the situation; it was appropriate; it was necessary to do that. He got angry. He did not plan that ahead of time. When he was there, he just did it. It was there; it was the right thing to do. It was a righteous response to the evil that he saw, and he summoned it. There are times when you minister to people – I have told people this week, “You need to get mad. You need to summon anger. You need to fight this thing off.” Too often people come for healing, and they think you are going to do it all for them. That you are going to wave this magic wand, and you are going to do something that is going to change their life. How many times did Jesus say, “Thy faith hath made thee whole.”? He never once said, “My faith hath made thee whole.” Not once! You do it. Now, I am there to help. The minister is there to help. He is there to tell you what you need to know, and if you are honest about your fears and your doubts, he can talk to you about them. He can help you get over them, and then you get to the thing.

You have heard all this stuff, “My mother was sick. My grandmother was sick. I am getting the same thing.” You just convince yourself. The world and the devil convince you, and you have to fight that off. There was a person stopped in earlier in the class, who was here for one session. The gentleman brought her by because he wanted so much for her to get healed. He asked me to pray for her. I said I would. So I said, “Do you want me to pray for you or to heal you?” She said, “I would like for you to pray for me.” We talked a little bit, and then I said, “Okay, honey.” I took her hand, and I said, “Now you pray, and then I will pray.” She could not pray. She said, “I can’t.” I said, “He’s just your Father. You can talk to Him about anything. You do not have to say the right words. You just have to tell Him what you want. She said, “I can’t. Why don’t you just

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

pray?" So, I said, "Okay." and I prayed. After they left, I told John, "I wish there was something I could have done." She could not even ask God for her healing. What am I supposed to do? There is nothing I could do, except I prayed. That is what she wanted. That is what I did.

So often people expect, like John said, a magic wand. It does not work that way, folks. You have to get involved. You have to want it. You have to go for it. You cannot let people put it on you when they come to you to minister to them. You cannot let them lay it on you, because it is not up to you. You are there to help them. You are there to build their believing. But it is their life; it is their fight. It is their believing that gets them over the hump. You just believe for the right things to say. You believe for God to tell you, and He will do it! He will tell you the most amazing things to help people.

These religious spirits are so vicious, so evil. "You have to do this, and then you have got to do this, and you cannot take this class until you have had this class, this class, and this class... until you have abundantly shared this much, and you have done this ... it is religion. If you do not fit into the mold, then you do not get it.

God made you unique. God made you special. If you are doing what God wants you to do, and somebody tells you that you have to do something you do not want to do, then go find someplace else that will accept you the way that you are. Those religious spirits, they just want to control. Do not let yourself be controlled by anything or anyone. You are completely unique. You are special. You are God's best. Like that lady, John told you about the other day that we had up singing in her witch cape. Came up with her black cape. She was unique. But you know what? We let her do it. We did not say, "Wait a minute, you are not singing with that on!" I thought about it. What is that going to tell people? They will freak out when they see that. And you know what God told me? "GOOD!" That is what He said. "GOOD!" So, we let her rip. "We will see Sunday if we have a crowd. So what!?! We are concerned with what God thinks, not what people think. If people are going to judge us for how we handle things, then let them judge us. Let them stay critical. Let them be smarter than we are, and then go someplace else to get help. We have too many people to help as it is.

We want you to help. That is right, that is why you are here. We are looking for **h-e-l-p!** If you have not been ministered to yet, we might not be the ones to do it. You have to find each other. There are enough people here, all you have to do is turn around and find somebody to minister to you. You could handle it that way. You have the same power and authority that we have. It is the same Christ in you that is in us. If the doctor's office is full, get another doctor. If you cannot get an appointment, what do you do? You go to another doctor. Those religious spirits try to fit you in a mold, and tell you there is something wrong with you because you do not fit, because you are not like everybody else. You rebuke it!

Healing Two Blind Men by the Wayside – Matthew 20:30-34

Matthew 20:30:

And, behold, two blind men sitting by the way side, when they heard that Jesus passed by, cried out, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou son of David.

My goodness! Sounds like an instant replay. These two both cried out for mercy. You can almost see their absolute desperation as they approached Jesus. They were not

226

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

arrogant, but they came with expectation. They abandoned any dignity, pretense, pride, independence, and they humbly cried out for the mercy that they needed. They called Jesus the son of David. David was noted for being a merciful king with a heart like God's own. Remember "a man after God's own heart" it says in Samuel and Acts?¹⁵³ This appellation showed their respect for and acknowledgement of Jesus as a merciful king who came in the name of the Lord.

Matthew 20:31:

And the multitude rebuked them, because they should hold their peace: but they cried the more, saying, Have mercy on us, O Lord, thou son of David.

"What do you mean 'be quiet'? HEY, have mercy on me! I am not shutting up!" Who had the need? They did, and all these people without needs telling people with needs, "Shut up. Do not bother me with your need. I cannot handle it." Everybody told them to shut up, but they were not the ones that were sick. The people with the needs spoke up, they cried out. They did not stop until they got what they wanted. That kind of determination is required at times.

Matthew 20:32:

And Jesus stood still, and called them, and said, What will ye that I shall do unto you?

"Duh, Jesus, they are blind!" But maybe they had a headache. Maybe they had a stomachache. I remember when Sangat was here teaching, a gentleman in the congregation was hard of hearing. I usually give him a copy of my notes so he can follow along. It helps him; it blesses him. But, he has a hearing aide. He also had a back problem. So, after Sangat teaches he comes to the back room to get ministered to. Sangat asks, "What can I do for you?" He says, "I've got this problem with my back." Sangat had him walk back and forth, reach up and down, and asked, "How's your back?" The man said, "It's healed."

Oh, cool! And I'm thinking, "Jim, let's go for the ears!" You know, why not? We are on a roll here! But that is not what he needed. That is not what he was believing for. The back was his need, that is what he wanted, and that is what he got. You just cannot assume that you know what is going on. Yes, the guy was blind. Maybe that is not what he wanted. Maybe that is not what he needed. I mean, Jesus is not an idiot. The question was important. What do you want me to do?

Matthew 20:33,34:

They say unto him, Lord, that our eyes may be opened.

So Jesus had compassion on them, and touched their eyes: and immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed him.

¹⁵³ I Samuel 13:14; Acts 13:22

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

Healing of the Blind Man at Bethesda – Mark 8:22-26

Jesus healed a lot of blind folks, but there is something unique about each one of those records that you can learn from.

Mark 8:22,23a

And he cometh to Bethsaida; and they bring a blind man unto him, and besought him to touch him.

And he took the blind man by the hand, and led him out of the town...

That in itself is unique, because a lot of times, he just healed right there. He just did it in front of everybody. Here, he took him out of the town.

Matthew 30:23b:

... and when he had spit on his eyes, and put his hands upon him, he asked him if he saw ought [do you see anything?].

How do you like that? You have to understand the eastern culture. They believed there was healing in the spittle of a holy man. So, what would be offensive to us, is not to them.

Matthew 20:24:

And he looked up, and said, I see men as trees, walking.

What does that mean? “Men as trees walking.” When you read these things, you have to understand their culture. In the morning, they would gather sticks and small limbs, and bundle them up, and put them on their backs, and they would be carrying them in. When he looked out, it looked like trees walking. He could not see clearly. It looked like a tree coming at him. That is what he was saying.

Matthew 20:25:

After that he put his hands again upon his eyes, and made him look up: and he was restored, and saw every man clearly.

He got more revelation. The key thing here is when you minister, you try this, you get results, but it was not full, so he just kept going. You just keep going, you just keep working. You keep encouraging them to keep working, keep going. Sometimes it will happen right away. Other times you have to work through things. Here it was. He did not see, but then he saw clearly. Again, the blind man was brought to Jesus. When Jesus ministered to the man and put spit on his eyes, he could not see clearly at first. He continued, and what happened? The blind man saw. He could see.

There is great learning in these records. You just see what Jesus did. Every situation is different. You say you want to be healed, but you cannot just pull out the healing handbook. It does not work that way. It is good to know things, good to see what Jesus did, but you always have to be tuned in to God, to what He inspires you to do. That is what he did. First the spit, then he put his hands on the eyes to get it done.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

Healing the Woman in Simon's House – Luke 7:36-50

The point I want to make is that it healed in stages. The outside is now healed. Now it is just the inside there, and it is going to heal. But that happened first, and I have more to go. This is a natural healing. This is how God designed my body to take care of itself.

I know a lot of you have been healed by the Word that has been taught. I think you felt things, like waves of things leave you. Heaviness and condemnation and just different things that you have had just sort of go by the way. That is the spoken Word. That is the Word that has that power. I have had people healed of physical ailments, of allergies, of sinus conditions, just hearing the Word. People would come back to me after the teaching and say, "Hey, I got healed." If they ever came to me to get ministered to before the teaching, I would usually tell them, "Wait until afterward." Many times they would come back and say, "I do not need it now" because by the teaching of the Word they got healed. In this account were going to get into in Luke 7, the whole healing situation, this entire incident, is to teach one major point: to show how important forgiveness is. One of the major things that keeps people from being healed is bitterness, resentment, unforgiveness of others. That they are holding on to things.

III John 2:

Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, even as thy soul prospereth.

As you go back to the Old Testament, you notice when you work that, your soul prospers as you do the Word. The Word says, "Be angry and sin not."¹⁵⁴ The Word says, "Be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another."¹⁵⁵ If we do not do the Word, then we are not prospered. Our life is not benefited by that Word. Forgiveness is a vital part. When we have been hurt, we do not forgive people for them. We forgive for ourselves, because once we get hurt, that hurt will last until we forgive. When we forgive, then that hurt can get dissipated, it can get dispelled. Forgiveness is a big deal. If we hold stuff, it is going to affect our bodies. "As your soul prospers:" how we think affects our bodies. Did any of you ever get sweaty palms when you are about to do something like speaking in public? That is a physical reaction. Your head made that happen in your body. It did! Did your heart ever race? Your head made that happen in your body. So, when we have the peace of God and we have forgiveness, and when we are in control of our minds, then it does not have an adverse effect on our bodies.

That is where we want to go. This whole account is on forgiveness and the importance of forgiveness. Jesus Christ handles that here. I do not ever want to underestimate this. People make mistakes. Forgiveness is a big deal. If we hold bitterness, if we hold grudges, it is not hurting the other person. It is hurting us. We are keeping ourselves out of the abundance that God has for us. That is what we have to deal with. Our health and our prosperity will be affected until our soul prospers, and our soul prospers by doing what the Word says: and that is forgiving. That is giving. That is doing all the things that we know from the Word. That is operating the manifestations.

¹⁵⁴ Ephesians 4:26

¹⁵⁵ Ephesians 4:32

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

That is loving. When we do those things, our soul will be prospered, and that will affect our body. It will affect our health, and it will affect our prosperity.

Luke 7:36,37a:

And one of the Pharisees desired him that he would eat with him and he went into the Pharisee's house, and sat down to meat.

And, behold a woman in the city, which was a sinner, when she knew [*epiginōskō*] that Jesus sat at meat ...

In the Greek, there is no word for “meat.” Lamsa translates the phrase “sat at meat” as “was a guest.” It means you were invited into the home. It does not mean that they actually ate. He sat at meat means that he sat as a guest, or he was a guest in the Pharisee’s house.

She is going to do a most unbelievable thing. This lady was a sinner, and she is going to crash the party at the house of a Pharisee! The word “knew” is the word *epiginōskō*. It is the strongest Greek word for “know” that I know of. It means she had full knowledge. She was absolutely convinced. This woman would have never dared to enter the Pharisee’s house unless she absolutely knew that Jesus was there. The Pharisees were known for an insufferable contempt for anybody that was not of their own clique, who did not fast twice a week, who did not tithe of mint, anise, and cumin. Their air of being holier than thou was well known. To a woman of such infamous reputation, the pompous Pharisees would have been doubly contemptuous. A woman conscious of unworthiness would be sorely wounded by their manner of life, by their manners, by their rudeness. We are going to see later from Simon’s own thoughts how true it was in this case.

She entered Simon’s house courageously because it was Jesus whom she sought. Perhaps she just knew of Jesus by reputation only, for verse 17 says that rumor of him went forth throughout all Judea and throughout all the region round about. Perhaps she knew the widow of Nain whose son was just raised from the dead by Jesus. Perhaps she was in a crowd and heard Jesus speak of abounding mercy, and the willingness of God to forgive and accept as many as would come. It does not say how she knew of him, but she must have known of Jesus, for she came with great reverence and expectation. She came prepared.

Like the leper in Matthew 8 who said to Jesus, “If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.” She knew that Jesus was able to forgive her sins, but was he willing? She undoubtedly desired a new life where she could be free from sin, but as we will see, she was greatly agitated in her heart with the question, “Could she, would she, be really forgiven.” Would such pardoning love that she had heard that Jesus had reach even to her? She hoped so. She was comforted by the thought that she could be forgiven. She believed that Jesus of Nazareth was the Messiah, and she rested on him for the forgiveness of her sins. Being energized by her love, she seized this opportunity to do him homage, to show him respect, and, if possible, to win a word from his mouth.

Luke 7:37b,38:

[She] brought an alabaster box of ointment. [Lamsa says a “cruse of perfume.”]

38 And stood at his feet behind him weeping, and began to wash his feet with tears, and did wipe them with the hairs of her head, and kissed his feet, and anointed them with the ointment.

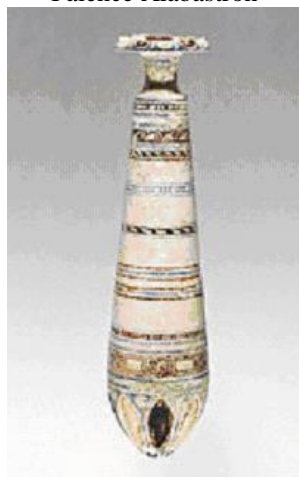
Ministering With God's Power **Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2**

See those “ands?” That is a polysyndeton, that is another figure of speech. God is saying, “Look at all these things. They are all important.” Number one, she brought an alabaster box of ointment. Number two, she stood at his feet behind him weeping. Number three, she began to wipe his feet with tears. Number four, she did wipe them with the hairs of her head. Number five, she kissed his feet. And number six, she anointed them with ointment. Again, this figure of speech, polysyndeton, emphasizes each of the particular six actions that she took.

Since the figure polysyndeton emphasizes them, we are going to take the time to look at each one of them. These actions did not cause the deliverance, but they are put here to show the believing actions she took. We are going to see all this later. We will see later it was her faith that made her whole. But these are the actions that demonstrated her faith.

Number one, she brought an alabaster box of ointment. In their culture, one would take a gift when going to see a man of God. She would not venture into his presence without one. The alabaster box, or cruse, refers to its origin in Alabastron, Egypt. These boxes were costly, and they were used only for the most expensive and fragrant perfumes. She took care to provide this expensive perfume knowing whom she desired to see. The point is the great care she took to provide this loving service for Jesus. The reason we know it was an expensive perfume is because this alabaster stuff was a porous marble or porous stone and the fragrance of the perfume would seep into the cruse so that once the perfume was gone the scent still lingered. So you did not put “rotgut” perfume into it, because then that is what you would have is “rotgut” smell when you were done. You put the good stuff in there.

Faience Alabastron



Greek, Ionia, 200 - 100 B.C.;
9 1/16" high
88.AI.135

Both the form and the material of this faience alabastron ultimately derive from Egypt. An alabastron is a container for perfumed oil that takes its name from alabaster, the material from which the original Egyptian examples were made. Greek artists adopted the Egyptian alabastron's shape in the 600s B.C. but made the vessel in a variety of materials. Faience is made from quartz silicate, which produces a glass-like glazed surface when fired.

The body is decorated with stripes and narrow bands of patterns in blue and brown against a white background. The mouth and foot are decorated with a rosette. The lack of figural decoration is unusual. The white faience of this vessel is also rare and may have been meant to mimic the appearance of ivory or alabaster. The alabastron was made in three pieces: the mouth and foot were molded, and the body was formed on a potter's wheel.

<http://www.getty.edu/art/collections/objects/o15065.html>

Number two, she stood at his feet behind him weeping. This shows her respect for him. These are all eastern customs. This is stuff you dig out from Bishop Pillai and the other books that we have, such as Freeman's Customs and Manners. She stood at his feet behind him weeping. This showed her respect for him and heartfelt this action was to

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

her. As she stood there, she could see that the Pharisees had refused the ordinary courtesy of washing his feet, because they were still dusty and travel worn. She could not believe that they treated him that way, and it hurt her heart to see what they did to him. She is standing there behind him at his feet, and she sees that they did not even wash his feet, and she cries. The anticipation of the realization of her desire and the opportunity to perform this loving service to her master filled her eyes with tears.

I believe she had revelation to go there. I believe God told her to go there because His son was being humiliated, because His son was being treated contemptuously. He chose a sinner to go do this job; just like in the Old Testament He chose four leprous men to bring that deliverance, because everybody else was afraid. He chooses this woman, and she comes prepared. I bet God told her, "You need to go wash his feet," that He sent her there, to do this loving thing for him, to take care of him.

We need to see that kind of heart of God to take care of His son, to minister to His son. Why did Jesus Christ go to Simon's house? Because God told him to. He put himself in that situation because he wanted to do the will of God. So God sent this woman, and she came to meet Jesus' need, but you know, God had more in mind for her. She was not just going to meet his need. He was going to meet her need. That is what really happens in ministering situations. It is a two-way street; it really is. The people ministering get just as blessed as the people receiving. Jesus is going to minister to her, and she is going to go to perform this loving service. She brings her tear bottle. She comes prepared to do this, with the exception, she realizes she has nothing to dry him with. But she figures that one out.

Number three, is that she begins to wash his feet with tears. This was indeed holy water of a true sort. Although her tears fell in abundance, that would not have been enough to wash his feet. This took more than just what fell from her eyes. She also used the tears that she kept in her tear bottle. Bishop Pillai taught us of the tear bottle. It was common in the eastern culture for each member of the family to keep a tear bottle. It was typically about six inches high and an inch or two inches wide. It was made to seal tightly so none of the liquid would evaporate. Whenever a person would cry righteous tears, or tears shed for a righteous cause, they would collect them in a tear bottle. These bottles were treasured and closely protected. They would bury people with their tear bottles because they believed that they would be rewarded for those tears by God. The pain that they went through in a righteous cause... the pain that they suffered to try to help somebody... the pain they would endure. That is what these tears represented, and they believed God would reward them for them. But using the tears from her tear bottle showed her willingness to sacrifice one of her most cherished commodities.

David refers to this custom in Psalm 56:8 where he says, "Thou tellest my wanderings: put thou my tears into thy bottle: are they not in thy book?" In other words, David was on the run. He did not have his tear bottle with him. He did not have that luxury. He knew the custom, he knew what he was going through. He knew how he was being persecuted, and he said, "Look, I cannot put them in my tear bottle. You put them in your bottle. You know. Aren't they in your book? You write everything." He knew about the judgments coming. He knew God would reward him for this stuff. "I don't care if my tears do not go in the bottle. You still know!!" It is not that the tears did it. It was just symbolic. David was on the run, and he could not do that; he could not follow that custom. But he wanted that reward, that recognition, and he tells God, "Look, put down my tears in thy bottle. They are written in your book. You are keeping track, you

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

know what I am suffering for your sake.” But David, having been on the run for so much of his life, was unable to accumulate very many of his tears. But he knew that God would not forget him, and asked God to keep them, and even record them in His book of life. Bringing the tear bottle showed, as did the alabaster box of ointment, that she came prepared, and was willing to sacrifice greatly to get what she desired. And she wanted forgiveness. That was in her thinking. She came to get that need met.



Roman Lachrymatory
Circa 100 A.D.

Tear bottles, or lachrymatory, were common in ancient middle Eastern societies. Even today they are still produced in that region. In the Old Testament of the Bible, a reference to collecting tears in a bottle appears in Psalm 56:8 when David prays to God, “Thou tellest my wanderings, put thou my tears in Thy bottle; are they not in Thy Book?” David is referring to the belief that God keeps a record of human pain and suffering and always remembers our sorrows.

In current music and literature, tear bottles have once again been romanticized. References to the power of the tear bottle tradition occur in contemporary music videos, novels, and poetry. You can learn more about the history of lachrymatory tear bottles at www.lachrymatory.com.

<http://www.tearcatcher.com/tearbothis.html>

Number four, “And she wiped his feet with the hairs of her head.” In the eastern culture, a woman’s hair was considered her glory, and using it in this manner showed her humility and willingness to sacrifice.

Then **number five**, she kissed his feet. The easterners frequently greeted one another with a holy kiss. The holy kiss was usually done on the hand, cheek, or the forehead, or even the crown of the head. However, falling at one’s feet showed great reverence and respect, and kissing them demonstrated a desire for reconciliation and forgiveness. Just like there is a need for reconciliation, and you go up and stretch forth your hand. That communicates that you want to reconcile; that you are extending the right hand of fellowship. You want it to be better. In our culture, we understand that. If somebody comes up and puts their hand out, you know it is a greeting. There is friendship there. They understood this in their culture. Everybody knew when she was kissing his feet what she wanted, that she was asking for reconciliation, that she was asking for forgiveness. That is why Jesus tells the story of forgiving the two men of their debt, and then specifically tells both Simon and the woman that she has been forgiven, because he recognizes what she’s asking for here.

Lastly number six, is that she anointed him with the ointment. This showed her recognition that Jesus was the anointed one, the messiah. And although kings and priests were anointed on the head, not on the feet, she did not feel worthy to touch anything but his feet. Every guest in Simon’s house understood the woman’s actions. Indeed, Simon

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

did, too. However, look how Simon the Pharisee responded to her loving request for forgiveness.

Luke 7:39:

Now when the Pharisee which had bidden him saw [*eidon*] it, he spake within himself, He spake within himself, saying, [*legō*] This man, if he were a prophet, would have known who and what manner of woman this is that toucheth him: for she is a sinner.

He does not see her heart. He does not see her love. He does not see the gift. All he sees is that she is a sinner, and Jesus must be “out there” because he let her touch him. Did Simon see her desire for forgiveness? No, all he saw was the fact that she was a sinner. His perception would never allow her to be anything else. This Greek word for “saw” is the word *eidon*, and it means to see with the mind’s eye. It signifies a clear and purely mental perception. It does not imply the mere act of physically seeing, but rather it emphasizes the perception of the object in the mind and the thought of the one who sees it.

Simon sees the exact same incident that Jesus sees. However, his perception of the event was extremely different than that of Jesus. He viewed this with disdain, and concluded that Jesus was wrong to have allowed it. His legalistic and works-based orientation completely missed the love and compassion of both the woman and Jesus. He did not even see it, happening right before his eyes. He does not even realize what is going on.

This is what one would call evil thinking. That is evil thinking. Did evil happen? No, but he changed it to evil in what he thought. That was not evil. That was lovely. That was gracious. That was the heart of God being expressed between two people. This woman went to Jesus, and Jesus allowed her to do it. That was the will of God; that was grace. But he turns it; he twists it; and in his mind, it becomes evil. That is evil thinking. That is what Phariseism... that is what legalism does to people.

The Greek word *legō* tells us that this was something that Simon logically thought through and concluded. The problem with evil thinking is that it rarely stays in the mind of the thinker. Instead of reconsidering, and wondering if perhaps he could be mistaken, the evil thinker is usually so impressed with himself, that he cannot wait to spew out his egotistical, legalistic, and condemning conclusions upon the impressionable minds around him.

Jesus, wanting it to go no further stopped Simon’s mouth before Simon has a chance to unleash his venom on everybody there. Don’t you think he is waiting for the opportunity to say what he thinks? You see, Jesus had also seen what the woman had done, and in contrast to Simon, Jesus correctly perceives her heart and the great love and desire for forgiveness that proceeded from it. However, before he grants her request for forgiveness, he tries to teach Simon about looking through the eyes of love and not thinking evil.

Luke 7:40a:

And Jesus answering said unto him, Simon, I have somewhat to say unto thee...

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

Look how polite and respectful Jesus was. Even though he had every right to be upset with Simon, he asked for permission to speak. It is just amazing.

Luke 7:40b:
... And he saith, Master, say on.

Can you believe he called him ‘Master?’ Do you think that is what he thought? Well, he did not think he was a prophet. He just concluded this man must not be a prophet, because he does not know what he is doing. But the next words out of his mouth are, ‘Master, say on.’ Hypocrite. Jesus tells him this story.

Luke 7:41-44b:
There was a certain creditor which had two debtors: the one owed five hundred pence, and the other fifty.
42 And when they had nothing to pay, he frankly forgave them both. Tell me therefore, which of them will love him most?
43 Simon answered and said, I suppose that he, to whom he forgave most. And he said unto him, Thou hast rightly judged.
44 And he turned to the woman, and said unto Simon, Seest [*bleptō*] thou this woman?

Simon knew the answer to the story, but he did not see how it applied to this situation. ‘What does this have to do with anything, Jesus? What are you talking about? I suppose it is the one that he forgave most. So what?’

Jesus continues and makes the application for him because he is unable to do it for himself. He turned to the woman, and this is what he tells him. He is making the application for Simon. He turned to the woman; he is looking right at the woman. That is where his attention is focused. He says unto Simon; he is talking to Simon, but looking at the woman, ‘See thou this woman.’

This is the Greek word *bleptō*, which Bullinger defines as ‘to use the eyes to see’ or ‘to observe accurately with desire.’ He says it is used of mental vision and implies contemplation. Jesus is saying, ‘Use your eyes! Take a good look at this woman. Look at this woman!’ Jesus wanted Simon to see her heart, and the love that was so beautifully demonstrated by what she did. Jesus asked, ‘Do you really see this woman, Simon?’ Simon had not really seen her, or what she did. His eyes were so clouded with his own legalistic and condescending perception, that he never really saw what was going on. Simon had condemned her, justifying himself. Jesus goes on to show him that she had been most loving, and he had been only rude and disrespectful.

Luke 7:44b-46:
... I entered into thine house, thou gavest me no water for my feet¹⁵⁶ but she hath washed my feet with tears, and wiped them with the hairs of her head.
45 Thou gavest me no kiss:¹⁵⁷ but this woman since the time I came in hath not ceased to kiss my feet.

¹⁵⁶ This was a great insult. This was a courtesy extended to every guest. See Genesis 19:2; Judges 19:21; I Samuel 25:41; I Timothy 5:10.

Ministering With God's Power **Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2**

46 My head with oil thou didst not anoint:¹⁵⁸ but this woman hath anointed my feet with ointment.

Her extraordinary love was equaled only by Simon's extraordinary rudeness. That anyone would neglect these courtesies was offensive. But when we realize that Simon was a Pharisee, it is even more egregious. For Pharisees relied upon these very outward works to affect their piety. That is what they did. The washing of the feet, all these little things that he neglected are the very things they held so important. For him to hold those very important and not do them made it even more evil, made it more rude, made it even more distasteful.

About the Pharisees Thayer says, "They sought for distinction and praise by outward observance of external rights and by outward forms of piety such as ceremonial washing, fasting, prayers, and alms giving. Indeed, they prided themselves on their fancied good works. For one so given to justify himself for good works to neglect those very good works is hard to fathom."¹⁵⁹ In other words, it had to be deliberate. It had to be egregious.

Luke 7:47:

Wherefore I say unto thee, Her sins, which are many, are forgiven; for [seeing] she loved much: but to whom little is forgiven, the same loveth little.

Simon thought there was so little for which he needed forgiveness, he did not even ask. How much love had Simon showed Jesus? I would say none. But Jesus is more gracious. He says "little." Now Jesus speaks directly to the woman, and he tells her that she has received what she desired.

Luke 7:48:

And he said unto her, Thy sins are forgiven.

This is what she came desiring, and that is what she got. How gracious those words must have rung in her heart. Thy sins are forgiven. How all her actions pale in light of those words. She had courageously sought him out and unselfishly shown him great kindness. But she knew that she could not earn her forgiveness. How gracious those words "thy sins be forgiven" must have been to her. How her heart must have burst with joy and thanksgiving.

After all this, the guests still did not get it. Instead of rejoicing with the woman who had just received forgiveness, they were skeptical and unbelieving, asking within themselves, "Who is this that forgiveth sins also?"

Luke 7:49:

And they that sat at meat with him [the other guests, those who reclined at the table] began to say within themselves, Who is this that forgiveth sins also?

¹⁵⁷ This was a common way to greet guests in their culture. See Genesis 29:11; 33:4; II Samuel 14:33; 15:5; 19:39; Romans 16:6; I Corinthians 16:20; I Thessalonians 5:26.

¹⁵⁸ This is the third insulting gesture that showed Simon's complete disrespect and lack of hospitality to Jesus. See Ruth 3:3; II Samuel 14:2; Psalms 23:5; 104:15; Daniel 3:10; Amos 6:6; Micah 6:15.

¹⁵⁹ Thayer, Joseph *The New Thayer's Greek-English Lexicon*, 1981, Pharisee p.649

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

Like Simon, the other guests refused to accept the truth that this woman had been forgiven. They were too aghast that this man, whoever he was, had been so presumptuous as to forgive her sins. Who was he, anyhow? Simon and his guests had no idea who the man was, but the woman who was a sinner knew. They asked, "Who is he that forgiveth sins?" She knew who he was, and she came to him because she knew who he was and that he could and would forgive her sins.

Luke 7:50:

And he said to the woman, Thy faith hath saved thee; go in peace.

It was not the ointment that she brought, or the tear bottle that she emptied, or the washing of the feet, or any of the other details that were pointed out in the account that appropriated the blessing. It was her faith or believing, that made her whole. It was the love of God that activated or energized that believing. It was her faith and the faithfulness of the Lord Jesus Christ to forgive her sins that prompted her to go to him. She was not disappointed in her expectations. Her ardent desire had been answered and her sins had been forgiven. The result was that she could go in peace. Forgiveness resulted in peace. The anguish of her heart was wiped away by the forgiveness Jesus granted. Therefore she could go, enjoying the wonderful peace of God. We, too, who know God's forgiveness through the accomplished works of Jesus Christ should be able to pass our days in peace.

Romans 5:1:

Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ:

The Lord Jesus Christ is just as gracious today to forgive sins, and he looks on the heart.

I Samuel 16:7:

But the LORD said unto Samuel, Look not on his countenance, or on the height of his stature; because I have refused him: for the LORD seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the LORD looketh on the heart.

And that was certainly true of Simon the Pharisee and his guests. They looked on the outward appearance, and Jesus looked on the heart. She was known to Simon and his guests as the woman who was a sinner. That is not how Jesus saw her. In Luke 7:47, he spoke of her as "the woman who loved much." That is the way that she will live forever in the pages of God's Word. This woman who loved much enjoyed God's forgiveness, and being made whole, she had peace with God. We have a great big wonderful God who loves us very much.

Pride stands in the way of a lot of healing. When we come to God with humility and lowliness of mind, he will forgive us also. When we were born again of God's spirit, our sins were removed. We have been forgiven. Our slate has been washed clean. No Simon can ever put us back under the power of sin. No Simon can condemn us, and disparage us, unless we allow it. It does not matter what we have done, or what we have

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

left undone. We can always have a fresh, new start, a new beginning, whenever we desire it. Should we, like this lady, ever need forgiveness, all we have to do is confess our sin to God.

I John 1:9:

If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Yes, God is faithful to forgive. How often? As often as we need it.

Lamentations 3:21-23:

This I recall to my mind, therefore have I hope.

22 It is of the LORD'S mercies that we are not consumed, because his compassions fail not.

23 They are new every morning: great is thy faithfulness.

The rising of the sun every morning should serve as a reminder of God's great faithfulness. His compassions fail not. But not only is God faithful to forgive, but He is just. Because of the accomplished works of Jesus Christ, it is right or just for Him to forgive us. If He did not, He would be unjust. The magnitude of what God worked in our lives when we were born-again should continue to grow in our appreciation. Because of what Jesus Christ did for us, God is just and right to graciously grant us His forgiveness. Having forgiveness we can enjoy peace with God. The peace that passes understanding should be a daily reality in our lives.

That peace will guard or protect our hearts.¹⁶⁰ Of all the sickness and disease we endure, broken-heartedness is among the most devastating. At the opening of Jesus' ministry he read the prophecy from Isaiah that foretold what began that day.

Luke 4:17-19:

And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written,

18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.

Furthermore Paul said in II Corinthians 6:2 that "**NOW** is the acceptable time; **NOW** is the day of salvation!" Now we are to heal the broken hearted. When people are broken hearted, their heartache crushes or breaks their spirit, and a broken spirit cannot sustain a person. When a heart is broken people often feel incapable of loving and often have lost hope of ever loving or being loved again.

You do not have to live with a broken heart or wounded spirit one minute longer. You no longer have to live with the rejection or hurt the devil has heaped upon you; you can be free. Jesus took that upon himself. He was rejected and despised. The perfect

¹⁶⁰ Philippians 4:7

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 16: Healing Accounts #2

one who never hurt anyone, but always loved and did his utmost for everyone he met was rejected and hated by the very people he came to help. The same people who sang, "Hosanna to the son of David!" one day cried, "Crucify Him! Crucify Him!" later. He went to the cross to save those very people; he was broken for us.

Psalms 147:3:

He [The Lord] healeth the broken in heart, and bindeth up their wounds.

He is ready to heal yours right now. Do not wait one moment longer. Give up the rejection; release the anger and unforgiveness you feel; he wants to bear your malice and bitterness and take them away. He will remove them as far as the east is from the west. Jesus wants to destroy those works of the devil in your life. He wants you free. Give it to him. Let him take it away.

In Psalm 51 David cry to the Lord was, "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me." You can have your heart healed right now. You are forgiven! Enjoy your peace with God!

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

Preview of Healing Accounts #3

In *Healing Accounts #3* we will read ten more accounts of healing. We will read of people healed of blindness, leprosy, dropsy, and impotence. We will also read accounts of people being raised from the dead. We will see the importance of changing behaviors and habit patterns to maintain the deliverance God provides. God has called and equipped us to preach, teach, and heal. It is time for us to rise up and enjoy the life to which we have been called, and fully preach the gospel.

Healing of Blind Bartimaeus – Mark 10:46-52

Turn to Mark, Chapter 10, another healing of the blind.

Mark 10:46:

And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging.

To be a beggar was very humbling. People that were sick, usually those that were given little or no hope of recovery, would sit at the temple gate (remember, like the man at the Temple Gate Beautiful) or they would sit near holy rivers or they would sit near cities where people would be entering.

Mark 10:47:

And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, and say, Jesus, *thou* son of David, have mercy on me.

Does that sound familiar?

Revelation 22:16:

I, Jesus have sent mine angel to testify unto you these things in the churches. I am the root and the offspring of David, *and* the bright and morning star.

Jesus, thou son of David... Bartimaeus knew who Jesus was.

Mark 10:48-50:

And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, *Thou* son of David, have mercy on me.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee.
And he [Bartimaeus], casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus.

There is a lot in that statement, *he cast away his garment*. His robe would have borne his status. He was casting away his status, his self-importance. He was coming to Jesus with only one thing, his faith to be healed, that Jesus, the Son of David would have mercy.

Mark 10:51:

And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do to thee?
The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight.

See, your money, your social status, your years in the Word, or years of being a Christian is not what heals you. It is when you come to the Lord Jesus Christ with faith, in his name, to be healed—to claim your inheritance—to get rid of the squatters—to live free. That is what he wanted. So, he went, and he got it.

Mark 10:52:

And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; [**my faith... no,**] **thy faith** hath made thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

Thy faith hath made thee whole. The man was healed. He received his miracle of healing.

Healing of the Ten Lepers – Luke 17:12-19

Luke 17:12,13:

And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off:

13 And they lifted up *their* voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us.

They were supposed to keep their distance. That is how they were supposed to act. Apparently, they had heard of Jesus the Teacher and Healer, because they called him “Master.” They came expecting something, and they would not be disappointed here.

Luke 17:14a:

And when he saw *them*, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests...

That is the simple command he gives them. They come to him. He does not touch them. They yell at him, and he yells back, “Go shew yourselves to the priests.” They knew what this meant, because that is what you did when you were healed. You would show yourself to the priest, and he would declare that you were healed. Then, you could get back into things.

With the other leper we read about, he touched him; he embraced him. Not this time. They yell at him, “Have mercy on us.” And he yells back, “Go shew yourselves to the priests.” But, again, they knew what that was to indicate.

Ministering With God's Power **Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3**

Luke 17:14b:

... And it came to pass, that, **as they went**, they were cleansed.

They were not healed until they went... until they obeyed the command. He just said, "Go shew yourselves unto the priests." So, that is what they did, and as they went, it says, "**It came to pass.**" That is a figure; every time you read it in the Word. It is a *pleonasm*, a redundancy. Obviously, it came to pass. It says it. The point of that phrase is to emphasize it. To emphasize that he told them what to do, and they did it. And, it came to pass that, as they went, they were clean. They were all healed. They were not healed until they went though. Many people do not get healed because they do not go. They, too often, sit around wishing to somehow receive a miracle. But God wants them to believe that they have received their healing and go their way, and their faith will make them whole. That is what happened to these folks.

Luke 17:15,16a:

And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God,
And fell down on *his* face at his feet....

So, this time he comes all the way back. He does not stand at a distance and yell because he was no longer a leper.

Luke 17:16-19:

And fell down on *his* face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan.
And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where *are* the nine?
There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger.
And he said unto him [unto this one who came back], Arise, go thy way, **thy faith hath made thee whole.**

They all got the healing they wanted, but this man was made whole. His faith made him whole.

Marriage Counseling is the same way. People come for marriage counseling and they want you to make everything's okay. It does not work that way. You can give them counsel and direction, but, if they do not act on it, they do not get the benefit of it. Not that we are perfect counselors, but, if we give them the Word on something and if they are not willing to do it, they do not get the benefit.

It is the same way with healing. It all works the same way. It is you. It is your body when you need healing and deliverance. It is your heart and mind and life. Of course, in a marriage, it is the two of you; you have to work it; you have to decide. You have to be tenacious for that also. I do not know why marriage is coming up. There must be a reason for it; either here or on the tape, somebody's going to hear it.

Jesus Raising Widow's Dead Son – Luke 7:12-16

This is when Jesus raises the widow's son who had died. This is really a big-time healing. He was stone-cold dead.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

Luke 7:12:

Now when he [Jesus] came nigh to the gate of the city, behold, there was a dead man carried out, the only son of his mother, and she was a widow: and much people of the city was with her.

So, she must have been really loved, and everybody's heart was going out to her because she had lost her husband and she now had lost her son.

Luke 7:13,14:

And when the Lord saw her, he had compassion on her, and said unto her, Weep not.

14 And he came and touched the bier: and they that bare *him* stood still. And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise.

That is always one thing that blesses me when I see it in the Word. Jesus Christ never goes on a long tirade. He does not go on a fifteen minute prayer for this; he just says it. That is the way healing should happen, too. You yank it out of there, whatever it is. It has to go in the name of Jesus Christ. It has to be just as obedient... sickness and disease have to be just as obedient as those spirits do. They are just things, and they have names. These names are under the authority of the name of Jesus Christ. Do you get it? They should go.

Luke 7:14b-16:

... And he said, Young man, I say unto thee, Arise.

And he that was dead sat up, and began to speak. And he delivered him to his mother.

And there came a fear on all: and they [all] glorified God, saying, That a great prophet is risen up among us; and, That God hath visited his people.

God hath visited his people through his prophet and his son, the Lord Jesus Christ. The only son of a widow had died. The family and friends were going through the city showing the dead. I recently saw on the TV news, in Palestine, one of the people had been killed. They were carrying him through the city, and they had him all decked out with beautiful clothes. His face was open so that everybody could get one last look before they bury him. That is what they were doing, going through the city, coming through the gate, and there he was. Another thing they do in the East, after they had buried him. They would take that old stretcher out, and they would break it up. They could break this one up without making a trip to the cemetery because he got up!

This woman received her son, because Jesus Christ had compassion. He had the power, and the authority, and the revelation to do it.

I tell this story about this believer couple. I will never forget it. Many years ago, their son had gotten killed in an automobile accident. We had gone to the funeral home to comfort them, bless them, and love them up. It was a sad time. I got home and was in bed. At three o'clock in the morning, I got a phone call. I went to my office to take the call; it was the father, and he said, "Well, I am thinking about going down to the funeral home and raise my son up from the dead. **But...**" he said, "I wanted to call you first, and

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

I will do whatever you say. If you say, do not go, I will not go, and, if you say go, I will go.” About that time, our kids were about 15 and 16 years old, so it was one of those swallowing times. But, the answer was easy. I said, “No, you don’t go. You know why? Because you are calling me. If God gave you revelation to go get him up, you would not need to call me or anybody else. You would have just gone on down and done it. So, I know it is hard. I know it hurts. My heart goes out to you, but, you need to go home and you need to go to bed and get some sleep because your wife is going to need your help and you have to be strong for her.”

Jesus knew. There was no doubt about it; he got him up. So, if God tells you to get somebody up, you go do it; you do not have to talk to anybody else about it, just say, “Thank you Father.” and go do the job. Do not hesitate.

You run into a lot of things in a lifetime, but you learn too. It was hard. I wanted to say, “Go.” or “Wait, I will come down and go with you.” But, that is the way it was. So, when I read these records, these things come across my mind. Because we would all like to do that, right, if we lose a loved one, we would all like to get them up. It is just not available sometimes. I mean, only God knows. One thing is for sure, they are going to get up. There will be a time... it is not the end.

Jesus Reattaching Malcus’ Ear – Luke 22:49-51

This is the healing of the severed ear. I thought it was so interesting that, although the severing of the ear is recorded in all four gospels, it is only Luke that notes its healing.

Luke 22:49-51:

When they which were about him saw what would follow, they said unto him, Lord, shall we smite with the sword?

50 And one¹⁶¹ of them smote the servant of the high priest, and cut off his right ear.

51 And Jesus answered and said, Suffer [or allow] ye thus far. [That is enough!] And he touched his ear, and healed him.

He put it back on. That is the kind of healing called a reconciliation. You are bringing back together that which has been separated. It had been severed. Well, he touched it and it became un-severed; it became re-attached.

Jesus Healing Man with Dropsy – Luke 14:1-4

In verses one through six, you will see that figure of speech *polysyndeton*. In these records of miracles, we see it many times. Here we will see it again.

Luke 14:1,2:

And it came to pass, as he (Jesus) went into the house of one of the chief Pharisees to eat bread on the sabbath day, that they watched [closely watched] him.

¹⁶¹ It is John 18:10 that tells us it was Peter; he was the one who cut off the ear.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

And, behold, there was a certain man before him which had the dropsy.

Dropsy is an accumulation of fluid where you do not need it. A lot of times it is in the legs. It causes a lot of problems.

Luke 14:3:

And Jesus answering spake unto the lawyers and Pharisees, saying, Is it lawful to heal on the sabbath day?

He asked them. If the sabbath is the Lord's day, then why not do the Lord's work? That is the stupidest thing there is. Why wouldn't you want to do the Lord's work? You are doing all your other work, and it does not amount to much. You have to make a living; but, if you are going to do something important one day a week, do it on the sabbath, for sure.

Luke 14:4-6:

And they held their peace. And he took *him*, and healed him, and let him go;
5 And answered them, saying, Which of you shall have an ass or an ox fallen into a pit, and will not straightway pull him out on the sabbath day?
6 And they could not answer him again to these things [regarding these things].

His critics would have convicted themselves if they had opened their mouths because they seemed to care more about the ox and the ass and the sheep than they did about men.

Jesus Healing the Impotent Man – John 5:1-14

This is the healing of the man at the pool of Bethesda. This is one of the exceptions to the rule. The rule is, the common practice is, that the people who need healing go to get it; they go to the healer. But Jesus did not wait for this person to come to him for healing. Instead, we see that Jesus goes to him. However, we will notice that of all the multitude of impotent folk that were gathered there, Jesus goes to only one. Either he was a very good guesser, a respecter of persons, or someone who received revelation and walked by the spirit.

John 5:1-3a:

After this there was a feast of the Jews; and Jesus went up to Jerusalem.
Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep *market* a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches.
In these [porches] lay a great multitude of impotent folk....

There may have been a great multitude there, but we are going to see that only one of them gets healed. Impotent means "lacking physical strength, weak, ineffective, powerless, or helpless." Of course, today the term is used almost exclusively in a sexual context. When talking about somebody being impotent, it is usually very specifically defined. Today it means unable to engage in intercourse, especially from the inability to have an erection. These folks did not all have sexual problems

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

Impotent just means they were powerless to do one thing or another. That may have been one of the reasons that Jesus went to him; because he was impotent, it was not available for him to come to Jesus.

John 5:3a:

In these [porches] lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered....

Then the words from “waiting” through the rest of verse 4 are not in all the texts.

John 5:3b,4:

.... waiting for the moving of the water.

4 For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.

That is not in all the texts; it may have been added. Whether or not you leave it in is up to you. I do not have any problem with it. Obviously, from Jesus questioning the man, it is what the man believed; it is what the man thought. So, whether or not it is here or not. It is obvious that the man thought this was true. But it does not seem to me that is the way that God does healing. Does God have a contest, a race, and whoever wins gets the healing? I mean, whichever one of you gets up here first when its break time, then you get it and nobody else does. Of course, if they believe, they receive. A lot of healing gets done that way.

John 5:5:

And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.

Man, that is a long time. I think about that, if I am that man at this point in my life, that means I got it when I was sixteen. If since the time I was sixteen I was impotent, unable to walk or unable to use my arm or unable to do something. Man, what would that be like? What would I have missed in life? Where would I be today?

John 5:6a:

When Jesus saw him lie (it doesn't mean he was telling fibs; it means he was reclined), and knew that he had been now a long time *in that case*....

How did he know that? God showed him. Yea, that is how it works. He just knew that he had been a long time in that case.

John 5:6b:

... he saith unto him, **Wilt thou be made whole?**

Wilt thou be made whole? Do you want it? Who is it up to? It is up to him. Wilt thou be made whole? Do you want it? There are a lot of people today who would have trouble answering that question honestly.

Ministering With God's Power

Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

On the surface it would seem that everyone wants to get well but, if that were the case, Jesus' question here would be sort of goofy. The truth is, some people do not want to get well. They enjoy the attention sickness brings. They enjoy the excuse it affords them.

Jesus simply asked, Wilt thou be made whole? The man just wants to get into the water and has no way of getting there. His response indicates that he does not realize who Jesus is, and what Jesus can do. Jesus asks them, do you want to be made whole?

John 5:7:

The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me.

He had sort of given up hope, but he was still there. He is so desperate that he is there. But he does not even think it is going to work because he has no help.

John 5:8:

Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk.

How cool is that! Jesus gives a command. Whenever he does; we are always able to carry it out. Why would we be asked to do something we could not. If we see a command in the scripture that we are to follow, we can do it. If we cannot do it by our own power, then we can through faith in the power God supplies!

John 5:9,10:

And **immediately** the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.

10 The Jews therefore said unto him that was cured, It is the sabbath day: it is not lawful for thee to carry *thy* bed.

Can you imagine that. This guy just gets healed after thirty-eight years. He is just beginning to walk, and instead of saying, "Man, this is great!" or "This is terrific!" they are on his case. "You are not supposed to be doing that."

John 5:11:

He that made me whole, the same said unto me, Take up thy bed, and walk.

He that made me whole. The man did not even know who Jesus was! This guy came here and made me whole, and he told me to take up my bed and walk.

John 5:12-13:

Then asked they him, What man is that which said unto thee, Take up thy bed, and walk?

13 And he that was healed wist (knew) not who it was: (why?) for Jesus had conveyed himself away (he snuck off), a multitude being in *that* place.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

Can you see him walking by and saying, “Do you want to be made whole? Well, take up your bed and walk.” The guy is rolling out of bed, picks it up, and turns around and Jesus is gone.

He did not touch him; just gives him a simple command. That is one of the ways on the list.

John 5:14:

Afterward, Jesus findeth him in the temple (wonder how long it had been since he had been there; but, anyway he finds him in the temple), and said unto him, Behold, thou are made whole: sin no more, lest a worse thing come unto thee.

Now, let me ask you, what could be worse than being crippled and unable to walk for thirty-eight years? This was important enough for Jesus to look him up and tell him. Whatever it was that had caused the problem; whatever the sin was, or whatever the situation was, it was important for him to stop doing that. Jesus found him and told him, do not do this anymore, lest it is going to get worse. **You do not have to do the work to get the healing. That is all by grace. But, sometimes there is work to do to maintain it.** Sometimes there is stuff you have to do so that you maintain the healing. When there is, you just do it.

That is one of those records, where he did not come to Jesus. But, Jesus did not go looking for him, either. He just did not walk by him.

Jesus Healing the Nobleman's Son – John 4:46-54

John 4:46:

So Jesus came again into Cana of Galilee, where he made the water wine. And there was a certain nobleman, whose son was sick at Capernaum.

Cana is inland about twenty-five miles from Capernaum.

John 4:47:

When he heard that Jesus was come out of Judaea into Galilee, he went unto him, and besought him that he would come down, and heal his son: for he was at the point of death.

His son was dying, and he heard Jesus was there. So he traveled over there and asked Jesus to come.

John 4:48-54:

Then said Jesus unto him, Except ye see signs and wonders, ye will not believe.

49 The nobleman saith unto him, Sir, come down ere my child die.

50 Jesus saith unto him, Go thy way, thy son liveth. And the man believed the word that Jesus had spoken unto him, and he went his way.

51 And as he was now going down, his servants met him, and told *him*, saying, Thy son liveth.

52 Then enquired he of them the hour when he began to amend (or to get better). And they said unto him, Yesterday at the seventh hour the fever left him.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

53 So the father knew that *it was* at the same hour, in the which Jesus said unto him, Thy son liveth: and himself believed, and his whole house.

54 This is again the second miracle *that* Jesus did, when he was come out of Judaea into Galilee.

He told the father to go home; everything is fine. When Jesus spoke the words, the man had to make a choice. We always make a choice. This life is nothing but choice. When you have lunch, you have to make a choice. Skip it, or eat it. We make choices all the time. Life and death is in the power of the tongue, the Word says.¹⁶² What is said and what is believed. What is confessed and what is believed. This man went after it. He went for help for his son. His son was dying. He went where he knew he could get it. When Jesus said the words, he believed it and was able to see it into manifestation. When we believe the Word of God, we can see the results. It is just as simple as that.

**Healing the Lame Man at the Temple Gate Beautiful – Acts 3:1-8,16;
4:22**

This is the healing of the man at the temple gate, Beautiful. This has come up three or four times already, but we will read through it again.

Acts 3:1:

Now Peter and John went up together into the temple at the hour of prayer, *being* the ninth *hour*.

We have found it very good and very effective to have two of us together when ministering. That is what they seemed to do here.

Acts 3:2:

And a certain man lame from his mother's womb was carried, whom they laid daily at the gate of the temple which is called Beautiful, to ask alms of them that entered into the temple;

He was lame from his mother's womb and, according to Acts 4:22, he was over forty years old. He was carried, so he had servants; he had wealth; he's not begging for money here. He is begging to show humility. He had people taking care of him, he was carried and laid daily at the gate of the temple. Begging for money was not done at the gate of the temple; it was done at the gate of the city. That is where the markets were; that is where money was exchanged. Where does McDonald's Houses and everybody put their donation boxes? Right at the cash register; so, when you exchange your money, you can put your change in there. That is where the beggars sat if they wanted money; they sat at the gate of the city. He is at the temple. People generally did not take money into the temple. They could not take Roman money in because it had pictures on it. They could not take Greek money in either, so he was not there to get money. He was there to show

¹⁶² Proverbs 18:21

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

humility. It says he was there to ask alms of them that entered into the temple. He was not there to receive alms; he was there to ask alms.

Acts 3:3-4:

Who seeing Peter and John about to go into the temple asked an alms.
4 And Peter, fastening his eyes upon him with John, said, Look on us.

That was inspired utterance. Do you think he had that planned? No. It is just what he felt like saying. He is in that situation. He looked at the guy; the guy looked at him. He saw him, and then that is what he said. You will do that. You will just say things. You will wonder, where did that come from?

Acts 3:5:

And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them.

He was expecting to receive. The neat thing is what he receives. I do not think he had any idea beforehand what he was about to receive.

Acts 3:6:

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

So he tells him what to do. He gives him a command. But, not only does he give them a command...

Acts 3:7:

And he took him by the right hand, and lifted *him* up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

Not only did he tell him what to do in giving him the command, but he helped him. He assisted him to do that which he told him to do. Immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

Acts 3:8-11:

And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

And all the people saw him walking and praising God:

And they knew that it was he which sat for alms at the Beautiful gate of the temple: and they were filled with wonder and amazement at that which had happened unto him.

And as the lame man which was healed held Peter and John, all the people ran together unto them in the porch that is called Solomon's, greatly wondering.

It was a wonder! It produced awe; it produced reverence; it produced respect; it produced great wonder in their hearts.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

Acts 3:12:

And when Peter saw it (He saw how they reacted; he saw their reverence.), he answered unto the people, Ye men of Israel, why marvel ye at this? Or why look ye so earnestly on us, as though by our own power or holiness we had made this man to walk?

The people immediately wanted to give their wonder and awe to Peter. Peter did not want the wonder; he did not want the awe; he wanted God to receive it. He puts it off from himself. Why are you looking at me as if I am anybody special? He explains:

Acts 3:13:

The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate....

Boy, he needs to take a Dale Carnegie course! He does not know how to win friends and influence people! Look at what he is saying. Sometimes you might say stuff that you think is pretty weird, but look at what he is saying.

Acts 3:13-15:

The God of Abraham, and of Isaac, and of Jacob, the God of our fathers, hath glorified his Son Jesus; whom ye delivered up, and denied him in the presence of Pilate, when he was determined to let *him* go.

14 But ye denied the Holy One and the Just, and desired a murderer to be granted unto you;

15 And killed the Prince of life, whom God hath raised from the dead; whereof we are witnesses.

See what the miracle did? It opened the door for him to preach the Lord Jesus Christ. He tells them about Jesus. He tells them about him getting up from the dead. Why? So they could get born again. That is what the miracle was for! Not just to heal the guy but, then, they use it for an occasion to move the Word!

Man, and that is what we want. We want people born again. It is because they operated manifestations; they were witnesses. They witnessed because they showed the operation of the manifestations. If they did not have Christ in them at this time, they would not be able to do this.

Acts 1:8:

But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.

Witness by operating manifestations! That is what busts the doors open! That is what breaks the Adversary's stronghold. We operate manifestations. That is what he is doing.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

Acts 3:16:

And his name through faith in his name hath made this man strong, whom ye see and know: yea, the faith which is by him hath given him this perfect soundness in the presence of you all.

He finally believed. Today was his day. He had been there a long time, and he finally believed today was his day. He believed God, and look at him! You can have the same today, if you're going to believe God. Peter goes on to make the application to teach them the Word, and to tell them, "Turn around, nation of Israel. Come on, nation of Israel; come back as a whole." He wants the whole nation to make it, but, you read the end of the chapter, they do not make it as a nation. They do not do it; they do not respond as a nation. They get a few of them, but then it goes to the Gentiles.

See how the miracle happens and then, immediately, he tells them about Jesus Christ being raised from the dead, and confronts them about their mistreatment of him and the rejection of him. Look, this guy got up from the dead and you can have this too; you can get to know him; we are witnesses; we will tell you what you need to know.

Jesus Healing the Man Born Blind – John 9:1-11

John 9:1:

And as *Jesus* passed by, he saw a man which was blind from *his* birth.

There again, it is that same word "saw," he saw it in his mind, in his thoughts. That is how he knew it; he knew it by revelation. It was evident he was blind, but to know that he had been that way from birth took revelation.

John 9:2:

And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

Now, verse 3 and 4, I am going to punctuate it a little differently.

John 9:3,4:

Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents[.] **B**ut that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work (period).

Life is short! We only have so much time. What are we going to do with it? Jesus knew his time was short. His ministry did not last that long. A lot of our ministries have lasted a lot longer than his already, right? But, what are we going to do with the rest of our time? Are we going to minister while it is light? Are we going to be the lights of this world. Jesus said, "I am the light of this world." Jesus Christ is in us; we had better let him shine!

One way we shine is: we preach the Word. We teach the Word; we heal; we cast out spirits if that's necessary; we do the works that he did! Jesus had a very simple pattern.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

He went in the synagogue. He went by the seashore. He went on the mountain tops, sat in a boat or wherever. He preached, and he taught, and he made God known. We are to make known Jesus Christ and what he accomplished. We preach him and the resurrection. That had not happened, yet. We are to preach the way of salvation, get people born again, and then, if they got problems, they need to know how they can get rid of them, because it does not belong to them. Problems are squatters.

John 9:5:

As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

As long as we are in the world, we had better shine as the lights of the world. When he gathers us together, that is going to be a new day with lots of stuff to do. But right now, what better thing is there to do? Everybody's looking for something in life. They try all kinds of careers, but it is sitting here. We have opened it up. Now what are we going to do with it?

John 9:6-7:

When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

7 And said unto him, Go wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

He heard the Word. He was obedient to the Word, and he received the healing.

John 9:8,9:

The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged?

Some said, This is he: others *said* He is like him: *but* he said, I am *he*.

Why would we not let people know? You glorify God by telling what He has done for you. Like Sangat said, we spend the first hour talking about what God has done for you. Maybe one day, I will get around to these pearls. People do write and tell me stuff, but it seems when we get to the newsletter I am too busy to write it.

John 9:9b:

... *but* he said, I am *he*.

I know who I am, and I know what happened.

John 9:10,11:

Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened?

11 He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

It is always simple. Hear the Word of God; believe the Word of God; be obedient to it and do the Word of God. It is that simple. This is a great little record. We could go on and read a lot of stuff, but that is all I am going to hit now.

Jesus Raising Lazarus – John 11:1-45

When Mary and Martha had a need, they sent a short, simple message to Jesus. “He whom thou lovest is sick.” I always thought it was interesting that they stated it that way. They did not say, “He who loves you, he who believes in you, he who serves you, he who has done so much for you is sick.” They said, “He whom you love is sick.” The sisters knew that it was Christ’s love for Lazarus that would activate him. Similarly, we should understand that it is God’s love for us that provides a basis of our trust in Him. Knowing the depth and the riches of God’s love for His own, we are assured He will act on our behalf.

First, we will see the difficulty.

John 11:1-3:

Now a certain *man* was sick, *named* Lazarus, of Bethany, the town of Mary and her sister Martha.

2 (It was *that* Mary which anointed the Lord with ointment, and wiped his feet with her hair, whose brother Lazarus was sick.)

3 Therefore, his sisters sent unto him, saying, Lord, behold he whom thou **lovest** [*phileō*] is sick.

That is the word *phileō*. They make no requests or demand of Jesus. They simply want to inform him that their brother is sick. They want him to know the situation, and the fact that he would know was enough to comfort to them. Because they knew his love, they expected him to act. What they did not expect was a delay.

John 11:4-6:

When Jesus heard *that*, he said, This sickness is not unto death (period), but for the (sake of the) glory of God, (with the result) that the Son of God might be glorified thereby.

5 Now Jesus **loved** [*agapē*] Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.

6 When he had heard therefore that he was sick, he abode two days still in the same place where he was.

Phileō, brotherly love, dictates that Jesus go immediately. That is what they said, “He whom thou lovest is sick.” That is *phileō*. But *agapē* dictated that he not go. Verse 5 is not out of place. A lot of commentaries say it is out of place; it doesn’t fit. But it does fit; it is supposed to be there. It explains Jesus’ motivation. “Now Jesus **loved** Martha, and her sister, and Lazarus.” That is the word, “*agapē*,” the love of God. *Phileō* would dictate that he jumps, that he runs. But, it is the love of God that we operate from, and that dictated that he not go. *Phileō* tugs on our hearts, but it cannot bring results. It is *agapē*, in contrast, that brings results. It energizes our believing and obedience to do the Word. We do not react to situations. We act on the Word. We are not run by

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

emotions; we do not get all shook. Remember the father whose son wallowed foaming? It did not even seem to bother Jesus. He keeps asking the father questions while the kid is down there wallowing and foaming. We stay cool and maintain our peaceful seas. Next, we will see the discussion that Jesus had with his apostles. First we saw the difficulty, and now we will see the discussion. They were concerned with his safety.

John 11:7,8:

Then after that saith he to his disciples, Let us go into Judaea again.

8 His disciples say unto him, Master, the Jews of late sought to stone thee; and goest thou thither again?

In John 7:1 and as recently as John 10:31, the people are trying to kill him. They are saying, "Wait a minute. We do not want to go back there."

John 11:9a:

Jesus answered, Are there not twelve hours in the day?

Yes, there are. They varied in their culture from 49 minutes to 72 minutes, whether it was winter or summer. They had sundials, remember?

John 11:9b:

... If any man walk in the day, he stumbleth not, because he seeth the light of this world.

10 But if a man walk in the night, he stumbleth, because there is no light in him.

This is the figure *erotesis*. He is talking about walking by the Spirit; he is talking about being led by God's power.

Proverbs 4:19:

The way of the wicked is as darkness; they know not at what they stumble.

That is not us; we walk with the light of the Word. We know what we walk on. This next part of the discussion proceeds to how Lazarus is sleeping.

John 11:11,12:

These things said he: and after that he saith unto them, Our friend Lazarus sleepeth; but I go, that I may awake him out of sleep.

12 Then said his disciples, Lord, if he sleep, he shall do well.

If he is sleeping, he is going to recover.

John 11:13,14:

Howbeit Jesus spake of his death: but they thought that he had spoken of taking of rest in sleep.

Then said Jesus unto them plainly, Lazarus is dead.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

He could only know that by revelation. God told him. That is pretty harsh, but he explains in verse 15:

John 11:15,16a:

And I am glad for your sakes that I was not there, to the intent ye may believe; nevertheless let us go unto him. [Let's go unto him; let's go see Lazarus.]

16 Then said Thomas, which is called Didymus, unto his fellowdisciples, Let us also go....

Let us go also, that Lazarus may live?

Let us go also, that Jesus will be blessed?

John 11:16b:

... Let us also go, that we may die with him.

That is pretty negative, don't you think? Pretty self-centered. Was he thinking about Lazarus? Was he thinking about Mary or Martha?

John 11:17:

Then when Jesus came, he found that he had *lain* in the grave four days already.

How long did he wait? Two days. So, if he had left two days ago, would he have found Lazarus alive or dead? It did not make any difference, did it? It would have made no difference if he would have just run immediately. When he got there, Lazarus would have been dead anyhow. So, God told him to wait; and He told him to wait until he was dead for more than three days and three nights. And that was important for him, because he knew that he would be dead for three days and three nights. So, he was in the grave four days already.

John 11:18-21:

Now Bethany was nigh unto Jerusalem, about fifteen furlongs off:

19 And many of the Jews came to Martha and Mary, to comfort them concerning their brother.

20 Then Martha, as soon as she heard that Jesus was coming, went and met him: but Mary sat *still* in the house.

21 Then said Martha unto Jesus, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

In her hurt, Martha spoke these words. They could have been very condemning if Jesus would have taken them that way. It could have been very hurtful to him. And we see that he ends up crying with them. He ends up linked with them in their sorrow and their grief, but these words could have been very hurtful. But he understands their pain; he does not take it personally. He does not say, "Aw, I wish you had not said that." or "Man, that hurts." He understands what she is going through.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

John 11:22-24:

But I know, that even now, whatsoever thou wilt ask of God, God will give *it* thee.

23 Jesus saith unto her, Thy brother shall rise again.

24 Martha saith unto her, I know that he shall rise again in the resurrection at the last day.

She had her theology right. She knew how it worked. I know he is going to rise again in the last day.

John 11:25:

Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:

In our administration, when we apply it to Romans 10:9 and 10, and give people that Word. They are dead in trespasses and sins; yet, they will live, because Jesus Christ is the way, the truth, and the life. Though he were dead, yet shall he live...

John 11:26,27:

And whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die. Believest thou this?

27 Yea, Lord: I believe that thou art the Christ, the Son of God, which should come into the world.

What a great declaration! She believed in him; she believed. That was the basis on which she rest her faith. That was the basis on which she rests herself. He is the Son of God; he will do what he says. Do you know a better basis on which to rest. Do you know a better foundation on which to build?

John 11:28-32:

And when she had so said, she went her way, and called Mary her sister secretly, saying, The Master is come, and calleth for thee.

29 As soon as she heard *that*, she arose quickly, and came unto him.

30 Now Jesus was not yet come into the town, but was in that place where Martha met him.

31 The Jews then which were with her in the house, and comforted her, when they saw Mary, that she rose up hastily and went out, followed her, saying, She goeth unto the grave to weep there.

32 Then when Mary was come where Jesus was, and saw him, she fell down at his feet, saying unto him, Lord, if thou hadst been here, my brother had not died.

Again, look at the hurt, "Oh, I wish you would have been here; you could have kept him alive."

John 11:33:

When Jesus therefore saw her weeping, and the Jews also weeping which came with her, he groaned in the spirit (that's usage 4; he groaned in himself), and was troubled,

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

34 And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see.
35 Jesus wept.

He was a man of like passions like we are. He had feelings; he had emotions; he loved these people. Outside of the apostles and his immediate family, these were probably the closest friends that he had. These are the people that put him up every time that he went to Jerusalem. He stayed in Bethany with these guys. He stayed in their home, and he walked back and forth to Jerusalem. These were among his best friends. This hurt. This was dear; and he wept; he cried.

I know there is a lot of debate whether they were tears of joy or tears of sadness; but, you know what, it does not make much difference, as far as I am concerned, because they are still tears. They are still emotions. It still shows you that he is involved in life, and whether he is crying out of their hurt—identifying with their hurt—or if he is crying out of tears of joy because he knows he is getting him up. They are still tears, and he still had to endure this.

John 11:36,37:

Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved them!

37 And, some of them said, Could not this man, which opened the eyes of the blind, have caused that even this man should not have died?

They knew the account that John just read in John 9.

John 11:38:

Jesus therefore again groaning in himself (It said before, groaning in the spirit; the usage that meant “in himself.”) cometh to the grave. It was a cave, and a stone lay upon it.

39 Jesus said, Take ye away the stone. Martha, the sister of him that was dead, saith unto him, Lord, by this time he stinketh: for he hath been *dead* four days.

We cannot do this, Jesus. He stinketh! He is decaying.

John 11:40,41:

Jesus saith unto her, Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?

41 Then they took away the stone *from the place* where the dead was laid. And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said,

We are going to see that he prays here. We will see, also, that he does not pray for God to raise Lazarus. He is praying, but he is not praying to God to get Lazarus up. Look at his prayer. He says:

John 11:41b-43:

... And Jesus lifted up his eyes, and said, Father, I thank thee that thou hast heard me. [And, he is praying by revelation **out loud.**]

42 And I knew that thou hearest me always: but because of the people which stand by I said *it*, that they may believe that thou hast sent me.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

43 And when he thus had spoken, he cried with a loud voice...

And he speaks to Lazarus. He speaks to the dead body.

John 11:43b:
... Lazarus, come forth.

And Jesus is still calling today. People, come out of your graves of unbelief! Come unto me and have a more abundant life!

John 11:44:
And he that was dead came forth, bound hand and foot with graveclothes: and his face was bound about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.

Did he walk out of there? No, he did not. How could he walk? He is bound hand and foot. He did not walk out of there. God moved him out of there. Now, Lazarus had to respond; Lazarus had to agree, but he was bound hand and foot; he did not hop out like a mummy. He came out; God brought him out. He was transported just like Jesus was transported; just like Enoch was transported; just like Philip was transported. It was not until he came out that they loosed him.

John 11:44b,45:
... Jesus saith unto them, Loose him, and let him go.
45 Then many of the Jews which came to Mary, and had seen the things which Jesus did, believed on him.

That is what we are supposed to do; we are supposed to believe on him. He declared his will. He said what he wanted, and it is time. "Get out of your grave." "Come on, get up." It is the same cry today for you and I; it's the same cry today for God's people. Get out of your graves! Get out of your hideouts! Get out of your caves! Come on out and help! Come on out and get involved. There is more for you to do, Lazarus! Come out of that grave! You cannot die yet; your life is not over. God needs you! God needs you! God needs our help! Come on out of the grave! And he came out. He came forth!

That is the challenge all of us have... to get out of our graves, to get out of our hideouts, to get out of our fears, to get out of our weakness, to get out of our shame, to get out of our guilt, to get out of whatever holds us back from moving with God and to move and to do what He has called us to do. To heal—to love—to teach—to minister—to give—to serve. That is really what we want. That is what the relationship with God allows us to do. He has touched our lives and our hearts, and He wants us to do the same for God's people. We are His hands, His feet. He works with us. We are laborers together with Him. What a joy! What a way to live life! What a privilege we have; our God is so good. and so big, and there is so much we can do.

That is what the world does. It can bind you up. You may be still breathing, but you are all wrapped up in dead clothes, just waiting for the digger. Only you can change it. God says there is life out there; there are things to do.

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

There are things to do. It is a big body of Christ. There are people all over this world that need to hear this stuff. They need to hear the Word of God; they need to hear about the Word of Life! They need to be able to walk in victory, like we have been given, if we choose so.

We are thinking about Jesus raising Lazarus from the dead, but it is so much more than that. People are dead. Christians are dead wrapped up in their grave clothes. All bound up in the world trying to figure out what life's all about and having all kinds of problems. Cut yourself loose. Yea, you have problems and challenges, but you can face them down. Just spit them out! Spit them out, because you have got the Lord Jesus Christ inside. Boy, when you really believe that, it will be a new day for you. It really will. It will be more than words on a page.

God needs more, and He has your own special program. We are all unique, and God has a special program for us, each one of us. We will be doing things we never thought about doing, go places you have never thought about going, and seeing things you never thought were possible to see, only to be read about—but, all of a sudden—you are in the middle of it. It is written, and you are part of it. Now, that is living!

Ministering With God's Power
Hour 17: Healing Accounts #3

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

Preview of *The First Two Keys to Healing*

In *The First Two Keys to Healing* we will see two simple principles from the integrity and accuracy of God's Word regarding how to heal the sick. The foundation of healing the sick is that you speak or proclaim to those who need healing that they can be healed right now. Then those who wished to be delivered come to the one who heals with desire and expectation.

Introduction

Now we will move on to more details of how to heal the sick and as we go to these various points, you will see the simple keys of ministering healing, and the accuracy and integrity of God's Word regarding how to heal the sick in this section.

**Proclaim to Those Who Need Healing That They
Can Be Healed Right Now**

The first point, and the base, the foundation of operating this manifestation, gifts of healing, is you speak or proclaim to those who need healing that they can be healed right now. This is the most important thing in bringing deliverance to God's people. Speak the good news regarding the availability, the thousand-per-cent availability of people being healed right now. We proclaim it. It is God's Word. We do not have to guarantee them. God guaranteed them in His written word. We speak forth. We are the ambassadors of God and we speak forth that promise of God boldly, fearlessly.

We tell people who need healing and deliverance, that God can heal right now, not tomorrow, or the day after tomorrow, but right now the deliverance is available. As we preach and proclaim this truth, what's going to happen? Those who need healing will hear those words, and, if they desire strongly for deliverance and accept this message, then they will come to you and receive healing. Because, from the receiver's point of view, it is absolutely required that they believe, that they have faith to receive the healing. So, we help them to make the decision to receive what is a thousand per cent available right now.

It is available for the unsaved, and it is available for the saved. This glorious gospel of deliverance is available for unsaved and saved alike. Now, for the saved it is much bigger. I think we remember Romans 10:9. It says:

Romans 10:9:

That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved [made whole].

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement

Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

In church epistles, not even once does the word “healing” appear, because in the church epistles, for the Body of Christ, God goes far beyond physical healing. He goes to wholeness. Wholeness will include, definitely, physical healing, financial healing, oh! so many types. You are made whole! This is God’s picture for “saved.” Now, the unsaved have rights to be healed. If they choose to confess Jesus as Lord and believe God raised him from the dead, then they get the benefit of being made whole. When we minister healing, we always watch the faith level, confidence level, and that is where we work.

Romans 10:17:

So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

Therefore, we proclaim that healing is available right now. You can make up your mind to receive or not. If you make your decision, then take the healing. It is your right. Healing is your right. We do not have to beg God; we do not have to ask God to heal us. It is our right. We were healed by his stripes. We were healed. So, what do we do? We just make the decision, “Okay, I am going to take this.” Some of you hearing this class and have need of healing deliverance, you can make the decision right now and receive into manifestation the healing which is already done, many years ago – two thousand years ago. God paid the highest price for our healing: that is the broken body of our lord Jesus Christ. God paid the price. It was not a free thing. God had to pay, and He paid the highest price for our physical wholeness, healing. Therefore today it is paid for, our bill. Our medical bill is paid for. We just take that healing. And right now, we can absolutely receive healing in manifestation. Just make our decision. “Yes, I took it. Thank you God! Thank you God!” That is what we say. I do not pray or beg God to give me healing, but thank God that I am healed. “I am healed. Thank you God; I received it.”

Since it is faith, it does not have to do with what we feel. You may have pain; you may have deformities in certain parts of your body. You can look at that, but you say “Thank you God” because this is the truth. God magnified His word above all His name. He guarantees this truth in the written word, and we can say, “Thank you God. I am healed. Thank you God.” If you decide to do that, you are going to manifest the deliverance.

Okay, that is the receiver side, the receiver’s point of view. Now, one who ministers must boldly proclaim this truth of the availability of healing right now. You may give testimonies from God’s word regarding those healing deliverances. You may give testimonies of some people who received healing deliverances. God can inspire you to speak words which, when they enter into the ears and hearts of those who listen and desire to be delivered, can inspire them to have faith to receive the deliverance. Therefore, the number one point for bringing deliverance is proclaim boldly, “You can be healed right now from any type of diseases, all manner of sicknesses, all manner of diseases, all bondages.”

This is a glorious message of deliverance. Jesus Christ was the one who became cursed. He hung on the tree so that we do not have to be under this curse. Jesus Christ liberated us and made us free from sickness and diseases. And it is up to our mind to accept that or not. We make a decision to manifest that deliverance with thanksgiving, and if you do so, right now you are healed, I can say, right now you are healed, whatever

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

it is. Your leg is pained, okay “Stretch out that leg!” “Your shoulders are painful? Okay, lift up your arm!” And you are healed. If you are blind, then tell me, “What is the color of my hair.” You were healed. It is a present reality. God has made that absolutely available, free of cost. It is on a golden platter, delicious, right in front of you, with golden fork and knife, ready to be eaten. It is up to you to take it, take this benefit and enjoy it. It is yours, it your right to receive deliverance.

One who ministers this deliverance is to proclaim this point to people who need deliverance. And I am sure Jesus Christ proclaimed it very boldly. Otherwise, people do not know that they can be healed. He healed thousands and thousands and thousands of people, and how they knew that was that he must have proclaimed it. Matthew chapter 4, that point we will see. Right now, we are going over the importance, because we are the ambassadors of God, to proclaim to people the availability of healing deliverance. Right now.

Matthew 4:23:

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

First thing is preaching and teaching. That is the first thing in order for deliverance to take place. First, we preach, proclaim the gospel, the good news. The good news for those people who are suffering with sickness is that deliverance from sickness is available right now, right at this moment. It is up to them. We give that good news in such a way and give sufficient amount of that good news so that they hear that word, and then that faith comes by hearing the word of God. When they have faith to receive, they receive it. Teaching and preaching the good news preceded healing. I am showing you from the Word of God the most important point in bringing about the healing deliverance among the people.

Matthew 9:35:

And Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing every sickness and every disease among the people.

It sounded like Matthew 4:23. It is like a sandwich. If we look between Matthew 4:23 and Matthew 9:35 we will see the principles regarding how to heal the sick and what the keys are. Right now, I am giving you the principles of operating the manifestation of gifts of healing. The healing takes place by the faith of the recipient.

Matthew 13:58:

And he did not many mighty works there because of their unbelief.

This unbelief caused them to not receive. We preach the word, preach the great, glorious news of healing deliverance, and that they can be healed right now. But if they do not have faith, if they just do not pay attention to these things, and just do not think it is possible, then they are not going to receive anything. Even our Lord Jesus could not do many mighty works there. Why? God's word says because of their unbelief.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

Mark 6:5,6:

And he could there do no mighty work, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them.

6 And he marvelled because of their unbelief. And he went round about the villages, teaching.

If people have great unbelief, or people are not ready to believe, do not worry; do not get discouraged. Okay, healing is not taking place; do not worry about it, because Jesus went to other places, where people had faith. They will accept the truth and receive deliverance.

This is something about operating the manifestation of gifts of healing. You can give gifts; you can give healing to those who believe to receive. You cannot give this gift of healing to those who do not want to receive. If they do not have an expectation to receive, you cannot give. You can keep trying to heal; they are not going to receive. If you do not understand this principle, then you will condemn yourself. Maybe there is something wrong with me, maybe I do not really have power, or maybe I do not understand about the manifestation of gifts of healing. That is why I am teaching you right now this truth so that you do not have to get discouraged. Some people are not going to be delivered because of their unbelief. Certainly, at certain times, you may not be successful at ministering healing. But do not worry. You just keep moving on, and you will get better and better and better. Do not be afraid of failures. Just keep operating the power, understanding the principles. Okay?

The number one point is to proclaim the truth that healing deliverance is available right now. Boldly tell a thousand people, "You can be healed right now." No problem, no problem, because the problem is God's problem. God guaranteed it. It is His promise. I am not on the spot. God is on the spot. You can tell them, "Right now you can be healed. Do you want to be healed? It is up to you." If they need to know a little more information, we tell them. God will inspire you to speak, to give them the right information so that they will have faith. If they want to be delivered then they will get the right information to build their faith up. They will have faith to receive, and they will receive the deliverance into manifestation, which Jesus Christ already accomplished many years ago.

Acts 8:5:

Then Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

That is the first thing. That is the first thing. Jesus Christ, remember? He preached and taught, and then he healed. Okay, that is the next step. We must be very clear on this when it comes to the operation of the manifestation of gifts of healing. To give the gift ("such as I have I give" Acts 3:6) the recipient has to have desire and faith to receive. You cannot give a gift to someone who does not want it. So first is to preach. Philip went down to the city of Samaria, and preached Christ unto them.

Acts 8:6:

And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

He proclaimed it boldly. There was need among the people. The people needed deliverance, and wanted deliverance, and some of them just decided to receive it. Philip healed them. Some of them saw him doing the miracles. Philip did the miracles.

Acts 8:7,8:

For unclean spirits, crying with loud voice, came out of many that were possessed with them: and many taken with palsies, and that were lame, were healed.

8 And there was great joy in that city.

Right now I am giving you the foundation for operating the manifestation of gifts of healing, which is to proclaim the good news regarding healing deliverance. That it is available right now, a thousand per-cent guaranteed by God. We need to understand this point that it is the gift of healing, and if the recipient does not want it, you can minister healing all day, and that person is not going to receive it. You need to instruct them to make the decision to receive what is already available right now. This is an important thing to tell them.

They are going to receive. God is working within you. As you proclaim the good news and the great, glorious gospel of deliverance, then there are going to be people who desire and want to be delivered. When they respond to your good news with faith they are going to receive into manifestation the total healing deliverance in their lives.

**The Recipient of Healing Must Strongly Desire
and Believe to Receive Healing**

Now we are going to move on to the second point. Number two is that the recipient of healing must strongly desire and believe to receive healing. Thus, they went to the healer to be healed. The healer did not go to the homes of the sick just because someone told him that a sick person was in that house. The pattern that God's Word shows, I am going to demonstrate to you from the scripture.

Matthew 8:1-3:

When he [Jesus] was come down from the mountain, great multitudes followed him.

2 And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

3 And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

Jesus was not looking for this leper. He must have known that there were many lepers in Israel in those days, and he might have known where these lepers lived. But he did not go to those places and just start healing, because the principle that God's Word shows is the first step is you proclaim it. The one who has that need for deliverance, after hearing that, and have desire to be delivered, those people receive the deliverance. As we study this section, then we will understand that these people had great desire to be delivered.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

We know that according to their culture, a leper could not just come near people. They were not allowed to come within the city. They had to live in the outskirts, some specifically designated area that they were supposed to live. This leper, according to the scripture, in spite of great multitudes, followed him. The word of God did not say “multitudes”; it says “great multitudes” followed him. Jesus Christ had many people, tens and thousands of people following him. This leper somehow was able to get to him in a big crowd. If you are away from your mother or girlfriend, or anybody, your family member, who are say a hundred or two hundred feet away from you, and between you and them you have great multitudes, it is very difficult to get to that particular location to be with them. Now this leper, in spite of the great multitudes, put the effort to get to Jesus. I am sure there must have been many people who discouraged this leper and told him to get out from that crowd. According to their culture some of them might have shouted to this leper, “Get out from here. Do not touch me! Do not touch my skin, not even my clothes!” They must have really discouraged him, but this guy wanted deliverance.

God's Word is showing the principle now. Who received deliverance? He somehow finally got to Jesus Christ. This guy knew he was going to be delivered. He had confidence that he was going to receive deliverance. This confidence might have come from hearing Jesus Christ's teaching one day, or somebody else talked about Jesus Christ, that he healed so-and-so, in a great way. He might have seen that particular person who God delivered, and that delivered person might have given testimony that the Lord Jesus Christ healed me. Those words and testimonies generated desire and expectation to be delivered, and therefore, with this great desire and expectation he put forth this great effort to come in front of the Lord Jesus Christ. He did not keep his mouth closed; he spoke to him, “Lord, if thou will...” This was his only doubt, that a leper like me, the outcast, am not worthy to receive this deliverance. Maybe somebody good can receive that deliverance, but maybe, it might not be for me, because I am really a bad person, or an outcast, a very low level person. So he just wanted to know if he willed. That is the only thing. He knew that Jesus Christ could deliver him, but this one doubt. So he said, “If thou will, thou canst make me clean. I know you can make me clean, but if you will.” Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, “I will. You be clean.” Immediately his leprosy was cleansed, that objection removed by Jesus Christ. Working out that doubt factor in his mind, he just put forth his hand and said, “I will, I will, do not worry, do not you bother about that, I will.” And, what else did he say? “You be clean.” He gave the healing, and immediately the leprosy was cleansed.

Right now I am showing you the second principle that the recipient of healing, after hearing God's Word, that that person must desire strongly and expect to receive the deliverance. Therefore, they will go to the healer to receive healing. It is not that the healer goes to the sick people.

Matthew 8:5-7:

And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,

6 And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

7 And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

Jesus knew that this centurion had the faith. Jesus would not have gone if he had recognized that this guy was not really serious about receiving. What did Jesus do? Jesus said unto him, "I will come, and I will heal him."

To operate the manifestation of healing, who does the healing? You heal. "I will come and I will heal him." This is the great point. Jesus decided to go with the centurion because the centurion had the great desire and expectation that was evidenced by his coming to him and beseeching him. Note, you are not going to minister healing to every sick person in the world. Just because you saw some so-in-so is sick so you decided to go and heal that person. Yes, certainly we will go to people's houses to proclaim that healing is available; we build their faith. But for ministering gifts of healing, we give the healing to those people who expect and come to receive the deliverance. In your ministry you will see those people who come to you to receive healing, they will be delivered. This is what Jesus Christ did.

Matthew 8:8:

The centurion answered and said, Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest come under my roof: but speak the word only, and my servant shall be healed.

This centurion, before leaving his house, he must have told his servant, "I am going to meet Jesus Christ, the great healer. And, my servant do not you worry; you are going to be healed." And the relation between the servant and centurion is that he had faith in the master, the centurion, that what the centurion said was so. The centurion also explained his logic that Jesus did not have to come to the house to heal his servant. He just needed Jesus to speak, speak, that his servant be healed.

Matthew 8:9-13:

For I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me: and I say to this man, Go, and he goeth; and to another, Come, and he cometh; and to my servant, Do this, and he doeth it.

10 When Jesus heard it, he marvelled, and said to them that followed, Verily I say unto you, I have not found so great faith, no, not in Israel.

11 And I say unto you, That many shall come from the east and west, and shall sit down with Abraham, and Isaac, and Jacob, in the kingdom of heaven.

12 But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.

13 And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; [go home] and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

So, the principle is, one who desires healing comes to the healer, and the person who heals, he gives healing. Now this person had great faith. Jesus Christ spoke and explained about him having great faith. Jesus Christ did not have to do anything. He just said, "Go home, and as you have believed, so be it done unto you." That is all. And by hearing that, this centurion absolutely believed that, and that by believing that, this servant, how many miles away from where they were, just received that deliverance.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

Matthew 8:16:

When the even was come, they brought unto him many that were possessed with devils: and he cast out the spirits with his word, and healed all that were sick:

Right now we are focusing on this point: those who wished to be delivered, they come to the one who heals with desire and expectation. They brought the sick and those possessed with devils to Jesus. When that condition was fulfilled, he cast out the spirits with his word, and he healed all that were sick. Why he was able to do that was because of this reason. Jesus Christ must have known that there were many who were sick in that particular town. He did not go door to door and say, "Okay, now I am going to go to Mrs. Grace's house because Peter said to me that Mrs. Grace's son has this so-and-so sickness. I think I had better go, otherwise they may think I am not a good person." There is another house out there, in that house, their daughter has been having a fever the past three day. I think I had better go there. But according to this scripture there were many in that town, and they brought unto him. This is a very important point. They brought unto him, and those are the ones who received the deliverance. I am showing you this key number two: that for ministering healing, we do not go door to door. We do not go to a hospital because there are many sick people, a start ministering healing. If you do so, you are not going to deliver many of them. Maybe one or two you will deliver. But I tell you, not many will receive deliverance because God's Word is showing us the keys very plainly. "It is written." Even the Lord Jesus Christ applied this particular key. Therefore he received great result in his healing ministry. We need to pay attention to this particular truth.

Matthew 9:2a

And, behold, they brought to him

God is giving us a big hint. God's Word has already shown all the things regarding ministering healing: How to manifest the gifts of healing, what are the conditions; what we need to do. Right now, I am showing you these keys. This is key number two. There are going to be more. This is key number two. And if we adhere to these keys, you are going to have a very high percentage of delivering people.

Matthew 9:2:

And, behold, they brought to him a man sick of the palsy, lying on a bed: and Jesus seeing their faith said unto the sick of the palsy; Son, be of good cheer; thy sins be forgiven thee.

He recognized that these people were really serious about receiving the deliverance. They believed that Jesus was going to deliver them. They carried this paralyzed man on a bed. I do not know how they carried him. They did not have a van or a car. I do not know how they brought this man on the bed, but they put forth good effort to get to Jesus. If we read other gospels like Mark or Luke, then we come to know that these people could not just get near to Jesus Christ in the synagogue. They decided to take the bed up on the roof, and then open the roof and they brought him down in front of Jesus Christ. We need to understand this point of desire or expectation. They brought. They were serious about receiving deliverance. That is why Jesus saw their faith. If I were in that

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

position, I would also see their faith. Wow! These guys are in the business of receiving. If you see people with that faith, then it is easy. You just tell them, “You are healed.” That is all you have to do. Simple. You can just give that person healing. “You are healed. You can go home.” That is what Jesus did. Initially he said, “Be of good cheer, thy sins be forgiven thee.”

Matthew 9:3-6:

And, behold, certain of the scribes said within themselves, This man blasphemeth.

4 And Jesus knowing their thoughts said, Wherefore think ye evil in your hearts?

5 For whether is easier, to say, Thy sins be forgiven thee; or to say, Arise, and walk?

6 But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power [authority] on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.

The person who has the faith, you just tell him. That is all. You do not have to do a long speech. Just speak, to the leper, to the centurion, and to those people who were brought to Jesus, to this man who was paralyzed. Jesus Christ just said, “Take up thy bed and go home.” Because he had faith, he is going to receive it.

Matthew 9:7,8:

And he arose, and departed to his house.

8 But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.

This word “power” is “authority.” They marveled and glorified God because a man, a man Jesus Christ had the authority to do this. We have authority. We are in place of Jesus Christ here upon earth. We can do the same thing. We just need to understand these keys. It is written. All these keys are written, right there. We just recognize them, and we just do what is written. It is not difficult. You have the authority to deliver people. It will happen in the similar manner for you, too, one of these days. People will marvel and glorify God who has given such authority unto men.

Matthew 9:18a:

While he spake these things unto them, behold, there came ...

Now I am reading all the healing records between Matthew 8:2 and Matthew 9:32 and 33. We are seeing consistently—God is giving us this lesson to us—how people will be healed and what we are supposed to do. Key number two is that they came; they brought; the sick person came.

Matthew 9:18

While he spake these things unto them, behold, there came a certain ruler, and worshipped him, saying, My daughter is even now dead: but come and lay thy hand upon her, and she shall live.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

So, did this guy have some expectation to get his daughter delivered? Yes, he did. Even though the circumstances were really terrible, this guy knew that if Jesus came, his daughter would be delivered.

Matthew 9:23,24:

And when Jesus came into the ruler's house, and saw the minstrels and the people making a noise,

24 He said unto them, Give place: for the maid is not dead, but sleepeth. And they laughed him to scorn.

The man had the faith. The father had the faith. Then it will happen. The dead will be raised. If the father does not have faith, then nothing is going to happen. But this guy had the expectation, faith. So, he just spoke. Because that is what is going to happen. The maid is not dead, but she is sleeping. These people obviously thought that Jesus had some problem. They could not believe what Jesus said, so they end up laughing him to scorn.

Matthew 9:25:

But when the people were put forth, [Jesus Christ did not want these negative people around so he put them out.] he went in, and took her [the girl] by the hand, and the maid arose.

In other sections of the gospels the identical record is given and has further information. We will see that later on when we go over every record of physical healing, and demonstrate these principles and keys—all the keys. I am on key number two, and I am just focusing on that point right now. Those who heard the good news of deliverance, after hearing, they desired and expected. Those expectant ones came to Jesus, or the parents expected and brought the child. They all received.

Matthew 9:20,21:

And, behold, a woman, which was diseased with an issue of blood twelve years, came behind him, and touched the hem of his garment:

21 For she said within herself, If I may but touch his garment, I shall be whole.

Now for this woman to get to Jesus in that crowd, that multitude, was a difficult task. In that culture, being a woman added to the difficulty, because they did not hang around with men, and they were not outside often. Now this woman really wanted the deliverance. She came to know, through someone witnessing to her, or she might have heard the preaching about deliverance, or she might have actually seen someone get healed, or that healed person might have given testimony to her that he had gotten healed. So some of these words got her to have faith, expectation, desire. Enough desire that she went looking for Jesus Christ to deliver her. As far as she was concerned she only needed to touch the hem of his garment, and she knew that she would be made whole.

Matthew 9:22a:

But Jesus turned him about, and when he saw her, he said, Daughter, be of good comfort; thy faith hath made thee whole....

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement

Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

Not “my faith.” Jesus indicated it was nothing to do with him. When a person has great faith, then the one who ministers healing does not have to do anything about that. They just receive deliverance. Jesus said, “Your faith has made you whole.”

Matthew 9:22a:

... And the woman was made whole from that hour.

So, the basis of deliverance is the faith. Some people have less confidence. Some people have more confidence. Some people have great faith. The one who ministers healing needs to work at the level of the faith of the one who desires deliverance, to raise their faith. You may spend time talking, you may give inspirational words, and so forth. When they have the faith to receive, then you give, you just speak, and then that person receives the deliverance.

Key number two is, the one who wants healing comes because they desire greatly to be delivered. In all these records that God gave from Matthew chapter 8, God shows that the people who want deliverance went to the person who could give deliverance, in this case, Jesus Christ. No records here show Jesus went to people just because somebody told Jesus, “Please go to so-and-so’s house because there’s a sick person in that house.” There is no case, no record of that. That means what? God is saying that, that is not the principle. We do not go; we do not go to people, house to house, and heal the people. I will show you more so you will be very clear about this point, because this is a systematic principle in ministering healing. When we follow all these keys, then people will be delivered, one hundred per cent.

Matthew 9:27,28:

And when Jesus departed thence, two blind men followed him, crying, and saying, Thou son of David, have mercy on us.

28 And when he was come into the house, the blind men came to him: and Jesus saith unto them, Believe ye that I am able to do this? They said unto him, Yea, Lord.

Jesus knew that these guys really had desire. It is a difficult task for a blind man to follow somebody. But these guys just followed Jesus. “Where is Jesus, where is that Jesus?” Somehow they were able to get to the place where Jesus was, because they wanted the deliverance. Jesus just talked to these guys. “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” We, too, can say these things. “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” These guys said to him, “Yes, Lord! Yes Lord!” Then he touched their eyes, saying, “According to your faith, be it unto you.” Jesus Christ needed to check where these guys’ believing level was. He had a conversation. “Do you believe that I can do this?” They said, “Yes, yes!” He just worked with their faith, and he touched their eyes, and then said, “According to your faith, be it unto you.” Their eyes were opened, and Jesus straightly charged them, saying, see that no man knows it.

Matthew 9:30,31:

...And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straitly charged them, saying, See that no man know it.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

But they, when they were departed, spread abroad his fame in all that country.

So now we are focusing on the second key, that the one who heard the word that they can receive healing, they went with expectation to the person who heals. The healer must look at the faith level, the confidence level, and work according to the confidence. One who has less faith, less confidence, then we speak, we build them up, get them to that level, then we give the healing. One who already has great faith, you can just tell them, “Okay, you can go home; you are alright. God bless you. Okay? That is how God’s Word is showing. It is written.

Matthew 9:32, 33:

As they went out, behold, they brought to him a dumb man possessed with a devil.

And when the devil was cast out, the dumb spake: and the multitudes marvelled, saying, It was never so seen in Israel.

Principle number two: they brought the one who had need. They came to the one who ministered healing. It is very important. That is why God repeated this principle over and over in this short span of chapter 8:2-9:33. Certainly there are exceptions that we will see, where the person who heals went to the one who needed healing. But those are the exceptions, and the person that heals goes there because God told him to do that. But the standard way that God shows is, after preaching the word, telling them healing is available right now, any problem, any sickness, you can be healed. Then the people who heard the word will decide to receive it. If they come to receive, then you look at their faith, and then you give that deliverance. This is God’s Word, in these scriptures, show.

John 5:2-6:

Now there is at Jerusalem by the sheep market a pool, which is called in the Hebrew tongue Bethesda, having five porches.

In these lay a great multitude of impotent folk, of blind, halt, withered, waiting for the moving of the water.

For an angel went down at a certain season into the pool, and troubled the water: whosoever then first after the troubling of the water stepped in was made whole of whatsoever disease he had.

And a certain man was there, which had an infirmity thirty and eight years.

When Jesus saw him lie, and knew that he had been now a long time in that case, he saith unto him, Wilt thou be made whole?

There are many sick people around that pool. However, Jesus went to that particular person, one person, and he asked him a question, “Will thou be made whole?” He asked him, “Do you want to be healed? Do you want to be made whole?”

John 5:7,8:

The impotent man answered him, Sir, I have no man, when the water is troubled, to put me into the pool: but while I am coming, another steppeth down before me. Jesus saith unto him, Rise, take up thy bed, and walk.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

And immediately the man was made whole, and took up his bed, and walked: and on the same day was the sabbath.

Why did Jesus go to that man? Because, God showed him that this man had faith to receive deliverance. He did not heal other people after that. He just healed that man because he had faith, and then he moved on. So this is an exception. There are a few exceptions in the Word of God where one who ministers went to that person or that home and healed that person. But the standard, normal way, was that those who needed deliverance came to the healer with desire and expectation and received their deliverance.

John 9:1-7:

And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth.

And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?

Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him.

I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work.

As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.

When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,

And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing.

Now, why did Jesus go to this man? Because God showed him that he had faith to receive. If he did not have the faith to receive, he would not have followed the instructions of Jesus Christ. He would have said, "What are you doing to me, putting this clay in my eyes, and why are you telling me to go wash in Pool of Siloam? Very fooling things you are telling me." He might not have gone there, or he might have gotten angry at Jesus. But this man had faith, so Jesus Christ went to that man and then he did what he did, and he was healed.

Not only Jesus Christ healed. Many others healed the sick and cast out devils.

Acts 14:7-9a

And there they preached the gospel.

And there sat a certain man at Lystra, impotent in his feet, being a cripple from his mother's womb, who never had walked:

The same heard Paul speak...

Now, Paul must have spoken of the great deliverance that was available from God. This crippled man who was crippled from his mother's womb and never had walked.

Acts 14:7-9b:

The same heard Paul speak: who stedfastly beholding him [the crippled man], and perceiving that he had faith to be healed,

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 18: The First Two Keys to Healing

How did he know that the man had faith to receive, faith to be healed? God showed him. But this is an exceptional case, that the healer engaged, actively, on that particular person. Not that that particular person comes to receive healing, but the one who heals goes to that person to heal.

Acts 14:10:

Said with a loud voice, Stand upright on thy feet. And he leaped and walked.

The principle in God's Word is that people came to be delivered. They had expectation, desire to receive healing, and they came to receive healing. There are few exceptions where God shows us, the one who ministers healing, that that person has faith to receive deliverance. Then we go there and heal. It is absolutely essential that we follow the instruction of God's Word. God's Word gives us exactly how we heal the sick, the step by step. The first important key is that we preach. We tell people boldly that healing is available right now. Do not feel ashamed saying that. It is available! It is up to them to make the decision to receive. If they decide to receive, blessed are they! If they do not decide to receive, then they do not get the benefit. God wants to give the benefit.

Psalm 103:1-3:

Bless the LORD [Jehovah], O my soul: and all that is within me, bless his holy name.

Bless the LORD, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits:

Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

Bless the Lord, O my soul. These are the benefits that God has given us. Presently we are studying from Word of God regarding the keys so you will know how to minister healing. It is written very plainly, clearly, regarding how to heal the sick and cast out devils. As we follow what is written, then we are going to see mighty, mighty works, signs and wonders and miracles, and many shall be healed and be saved, and will be inspired to come unto the accurate knowledge of the truth. We are in his place, in the stead of our Lord Jesus Christ here on earth. Each of us are equipped with the full authority and power of the right hand of God, and God wants us to hold forth, speak out that message. We are the ambassadors of God in place of Christ. We can; we are able to bring deliverance; we are able to do miracles; we are able to deliver people from darkness to light, to bring physical wholeness and salvation to all mankind. We are equipped, and we need to know these simple keys, which are revealed and written very clearly in the Word of God regarding how to work the impartation manifestations. Our Lord Jesus Christ applied these keys and got great results. His apostles and disciples also followed these keys and got great, wonderful results. Right now we are studying these points so that you and I could make an impact into this world. Many people shall be delivered through you. Many people! It is as simple as speaking in tongues. You begin...

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

Preview of Three More Keys to Healing

In *Three More Keys to Healing* we will see three more simple principles from the integrity and accuracy of God's Word regarding how to heal the sick. In our administration, God has given you this ability and authority to heal. Thus, you do not need to pray to God that He should heal the one who is sick. The simplicity of healing is for you to begin healing. When a person in need comes to you to receive just do it. The more you do it, the better you will get, and the more confidence and faith you will have to do this.

Review of the First Two Keys

So far we have looked at key number one. Preach the gospel of deliverance, that you can be healed right now. That is a thousand per cent guaranteed reality. We proclaim deliverance to people, so that people can make a decision to receive that deliverance, and people will have desire to receive that deliverance, and people know that they can receive deliverance. Key number two is that the people who want healing will act and will come to you with faith to receive deliverance. Then you heal the people.

**We Do Not Pray When We Minister Healing.
We Just Heal the Sick.**

The third key is that God has given you this ability and authority to heal. Thus, you do not need to pray to God that He should heal one who is sick. You heal the sick. Sometimes people say, "Please pray for me, for my healing." Then we are likely to also say, "Now I am going to pray for you, for your healing." This is now a common way of bringing healing to people. However, when we look at God's Word, which is addressed to our administration, this is not true.

Presently, in this administration, we have been given the authority to heal the sick. God says to you, "Now you heal the sick; you cast out devils." God tells you, "You speak in tongues; you interpret; you prophesy." The manifestation of gifts of healing is one of the manifestations. Therefore it works just like speaking in tongues. To speak in tongues, YOU speak in tongues. Do you pray before you speak in tongues so that when you pray, speaking in tongues will come? No, you do not pray. You just start speaking in tongues, because you have authority and power to speak in tongues. Now, when you bring forth interpretation of tongues, do you have to pray? "God give me interpretation of tongues, give me a message." No, you do not. You just speak interpretation of tongues, a message from God. With prophecy, do you need to pray? "God I want to

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement

Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

have a message for prophecy. Please give me a good message.” No, you just speak out. You have the God-given ability; it is your authority to bring forth a message. The manifestation of gifts of healing is the same way. It is your God-given ability, your authority to heal the sick. Therefore you do not need to pray.

Matthew 10:1:

And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power [authority, *exousia*] against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

Earlier, you might have noticed, that whenever Jesus Christ ministered healing, he did not pray to God. The last record we read in Acts, in key number two, the Apostle Paul did not pray. He just healed the person. He just spoke to that man, “Stand up on your feet. Get up. Arise.” We need to understand that. When you are in the finance department of a company, and you have been given the authority from top management that you can sign on a check up to ten million dollars to purchase necessary things to do the business. You do not have to take that checkbook and ask the president of the company to sign each time you need to purchase something. You have been given the authority to sign and spend up to ten million dollars. You have been given the authority to act in place of Christ here upon earth. The works that he does, we do also, and greater than those we shall do because he has gone to the father.

Matthew 10:7,8:

And as ye go, preach, saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

When we follow what God's Word says—it is written—and we exercise our authority which is given by God, certainly you are going to see results. If we put this authority back to God, as in “God, you heal this person, heal that person. Oh, Father, this person has a need. You please heal this person.” it is not going to have that effective a result because that is not how it works. Now, if that person receives healing, it is because they have faith to receive. That is why they just received. You could dance, and then that person could receive healing. You could snap your fingers, then that person could receive healing, if they have faith to receive. But, to be effective, you exercise your God-given authority. You give the healing. “Such as I have, give I thee. Such as I have, I give you.” Speak, “You are healed; stand up; stretch forth your hand. Open your eyes.” It is simple; you give the healing to that person.

Key number three, which we are studying, is that we do not pray when we minister healing. You just heal the sick. When you speak in tongues, you do not pray to speak in tongues. You just speak in tongues.

Mark 16:17,18:

And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;

18 They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement

Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

They shall do it. That is the point. They do it. It is not something that they need to pray for. Jesus does not say they should pray to God so that God should cast out devils. It does not say they should pray to God that they should speak with new tongues. Does it say, “They shall pray and lay hands.”? No, it does not say pray and lay hands, asking God, “Oh please, heal that person.” No. They shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover. This is what God’s Word says about ministering healing. You do not need to pray. You minister healing; you give healing. Jesus Christ quoted from Isaiah in Luke 4.

Luke 4:18:

The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,

God put the spirit on Jesus Christ, so that with that power and authority he could preach, he could heal, he could deliver. Not that he should pray to God, that God should do. God has given that authority to Jesus Christ. He took that authority, and he acted upon that authority, and then he brought deliverance. We are in the place of Jesus Christ here upon earth. We have the authority to heal the sick and cast out the devils. Therefore, when we minister healing, we do not need to pray.

I am showing you from the Word of God because God’s Word instructs us to do so. When we follow what is written, then the subject becomes clear. Today, at the present time, when it comes to operating the manifestation of gifts of healing, people are confused. We watch TV; we watch different people’s experiences, how healing is to be done. We see so many ways. However, God’s Word shows us exactly what we are to do—what the keys are. When we follow that, then people receive deliverance—many people receive deliverance. We have already read Matthew 8:5-8, but we read it again from this point of view of authority.

Matthew 8:5-7:

And when Jesus was entered into Capernaum, there came unto him a centurion, beseeching him,

6 And saying, Lord, my servant lieth at home sick of the palsy, grievously tormented.

7 And Jesus saith unto him, I will come and heal him

The emphasis in key number three is: “I will heal him.” He did not say, “I will pray for him.” It is a nice words to say these days, “Will you pray for me?” “I will pray for you.” But the truth, of what God is saying and what we should change our confession to, is what is written. Speak what is written. It is written that, “I will heal him.” We should say, “I will heal him.” What Jesus did in this particular case when he saw the great faith in the centurion; he did not pray; he just spoke.

Matthew 8:13:

And Jesus said unto the centurion, Go thy way; and as thou hast believed, so be it done unto thee. And his servant was healed in the selfsame hour.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement

Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

There is no prayer. This is the style and the right and effective way of manifesting the gifts of healing. No prayer, you just heal the sick.

Matthew 8:2,3:

And, behold, there came a leper and worshipped him, saying, Lord, if thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

3 And Jesus put forth his hand, and touched him, saying, I will; be thou clean. And immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

Jesus did not start to pray. No! We do not need to ask God to heal that person because God gave to Jesus Christ the authority to heal. He understood that point, and he healed him. He touched him and said, "You be clean." He ordered it. "You be clean." All sickness and diseases are under our feet. So we say, "Disease! You be clean." This person had faith, so he just received it. Immediately his leprosy was cleansed.

Right now I am going over the keys. I am showing you a few verses to show you those keys from God's Word. Right now we are on key number three. That is, we have been given the authority to heal the sick. Therefore we do not need to pray to God to heal the sick person.

Matthew 9:6-8:

But that ye may know that the Son of man hath power on earth to forgive sins, (then saith he to the sick of the palsy,) Arise, take up thy bed, and go unto thine house.

7 And he arose, and departed to his house.

8 But when the multitudes saw it, they marvelled, and glorified God, which had given such power unto men.

Key number three: We have been given this authority to give healing deliverance to people, unsaved and saved. Therefore, we do not need to pray to God to heal. I will also show you from the scripture how the healing took place in the Old Testament, and other administrations. But as far as this administration is concerned, we have been given the authority to heal the sick and cast out devils. Therefore, our style of giving is without prayer. We just give healing. We speak out. "Bones, broken bones, come back together." "Headache. I speak to you. Headache, go away." "You have faith; alright, go home; you are alright." You could talk to the person who has need of healing, and find out where they are—where their faith or confidence level is.

Key number two shows, generally speaking, that those who come to you with great expectation, great effort, they shall receive deliverance. At that time, also, we are cognizant of where they are in their faith, confidence. According to their faith we give, we speak. God can certainly give you inspiration. However, the point is that you begin to heal. You begin. As you begin, you will know what to do. Before you heal, you do not know. Just like before speaking in tongues, we do not know what to speak in tongues. We do not even know after we speak in tongues. With interpretation of tongues, before we interpret, we do not know what we are going to say. As we begin, we keep speaking until the job is done. The ministering of healing is the same way. We decide to give, and we will know what to do.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement

Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

We keep practicing; we do it; practice. We do not have to be afraid of failure. From the point of view of the person who receives the healing, we do not have to be afraid. What if he comes over, and does not get healed. Maybe there is something wrong in me? From the receiver point of view, do not worry. God is graceful and merciful. Just keep building our confidence in God, and I know that you shall receive deliverance. Do not be ashamed if it does not happen. Abraham received the promise of God to have a son, and realization of the promise took him many, many years. He did not give up in between; he just kept at it.

That is the attitude. However, we expect deliverance right now, because it is a finished, accomplished reality. Our mental attitude is that it is done right now. From the recipient point of view we speak out (like in Romans 10:9 and 10), confession is made unto salvation, wholeness. We make confessions unto wholeness. We have not yet evidenced it in the physical body, but we make that confession, that “Yes, we were healed.” As we go on to do that, and our attitude is that way, and not focused on the circumstances, physical evidences, but focus on that done reality that we were delivered, then it shall manifest in your body, because this is done. From God's point of view this is done, and we agree in our confession. This is from the recipient of healing point of view.

In key number three, we are focusing on the point that we have the authority. We are in the place of Jesus Christ. We read II Corinthians 5:20 in an earlier session, and since I am reading from the Revised Version, you will not have the identical words in your Bible if it is a King James Version, or any other version.

II Corinthians 5:20: [Revised Version]

We are ambassadors. Therefore, on behalf of Christ as though God were entreating by us we beseech you, on behalf of Christ, be ye reconciled to God.

We are in place of Christ. We have authority to do this. We do not have to pray now. We do not have to ask God to heal somebody. You have the authority to heal the sick. Ephesians 2:6 says that we are seated in Christ Jesus. That is why we have authority and power. Why healing does take place sometimes, even if you pray to God to heal the sick is because people have the faith to be healed.

Mark 5:28-33:

For she said, If I may touch but his clothes, I shall be whole.

29 And straightway the fountain of her blood was dried up; and she felt in her body that she was healed of that plague.

30 And Jesus, immediately knowing in himself that virtue had gone out of him, turned him about in the press, and said, Who touched my clothes?

31 And his disciples said unto him, Thou seest the multitude thronging thee, and sayest thou, Who touched me?

32 And he looked round about to see her that had done this thing.

33 But the woman fearing and trembling, knowing what was done in her, came and fell down before him, and told him all the truth.

And he said unto her, Daughter, thy faith hath made thee whole; go in peace, and be whole of thy plague.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement

Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

People who have faith receive it. Whether you pray to God, that God should heal, or not. So that is the point I wanted to say here. The reason people get healed sometimes when the person just asks God to heal is because the recipient person had the faith to receive. Thus, we no longer have to pray to God for healing. We just heal the sick and cast out devils.

We Must Believe That We Can Heal the Sick and Cast Out Devils

The fourth key is: we must believe that we can heal the sick and cast out devils. We can heal indeed. Just like speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, and prophecy, you begin to heal. What do we have to do to heal? The answer is, you just start to heal the sick. We will look at the record in Acts of the man who was lame from his mother's womb. This guy was expecting to receive something from Peter.

Acts 3:6-8:

Then Peter said, Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk.

7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted him up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

8 And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God.

You begin to heal. Then, as you begin, you know what to say or do. You decide, and start healing. When you begin to heal, you may ask questions; you may speak; whatever you want to do; you do. Like interpretation of tongues, you speak out what you feel like speaking. We say, "inspired" to speak, which means, "What you feel like speaking; you speak." When you begin to heal, then you do what you feel like doing. Just like interpretation of tongues and prophecy. You decide. That is the first point. You decide to do it and begin. There is no formula, except that you begin. When you speak in tongues, you begin to speak. This is what God said: I would that you speak. So we do that: speak. For healing, the scripture says, "Heal the sick; cast out devils." So that is what we do.

This is key number four: We must believe that we can heal the sick and cast out devils. We just believe that we can do it. At times, we may not be confident, but that does not matter. We do not have to worry about the failure. Noting that in point one, we preached the word, good news, and number two, people responded and came, and number three, now you begin to heal, knowing you have the authority. You are not praying to God to heal. You began to heal. Then, I will tell you, you are going to heal that person.

Suppose it did not happen, praise God, you will have another opportunity. You can build that person up for the next session. You can encourage the other person to receive the deliverance. That is not the end of the world. When we spoke in tongues the first time, some of us could not speak in tongues really nicely, but that was not the end of the world. There was next day, and next day, and next day. One day, behold! You were speaking in tongues wonderfully and boldly. It might happen the same way for interpretation of tongues, and that was not the end of the world. Maybe you were embarrassed a little bit. But after a month, two years, three years, you were absolutely

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

confident about bring forth interpretation of tongues and prophecy. The same thing applies for ministering healing. For ministering healing, we just understand these keys. Key number one, two, three, etc. Do it according to these keys, and you are going to have a very high percentage of delivering people.

**By Your Faith or By Operating the Manifestation of Faith
You Bring to Pass Miracles of Healing**

Key number five is: by your faith, or by operating the manifestation of faith, you bring to pass miracles of healing. I would like to keep it simple so that you could begin healing the sick and casting out devils. This information here is for your understanding, and not for making things complicated. The simplicity of healing is for you to begin healing. When a person in need comes to you to receive healing, this information is given to you for theoretical point of view. Thus, please stick with the simplicity of healing—speaking in tongues, interpretation of tongues, etc. The more you do it, the better you will get, and the more confidence and faith you will have to do this.

Mark 16:18:

They shall take up serpents; and if they drink any deadly thing, it shall not hurt them; they shall lay hands on the sick, and they shall recover.

We are to come to have that kind of confidence, that when we minister healing then they shall recover.

Mark 11:23

For verily I say unto you, That whosoever shall say unto this mountain, Be thou removed, and be thou cast into the sea; and shall not doubt in his heart, but shall believe that those things which he saith shall come to pass; he shall have whatsoever he saith.

When you know that you do not have the faith to give healing to the person who came to you with expectation, but he did not come to you with great faith. Then you need to believe to operate the manifestation of faith to impart healing. What I am saying is a theoretical point, but not for the purpose of complicating this simplicity, just for your knowledge I am giving this point. When you know that you, the minister, do not feel that you have the confidence or faith to give healing to that person who came to me with faith. If a person came to me with great faith, then it does not matter that if I have no confidence to minister healing. That guy is still going to receive it. Even if the minister has little faith, he will still receive it. However, if that person who came to receive healing has only little faith, and I, the minister, also did not have that much faith, then I need to believe to operate the manifestation of faith and impart healing. On the other hand, a person who needs a miracle of healing, but has great faith, will receive healing by his own faith, and does not require the minister's faith to receive healing. However, if he does not have great faith to receive healing, then the healer has to have faith to impart healing. In such a case, where one who needs healing does not have great faith to receive healing, but has some faith, and the healer does not have his own faith to impart healing,

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement

Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

then the healer must believe to operate the manifestation of faith. But, we do not want to make this complicated, so just keep ministering healing. Do not pay attention to these points, just do it. Then you will understand these theoretical points, too.

How do you operate this manifestation of faith? You just believe that what you thought would be difficult to bring to pass initially. You believe that you can do it. That is the starting point. Initially, we think it is difficult, but you begin. Begin to believe to do that. This faith that God energizes in you, **AS YOU WILL**, is because you did not have your faith to do the job at the beginning. You believe to have this faith from the spirit in you, which you did not have before you began to believe. However, as you began to believe, the spirit energized in you this faith, just like when you did not know what to say for the prophecy when you began to speak the spirit gave you the utterance.

Now, once you have the spiritual faith, that is the manifestation of faith, you impart healing by speaking it out. What is the difference between the manifestation of miracles and the manifestation of faith? The simple way to understand the manifestation of faith in combination with the manifestation of working of miracles is that by the manifestation of faith you know—knowing awareness—that you could do the impossible. You say or command the impossible to come to pass, which is the working of miracles. The saying, or commanding, with the manifestation of faith, or even with **YOUR** faith, if it is at a very high level, **GREAT** faith, is the working of miracles. As I said at the beginning of this section, I wanted to keep it simple, as our Lord Jesus Christ made it very simple, when he gave instruction regarding healing and casting out devils. Look at how Jesus Christ instructed his disciples.

Matthew 10:1,7,8:

And when he had called unto him his twelve disciples, he gave them power [authority] against unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all manner of sickness and all manner of disease.

7 And as ye go, preach [proclaim], saying, The kingdom of heaven is at hand.

8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

Jesus gave them the authority to heal the sick, and cast out devils. He just told them to heal the sick. Therefore the point here is that when you speak to impart healing, believe what you say shall come to pass. Also, you believe that when you minister healing, they shall absolutely recover. You believe that when a person in need of healing desired and expected to be healed, just believe that he shall be healed when you minister healing. When you speak, then speak with confidence and faith that what you say shall come to pass. At the time of imparting healing, say with faith. Do not doubt that what you say shall come to pass. When you say it, believe in your heart that it shall come to pass. You must believe that we can heal the sick and cast out devils.

Healing Records From the Old Testament

Now we are going to be studying about the healing records from the Old Testament, (also the book of James) noting the difference in ministering healing in the Old Testament and New Testament. In the Old Testament, until Jesus Christ's ministry, the pattern we see is that they prayed to God to heal the one in need of healing. However,

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement

Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

the study from the four Gospels and the Book of Acts clearly shows us that we who belong to the Body of Christ with the spirit of Christ in us need not to pray to God to ask Him to heal those who come to us. The practice of praying to God for healing that we often see when someone heals others seems to come from these records in the Old Testament. We must not get confused with the doctrine and instruction given for the believers of other administrations with our administration.

Ephesians 3:2:

If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward.

Now let us go to the records of healings in the Old Testament.

Genesis 20:17:

So Abraham prayed unto God: and God healed Abimelech, and his wife, and his maidservants; and they bare children.

Here, Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech.

Exodus 15:26:

And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the LORD thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the LORD that healeth thee.

I am just going over the records where there are healings or the word *healing* appears in the Old Testament from Genesis to Malachi where the Word of God says Jehovah heals you. Abraham prayed to God and God healed Abimelech, right? In the second record, it is Jehovah that heals you.

Numbers 12:10-13:

And the cloud departed from off the tabernacle; and, behold, Miriam became leprous, white as snow: and Aaron looked upon Miriam, and, behold, she was leprous.

11 And Aaron said unto Moses, Alas, my lord, I beseech thee, lay not the sin upon us, wherein we have done foolishly, and wherein we have sinned.

12 Let her not be as one dead, of whom the flesh is half consumed when he cometh out of his mother's womb.

13 And Moses cried unto the LORD, saying, Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee.

We know the man of God, Moses, was a great man, one of the greatest prophets in the Old Testament. He did great miracles, wonders, and signs. But when it came to healing, Moses cried unto the Lord saying, "Heal her now, O God, I beseech thee."

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement

Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

Numbers 12:14:

And the LORD said unto Moses, If her father had but spit in her face, should she not be ashamed seven days? let her be shut out from the camp seven days, and after that let her be received in again.

What we are seeing here now is that, in the Old Testament so far what we have seen in these records, they had the spirit of God, but when it came to healing, they prayed to God for healing. I think one of the reasons why people pray to God for healing in our particular administration comes from these records in the Old Testament. During this time this was the way God did the healing. The men of God who had the spirit of God upon them, they prayed to God and God healed the person who had need of healing. Here, Moses prayed for Miriam's healing. He prayed to God and requested that God heal Miriam.

Numbers 21:5-9:

And the people spake against God, and against Moses, Wherefore have ye brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? for there is no bread, neither is there any water; and our soul loatheth this light bread.

6 And the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and much people of Israel died.

7 Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us. And Moses prayed for the people.

8 And the LORD said unto Moses, Make thee a fiery serpent, and set it upon a pole: and it shall come to pass, that every one that is bitten, when he looketh upon it, shall live.

9 And Moses made a serpent of brass, and put it upon a pole, and it came to pass, that if a serpent had bitten any man, when he beheld the serpent of brass, he lived.

In verse seven we read, "Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD, and against thee; pray unto the LORD..." So this is the pattern: pray unto the Lord that he take away the serpent from us, and Moses prayed for the people. He prayed for the deliverance of people.

God's Word shows us any subject that we want to know. When we go to God's Word, look at those subjects and go over verses and context that are related to that subject. Then God's Word will interpret itself. It will show us and open the subject so that we know, we understand that particular subject. We are now studying the subject of how the healing took place in the Old Testament. These people prayed to God for healing, and God healed the people who had need of healing.

I Kings 13:6:

And the king answered and said unto the man of God, Entreat now the face of the LORD thy God, and pray for me, that my hand may be restored me again. And the man of God besought the LORD, and the king's hand was restored him again, and became as it was before.

This king's hand was dried up. The king's name was Jeroboam.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

I Kings 13:4:

And it came to pass, when king Jeroboam heard the saying of the man of God, which had cried against the altar in Bethel, that he put forth his hand from the altar, saying, Lay hold on him. And his hand, which he put forth against him, dried up, so that he could not pull it in again to him.

The king asked the man of God to pray for him so his hand could get healed. The man of God prayed to God, and the king's hand was restored again. This is the pattern we see in the Old Testament, that the man of God prayed to God for healing.

I Kings 17:17-22:

And it came to pass after these things, that the son of the woman, the mistress of the house, fell sick; and his sickness was so sore, that there was no breath left in him.

18 And she said unto Elijah, What have I to do with thee, O thou man of God? art thou come unto me to call my sin to remembrance, and to slay my son?

19 And he said unto her, Give me thy son. And he took him out of her bosom, and carried him up into a loft, where he abode, and laid him upon his own bed.

20 And he cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, hast thou also brought evil upon the widow with whom I sojourn, by slaying her son?

21 And he stretched himself upon the child three times, and cried unto the LORD, and said, O LORD my God, I pray thee, let this child's soul come into him again.

22 And the LORD heard the voice of Elijah; and the soul of the child came into him again, and he revived.

In the Old Testament so far we see that the men of God who had the spirit of God upon them prayed unto God for healing, and God healed those people.

II Kings 4:18-29,32-35:

And when the child was grown, it fell on a day, that he went out to his father to the reapers.

19 And he said unto his father, My head, my head. And he said to a lad, Carry him to his mother.

20 And when he had taken him, and brought him to his mother, he sat on her knees till noon, and then died.

21 And she went up, and laid him on the bed of the man of God, and shut the door upon him, and went out.

22 And she called unto her husband, and said, Send me, I pray thee, one of the young men, and one of the asses, that I may run to the man of God, and come again.

23 And he said, Wherefore wilt thou go to him to day? it is neither new moon, nor sabbath. And she said, It shall be well.

24 Then she saddled an ass, and said to her servant, Drive, and go forward; slack not thy riding for me, except I bid thee.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

25 So she went and came unto the man of God to mount Carmel. And it came to pass, when the man of God saw her afar off, that he said to Gehazi his servant, Behold, yonder is that Shunammite:

26 Run now, I pray thee, to meet her, and say unto her, Is it well with thee? is it well with thy husband? is it well with the child? And she answered, It is well:

27 And when she came to the man of God to the hill, she caught him by the feet: but Gehazi came near to thrust her away. And the man of God said, Let her alone; for her soul is vexed within her: and the LORD hath hid it from me, and hath not told me.

28 Then she said, Did I desire a son of my lord? did I not say, Do not deceive me?

29 Then he said to Gehazi, Gird up thy loins, and take my staff in thine hand, and go thy way: if thou meet any man, salute him not; and if any salute thee, answer him not again: and lay my staff upon the face of the child.

32 And when Elisha was come into the house, behold, the child was dead, and laid upon his bed.

33 He went in therefore, and shut the door upon them twain, and prayed unto the LORD.

34 And he went up, and lay upon the child, and put his mouth upon his mouth, and his eyes upon his eyes, and his hands upon his hands: and stretched himself upon the child; and the flesh of the child waxed warm.

35 Then he returned, and walked in the house to and fro; and went up, and stretched himself upon him: and the child sneezed seven times, and the child opened his eyes.

Elisha prayed unto the Lord for the deliverance, the healing of the child. This is the pattern shown in the Old Testament, that the healing was done by the man of God, or prophet, or one who had the spirit of God upon him. He prayed unto God for that person's healing, and God healed that person.

II Kings 5:9-11:

So Naaman came with his horses and with his chariot, and stood at the door of the house of Elisha.

10 And Elisha sent a messenger unto him, saying, Go and wash in Jordan seven times, and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shalt be clean.

11 But Naaman was wroth, and went away, and said, Behold, I thought, He will surely come out to me, and stand, and call on the name of the LORD his God, and strike his hand over the place, and recover the leper.

Naaman was angry. He thought it should be done the way he thought. But Elisha just told him that you go to the Jordan river and dip yourself seven times. Now from the previous records, we know that Elisha must have prayed to God for his healing. He requested God for Naaman's healing. God told him what he must say so that Naaman could receive the deliverance. He said that, and eventually Naaman changed his mind.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

II Kings 5:14:

Then went he down, and dipped himself seven times in Jordan, according to the saying of the man of God: and his flesh came again like unto the flesh of a little child, and he was clean.

Now here, of course, the scripture does not say that Elisha prayed to God, unlike other places. This is the eighth record in the Old Testament regarding healing, regarding a man of God healing other people. In this record it does not show in the scripture that Elisha prayed to God for Naaman's healing. So we leave it as it is. But all the previous records showed that the man of God prayed to God for healing of the people who had need of healing.

II Kings 20:1-6:

In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And the prophet Isaiah the son of Amoz came to him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order; for thou shalt die, and not live.

2 Then he turned his face to the wall, and prayed unto the LORD, saying,

3 I beseech thee, O LORD, remember now how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. And Hezekiah wept sore.

4 And it came to pass, afore Isaiah was gone out into the middle court, that the word of the LORD came to him, saying,

5 Turn again, and tell Hezekiah the captain of my people, Thus saith the LORD, the God of David thy father, I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will heal thee: on the third day thou shalt go up unto the house of the LORD.

6 And I will add unto thy days fifteen years; and I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria; and I will defend this city for mine own sake, and for my servant David's sake.

Hezekiah was healed. Hezekiah prayed to God for his healing. The Lord heard his prayer, and the Lord healed him after three days.

II Chronicles 30:18-20:

For a multitude of the people, even many of Ephraim, and Manasseh, Issachar, and Zebulun, had not cleansed themselves, yet did they eat the passover otherwise than it was written. But Hezekiah prayed for them, saying, The good LORD pardon every one

19 That prepareth his heart to seek God, the LORD God of his fathers, though he be not cleansed according to the purification of the sanctuary.

20 And the LORD hearkened to Hezekiah, and healed the people.

We are looking at the healing records from the Old Testament to see how healing took place in the Old Testament. In the Old Testament, the man of God, or a man on whom the spirit of God was prayed to God for healing, and God healed them. This is the pattern.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

Job 42:7-10:

And it was so, that after the LORD had spoken these words unto Job, the LORD said to Eliphaz the Temanite, My wrath is kindled against thee, and against thy two friends: for ye have not spoken of me the thing that is right, as my servant Job hath.

8 Therefore take unto you now seven bullocks and seven rams, and go to my servant Job, and offer up for yourselves a burnt offering; and my servant Job shall pray for you: for him will I accept: lest I deal with you after your folly, in that ye have not spoken of me the thing which is right, like my servant Job.

9 So Eliphaz the Temanite and Bildad the Shuhite and Zophar the Naamathite went, and did according as the LORD commanded them: the LORD also accepted Job.

10 And the LORD turned the captivity of Job, when he prayed for his friends: also the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

So, the pattern that God shows in the Old Testament about healing was the man of God prayed to God and then God healed the people that had need of healing. We read the twelfth record in Isaiah 38.

Isaiah 38:1:

In those days was Hezekiah sick unto death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came unto him, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Set thine house in order: for thou shalt die, and not live.

This is the identical incident recorded in II Kings about his healing. Here, Hezekiah prayed to God for his healing, and God healed him. You could read it yourself. Now these twelve records which specifically deal with healing of people, raising of the dead, in these records God's Word shows how the healing took place in the Old Testament was that the man of God prayed to God, and God healed those people who had need. Only one record out of twelve records had healing given in the manner seen in the New Testament: record number eight, the healing deliverance of Naaman by Elisha. What I mean is, the word 'prayer to God' was not mentioned there, so it was somewhat like the way healing took place in the New Testament. The promise of Naaman's healing was delivered to him by a messenger, Elisha: "Go and wash thyself in Jordan seven times and thy flesh shall come again to thee, and thou shall be clean. Here, too, from all the other records, it appears that Elisha must have prayed to God first. He must have, because there was a pattern in the Old Testament. However, the rest of the records show us that the one who healed prayed to God for healing, or one who needed healing prayed to God for his deliverance. Faith principle worked also for imparting healing and receiving healing. However, there is no information from God in the Old Testament that prophets had been given the authority to heal the sick, therefore they prayed to God to heal the sick.

We will look at a record in the book of James. I am showing you this record because in present times, the majority of times we see someone healing people, the healer prays to God, and he asks God to heal that person. People, will say, "Please, pray for me, for my healing." just like they did in the Old Testament. So, is this the truth? Is that what we are supposed to do? Should we ask for prayer that God would heal us? Should the healer

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement

Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

pray to God? “God please heal this person—of cancer—of a stomach ache—of a broken leg.” Is this the way that it is supposed to be? That is the way it is supposed to be in the Old Testament, which we just read. However, from the Gospel of Matthew onwards to the book of Acts we will see a different principle. In the present administration we have been given the authority to heal the sick, and heal all manner of sickness and all manner of diseases and to cast out devils. James chapter five contains one of the records people use to say that we are to pray for the sick people, for their healing, because it says so.

James 5:14,15:

Is any sick among you? let him call for the elders of the church; and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord:

15 And the prayer of faith shall save the sick, and the Lord shall raise him up; and if he have committed sins, they shall be forgiven him.

“Is any among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church.” So we have to call for the elders of the church, and then the elders of the church will pray over him, asking God to heal the person. Here they are even anointing with oil in the name of the Lord. So, is this what we are supposed to do in our administration? We need to look at “to whom” the book of James is written. Is it written to us?

James 1:1:

James, a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ, to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad, greeting.

God's Word shows us exactly to whom this particular epistle is written. This epistle is written “to the twelve tribes which are scattered abroad.” Are we the twelve tribes? No. We are the body of Christ, the church of God. For the church of God the instruction is different. All the members of the church of God, the body of Christ, each one of us, have Christ in us. The fullness of him fills all in all. We have the authority and power of the right hand of God. We can heal. We have been given the authority to heal the sick and to cast out devils. However, for those twelve tribes, God's Word said that they were to do this. By reading the scripture, the verse, context, we come to know that the scriptures written to the twelve tribes, and the Old Testament records, were written to the Old Testament people. These are different people of a different administration. We need to know this. If we do not understand to whom the scriptures are written, to which administration the books were written, then there arises an apparent contradiction. We will see from the four gospels and the book of Acts exactly what God is saying to us about healing for us.

We will start reading in Matthew 4. We will take the time to see the principle's truth regarding how to heal the sick, because the Word of God shows us plainly, it is written. We do not have to guess anything about it, we just let the scripture speak. Of course, the basic fundamental is, it is a manifestation of holy spirit. It is a manifestation. That means YOU do the healing. It is just like speaking in tongues. Ministering healing is the manifestation. It is YOU do it. You heal the sick. You speak in tongues. You interpret. This thing has to be solidly placed in your heart. It should be the foundation in your heart to begin operating the power of God in our lives. We have to understand that it is the

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement

Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

manifestation of holy spirit and our position in Christ Jesus, our authority, our power that we have. Each one of us have the power.

Remember the five keys that I mentioned. The first key is that we preach the Word, preach the glorious Word of deliverance. Let people know that healing is available right now. You can be healed right now. We witness, we tell these things boldly. This is a very important point. That is why it is key number one.

The second key is let people come to be healed, instead of you going to every place where you find people that are sick. We do not go to people's places to heal. People will come after hearing these wonderful testimonies of deliverance, the glorious gospel (good news) of deliverance. Then people will come. This is the second key.

Then you heal them. Number three: you do not pray to God to heal people. You do not pray to God to heal. God said, "You heal the sick." This is a different day. You take the authority. You take charge. God said you take charge. It is the manifestation now. You have the God-given authority and power to heal, your third key.

When you heal, [the fourth key is that] you have confidence, faith in God, that you can do it. It is very similar to speaking in tongues. That is, before you know what you are going to do, you act, you begin, you begin with faith that you can do it. You speak it confidently, boldly [key number five], and give the healing, give the healing.

We will see these keys. The Word of God interprets itself. It shows us. It has been written all these years. I want to show these things to you.

Matthew 4:23:

And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel of the kingdom, and healing all manner of sickness and all manner of disease among the people.

The first mention of healing in the four Gospels is here. This particular phrase "And Jesus went about all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues, and preaching the gospel" is repeated in Matthew 9:35. Sandwiched in between are the mighty keys of deliverance. The first point, he went out witnessing, and he preached; he taught; he gave the word, the Word of God, which is quick and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword. This word brings deliverance. You speak the word of God to people boldly. This inspires people to have faith. You give them boldly, tell them that God delivers them right now. God gives you deliverance. He has made the way available for our deliverance, all kinds of deliverance. Right now we are specifically dealing with healing, physical healing, for people who have need. We tell them boldly, "You can be healed." We give witness to them, we give that person the Word, sufficient Word. Some people need little Word, some people need more. We just give them testimonies of deliverances of other people, testimonies of deliverance from the Word of God, and help them. If they want, then they will receive it. Go out and give the Word. Then, it is up to them. Those who want, desire strongly, and those who have made the decision to receive, they will come to receive that deliverance. Then you heal that person. That is what God's Word says right here. He went out; he preached, taught, and healed. He healed all manner of sickness, and all manner of disease among the people. We are presently in place of Jesus Christ. That is why we are going over Matthew in detail, so that we see from the point of view of us doing the same thing.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

Matthew 4:24a:

And his fame went throughout all Syria: and they brought unto him...

They brought unto him. This is something you have to watch. Jesus did not go from house to house to heal the people. They brought unto him, because they heard the Word, and they expected, they made a decision that they wanted to be delivered. They brought unto him...

Matthew 4:24b:

... all sick people that were taken with divers diseases and torments, and those which were possessed with devils, and those which were lunatick, and those that had the palsy; and he [Jesus] healed them.

Remember the difference in the administration? Old Testament people prayed to God, and God healed them. But here, he healed them. No prayer. He healed them. Jesus Christ had been given the authority to heal and to cast out devils, and he did that. We do it presently.

I think that by this time you must be very clear of the keys regarding receiving deliverance, or ministering healing, that, number one, it is the manifestation of holy spirit. You heal. The five keys: The first key is that you preach the Word, and tell people that you can be healed right now. Give testimonies; give God's Word, so that they have faith to receive. Number two, you heal those people who come to be delivered, who make the decision to come and receive the healing. When they come, you look at their faith level, and work according to their faith. The third key is, when they have faith to receive, then you speak; you do; you just speak to give them healing. "Stand upon your feet." "Open your eyes." "Your pain, go away." "Bone, be made whole." Whatever it is, you just speak. The fourth key is, if you are not confident, then operate the manifestation of faith. We may close our eyes, and just get to the place that we know when we speak, it shall happen.

So these are the keys. I am sure, after knowing these things from the written word how the healing took place, what God's Word says about healing, you do the healing. You shall see, from now on, many shall receive deliverance from you, and you teach other people to do the healing. You tell new believers to heal the sick and cast out devils, and many unsaved shall receive deliverance, many saved shall receive deliverance, and many people shall be saved, and come to the knowledge of the truth.

Ministering With God's Power – Supplement
Hour 19: Three More Keys to Healing

Ministering With God's Power
**Appendix 1: God Wants Everyone Healed of
All Sickness, All the Time**

- A. It does not matter how long a person has been afflicted by the ailment. There is nothing too hard for God (Genesis 18:14; Jeremiah 32:17; Matthew 19:26; Mark 10:27; Luke 1:37)
1. He can heal those afflicted from birth.
 - a. Blind man: John 9:1ff
 - b. Lame person: Acts 3:2
 - c. Cripple: Acts 14:8
 2. He can heal those who have been suffering from the same sickness for years and years.
 - a. Eight years: Acts 9:33-34
 - b. Twelve years: Matthew 9:20; Mark 5:25; Luke 8:43
 - c. Eighteen years: Luke 13:11
 - d. Thirty-eight years: John 5:5
 - e. Over forty years: Acts 3:2; 4:22
 - f. Since childhood: Mark 9:21
 3. He can even heal those who are at the point of death.
 - a. Hezekiah: II Kings 20:1; II Chronicles 32:24; Isaiah 38:1
 - b. Centurion's servant: Luke 7:2
 - c. Epaphroditus: Philippians 2:27
 4. If necessary, God can even raise them from the dead.
 - a. Son of the widow woman of Zarephath: I Kings 17:17-23
 - b. Shunamite's son: II Kings 4:18-35
 - c. Man raised on Elisha's bones: II Kings 13:20,21
 - d. Jonah: Jonah 1:17-2:10; Matthew 12:40,41
 - e. Jairus' daughter: Mark 5:22-24,35-43; Luke 8:41,42,49-55
 - f. Son of the Widow of Nain: Luke 7:12-15
 - g. Lazarus: John 11:43,44
 - h. Dorcus: Acts 9:36-40
 - i. Jesus: Acts 13:29,30
 - j. Paul: Acts 14:19,20; II Corinthians 11:25
 - k. Eutychus: Acts 20:7-12
 - l. Unnamed women: Hebrews 11:35
- B. It does not matter what type of disease or illness the person has.
1. Jesus healed “**all manner of sickness and all manner of disease** among the people.” He went forth “healing **every sickness and every disease** ... “
Matthew 4:23; 9:35; 11:5; 12:15; 15:30-31; etc.
 2. The following diseases are some of those recorded in scripture where God healed the afflicted.
 - a. Atrophy (withered hand). (Matthew 12:10-13; Luke 6:6-10)
 - b. Barrenness.
 - i. Sarah: Genesis 15:2-4; 17:15-19; 18:10-14; 21:1,2; Hebrews 11:11
 - ii. Abimelech's household: Genesis 20:18,19

Ministering With God's Power

**Appendix 1: God Wants Everyone Healed of
All Sickness, All the Time**

- iii. Rebekah: Genesis 25:21
 - iv. Leah: Genesis 29:31a
 - v. Rachel: Genesis 29:31b; 30:22-23
 - vi. Ruth: Ruth 4:10-13
 - vii. Manoah's wife: Judges 13:2-3
 - viii. Hannah: I Samuel 1:2,5,6,19,20
 - ix. Elisabeth: Luke 1:5-7,24,57,58
 - c. Blindness. (Matthew 9:27-30; 11:5; 12:22; 15:30; 20:30-34;21:14
Mark 8:22-26; 10:46-52; Luke 7:21,22; 18:35-43; John 9:1ff)
 - d. Boils. (II Kings 20:7; Job 2:7; 42:10; Isaiah 38:21)
 - e. Crippled or Lame. (Matthew 11:15; 15:30,31; 21:14; Acts 3:2; 8:7;
14:8-10)
 - f. Deafness. (Matthew 11:5; Mark 7:32-37; 9:25; Luke 7:22)
 - g. Dropsy. (Luke 14:1-4)
 - h. Dumbness. (Matthew 9:32,33; 12:22; 15:30,31)
 - i. Dysentery. (Acts 28:8)
 - j. Fever. (Matthew 8:14-15; Mark 1:30-31; Luke 4:38-39; John 4:52;
Acts 28:8)
 - k. Hemorrhage. (Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:25; Luke 8:43; Acts 28:8)
 - l. Insanity; mental illness. (I Samuel 16:14-23; 18:10 ("Prophesied," v.
10, should more correctly be translated "raved."); Matthew 4:24;
17:15-18; Luke 8:26-39)
 - m. Leprosy. (Numbers 12:10-15; II Kings 5:6-14; Matthew 8:3; Mark
1:40-42; Luke 5:12-13; 17:12-14)
 - n. Paralysis (palsy). (Matthew 4:24; 8:6-13; 9:2,6; Luke 5:18; Acts
9:33,34)
 - o. Serpent bites. (Acts 28:3,4)
 - p. Speech defect. (Mark 7:32-35)
- C. All sickness is curable, but not all sick people are curable. God will not overstep freewill; people must believe. The only thing by which God is limited in His power to heal is our own unbelief. Scripture says that in one place Jesus "could do no mighty work because of their unbelief." (Matthew 13:58; Mark 6:5,6; James 1:6,7)

Appendix 2: Examples of the Manifestation of Workings of Miracles Not Associated with Healing

Old Testament

1. Enoch's Translation: Genesis 5:19-24; Hebrews 11:5; Jude 14,15
2. Deliverance from the Flood: Genesis 7:9-12; 17-24; 8:2; Matthew 24:37-39; Hebrews 11:7; I Peter 3:20; II Peter 2:5
3. Sarah's Conception of Isaac: Genesis 17:15-19; 18:10-14; 21:1-8
4. Escaping the Destruction of Sodom and Gomorrah: Genesis 19:15-25,28,29, Matthew 10:15; II Peter 2:6; Jude 7; Isaiah 1:10-13,19; Ezekiel 16:49; Jeremiah 49:18
5. Healing Bareness in the House of Abimelech: Genesis 20
6. Deliverance of Hagar and Ishmael: Genesis 21:14-21
7. Transformation of Moses' Rod: Exodus 4:1-5; 7:8-13
8. The Sign of the Leprous Hand: Exodus 4:6,7
9. Summations of the Miracles of Moses: Hebrews 11:23-28; Psalms 78:10-12; 105:26,27
10. The Transformation of the Nile: Exodus 4:9; 7:14-24; Psalms 78:44; Psalms 105:29
11. The Sign of Frogs: Exodus 8:1-15; Psalms 78:45; 105:30
12. The Sign of the Lice: Exodus 8:16-19; Psalms 105:31
13. The Sign of the Flies: Exodus 8:20-31; Psalms 78:45, 105:31
14. The Murrain of Beasts: Exodus 9:1-7; Psalms 78:50
15. The Sign of Boils and Blains: Exodus 9:8-11
16. The Sign of the Hail Storm: Exodus 9:13-25; Psalms 78:47,48; 105:32,33
17. The Sign of the Locusts: Exodus 10:1-20; Psalms 78:46; 105:34,35
18. The Sign of the Darkness: Exodus 10:21-29; Psalms 105:28
19. The Sign of the Death of the Firstborn: Exodus 11; 12:29-33; Psalms 78:51; 105:36; 135:8; 136:10; Hebrews 11:28
20. The Parting of the Red Sea: Exodus 14:21-31; Psalms 78:53; 106:7-12,22; Hebrews 14:29
21. The Exodus: Numbers; Deuteronomy 8:4; 29:5; Nehemiah 9:21; Jeremiah 2:1-7; 32:19-25
22. Changing the Water at Marah: Exodus 15:22-27; Numbers 33:8
23. Manna from Heaven: Exodus 16:1-5,14; Numbers 11:1-9; Nehemiah 9:15,20; Joshua 5:12; Psalms 78:20,22-25; 105:40; John 6:22-59
24. Quails in Abundance: Numbers 11:31-34; Psalms 78:26-30; 105:39-42
25. Bringing Water from the Rock: Exodus 17:1-7; Numbers 33:12,13; Nehemiah 9:20; Psalms 78:16,17; 105:41
26. Victory Over Amalek: Exodus 17:8-16; Numbers 13:29; 14:25; Deuteronomy 25:17-19; Psalms 83:7
27. Receiving Instructions at Sinai: Exodus 19:16-25; Deuteronomy 4:5; 5:7-22; 9:8-11; Psalms 68:8; Hebrews 12:18-21
28. The Healing of Miriam's Leprosy: Numbers 12; 20:1; Leviticus 13:46; Deuteronomy 24:8,9
29. Crushing the Rebellion of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram: Numbers 16; 26:9-11; Psalms 106:17
30. The Budding of Aaron's Rod: Numbers 17; Hebrews 9:4

Appendix 2: Examples of the Manifestation of Workings of Miracles Not Associated with Healing

31. Healing through the Brazen Serpent: Numbers 21:4-9; II Kings 18:4; John 3:14; I Corinthians 10:9
32. Digging a Well: Numbers 21:13-18
33. Crossing the Jordan: Joshua 3:7-17; Psalms 114:3
34. The Battle for Jericho: Joshua 2; Joshua 6
35. The Victory at Gibeon: Joshua 10:1-11
36. The Sun Standing Still: Joshua 10:12-15; Isaiah 28:12
37. The Conception of Samson: Judges 13
38. Samson Slaying a Lion: Judges 14:5-10
39. Samson's Escape from Bonds: Judges 15:9-20
40. Samuel's Appointment as Judge: I Samuel 3
41. Samuel Telling Saul of the Lost Asses: I Samuel 9:3-12; 10:2
42. Samuel's Intercession at Gilgal: I Samuel 12:16-25
43. David's Deliverance from the Lion and the Bear: I Samuel 17:34-37
44. David's Defeat of Goliath: I Samuel 17
45. Jeroboam's Withered Hand Healed: I Kings 13:1-7
46. The Long Drought: I Kings 17-19; Romans 11:1-5; James 5:17,18
47. Being Fed by Ravens: I Kings 17:2-7
48. Meal and Oil Not Failing: I Kings 17:8-16
49. The Raising of the Widow's Son: I Kings 17:17-24
50. The Mt. Carmel Contest: I Kings 18:1-39
51. Rain Ending the Drought: I Kings 18:1,2,41-45
52. Elijah's Run: I Kings 18:46
53. Elijah's Journey: I Kings 19:1-21
54. The Fire from Heaven: II Kings 1:9-15
55. Elijah Smiting the Jordan: II Kings 2:1-8
56. The Translation of Elijah: II Kings 2:9-12
57. Elisha's Smiting the Jordan: II Kings 2:12-14
58. The Healed Waters: II Kings 2:19-22
59. The Widow's Oil: II Kings 4:1-7
60. The Raising of the Shunammite's son: II Kings 4:8-37
61. Changing the Poisoned Pottage: II Kings 4:38-41
62. The Multiplied Food: II Kings 4:42-44
63. Naaman's Healing: II Kings 5:1-19
64. Gehazi's Leprosy: II Kings 5:26, 27
65. The Axhead: II Kings 6:1-7
66. The Protection of Elisha: II Kings 6:8-23
67. Deliverance from Siege: II Kings 6:24-31
68. Elisha's Bones: II Kings 13:14-21
69. The Miracle of Uzziah's Leprosy: II Chronicles 26:15-21; II Kings 15:1-8
70. The Assyrian Slaughter: II Kings 18:13-37; 19; II Chronicles 32:21, 22; Isaiah 37:36
71. Hezekiah's Healing: II Kings 20:1-11; II Chronicles 32:24; Isaiah 38
72. The miracle of choice: Daniel 1:2,9,17
73. The miracle of the fiery furnace: Daniel 3:8-30

Ministering With God's Power

**Appendix 2: Examples of the Manifestation of Workings
of Miracles Not Associated with Healing**

- 74. The miracle of the writing on the wall: Daniel 5
- 75. The miracle of the lions' den: Daniel 6
- 76. The miracle of the great fish: Jonah 1:17 –2:10
- 77. The miracle of the gourd: Jonah 4:6
- 78. The miracle of the worm: Jonah 4:6

New Testament

- 1. The miracle of the birth of Jesus: Mathew 1:18-24; Luke 1:2
- 2. First draught of fish: Mathew 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; Luke 5:1-11; John 1:35-43
- 3. Calming a storm: Matthew 8:18-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-25
- 4. Feeding the five thousand: Matthew 14:13-21; Mark 6:32-44; Luke 9:10-17; John 6:1-14
- 5. Walking on water: Matthew 14:22-33; Mark 6:45-52; John 6:15-21
- 6. Feeding the four thousand: Matthew 15:30-38; Mark 8:1-9
- 7. The transfiguration: Matthew 17:1-13; Mark 9:1-13; Luke 9:28-36; II Peter 1:16-18
- 8. Pulling a coin from a fish's mouth: Matthew 17:24-27
- 9. Cursing a fig tree: Matthew 21:19-21; Mark 11:12-26
- 10. The miracle of the birth of John the Baptist: Luke 1
- 11. Turning water into wine: John 2:1-11
- 12. Second draught of fish: John 21:1-13
- 13. People understanding tongues on Pentecost: Acts 2:1-47
- 14. Exposing Ananias and Sapphira: Acts 5:1-11
- 15. Opening prison doors: Acts 5:17-42
- 16. Peter's deliverance from prison: Acts 12:1-19
- 17. Quake deliverance of Paul and Silas: Acts 16:19-40

**Appendix 2: Examples of the Manifestation of Workings
of Miracles Not Associated with Healing**

Ministering With God's Power
Appendix 3: Slain By The Spirit
By Peter Wade

Over forty years ago I was first exposed to the experience, which is the subject of this study. I saw it first-hand and as a young minister in training was assigned to be a “catcher” to gently lower people to the ground who were “slain by the Spirit.” Certain aspects of what I saw in great “healing” crusades caused me concern, but it was not until many years later that I had gathered together sufficient background material from the Word of God to share my findings with others in a small booklet of limited circulation. Then, twenty-five years later, I found others were asking the same questions that I did when I first observed a person being “Slain by the Spirit.” The booklet was reprinted at that time. Now again, the church is concerned with those who seem to put emotion to the forefront and the Bible on the back burner. It is again time to get back to the Bible.

If there is one thing about which I am convinced, it is that we must go to the Word of God -- our sole rule for faith and practice -- and discover the examples and search for the promises. This I have done, and the result is in your hands.

Even though I have given my conclusions, I hope that you will simply use this study as an aid as you “Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth” (II Timothy 2:15).

Slain by the Spirit?

In some Christian fellowships and meetings there is seen an experience where believers, as they are being prayed for or are engaging in prayer, fall upon the floor, usually upon their back. This experience has been termed as being “slain by the spirit,” “slain in the spirit,” or “falling down under the power.” To many people this is considered a manifestation of the Spirit of God and indicative of the great blessing or anointing upon the service or the speaker. Some ministers use their power of showmanship to fully display this experience.

Some explain that this “manifestation of the Spirit” merely means that “God is in the place and we are aware of His presence.” Others refer us to the history of great revivals, where such happenings are recorded, as proof of their authenticity. Still others tell us that such experiences are not uncommon in scripture.

Another reason often given for the acceptance of the experience is that since it is supernatural it must be of God. Surely earnest Christians must have read the record of the Egyptian magicians in Exodus 7:11. What they did was both supernatural and recorded in scripture (hence “scriptural”), but was it from God?

It is vital that we re-examine the scriptural record and let the Word of God speak for itself. We would do well to remember that we must not interpret God’s Word in the light of our experiences. We must let the Word alone indicate what experiences are available to the born-again believer, how to receive them, and what to do with them after we have them. We must also keep in mind the great principles of truth the whole Word reveals as the mind of God.

In this study, I have brought together those records I have found in the Word of God that indicate an experience of falling down. For the sake of clarity, I have presented them in three groups: Falling in fear, Falling in a trance, and Falling in worship.

Ministering With God's Power
Appendix 3: Slain By The Spirit
By Peter Wade

Falling in fear

“So he came near where I stood: and when he came, I was afraid, and fell upon my face: but he said unto me, Understand, O son of man: for at the time of the end shall be the vision. Now as he was speaking with me, I was in a deep sleep on my face toward the ground: but he touched me, and set me upright” (Daniel 8:17,18).

Let us note that when the angel Gabriel came near to Daniel, it is recorded that Daniel was afraid. When fear became master for the moment, Daniel fell on his face (not his back). The angel Gabriel spoke to him, and then lifted him to his feet. If this was supposed to be a great spiritual experience, why didn't the angel leave him on the ground? Only when Daniel was on his feet did the angel consider him in a fit state to receive the complete message from God as given in verses 19-26.

“And I Daniel fainted, and was sick certain days; afterward I rose up, and did the king's business; and I was astonished at the vision, but none understood it” (Daniel 8:27). The words “fainted, and” are not in the text and should be omitted. “And I Daniel was sick certain days...” No doubt Daniel had prayed and fasted many days for the meaning of the vision (verse 15), as he had done on previous occasions (9:3; 10:2,3). Certainly seeing a vision and then an angel, would not make one sick.

“And I Daniel alone saw the vision: for the men that were with me saw not the vision; but a great quaking fell upon them, so that they fled to hide themselves. Therefore I was left alone... and there remained no strength in me: Yet heard I the voice of his words... then was I in a deep sleep on my face, and my face toward the ground” (Daniel 10:7-9).

Some two years later Daniel saw another vision after a period of fasting. Fear gripped Daniel and again the outcome was that he “retained no strength” and so fell on his face on the ground. Once more he was lifted up (verse 10), but he continued to tremble through fear (verse 11) and was commanded to “Fear not” (verse 12). Then he was given the message from God. So tremendous was the revelation to Daniel that he immediately forgot what he was told, and fell once again to the ground (verses 15-17). Again the angel strengthened him and told him to “Fear not” (verses 18, 19). Obviously, in both these incidents, it was not pleasing to the angel to speak to Daniel while he was upon the ground, nor to leave him in that condition.

“As the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud in the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness round about. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. And when I saw it, I fell upon my face, and I heard a voice of one that spake. And he said unto me, Son of man, stand upon thy feet, and I will speak unto thee” (Ezekiel 1:28--2:1). This first incident in the book of Ezekiel is representative of the other incidents in 3:23, 43:3, and 44:4, where the same pattern will be observed.

Following the vision, Ezekiel fell upon his face (not upon his back), and heard a voice commanding him to stand on his feet before the speaker would address him. Once he was on his feet he was in a position to receive the revelation from God. A marked similarity is seen with the incidents already discussed from the book of Daniel. Note that the will of the angelic speaker is given with clarity here in Ezekiel 2:1,15, “Stand upon thy feet, and [then] I will speak to thee.”

Ministering With God's Power
Appendix 3: Slain By The Spirit
By Peter Wade

“And behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased; hear ye him. And when the disciples heard it, they fell on their face, and were sore afraid” (Matthew 17:5b,6). This record in the New Testament took place at the time of what is usually referred to as the transfiguration of Christ. Only three disciples were present: Peter, James, and John.

When they saw the vision (verse 9) and heard the voice that spoke, their fear of the unknown was so great that they fell on their faces on the ground. A literal translation would read: “... they threw themselves on their faces, and were greatly frightened.” They were not “Slain by the Spirit.” Jesus came and commanded them to “arise, and be not afraid” (verse 7). Their falling down was a fearful reaction to the vision, a new experience for them, and Jesus did not will to leave them to “enjoy” the experience.

“His countenance was like lightning, and his raiment white as snow: And for fear of him the keepers did shake, and became as dead men” (Matt. 28:3,4). Following the resurrection of Christ from the dead, the striking appearance of the angel caused the keepers of the tomb to be filled with fear, and their physical reaction was to fall upon the ground. It is obvious they were fully conscious of what happened around them, since they reported this to their superiors within a short space of time (verse 11).

“And Ananias hearing these words fell down, and gave up the ghost: and great fear came on all them that heard these things... Then fell she [his wife] down straightway at his feet, and yielded up the ghost: and the young men came in, and found her dead, and carrying her forth, buried her by her husband” (Acts 5:5,10). The apostle Peter, by a word of knowledge, brought to light the lies of Ananias and his wife. When they realized they had been found out, they fell down (perhaps gripped with great fear) and died. This type of experience is not usually commented upon and certainly not sought after by those believers who expect to be “Slain by the Spirit” or want the church to return to the book of Acts!

“And as he [Saul] journeyed, he came near Damascus: and suddenly there shined round about him a light from heaven: And he fell to the earth, and heard a voice saying unto him, Saul, Saul, why persecutest thou me?” (Acts 9:3,4). Saul’s reaction to the sudden brightness of the light was to fall upon the ground. Saul heard the voice and answered, so he was fully conscious of what was happening. With trembling astonishment he questioned what he was to do (verse 6). The immediate answer was, “Arise, and go into the city” (see also Acts 22:6-10). If this was a spiritual experience of great depth, why did God put a stop to it?

“And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last” (Revelation 1:17). The pattern is repeated in this incident involving John on the isle of Patmos. He saw a vision and becoming filled with fear, fell upon the earth. God exhorted him to “Fear not.” This exhortation must logically include God’s purposes regarding the effect of his fear, his falling upon the ground. Notice that John did the falling down; he was not made to fall down against his will.

Ministering With God's Power
Appendix 3: Slain By The Spirit
By Peter Wade

Falling in a trance

“And he became very hungry, and would have eaten: but while they made ready, he fell into a trance... I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in a trance I saw a vision, A certain vessel descend, as it had been a great sheet, let down from heaven by four corners; and it came even to me... And it came to pass, that, when I was come again to Jerusalem, even while I prayed in the temple, I was in a trance” (Acts 10:10; 11:5; 22:17).

The use of the word “trance” in these verses may cause some to think that these texts relate to the subject of “Slain by the Spirit.” The Greek word used is *ekstasis*, from which our English word “ecstasy” is derived. The noun, *ekstasis*, is used 7 times (Mark 5:42; 16:8; Luke 5:26; Acts 3:10; 10:10; 11:5; 22:17), and the verb, *existemi*, 17 times (Matthew 12:23; Mark 2:12; 3:21; 5:42; 6:51; Luke 2:47; 8:56; 24:22; Acts 2:7,12; 8:9,11,13; 9:21; 10:45; 12:16; II Corinthians 5:13). These words have reference to the mind, indicating a state of surprise, and are translated in the King James Version as “amazed” (8 times), “amazement” (1), “astonished” (6), “astonishment” (1), “wondered” (1), “bewitched” (2), “beside himself” (1), “beside ourselves” (1), and “trance” (only 3 times).

A trance is a state in which the subject has no control or knowledge of what is happening to him. The spiritualist usage of the word “trance” and the increased emphasis by certain ESP groups who in their experiments deal with people who “go into a trance,” is not and cannot be what the true God gives. Such an experience could not be of God, for one of the great principles of the Word is that God *never* touches a man’s free will. When man loses or gives up control of his mind, it is always satanic.

The noun is rendered “trance” only in the three verses already quoted from the book of Acts. The use of the word “amazement” fits each of the three references. In Acts 10:10 the word “fell” is in the active voice. However, we should also note that five out of six critical Greek texts read “came,” also in the active voice. A literal translation would be: “But while they made ready he became amazed and saw heaven opened.” If it had been written in the passive voice it would indicate that the action was done to him by a source other than himself (such as is the case regarding a person in a trance), but being in the active voice it is clear that Peter was responsible for the action.

In Acts 11:5 a literal translation would be: “I was in the city of Joppa praying: and in amazement I saw in a vision a certain vessel descend...” Acts 22:17 likewise would be translated: “While I prayed in the temple, in amazement I saw him saying unto me.” These three verses from the book of Acts give no scriptural basis for an experience such as being “Slain by the Spirit”.

Falling in worship

“And when they were come into the house, they saw the young child with Mary his mother, and fell down, and worshipped him” (Matthew 2:11). The wise men showed their respect and worshipped the child Jesus by falling down. This was an act of voluntary humility according to Eastern custom. The biblical significance of falling face down is an act of worship showing humility and reverence. Such reverence is a customary act and is expressed when a person of inferior status is presented or presents himself before someone of superior rank. The student should check the following

Ministering With God's Power
Appendix 3: Slain By The Spirit
By Peter Wade

selected references showing this custom: Genesis 44:14; Joshua 5:14; Ruth 2:10; I Samuel 25:23,24; and II Kings 1:13.

“And all these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me” (Matthew 4:9). The devil tried to bargain with Jesus by offering Him the kingdoms of this world and the glory of them, if Jesus would fall down and worship him. The devil had no power against Jesus to force Him to submission or to make Him fall down against His will. Yet it is interesting to note that the devil desired the worship of Jesus.

Other examples of prostration in worship or supplication during the ministry of Jesus are recorded in the following passages: Matthew 18:26,29; 26:39; Mark 5:22,33; 9:20; 14:35; Luke 5:8,12; 7:25; 8:28, 41,47; 17:16; John 11:32; 18:6.

Cornelius, a Roman, “feared God with all his house... and prayed to God alway” (Acts 10:2). An angel of God came to him in a vision while he was praying and Cornelius was afraid, but no mention is made that he fell down. However, when Peter entered Cornelius’ house several days later, the scripture states “Cornelius met him, and fell down at his feet, and worshipped him. But Peter took him up, saying, Stand up; I myself also am a man” (Acts 10:25,26). Cornelius was not astonished by a bright light nor “Slain by the Spirit,” but desired to show great respect to Peter. However, Peter did not accept such a gesture, and commanded Cornelius to “Stand up; I myself also am a man.” Another record of this nature is seen in Acts 16:29 where the Philippian jailer prostrated himself before Paul and Silas.

“And thus are the secrets of his heart made manifest; and so falling down on his face he will worship God, and report that God is in you of a truth” (I Corinthians 14:25). The cause of the reaction given in this verse was the giving of a prophecy. The people involved in this incident were believers, both those who were instructed in the things of God but had not risen up to believe and manifest in their own life, and also the uninstructed believers.

The prophecy convinced and judged their hearts and brought the conviction that these manifestations were from God. Then the desire of their hearts was to worship God and tell everybody that “God is in you of a truth”. There is no indication that they were made to fall down by a power outside of themselves, but rather in their desire to worship they fell down of their own volition in respect and adoration of God.

The book of Revelation also gives many examples of falling down in worship in the following passages: Revelation 4:10; 5:8,14; 7:11; 11:16; 19:4,19; and 22:8,9.

Conclusion

In addition to these specific scripture references, we must also bear in mind the great overall principle of the Word of God, that God *never* touches our free will. When God gave man free will, He placed Himself in the position where He could not and would not force man to do anything if man did not will to do so. On the other hand, the devil always desires to take control of a person’s will, so that he may accomplish his purposes. When a person does something that he does not will to do so, it has to be an activity of devil spirits.

With the exception of the Eastern custom of falling down in worship, the scriptures quoted all bear out the same conclusion: the act of falling down was a physical reaction

Ministering With God's Power
Appendix 3: Slain By The Spirit
By Peter Wade

to fear. This fear was caused by the sudden appearance of a vision, an angel, or some new experience. Nowhere are we told to seek such an experience, nor is it anywhere indicated that this is necessary in order to receive a healing, or to bring forth a manifestation of the spirit, or to receive any blessing from God.

The experience has become such a common occurrence in some churches that people fall down because it is “expected” that they do so. Ted Brooks, in his illuminating book *I Was A Flakey Preacher*, writes in chapter seven, “I have fallen ‘under the power’ dozens of time. That is why I can tell you, by experience, that the fear of man and the fear of missing out was always the strongest reason to fall to the floor. I did not want to look less willing than anyone else. Nor did I want my ‘inability to yield’ to the ‘moving of the Spirit’ to be interpreted as rebellion or unbelief.

“When you are standing in front of all your peers and respected leaders and they lay their hands on you, the pressure is on. Especially when you are up on stage and all eyes are watching you... I can tell you by experience, that it wasn’t the fear of God I was struggling with. It was the fear of not looking as spiritual as some as the others... As time went on, I got quite good at pretending when I was ‘hit by the anointing’... For many years as a pastor, I watched people fall to the floor when I laid hands on them. The preachers and the people were well trained in this and we knew what was expected of each other. We had quickly caught on to the traditions of the Charismatic church.

“Did Jesus cause people to fall under the power in His ministry? Did He see people laugh, bark, and roll as they received their healing? Did Jesus’ anointing overcome them and send them flying? Did they fall down and shake or cry as He laid hands on them? Only the demon-possessed manifested such foolishness and Jesus told them to be quiet. He did not accept these manifestations as a normal part of His ministry.”

The teaching that the experience of being “Slain by the Spirit” is simply to make us aware of God’s presence hardly seems logical let alone scriptural. The great truth of the omnipresence of God and of His special presence with the believer at all times is declared throughout the Bible. Perhaps one verse will suffice to emphasize the truth: “...for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee. So that we may boldly say, The Lord is my helper, and I will not fear what man shall do unto me” (Hebrews 13:5b,6).

God has commanded us to believe His Word? He has told us that “All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works” (II Timothy 3:16,17) Let’s believe His Word!

God has made so much available to the believer, for He has “blessed us with all spiritual blessings” (Ephesians 1:3). Few Christians have manifested the fact that they are tapped into the “exceeding greatness of his power to usward who believe” (Ephesians 1:19). Certainly let us operate to the full all nine manifestations of the spirit (I Corinthians 12:8-10) in line with the conditions laid down in His Word. Let us be satisfied with *no less* and *demand no more* than God promises in the Word. Let us seek those things that build up the church and meet the needs of humanity. “Let all things be done decently and in order” (I Corinthians 14:40).

Appendix 4: Questions Jesus Asked in Ministering Situations

Believe ye that I am able to do this? (Matthew 9:28)

Believest thou this? (John 11:26)

How is it that ye have no faith? (Mark 4:40)

How long is it ago since this came unto him? (Mark 9:21)

How long shall I be with you? (Matthew 17:17; Mark 9:19; Luke 9:41)

How long shall I suffer you? (Matthew 17:17; Mark 9:19; Luke 9:41)

Said I not unto thee, that, if thou wouldest believe, thou shouldest see the glory of God?
(John 11:40)

Seest thou this woman? (Luke 7:44)

Were there not ten cleansed? but where *are* the nine? (Luke 17:17)

What is thy name? (Mark 5:9; Luke 8:30)

What question ye with them? (Mark 9:16)

What will ye/wilt thou that I shall/should do unto you? (Matthew 20:32; Mark 10:51;
Luke 18:41)

Where is your faith? (Luke 8:25)

Why are ye so fearful? (Mark 4:4)

Why make ye this ado, and weep? (Mark 5:39)

Why reason ye these things in your hearts? (Mark 2:8)

Wilt thou be made whole? (John 5:6)

Who touched my clothes? (Mark 5:30)

Who touched me? (Luke 8:45)

Where have ye laid him? (John 11:34)

**Appendix 4: Questions Jesus Asked in Ministering
Situations**

Appendix 5: How Healing Was Ministered in the Bible

- A. With compassion speaking words and touching:
Matthew 14:14; 20:34; Mark 1:41; Luke 7:13
- B. Through the laying on of hands:
Matthew 8:3; 9:18; Mark 1:41; 5:23; 6:5; 7:32; 16:1; Luke 4:40; 5:13; 13:13; Acts 9:12,17; 28:8
- C. By the anointing of oil: (Culturally significant like the hem of the garments)
Mark 6:13; James 5:13
- D. Through prayer: (This was the pattern in the Old Testament before the ministry of Jesus Christ.) Genesis 20:7,17; 25:21; Numbers 12:13; I Kings 13:4-6; II Kings 20:1-6 (Isaiah 38:1-5); II Chronicles 32:24; James 5:15-16
- E. By the teaching of God's Word:
Matthew 4:23; 8:8; Luke 5:17,18; 13:10-12; Psalms 107:20; Proverbs 4:4,10,20-22; Acts 8:5-7
- F. By using other things:
Numbers 21:8-9 (brazen serpent); II Kings 20:7; Isaiah 38:21 (lump of figs put on boil); Mark 8:22 (spittle put on eyes of blind); John 9:6-7, 11 (clay put on eyes of blind); Acts 5:15 (shadow of Peter); 19:11-12 (handkerchiefs taken from hands of Paul)
- G. By commanding the sick to do the impossible: (Mark 11:23)
Matthew 9:6 (Arise and take thy bed); Mark 3:5 (Stretch forth thy hand!); 5:41 (Damsel arise!); Luke 5:13 (Be thou clean.); 7:13 (Young man arise!); John 11:43 (Lazarus come forth!); Acts 3:6; (Rise up and walk!); 9:34 (Arise, take thy bed); 9:40 (Tabitha arise!); 14:10 (Stand upright on thy feet)
- H. Through simple faith in His promises:
Matthew 8:8,10,13 (Speak the word only); 9:27-29 (According to your faith be it unto you); 15:28; Mark 10:52 (Thy faith has made thee whole); Luke 7:29; 17:19; John 4:50 (The man believed the word); Hebrews 11:11
- I. By an individual's act of faith:
Touching hem of Jesus garment (Matthew 9:20; 14:36; Mark 5:25; 6:56; Luke 8:44); Touching Jesus (Luke 6:19); Washing Jesus feet with tears (Luke 7:36-38); Opening Lazarus' tomb (John 11:39,40); Coming under the shadow of Peter (Acts 5:15); Shaking off viper into the flame (Acts 28:5)
- J. By obedience to a simple command:
II Kings 5:10, 14 (dip in Jordan seven times); Mark 3:3 (Stand forth); 8:25 (Look up); Luke 7:13 (Weep not); 17:14 (commanded to show themselves to the priests); John 4:50 (Go thy way); John 9:7,10-11 (Wash in pool of Siloam); John 11:39 (Take away the stone); Acts 3:4 (Look on us); Acts 9:6 (Do as you are told)
- K. By practical advice:
I Timothy 5:23 (wine for the stomach); Mark 5:33 (commanded that something should be given her to eat.)
- L. By speaking to the malady:
Matthew 8:16; Mark 7:34; 9:25; Luke 4:39; 5:39
- M. By assisting the person to do what he could not do before:
Mark 1:31; 8:23; Luke 8:54; Acts 3:7

Appendix 5: How Healing Was Ministered in the Bible

N. By touching the affected part of the body.

Touching the eyes of the blind (Matthew 9:29; 20:34); Putting fingers into the ears of the deaf (Mark 7:33); Touching tongue of the dumb (Mark 7:33); Laying upon the dead (I Kings 17:21; II Kings 4:34; Acts 20:10); Touching the leper (Matthew 8:3)

Ministering With God's Power
Appendix 6: Healings in the New Testament
Grouped and Arranged in Canonical Order

ACCOUNT	VERSES
Jesus healing throughout Galilee	Matthew 4:23-25; Mark 1:38,39
Jesus healing a leper	*Matthew 8:1-4; Mark 1:40-45; Luke 5:12-15
Jesus heals the Centurion's servant	Matthew 8:5-13; Luke 7:2-10
Jesus healing Peter's mother-in-law	Matthew 8:14,15; Mark 1:29-31; Luke 4:38,39
Jesus healing many at sunset	Matthew 8:16,17; Mark 1:32-34; Luke 4:40,41
Jesus healing the man with Legion	Matthew 8:28-34; Mark 5:1-20; Luke 8:26-39
Jesus healing one with palsy	Matthew 9:2-8; Mark 2:1-12; Luke 5:17-26
Jesus healing Jarius' daughter	*Matthew 9:18,19,23-26; Mark 5:22-24,35-43; Luke 8:41,42,49-56
Jesus healing the woman's issue of blood	*Matthew 9:20-22; Mark 5:25-34, Luke 8:43-48
Jesus healing the two blind men	Matthew 9:27-31
Jesus healing one dumb man	Matthew 9:32-35
Jesus sending reports back to John	Matthew 11:4,5; Luke 7:19-23
Jesus healing man with the withered hand	Matthew 12:9-13; Mark 3:1-5; Luke 6:6-10
Jesus healing the multitude who followed him	Matthew 12:15; Mark 3:9-12
Jesus healing the blind & dumb man	Matthew 12:22
Jesus healing in a desert place	Matthew 14:13,14; Luke 9:11
Jesus healing at Gennesaret	*Matthew 14:34-36; Mark 6:53-55
Jesus healing child vexed with devil spirits	Matthew 15:21-28; Mark 7:24-30
Jesus healing near Sea of Galilee	Matthew 15:29-31
Jesus healing child with unclean spirit	Matthew 17:14-21; Mark 9:14-29; Luke 9:38-42
Jesus healing on the coasts of Judaea	Matthew 19:1,2
Jesus healing the two blind men by the wayside	Matthew 20:30-34
Jesus healing the blind & lame in the temple	Matthew 21:14
Jesus healing man possessed at Capernaum	Mark 1:21-27; Luke 4:31-37
Jesus healing a few sick folk	Mark 6:1-6
Twelve heal	Mark 6:13
Jesus healing Syrophenician's daughter	Mark 7:31-37
Jesus healing blind man at Bethesda	Mark 8:22-26

Ministering With God's Power
Appendix 6: Healings in the New Testament
Grouped and Arranged in Canonical Order

Jesus healing the blind Bartimaeus	Mark 10:46-52
Healings in the plain	Luke 6:17-19
Jesus raising widow's dead son	Luke 7:12-16
Jesus healing in Simon's house	Luke 7:36-50
Report of women who were healed	Luke 8:1-3
Jesus commissions the twelve	Luke 9:1-6
Healing in a desert place	Luke 9:11
Healing dumb	Luke 11:14
Jesus healing man with spirit of infirmity	Luke 13:11-13
Jesus healing man with dropsy	Luke 14:1-4
Jesus healing 10 lepers	Luke 17:12-19
Jesus healing blind man on way to Jerusalem	Luke 18:35-43
Jesus reattaching ear	Luke 22:49-51
Jesus healing noble's son	John 4:46-54
Jesus healing impotent man	John 5:1-14
Jesus healing man born blind	John 9:1-11
Jesus raising Lazarus	John 11:1-45
Wonders and signs done by the Apostles	Acts 2:42,43
Healing of the lame man at the Beautiful Gate	Acts 3:1-8,16; 4:22
More signs and wonders done by the Apostles	Acts 5:12-16
Philip healing in Samaria	Acts 8:4-8
Ananias ministering to Paul	Acts 9:1-19
Aeneas healed of the palsy	Acts 9:32-35
Peter Raising Tabitha	Acts 9:36-42
Paul healing impotent man	Acts 14:8-10
Disciples raising Paul from the dead	Acts 14:19,20; II Corinthians 11:25
Paul delivering damsel of a spirit of divination	Acts 16:16-18
Special miracles by the hands of Paul	Acts 19:11,12
Raising of Eutychus	Acts 20:7-12
Paul healed of viper bite	Acts 28:1-6
Publius healed of a bloody flux	Acts 28:8,9
Epaphroditus healed	Philippians 2:25-30

*Bullinger believes that these accounts do not record identical healings. See *The Companion Bible*, Appendix 138.

Ministering With God's Power
Appendix 7: Healings in the Bible

OLD TESTAMENT

Genesis 20:1-18 Numbers 12:1-16 Numbers 21:1-9 Numbers 25:4-9 I Samuel 16:23	I Kings 13:1-6 I Kings 17:1-24 II Kings 4:18-37 II Kings 5:1-14 II Kings 6:18-20	II Kings 13:20,21 II Kings 20:1-7 II Chronicles 30:15-20 II Chronicles 32:24 Job 42:7-10
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NEW TESTAMENT

MATTHEW	MARK	LUKE	JOHN	ACTCS
4:23-25	1:21-27	4:33-37	4:46-54	2:42,43
8:1-4	1:29-31	4:38,39	5:1-14	3:1-8,16
8:5-10,13	1:32-34	4:40,41	9:1-11	5:12-16
8:14,15	1:38,39	5:12-15	11:1-45	8:4-8
8:16,17	1:40-45	5:18-26		9:1-19
8:28-34	2:11,12	6:6-10		9:32-35
9:2-8	3:1-5	6:17-19		9:36:42
9:18,19,23-26	3:9-12	7:2-10		14:8-10
9:20-22	5:1-20	7:12-16		14:19,20
9:27-31	5:22-24,35-43	7:19-23		16:16-18
9:32-35	5:25-34	7:36-50		19:11,12
11:4,5	6:1-6	8:1-3		20:7-12
12:9-13	6:13	8:26-40		28:1-6
12:15	6:54-56	8:41,42,49-56		28:8,9
12:22	7:24-30	8:43-48		
14:13,14	7:31-37	9:1-6		<u>PHILIPPIANS</u>
14:34-36	8:22-26	9:11		2:25-30
15:21-28	9:14-29	9:38-42		
15:29-31	10:46-52	11:14		<u>HEBREWS</u>
17:14-21		13:11-13		11:35a
19:1,2		14:1-4		
20:29-34		17:12-19		
21:14		18:35-43		
		22:49-51		

Ministering With God's Power
Appendix 7: Healings in the Bible