WORD POWER

Lawrence Gregor

WORD POWER Copyright © 2018 by Lawrence Gregor All Rights Reserved

All scripture references used are from the Authorized King James Version of the Bible.

Worldwide Pentecostal Outreach is a non-profit missionary society dedicated to ministering the Word of God to all people groups worldwide.

Published by: Lawrence Gregor, Worldwide Pentecostal Outreach, PO Box 3080, Thornton. NSW 2322 Australia.

2nd Printing June, 2018

ISBN 978-0-9804883-2-6

Printed for worldwide distribution.

1

AUTHOR'S FORWARD

For 39 years I have ministered the Word of God worldwide in over 55 nations. In earlier years my ministry work was contained to preaching God's Word among tribal or minority people groups. My first trip to the Philippines in 1980 gave me an acute awareness for the need of better "Word" impartation by missionaries, Pastors and Bible teachers. One of my mandates as a prophetic minister to the nations is to motivate as many believers as possible to better grasp the spiritual content of the Word of God. Many Pastors in developing nations have copied my sermon outlines hoping to learn a little more of the riches of the Word of God. Much of the content of this book is simply a collation of scriptures from both the Old and New Testaments with key points or phrases in bold letters relating to the topic. The author's notations and comments precede or follow the bolded text. This book is written with the view to be a Word supplement (with outline topics) for those that love to study and read the Word of God. It is particularly useful for pastors and others who minister the Word of God in churches, crusades, conferences, seminars, Bible schools or cell groups. It may also be used for daily devotions, or as a textual or topical aid for Bible students. Although not written as a reference volume, the author has tried to collate some varied topical study material

(not in order) that the Word of God becomes a greater blessing to the reader. All scripture references are in the KJV. May this book be a source to generate further interest in the study of the Word of God.

WORD POWER

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. ANOINTING-FOR OUR FUNCTION	P. 6
2. APOSTOLIC MINISTERS	P. 17
3. GOD'S VOICE IN OUR VOICE	P. 24
5. HEALING ANOINTING	P. 34
6. INCREASING FAITH	P. 41
7. THE TEMPLE MAN	P. 47
8. MINISTERIAL GIFTING	P. 54
9. OUR PROPHETIC HERITAGE	P. 61
10. PENTECOSTAL POWER	P. 67
11. THE HEIRS OF GOD	P. 74
12. THE CROSS	P. 77
13. THE LANGUAGE OF FAITH	P. 81
14. THE LORD THAT HEALETH	P. 85
15. THE POWER OF HOLINESS	P. 89
16. WORD MINISTERS	P. 92
17. THERE IS A RIVER	P. 95
18. WORD POWER -1-	P.102
19. WORD POWER -2-	P.109

ANOINTING – FOR OUR FUNCTION

1 COR 3:11 For other <u>foundation</u> can no man lay than that is laid, which is <u>Jesus Christ</u>.

Every born again child of God has been given the same Christian foundation.

God never favours some of His children over others. Once we are trully born again of His Spirit, having repented of our old life and have by faith accepted God's free gift of salvation, we are ready to start our new life journey by faith.

EPH 2:8 For by grace are **ye saved through faith**; and that not of yourselves: **it is the gift of God**: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

1JN 5:11 And this is the record, that God hath given to us eternal life, and **this life is in his Son.**

Every believer is at the helm of their own spiritual life. We are the ones (captains) who steer the ships of our spiritual lives to the port of spiritual destiny. Personal hunger for God's Word is our own responsibility. The responsibility does not belong to your Pastor, church elder, spouse or friend. By faith we can build a great Christian life on the sure foundation of Christ. (1Cor 3:11) **1 COR 3:10** According to the grace of God which is given unto me, as a wise masterbuilder, **I have laid the foundation, and another buildeth thereon. But let every man take heed how he buildeth thereupon.** 11 For other foundation can no man lay than that is laid, which is Jesus Christ.

THE BELIEVERS' ANOINTING

The Apostle John makes it clear that all believers have a heavenly advocate.

1JN 2:1 My little children, these things write I unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous:

Once sin is dealt with by our sinless advocate (Christ), we move forward believing that God has anointed us for ministry. In Christ, all believers are given the opportunity to possess Bible truth, hence every spirit-filled believer has received the "Believer's anointing" of the Holy Spirit. Like John, Paul also mentions the fact that we have received this anointing.

2 COR 1:21 Now he **which stablisheth us** with you in Christ, **and hath anointed us**, *is* God.

John uses the words "little children" many times in his epistles. (1Jn 2:1) The Word phrasing used by John shows a mature spiritual father giving his spiritual children ministerial encouragement. John tells his children a fact of spiritual life. "Ye have received of Him" (1Jn 2:20, 27)

v.20 But <u>ye have</u> an unction from the Holy One, and ye know all things.

v.27 But the anointing **which** <u>ye have received</u> of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as **the same anointing teacheth you of all things**, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

This anointing is resident within those who have yielded themselves to Christ. This anointing lives within the inner man! It's not resident one day and gone the next.

Concerning the anointing; it is not like food that has a use by date stamped on it. It **can't be lost and it doesn't run out**.

John reminds "his little children", those of like faith, that they must "abide in Him."

1JN 2:28 And now, **little children**, <u>abide in him</u>; that, when he shall appear, we may have confidence, and not **be ashamed before him at his coming.**

This is the secret. We must "live in Christ".

This "anointing" is maintained in Christ by relationship to God our Father. The believer must

stay connected by relationship to the source of the anointing. Jesus said, "I am the vine" The vine is the source. Jesus indicates a two-way relationship. "He that abides in me and I in Him..."

JN 15:5 I am the vine, ye *are* the branches: <u>He that</u> abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth <u>much fruit</u>: for **without me ye can do nothing**.

John's gospel chapter 15 deals with our relationship to God. But, if we cease to "abide", we divorce ourselves from the "Word life" of the Holy Spirit. Finally we wither, because our spiritual life (in Christ) ceases to exist.

JN 15:6 If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered; and men gather them, and cast *them* into the fire, and they are burned.

Our adversary, the devil has convinced so many believers, that they "are not" anointed and "cannot" be used of God. They find themselves in a one-way street of despair walking in circles. **Some have accepted this withered existence of spiritual life**. Some have said, "I was born into the wrong family, in the wrong country, I am not educated". These are the very believers that God desires to change.

Cease withering, and then start functioning.

There are enough dysfunctional believers in this world and my readers need not be added to their number.

The Bible says, "These signs shall follow them that believe". Faith is the first step. We must believe. I believe if we cleave to all that the Bible teaches and walk by the principles of the Word and obey the voice of the Holy Spirit; then we shall see the same miracle acts as the first century apostles. Many times the believer passes over verses even chapters of the word of God. Every word is relevant to continual spiritual growth. Many have lacked faith in God's ability to provide supernaturally. By omitting faith for giving, tithing and fasting to name a few we have decided that spiritual dysfunction is the best we can offer God. God loves the "crucified life" Unfortunately, many believers SO who call themselves Spirit-filled believers have allowed themselves lifestyles of ease that dictate terms for spiritual dysfunction. If we allow the devil to yoke (bind) us to a fleshy lifestyle of ease, then the same believers will end up in an ineffective ministry mode "cul-de-sac walking in circles in the of dysfunction."

Restoration is Our Responsibility.

LUK 6:17 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 all 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. 19 And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and healed *them* all.

In Luke 6:19 we see that the whole multitude wanted to touch Jesus. They all wanted to have the "wholeness of the Lord"

.... "for there went virtue out of Him, and He healed them all".

The anointing of the Spirit was this **virtue of wholeness** that went forth from Jesus to the people. The people recognized that Jesus had something greater than they possessed and they wanted the same **characteristics of wholeness**.

We must desire to receive the wholeness of God. It is the believers' responsibility to seek God and receive total restoration. The person who needs to receive wholeness, either in body or in spirit seeks out the person with a greater anointing of the spirit. (Heb 7:7)

HEB 7:7 And without all contradiction **the less is blessed of the better.**

Fasting is the Bible way to personal restoration. Please read Isaiah chapter 58.

JN 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 greater works can be our works as we abide in the anointing of Christ. The supernatural anointing, which ever abides in the believer, flows out of our inner man like a river. God will do His greater works through us. We shall do the greater works as a fulfillment of Christ's prophetic words.

COL 1:27 To whom God would make known what *is* **the riches of the glory of this mystery** among the Gentiles; which is Christ in you, **the hope of glory:**

The Greek word for "riches" is "ploutos". It means anointing. In the same verse the Greek word for "glory" means "wealth".

EPH 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;

The Greek word for "unsearchable riches" is "ploutos" meaning anointings.

LUK 16:10 "He that is faithful in that which is **least** is faithful also in **much**: and he that is unjust in the least is unjust also in much."

1

The Greek word for "least" is "elachistos" meaning money:

The Greek word for "much" is "polus" meaning anointing.

LUK 16:11 "If therefore ye have not been faithful in the unrighteous mammon, who will commit to your trust the **true** *riches*?"

The Greek word for "true riches" means anointing.

ACT 26:13 At midday, O king, I saw in the way a **light from heaven**, above the brightness of the sun, **shining round about me** and them which journeyed with me.

The revelation of fasting is something that must be like a light from heaven. Initially, Saul experienced God's power in the form of a great light, however fasting was also like a revelation of light. It became a necessary part of his ministry life. In 1980 I found out what fasting could do. It was the catalyst for ongoing healing and miracles. It became part of my tools of trade as an effective minister.

Prayer by anointed servants of God is one way that God uses to loose the hindrances than bind the believer who is afflicted with worldly desires and fleshly habits. **The second and more effective way for release is fasting.** It is the believer's responsibility to maintain his or her new liberty in the Spirit. Prayer and fasting coupled with the study of the Word of God should become a lifestyle of personal commitment. This lifestyle can speed up the process to gift believers for greater ministry.

Read these references. (Isa 58:1-14; Mat 9:15; Ex 34:29-30; Jud 20:26-27; Ezr 8:21-23; Psa 109:24; 1 Kin 19:7-8; Dan 9:3; Dan 10:3; Mat 17:21; Act 9:9; 2 Cor 11:27; Act 13:1-2; Deut 8:3; Mat 4:4)

God uses fasting to break personal yokes!

ISA 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.

I believe it is the responsibility of all believers who desire to be used of God to use fasting as a means to move forward. Note some of the benefits of fasting found in Isaiah chapter 58.

v.6 Loose bands of wickedness; undo heavy burdens; set the oppressed free; break every yoke.v.7 Releases a desire to help the poor and hungry; stores family relationships.

v.8 Spiritual enlightenment breaks forth; health springs forth "speedily"; personal righteousness is revealed; the glory of the Lord is our protection. v.9 God answers when we call. v.10 Our inner glory shall dispel darkness.

v.11 The continual guidance of God.

v.12 An anointing is given to rebuild waste places; repair breaches; restores the pathways of the lord.

- v.13 We shall honour the Lord and live for Him.
- v.14 We shall ride upon high places. (authority)

MINISTRY ANOINTINGS

ISA 10:27 And it shall come to pass in that day, *that* his burden shall be taken away from off thy shoulder, and his yoke from off thy neck, and the yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.

Many people are not available for the ministry due to spiritual oppression or personal habits; namely yokes.

These yokes prevent God's **unction** (His anointing) from working within the believer as a normal function.

We must view fleshly or worldly behavior as an iniquitous folly. If these practices become lifestyles then spiritual survival is not guaranteed. The devil would like to hold the weaker believer captive in his web of deceit. The believer is at war and must choose to value the treasures of revelation found in the Word of God. His Word can replace the desire to engage in worldly practices that hinder spiritual progress. We must willing embrace every aspect of the Word of God. When the believer hungers and thirsts for righteousness, God shares His anointed riches with them. God will only allow His "unction" to "function" in and through those who have purposed to rid themselves of fleshly yokes. Our willingness to "abide in Him" will free us from the baggage of identification found in the world. This new sanctified lifestyle makes way for the anointing to flow more powerfully through the believer.

1 SAM 10:1 Then Samuel took a vial of oil, and poured *it* upon his head, and kissed him, and said, *Is it* not because **the LORD hath anointed thee** *to be* **captain over his inheritance**?

This special leadership anointing was given to Saul to govern as king. That same day in fulfillment of Samuel's prophecy God gave Saul a new heart and a prophetic gifting. We see that association with anointed spiritual leaders brings great change.

1 SAM 10:9 And it was *so*, that when he had turned his back to go from Samuel, **God gave him another heart**: and all those signs came to pass that day. 10And when they came thither to the hill, behold, a company of prophets met him; and **the Spirit of God came upon him, and he prophesied among them**.

Anointing brings 3 things:

- 1) Supernatural vitality. God's Power
- 2) Supernatural increase. God's Gifting
- 3) Supernatural favour God's Grace.

1

PSA 92:10 But my horn shalt thou exalt like *the horn of* an unicorn: **I shall be anointed with fresh oil**.

The Hebrew word for "anointing" is "vadooa". It means vitality. This is a supernatural vitality. The believer maintains this kind of vitality by relationship to God. It is <u>imperative that all believers</u> <u>pick up the vitality of this fresh oil.</u> The freshness of the anointing must become the river of the spirit that flows out of our lives.

JN 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 demonstrate the wonderful grace that God supernaturally bestows upon the believer who dares to believe in His word.

Those Spirit-filled Christians who choose to dedicate themselves to maintaining an access to God's rivers of special anointing, will always find themselves being used of God in greater ways. The more ministers yield to the anointing (riches) of His grace, the more the increase in signs, wonders and miracles will be evident. God wants to use us as overflowing vessels of blessing into the fields of harvest. This was indeed what happened to Saul of Tarsus. Saul, later Paul **progressed from being a**

"runner" to being a "reaper"... APOSTOLIC MINISTERS

APOSTOLIC CHARACTERISTICS

The root meaning of the word "apostle" is simply "the sent one".

Apostles are not just men known to have miraculous ministry gifts of God. They are **men** who are:-"<u>chosen</u>" (Acts 9:15) "<u>commissioned</u>" (Acts 16:3; 15:39-41) "<u>sent</u>" (John 13:16; Acts 9:19,20; 16:9,10) The primary characteristic of true apostles should be that they are "**men sent from God**".

JN 13:16 "Verily, verily, I say unto you, The servant is not greater than his lord; neither **he that is sent** greater than **he that sent him.**

"He that is sent". This refers to the commissioned disciple.

"He that sent". This refers to God, the one that commissioned the disciple.

In more recent times the word "missionary" has been used to indicate a particular vocation. When I was young, missionaries were those who were trained and sent out to work for God in foreign lands. It was exciting to hear of primitive tribal peoples giving their lives to the Lord. However, the word Apostle was rarely used. The word "apostolos" which is the Latin form of the Greek, indicates that the two words have the same meaning.

If all missionaries today were filled with the Holy Spirit and were gifted of God in the same manner as the "early church apostles" with signs, wonders and miracles following the preaching of the word, then it would not be necessary to use the word "missionary".

The fact is some men and women should not be classified as missionaries.

Many of these dedicated people should be classified as nurses, doctors, language translators, musicians, teachers, and administrators. For many years the word "missionary" has lost its true identification.

I believe that all missionaries should be Apostolic in ministry gifting; for this was the New Testament pattern. **The Book of Acts** is not a fable, it is FACT.

Jesus said, "I must work the works of Him the sent me."

First Apostle:

LUK 1:31 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:

The word "Son" related to His person. This person named Jesus was the "Christ" from God. He was the son of the "highest".

It is said that the name "Christ" referred to his anointed office.

In John's gospel, Jesus referred to God as "the one who sent me". In other words, Jesus had that absolute assurance that God sent him. In like manner, we as His ministers should know that we are sent from God to do His works. All God's workers should have the knowledge that they are sent from God. These "sent ones" are therefore in the "perfect will" of the God. They have a mandate form God. If there is <u>no divine commission</u>, there will be <u>no divine work</u>. There maybe many things done in His name, but only divine work is a permanent work. Divine work is achieved when the "sent" apostles are allowed to do the works of God.

HEB 3:1 Wherefore, holy brethren, **partakers of the heavenly calling**, consider the Apostle and **High Priest of our profession**, Christ Jesus;

The Twelve Apostles:

The Apostle", the Christ sent from God selected only twelve men. These men would eventually be

anointed as apostles. Christ gave these twelve apostles special places in His kingdom.

LUK 22:30 That ye may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

God's desire was to choose only twelve. Twelve was the Biblical number for "government".

ACT 1:26 And they gave forth their lots; and the lot fell upon <u>Matthias; and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.</u>

This shows us that God appointed twelve apostles, it was a fixed number.

Even in the "New Jerusalem" there is a special place for the "twelve".

REV 21:14 And the wall of the **city had twelve foundations**, and in them the names of **the twelve apostles of the Lamb.**

Apostles to the church:

ACT 13:2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, the Holy Ghost said, **Separate me Barnabas and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.**

Barnabas and Saul became "sent ones". They were commissioned by the Holy Spirit.

Please note the words "I have called them". Those who are ministering for the Lord must possess credentials from heaven.

Some went without being sent.

ACT 14:4 But the multitude of the city was divided: and part held with the Jews, and part with **the apostles.** These two were not among the twelve, but they were anointed apostolic ministers. They became two of the apostolic "body builders" of the church in their day.

Briefly: God appointed His son to be "The Apostle" (Heb 3:1)

Christ appointed His twelve disciples to be "The Twelve" (Lk 22:30)

Then the Holy Spirit appointed other men and sent them forth into the nations as Apostolic ministers.

1 COR 4:9 For I think that **God hath set forth us the apostles last**, as it were appointed to death: for we are made a spectacle unto the world, and to angels, and to men.

It is believed that Sosthenes was a joint-writer of this epistle. Apollos was also with Paul at this time. What is clear, the "us" stated in this verse in Corinthians relates to more than one apostle. The present day church is so much bigger than it was in 70AD. Where are the needed increased numbers of present day Apostles and Prophets? **1 THES 2:6** Nor of men sought we glory, neither of you, nor *yet* of others, **then we might have been burdensome, as the apostles of Christ.**

It is thought that "we" refers to Silvanus and Timothy. (1:1) These two men were much younger than Paul, but still considered as apostolic ministers.

1 COR 15:5-7 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**.

This verse mentions the "Twelve" and then it refers to "all the apostles". This would indicate that there were many other apostles. Even when Christ was on earth, it was not expected that the chosen "twelve" do all the apostolic work. Paul was one such apostle who laboured for God. (1Cor 15:10) "I laboured more abundantly"

1 COR 15:8 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.

GOD'S VOICE IN OUR VOICE

READ: 1 Samuel Chapter 3

1 SAM 3:19 And Samuel grew, and the LORD was with him, and **did let none of his words fall to the ground.**

Christian maturity is enhanced when we hear every word from God.

1 SAM 3:21 And the LORD appeared again in Shiloh: for **the LORD revealed himself** to Samuel in Shiloh <u>by</u> **the word of the LORD**.

We see that God wants to reveal Himself and He wants to do it by the word of the Lord.

Note the words in Amos 3:7. "Surely the Lord will do nothing." This would indicate it is not a good idea to remove the gifts of the Holy Spirit out of the church. WE must stay within the boundaries of the Word of God.

Many Christians say they have a call to serve God, but they never practice listening for God's voice. We cannot tell our friends we are called of God, if we don't listen to and obey the voice of God.

The <u>call of God</u> always comes to us <u>by the voice of</u> <u>God</u>.

SOS 2:8 The voice of my beloved behold, he cometh leaping upon the mountains, skipping upon the hills. 9 My beloved is like a roe or a young hart: behold, he standeth behind our wall, he looketh forth at the windows, shewing himself through the lattice. 10 My beloved spake, and said unto me, Rise up, my love, my fair one, and come away.

The Shulamite woman knew the voice of the beloved.

The beloved was looking for the woman at the windows. He was showing himself at the lattice. He desired her to "rise up, and come away". He wanted to spend more time alone with the Shulamite.

SOS 5:2 I sleep, but my heart waketh: *it is* **the voice of my beloved** that knocketh, *saying*, **Open to me**, my sister, my love, my dove, my undefiled: for my head is filled with dew, *and* my locks with the drops of the night.

The heart of man was created to hear and respond to God's voice. God's voice is always knocking at our innermost being. God says, "<u>open to me.</u>"

SOS 5:6 I opened to my beloved; **but my beloved had withdrawn himself**, *and* **was gone:** my soul failed when he spake: <u>I sought him, but I could not find him; I called him,</u> but **he gave me no answer**.

If we give God excuses why we can not answer His knocking, He will eventually stop speaking and remove Himself from the door of our heart.

(v. 3) **By the time she stirred herself He was gone.** We must stir ourselves quickly!

1 SAM 3:17 And he said, **What** *is* **the thing that** *the LORD* **hath said unto thee**? I pray thee hide *it* not from me: God do so to thee, and more also, if thou hide *any* thing from me of all the things that he said unto thee. 18And Samuel told him every whit, and hid nothing from him. And he said, **It** *is* **the LORD**: let him do what seemeth him good.

Eli was reduced to hearing God's voice from another source. As the priest of God in Shiloh, he had known God's voice all his life, but he was no longer sensitive to hear God's voice for himself. Oh how hungry he was to hear God speak, even if it was through a young child.

Read: (1Sam 7:5-9; 8:6; 12:17-18; 15:11-23) Samuel's prophetic authority came from his ability to hear God's voice. Samuel often consulted God before he spoke to the people. He told the people what God had already told him. Once we begin to obey God's voice, there will be an increase in the amount of time we spend with God. Others will notice the change of Word content spoken from our mouths.

PSA 28:1 Unto thee will I cry, O LORD my rock; be not silent to me: lest, *if* thou be silent to me, I become like them that go down into the pit.

PSA 28:2 Hear the voice of my supplications, when I cry unto thee, when I lift up my hands toward thy holy oracle.

David was totally dependent on God. The Psalmist's written language shows clearly his attitude of heart. It is in his voice, due to the fact it was in his heart.

PSA 3:3 But thou, O LORD, *art* a shield for me; **my** glory, and the lifter up of mine head. 4 I cried unto the LORD with my voice, and he heard me out of his holy hill. Selah.

David's "glory" or "his soul" (same word) was lifted up. David's voice cried unto the Lord. The consecrated (<u>holy hill</u>) was where God lifted David into a place of absolute assurance. He was totally lifted into a new realm of the Spirit.

2 PET 1:17 For he received from God the Father honour and glory, <u>when there came such a voice</u> to him **from the excellent glory**, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.

The voice of God came from His excellent glory. Similarly, our voices must come from His glory.

God's ministers must have His glory on their voices. God's children don't need to hear from man, they need to hear from His excellent glory. If we spend enough time with God, our voices will finally respond and possess the sound of the anointing that comes from His glory.

EZE 1:24 And when they went, I heard the noise of their wings, like the noise of great waters, as **the voice of the Almighty, the voice of speech**, as **the noise of an host**: when they stood, they let down their wings.

Note the unity of the voice of speech. There was the noise of wings like great waters, as the noise of a host. Every activity in heaven has a connection. It's not just heavenly noise. It's the voice of the Almighty.

EZE 1:25 And there was a voice from the firmament that *was* over their heads, when they stood, *and* had let down their wings.

Even the distant voice from the firmament was over the heads of the heavenly beings. God's voice is over our heads as well; He's not that far away.

EZE 1:12 And they went every one straight forward: whither the spirit was to go, they went; and they turned not when they went.

1

The ministers of God must follow in the characteristics of God.

We note that certain activities are constant in heaven. They do not change.

- 1) The heavenly creatures went "straight forward".
- 2) Wherever the spirit went, they went.
- 3) They didn't change direction after they began following the Spirit.

The glory of God brings great changes in our character and ushers us forward in our walk with God.

If we are not going forward, we are not abiding in the spirit. (Read John 15)

ACT 22:9 And they that were with me saw indeed the light, and were afraid; but they heard not the voice of him that spake to me.

Many experience the same power of the light and glory of God at the time when we experience it, but they may not hear His voice when we hear it. <u>When God is dealing with us (alone), we will hear</u> <u>His voice (alone).</u>

ACT 22:14 And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see

that Just One, <u>and shouldest hear the voice of his</u> <u>mouth.</u>

ACT 22:15 For <u>thou shalt be his witness unto all men</u> of **what thou hast seen and heard.**

God's chosen vessels should not only possess knowledge of His perfect will for their lives, but also be capable of voicing what they have seen and heard in the Spirit. We must testify of the knowledge of hearing the voice of God. Some of God's people testify what others hear and do in meetings without giving testimony of actually hearing the voice of God themselves. As we mature we will witness like Paul. We must say "what we have seen and heard".

God not only wants to speak to us personally, but He wants to speak to the whole world. He desires to use our mouths as His mouthpiece. Time with God will bring His "fire" into our spirit. This is the first requirement to power up for prophetic ministry. When we get "Fire" in the belly, we'll have the "Fire" in the mouth.

When God speaks - we must speak.

JER 1:6 Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, <u>I cannot</u> <u>speak</u>: for I *am* a child. 7 But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I *am* a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt **speak**._8 Be not afraid of their faces: **for I** *am* **with thee** to deliver thee, saith the LORD.

Most of God's people are like Jeremiah. They have similar reasons for believing they are not ready. God has not changed. Like Jeremiah, we must be obedience to His voice. **We must go; and we must speak the Word of the Lord.** As we minister His word we will mature and develop prophetic ministry, overcoming any fear of man. READ: 1 Sam 3:17-18; 15:12-14.

The body of Christ will recognize your gifting.

1SAM 3:20 And **all Israel from Dan even to Beersheba knew** that **Samuel** *was* **established** *to be* **a prophet** of the LORD.

Other readings: Mat 10:7-10; 1Tim 1:18; 2Cor 4:4-7; Rom 1:1-6, 11

The prophetic ministry must be activated!

AMOS 3:7 Surely the Lord GOD will do nothing, but he revealeth his secret unto his servants the prophets.

For without the "fire-power" of His Holy Spirit power in our spirit, we have a limited prophetic capability. He wants to fill our inner man with fire to empower us to speak prophetically. **ISA 6:6** Then flew one of the seraphims unto me, **having a live coal in his hand**, *which* he had taken with the tongs from off the altar:

8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, <u>Whom</u> shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here *am* I; send me.

EZE 3:14 So the spirit lifted me up, and took me away, and I went in bitterness, in the heat of my spirit; but the hand of the LORD was strong upon me.

We cannot but speak His words, when His Holy Spirit moves upon us.

AMOS 3:8 The lion hath roared, who will not fear? **the Lord GOD hath spoken, who can but prophesy?**

When we have the fear of the Lord within us, we will not be able to hold back the Word of the Lord. It will flow like a mighty RIVER!

READ: 1 Cor 12:7-11, 13; 1 Cor 14:5, 12, 39

1 COR 14:5 I would that ye all spake with tongues, **but rather that ye prophesied:** for greater *is* he that **prophesieth** than he that speaketh with tongues, except he interpret, that the church may receive edifying.

1 COR 14:12 Even so ye, forasmuch as ye are zealous of spiritual *gifts*, seek that ye may excel to the edifying of the church.

1 COR 14:39 Wherefore, brethren, <u>covet to prophesy</u>, and forbid not to speak with tongues.

Paul desired that everyone received the gift of tongues, but he preferred the greater gift of prophecy. It takes greater faith to prophesy. The gift of Prophecy brings <u>God's edifying voice into the church</u>. God is using our voice, to speak His message.

FREELY YE HAVE RECEIVED, FREELY GIVE.

HEALING ANOINTING

LUK 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.**

In this passage Luke (who at one time was a physician) draws attention to the healing power of Christ present that day. (v.17) Even though unbelief was present in some of the people (v.21), the power of the Lord was demonstrated as Christ performed miracles. Although a great grievance the sins of self-importance and unbelief was not enough to stop His miracles.

LUK 6:17 And he came down with them, and stood in the plain, and the company of his disciples, and <u>a great</u> multitude of people out of all Judaea and Jerusalem, and from the sea coast of Tyre and Sidon, which **came to** hear him, and to be healed of their diseases;

LUK 6:18 And they that were vexed with unclean spirits: and **they were healed.**

LUK 6:19 And the whole multitude sought to touch him: for there went virtue out of him, and **healed them all**.

Many times we sense an amazing healing anointing in meetings. At these times it is because there is greater faith being released to touch the Healer.

1

God's glory is so real, that the river of God seems to remove any struggle; the Lord heals them all. It is God's desire to use this powerful anointing to heal all the sick; many times there are barriers of unbelief present. (Luk 5:17) When we read (Luk 6:17) we can see a great difference in the people's attitude. Firstly, they came to "hear" for they were hungry for the Word. Secondly, they came to be healed. They possessed the essential ingredient of child-like faith. They came to hear, to be healed, learn and change.

God wants to do His works with excellence. It is not always the problem of congregational unbelief. The Bible clearly says "and healed them all." The truth is that many ministers overstate their true platform performance. Many times it is the lack of Holy Spirit anointing in the lives of the ministers and workers that prevents God from demonstrating His power to heal the sick.

All ministers who desire to access a greater anointing must make sure they have been in-filled with the "Holy Spirit." Many ministers have refused to believe all the teachings of the Bible. The experience of Acts chapter 2 is as real today as it was then. Those who are full of pride and seminary brainwashing receive only mustard seed portions of the power of His Word. Christ's anointed power is received absolutely when ministers humble themselves and access all "Word" requirements including "speaking with tongues." I also add that fasting is required to see ongoing miracles.

LUK 24:49 And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but <u>tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem</u>, **until ye be endued with power from on high.**

We must wait on the Lord to take hold of this "firepower." Jesus asked the disciples to wait (tarry) until they received of His power. The evidence of having received of this power is the "speaking of new tongues." We were given the power of the Holy Spirit (and the many tongues, as evidence of receiving) for a reason. Let's use our new tongues every day to release God's power. The Apostle Paul gives us the KEY.

1COR 14:18 "I thank my God, I speak with tongues more than ye all."

This is one way to prepare our ministry for miracles. Let's build inner faith, "PRAY IN TONGUES"

HEB 1:7 And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels *spirits*, and **his ministers a flame of fire.**

The word for "spirits" is also "winds". At the day of Pentecost there was a sound like "rushing wind". I believe it was an "angelic wind" of visitation sent by God that filled the 120 people that had gathered together. They had purposed to wait in obedience in the upper room for this specific Holy Ghost power. (Act 2:2-4) God wants his ministers to possess the same "flame of fire" flowing in their public ministries.

("ministers"--Gk. "leitourgos" means public worker or labourer.)

It makes little sense to announce that ministers are missionaries sent out to foreign harvest fields if they are attempting to do God's work without Holy Spirit flames of God's fire. The fact is all ministers of the gospel need Holy Spirit in-filled anointing.

ACT 2:39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, even <u>as many as the Lord our God shall call.</u>

God wants everyone to receive not only His salvation, (Act 2:39), but also the power of the Holy Spirit. (Act 2:38b) "and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost."

ACT 4:33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

The Apostles had the same healing anointing as Christ. People noted an incredible liberty to confront and combat sickness and disease with the same power as demonstrated by Christ in (Luke 4:17-18)

HINDRANCES TO LIVING IN DIVINE HEALTH

ISA 33:24 And the inhabitant shall not say, **I am sick**: the people that dwell therein <u>shall be forgiven their</u> <u>iniquity.</u>

Many times ministers are anointed servants and yet the sick do not receive their healing. It is iniquity to constantly tell everyone you are sick or that you feel sick. This is self-seeking behaviour. Such cowardice in confession is not pleasing to God, because God gave provision for all healing at Calvary.

ISA 53:5 But he *was* **wounded for our transgressions**, *he* was **bruised for our iniquities**: the chastisement of our peace *was* upon him; and **with his stripes we are** <u>healed.</u>

Believers must take their healing. His stripes have already healed the sick. See the end of v.5. **"we are healed".** This is present tense, it is a NOW word. If Christ has already done it, why do some accept Calvary's cleansing for sins and then reject the God given provision of healing? We must be mindful of what we are doing. Unbelief gives sickness and disease permission to stay. Sickness is often linked to sin. Jesus took our sins and its associated sickness. **Jesus carried our sicknesses for us**. It means to bear our burden of sickness and disease.

ISA 53:3 He is despised and rejected of men; a man of sorrows, and acquainted with grief; and we hid as it were our faces from him; he was despised, and we esteemed him not.

Read Isa 53:4 This prophecy was fulfilled in Mat 8:16,17.

Now let's read the words of James. (Jas 5:15, 16)

JAS 5:15 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. 16Confess *your* faults one to another, and pray one for another, that ye may be healed.

DIVINE HEALTH

When we serve God and diligently hear and obey His voice and do only what is right and keep God's Word, then God blesses our bread and water with heaven's nourishment and sickness is removed from the household.

Many times sickness comes to households because of disobedience to God's Word. When iniquity is allowed to access your home, sickness is also allowed to take a foothold as well.

The believer must discipline and manage their spiritual "inner man" affairs before an abundant "divine health plan" can be released by faith physically.

PRO 14:23 In all labour there is profit: but **the talk of the lips tendeth only to penury.**

If you talk nonsense and unbelief, you will suffer poverty both physically and spiritually. <u>Notice the</u> <u>way Peter spoke in faith</u>. He was absolute in his conviction. Peter believed that he possessed the necessary healing anointing that could restore the lame man's legs. (Act 3:6)

ACT 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.**

Peter took the man's hand and helped him up in anticipation of the miracle.

ACT 3:7 And he took him by the right hand, and lifted *him* up: and immediately his feet and ankle bones received strength.

INCREASING FAITH

READ: Luke 24:13-18; 25-27; 30-35

(v.15) Jesus drew near to them, even whilst they were speaking unbelief. (v.16) they were so intent in speaking unbelief that they failed to recognize Jesus who was walking along side them. (v.17) Jesus made a direct challenge, **to end the unbelieving talk.**

These disciples were reduced to total unbelief only a few days after the crucifixion. John the Baptist knew the secret:

JN 3:30 He must increase, but I *must* **decrease.** 31 He that cometh from above is above all: he that is of the earth is earthly, and speaketh of the earth: **he that cometh from heaven is above all.**

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

It should not have been necessary for any of the apostles to ask for an increase in faith. Much later Peter makes a much more appropriate statement of faith. "them that have obtained like precious faith".

2 PET 1:1 Simon Peter, a servant and an apostle of Jesus Christ, to them that have obtained like precious

faith with us through the righteousness of God and our Saviour Jesus Christ:

The believers' faith comes from the same source as the apostles' faith. Peter wrote to those of "like precious faith"

COL 1:10 That ye might walk worthy of the Lord unto all pleasing, being fruitful in every good work, and increasing in the knowledge of God;

Increase in the knowledge of God will always result in an increase of faith.

1JN 2:27 But the anointing which ye have received of him <u>abideth in you</u>, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.

The spirit-filled believer must believe he has the same anointing available to him as the apostles of old.

PHIL 3:10 That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;

Paul's secret to increasing his faith was **firstly**, a commitment to know Jesus intimately and **secondly**, to walk in and demonstrate the power of God.

MK 9:24 And straightway the father of the child cried out, and said with tears, Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief

To truly recognize unbelief is to recognize the iniquity of it.

We must take off the cloak of unbelief. We must lay aside the weights.

This is a cloak that must be taken off forever.

HEB 12:1 Wherefore seeing we also are compassed about with so great a cloud of witnesses, **let us lay aside every weight**, and <u>the sin which doth so easily beset us</u>, and **let us run** with patience **the race** that is set before us,

"Oykov" is the Greek word for "weight" i.e. hooked or crooked. Anything attached or suspended by hook by its whole weight must be lifted up so that the hook can be removed. The weight of sin is purposely released so that the believer can run the race.

"easily beset" simply means "unbelief" – iniquity.

1 COR 9:24 Know ye not that **they which run in a race run all**, but **one receiveth the prize**? <u>So run</u>, that ye may obtain.

We cannot run in a race with weights. We are not horses!

PHIL 3:14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

MAT 17:20 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.

Jesus recommended fasting as a means to increase faith and gifting to work in the ministry. (v. 21)

ACT 14:23 And when they had ordained them elders in every church, and had prayed with fasting, they commended them to the Lord, on whom they believed.

Even the ordination of elders was done with a mind towards the will of God. <u>They only ordained them</u> <u>after prayer and fasting</u>. It was important to appoint the right men chosen of God. When it comes to leadership in the church, it should never be the people's choice.

Many Christians live in slavery to food. Some eat so much they dull any ability to serve God to their full potential. The great men of the Bible rationed their food.

(Elijah, Moses, John the Baptist, Paul, and of course, Jesus.)

2COR 11:27 In weariness and painfulness, in watchings often, in hunger and thirst, **in fastings often**, in cold and nakedness.

It is one of the last day "signs". People they are "eating and drinking" today just as they were in Noah's day before the God's judgment of the flood.

MAT 28:38 "For as in the days that were **before the flood they were eating and drinking**, marrying and giving in marriage, **until the day that Noe entered into the ark**, "

LUK 21:34 "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares."

Man has surrendered to "surfeiting" or excess eating. This lifestyle ushers in a "preoccupation with self" and the caring for one's own life.

GLUTTONY: the lust for food.

Esau lost everything for lentils. Appetite felled Adam Food was used to tempt Jesus.

NUM 11:4 And the mixt multitude that *was* among them fell a lusting: and the children of Israel also wept again, and said, **Who shall give us flesh to eat**? **5We**

remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlick: 6But now our soul *is* dried away: *there is* nothing at all, beside this manna, *before* our eyes.

DEUT 21:20 And they shall say unto the elders of his city, This <u>our son *is* stubborn and rebellious</u>, he will not obey our voice; *he is* a glutton, and a drunkard.

<u>Gluttony and drunkenness is linked to rebellion and</u> <u>stubbornness.</u>

Fasting can rid the believer of all rebellious behaviour.

Food is not as important as you think.

"Air" is our most urgent need.

"Water" is the second necessity.

"Rest or sleep" is the third and

"Food" is fourth and last.

Spiritual maturity demands WE not make FOOD our FIRST priority!

Some verses on Fasting: Ezra 8:21-23; Isa 58:6; Dan 6:8; John 3:5; 2 Chr 20:3; Jud 20:26; Joel 1:14; Neh 1:4; Luk 4:1-4; Mat 6:16; Mark 9:29; 1 Cor 7:5; 2 Cor 6:4-5

THE TEMPLE MAN

1 SAM 3:1 And the child Samuel **ministered unto the LORD before Eli**. And **the word of the LORD was precious in those days**; there *was* no open vision.

Ministry for Samuel began under the tutorage of Eli. Some people don't like the idea of working under supervision. The fact is that God sees it as ministry unto the Lord. **If we work under the authority of a man of God, God will promote us in due time and give us our own ministry**. (1 Sam 3:19-20)

1 COR 6:19 What? know ye not that **your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost** *which is* in you, which ye have of God, and **ye are not your own**? 20 For ye are **bought with a price**: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.

The Bible says that our bodies are His temple designed to be filled with His Holy Spirit. We were created for Holy Spirit in-filling. We do not belong to ourselves; the awesome task of glorifying God in body and spirit is our daily challenge.

PHIL 1:20 According to my earnest expectation and *my* hope, **that in nothing I shall be ashamed**, but *that* with all boldness, as always, *so* now also **Christ shall be magnified in my body, whether** *it be* **by life, or by death.**

Paul desired that his dedication to the ministry bring no shame to the work of Christ. He was determined to magnify Christ and honour Him whether living or dying.

LUK 24:49 "And, behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem, **until ye be endued with power** from on high.

The "temple body" of the believer works better when endured with Holy Spirit power. This is the reason Jesus wanted the disciples to receive the power of the Holy Spirit baptism before engaging in ministry work beyond the city.

1 COR 5:17 Therefore if any man *be* in Christ, *he is* **a new creature: old things are passed away**; behold, all things are become new.

Some "new-born" believers have trouble believing the new creature is a reality. The fact is "in Christ" the old things of yesterday have passed away.

EPH 4:22-22 That ye **put off concerning the former conversation the old man**, which is corrupt according to the deceitful lusts; 23 And **be renewed in the spirit of your mind**; 24 And that ye **put on the new man**, which after God is created in righteousness and true holiness.

Paul gave the Ephesian believers three key steps in

1

which to guarantee spiritual progress:

- 1. <u>Put off the old man</u>. Yesterday is over and finished. The way the old man lived, lusted and talked has passed away. (1 Cor 5;17)
- 2. We must now <u>be renewed in the spirit of our</u> <u>mind</u>. The reading of His Word will bring this transformation. The mind is therefore Word washes and renewed.
- 3. <u>We now put on the new man</u>. It is like putting on a new coat after the old one is discarded.

ROM 6:13 Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: **but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead**, and your members *as* instruments of righteousness unto God.

Walking in the "new" spiritual man can only be done by yielding to God. Seek His kingdom first. (Matt 6:13) These steps are crucial to understanding what it will mean to live as a temple minded man. Yielded instruments are the ones that put on the new man by obedience. Only then are they used as "instruments of righteousness". God has no favorites, but He loves obedience.

HEB 4:14 Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast *our* profession.

HEB 3:1 Wherefore, holy brethren, partakers of the heavenly calling, **consider the Apostle and High Priest of our profession, Christ Jesus**

Gk. Word for "profession" is "confession". The consideration of Christ as our "high priest" always helps us to walk upright. Our confession of Him is the beginning of the fear of God, which is paramount to progress. Those who fear God walk with God.

EPH 3:19 And to know the love of Christ, which passeth knowledge, **that ye might be filled with all the fulness of** <u>God.</u>

The love of Christ changes our desires; we now desire God's fullness.

1 JN 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.

It is Satan's job to convince believers that they are not being used of God (1 Jn 4:6) **"We are of God"**. God is greater in us than any other persuasions of the devil. We are not schizophrenic in our spirit. If we live for God; we are of God. If God speaks to us it is of God. Samuel was indeed hearing God speak to him, even though he was a young child. (1 Sam 3: 3-12) **1 COR 4:16** For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet **the inward** *man* **is renewed day by day.**

What a great confidence builder. As we fellowship with Christ, the inward man is being renewed every day. The inner man was created by God to be strengthened with "spirit might".

EPH 3:16 That he would grant you, according to the riches of his glory, to be **strengthened with might by his Spirit in the inner man;**

We can serve God religiously like Eli and yet allow the inner-man to decay like our outer man.

1 SAM 3:1 And the word of the LORD was precious in those days; *there was* no open vision. 2 And it came to pass at that time, when Eli *was* laid down in his place, and his eyes began to wax dim, *that* he could not see.

Eli was a man that lived within religious ritual. He lost his personal walk with God. Eli reached a point in his life where he could no longer hear the voice of God for himself. Eli's personal weaknesses were more than physical. Being overweight may have caused some of his blindness, however, his moral failure in allowing his sons to dishonour God's name without intervention meant that God was forced to remove him from the work of God. God's judgment was swift; both Eli and his sons died the same day. (Sam 4:10-18)

God found young Samuel much more receptive.

ROM 8:4 That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit. 5 For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit. 6 For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be spiritually minded *is* life and peace.

Those that serve God in ministry are on view by the congregation. Those who consistently yield to the flesh have no right to any position of ministry.

ROM 6:12 Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. 13 Neither yield ye your members *as* instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but **yield yourselves unto God**, as those that are alive from the dead, and **your members** *as* **instruments of righteousness** unto God.

The ability to yield to God should not be considered a weakness. The fact is that we must all learn the value of "yielding" to God. Yielded men are strong men. Mortal bodies must yield as "**instruments of righteousness**".

1 COR 2:12 Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

1

13 Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual. 14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know *them*, because they are spiritually discerned.

Carnal Christians are those who are partly ruled by their senses. They are still living in the flesh in "the spirit of the world" and have not yet apprehended those spiritual things that are freely given of God. God wants to speak to us as spiritual people. He is desirous of increasing our level of maturity. **Meat goes with maturity. Milk goes with carnality.** Men that know God and desire the meat of the Word will bring forth effective, powerful ministry in the church.

1 COR 3:1 And I, brethren, **could not speak unto you as unto spiritual, but as unto carnal**, *even* as unto babes in Christ. 2 I have fed you with milk, and not with meat: for hitherto ye were not able *to bear it*, neither yet now are ye able. 3 For ye are yet carnal: for whereas *there is* among you envying, and strife, and divisions, **are ye not carnal, and walk as men**?

PSA 24:7 Lift up your heads, O ye gates; and be ye lift up, ye everlasting doors; and the King of glory shall come in. 8 Who *is* this King of glory? <u>The LORD strong and mighty, the LORD mighty in battle.</u>

MINISTERIAL GIFTING

READ EPHESIANS 3:3-10

EPH 3:7 Whereof <u>I was made a minister</u>, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power. 8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, <u>that I should preach</u> among the Gentiles <u>the unsearchable riches</u> of Christ;

God desires to make effective ministers by giving men and women gifting for ministry. Unfortunately, the ministry is made up of men and women without supernatural gifting in operation. The scripture is clear on what ministry is and how it comes into being. God also chooses those who the world would not necessarily choose. Paul said he was "the least of the saints", but God gave him the ability to preach "the unsearchable riches" of Christ.

EPH 4:11 And **he gave some**, apostles; **and some**, prophets; **and some**, evangelists; **and some**, pastors and teachers; 12For **the perfecting of the saints**, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ:

Also READ 1 Corinthians 12:27-31

1 COR 12:28 And **God hath set some in the church**, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues.

The Bible says in verse 31, "earnestly COVET the **best** GIFTS."

God only calls a certain number of gifted "ascension" ministries.

"he gave some" (Eph 4:11)

"he hath set some" (1Cor 12:28)

There are not many called into higher ministry. God must gift them first. God put miracle power into the hands of Moses and then instructed him to go into Egypt and set His people free. God called Paul and Barnabas to do missionary work in a prayer meeting filled with prophets and teachers. They obviously had been preaching and teaching for some time. (Acts 13:1,2)

ACT 13:1 Now there were in the church that was at Antioch **certain prophets and teachers**; as Barnabas, and Simeon that was called Niger, and Lucius of Cyrene, and Manaen, which had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. 2 As they ministered to the Lord, and fasted, **the Holy Ghost said**, <u>Separate me Barnabas</u> and Saul for the work whereunto I have called them.

ROM 12:6 Having then **gifts differing** according to the grace that is given to us, whether prophecy, *let us prophesy* according to the proportion of faith; 70r

ministry, *let us wait* on *our* ministering: or he that teacheth, on teaching;

There are different ministry gifts given by God, and variations in faith levels of those gifts, making variations in the effectiveness of the ministers.

2 TIM 2:20 But in a great house there are not only **vessels of gold and of silver, but also of wood and of earth; and some to honour, and some to dishonour**. 21 If a man therefore **purge himself** from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, sanctified, and **meet for the master's use,** *and* **prepared unto every good work.**

The honourable vessel is the properly prepared vessel meet for the master's use. The self-purging prepares the vessel. (v.21)

ACT 9:15 But the Lord said unto him, "Go thy way: for **he is a chosen vessel** unto me, **to bear my name** before the Gentiles, and kings, and the children of Israel:"

Paul was a chosen vessel that would bear (carry) the name of God too many classes of people.

LUK 5:3 And he entered into one of the ships, which was Simons, and prayed him that he would thrust out a little from the land. And he sat down, and taught the people out of the ship. 4Now when he had left speaking, **he said unto Simon, "Launch out into the deep**, and let down your nets for a draught." 5And Simon

answering said unto him, Master, we have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: **nevertheless at thy word** I will let down the net.

Peter experienced the greatest fishing catch of his life. This natural miracle of provision was beyond his natural fishing ability. He was being made ready to "catch men" - (Luke 5:10)

JN 7:15 And the Jews marvelled, saying, How knoweth this man letters, having never learned? 16 Jesus answered them, and said, "My doctrine is not mine, but his that sent me."

Jesus spoke wisdom that must have given people the idea that He had studied with the professors of his day. When we study and teach God's Word we will speak like educated men. Wisdom and knowledge ultimately comes from God. The Word of Wisdom proceeds from the throne of God.

ISA 50:4 The Lord GOD hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to *him that is* weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.

ACT 4:13 Now when **they saw the boldness** of Peter and John, and **perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men,** they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that **they had been with Jesus**.

Peter and John may have been uneducated men, but the people recognized their gifting and anointing.

1 COR 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**:

JAS 1:5 If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all *men* liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.

I believe that God included Proverbs in the Old Testament to increase our wisdom.

ROM 11:29 For the gifts and calling of God *are* without repentance.

If we stay within the boundaries of our calling our anointed spiritual gifts are permanent.

MK 4:24 And he said unto them, "**Take heed what ye hear**: with what measure ye mete, it shall be measured to you: and **unto you that hear shall more be given.**"

MAT 10:20 "For it is not ye that speak, but the Spirit of your Father which speaketh in you. "

MAT 10:7 "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**.

1

1 TIM 4:14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

15 Meditate upon these things; give thyself wholly to them; that thy profiting may appear to all. 16 Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee.

2 TIM 1:6 Wherefore I put thee in remembrance that thou **stir up the gift of God, which is in thee** by the putting on of my hands.

Our spiritual gifts must be continually stirred to keep the freshness of the river of God flowing in our spirit. A fresh spirit invites spiritual revelation.

1 TIM 1:18 This charge I commit unto thee, son Timothy, <u>according to the prophecies</u> which went before on thee, **that thou by them mightest war a good warfare**;

Ministry is spiritual warfare. Good warfare can only be achieved by using all the spiritual gifting that God has given you. Timothy's gifts came by Paul's prophetic office. Paul's prophetic word was sure and Timothy needed to walk in it.

ACT 19:6 And when Paul had laid *his* hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and **they spake with tongues, and prophesied**. 7And all the men were

about twelve.

So often spirit-filled believers only use a small portion of what God gives them. The twelve disciples that Paul prayed for received more than an ability to speak with new tongues. They prophesied as well. Paul's anointing gave him the ability to impart spiritual gifts. It is the believers' responsibility to use all the gifts freely given of God.

Mat 10:8 Heal the sick, cleanse the lepers, raise the dead, cast out devils: freely ye have received, freely give.

Note the phrase:

"Freely ye have received, freely give."

OUR PROPHETIC HERITAGE

Before believers can be used as God's Prophetic mouthpieces, they must have an intimacy with God. God's Son, the "Head Prophet" will anoint their voices with His prophetic words.

DEUT 18:15 The LORD thy **God will raise up unto thee a Prophet** from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; **unto him ye shall hearken**;

Moses <u>prophesied</u> that God would raise up an anointed Prophet. He would set a standard for a life of holiness.

DEUT 18:18 I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; **and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him**. 19 And it shall come to pass, *that* whosoever will not hearken unto my words, which he shall speak in my name, I will require *it* of him.

Moses gave instructions demanding separation from all ungodly spirit-practices. This would ultimately increase the standard for spiritual living among God's people that would usher in "the prophetic". God expected every heathen demonic practice of the old life be discarded in order that the voice of God could come forth. This has not changed; those ones called of God and desiring to be used as a mouthpiece for God must rid themselves totally of all the practices of the old life.

Deu 18:13 Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God.

God considered this perfect foundation necessary for **future Prophetic ministry.**

MAT 17:5 While he yet spake, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them: and behold a voice out of the cloud, which said, **This is my beloved Son**, in whom I am well pleased; **hear ye him**.

God commanded the disciples to hear the words of His beloved Son, the Lord Jesus Christ.

DEUT 18:15 The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, **like unto me**; unto him ye shall hearken;

"Like unto me" Simply a man that maintains a close walk with God, who speaks to God face to face.

To be continually used of God in the prophetic realm, we must maintain an intimate relationship to God. When we practice spiritual intimacy, we will hear His voice for the purpose of passing on God's prophetic message. **ACT 3:22** For Moses truly said unto the fathers, A prophet shall the Lord your God raise up unto you of your brethren, like unto me; **him shall ye hear in all things whatsoever he shall say unto you.**

ACT 3:23 And it shall come to pass, *that* every soul, which will not hear that prophet, shall be destroyed from among the people.

DEUT 18:14 For these nations, which thou shalt possess, hearkened unto observers of times, and unto diviners: but as for thee, **the LORD thy God hath not suffered thee so** *to do*.

DEUT 18:13 Thou shalt be perfect with the LORD thy God.

MAT 5:48 "Be **ye therefore perfect**, even as your Father who is in heaven is perfect.

Inner man perfection comes by separating ourselves from everything in this world that hinders your ability to hear from God.

If you are not able to hear God speak clearly, you should not presume to speak prophetically.

The church members should be able to recognize the "sound of prophetic anointing".

To be used of God in spiritual gifts, we must not only believe we are the sons of God (Gal 4:6), but the anointed sons of God. (1 Jn 2:20;27) **1 JN 3:1 Behold, what manner of love the Father hath bestowed upon us**, that we should be called the sons of God: therefore the world knoweth us not, because it knew him not.

It is impossible to give ourselves to the ministry if we don't believe we are sons of God.

READ: John 1:12, Gal 3:26, Rom 8:17, Gal 4:6, 7

GAL 4:6 And because ye are sons, God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts, crying, Abba, Father. 7 Wherefore thou art **no more a servant, but a son**; and if a son, then an heir of God through Christ.

EPH 2:19 Now therefore **ye are no more strangers** and foreigners, **but fellowcitizens with the saints**, and **of the household of God**;

20And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief corner *stone*;

1 JN 2:27 But **the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you**, and ye need not that any man teach you: but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, **ye shall abide in him**.

This believers' anointing is upon all spirit-filled believers. When we abide "in Christ" we are able to operate at any spiritual at ministerial level according to our faith.

HOW CAN I RECEIVE A PROPHETIC GIFT?

The Gift of the Holy Spirit makes the way for this gifting. (See Act 19:6)

ACT 19:6 And when Paul had laid *his* hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and **they spake** with tongues, and <u>prophesied</u>.

Paul's apostolic anointing ushered the disciples of John into prophetic voice immediately after receiving the in-filling of the Holy Spirit. Prophecy is one of the easiest of the oral gifts. The "laying on of hands" is one way to receive this gift. Having received the promise of (Act 2:39) every tonguespeaking believer should be encouraged to prophesy. Being the sons of God, we have the authority to speak on God's behalf.

ACT 2:39 For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all that are afar off, *even* as many as the Lord our God shall call.

"The Promise" was the gift of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit gives us the "fire". The fire gives us the ability. **HEB 1:7** And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and **his ministers a flame of fire.**

EZE 3:17 Son of man, I have made thee a watchman unto the house of Israel: therefore hear the word at my mouth, and give them warning from me.

As a watchman, Ezekiel was not only praying, but he was engaged in hearing everything that God had to say to him. Only after Ezekial had received God's divine message, could he go and tell the people what God had said.

LUK 10:23 And he turned him unto *his* disciples, and said privately, "Blessed *are* the eyes which see the things that ye see:"

24 "For I tell you, that many prophets and kings have desired to see those things which ye see, and have not seen *them;* and to hear those things which ye hear, and have not heard *them*.

... freely ye have received, freely give. (Matt 10:8)

We do not have the right to isolate God's word and miracle power to a selected few.

We must minister His word to all peoples worldwide.

PENTECOSTAL POWER

- Mar 16:14 Afterward he appeared unto the eleven as they sat at meat, and upbraided them with their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they believed not them which had seen him after he was risen.
- Mar 16:15 And he said unto them, Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature.
- Mar 16:16 He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned.
- Mar 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; In my name shall they cast out devils; they shall speak with new tongues;
- Mar 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.
- Mar 16:19 So then after the Lord had spoken unto them, he was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.
- Mar 16:20 And they went forth, and preached every where, the Lord working with *them*, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

These scriptures at the end of Mark's gospel contain some of the hardest hitting phrases. Christians and Bible students should learn these verses.

1) Jesus rebuked the Apostles for unbelief and stubbornness of heart. Even anointed Apostles sometimes need a little challenging rebuke. These men were handpicked gifted Apostles, who needed to be sent into the harvest fields of the world.

2) He reminded the Apostles of the fundamentals. <u>He that believes and is baptised shall be saved and</u> <u>he that doesn't believe shall be damned</u>. This is the primary evangelistic message for all believers. A wise believer will witness even to family members.

3) <u>Signs and wonders shall follow them that believe</u>. All Apostolic (missionaries) ministers should have signs following their ministries. Otherwise, stop telling people you are a missionary.

4) **They shall speak with tongues.** Surely Jesus didn't say this! Yes, He did (Mk 16:17b). It's time that all believers worldwide saw these verses as present day truth. If Jesus prophesied it, then it's for every believer worldwide.

5) **They shall lay hands on the sick**. Let us give God the glory for being "The Healer". The sick will recover when we pray believing.

6) Immediately after Jesus had ascended to the right hand of God, the disciples began to preach everywhere seeing signs, wonders and miracles.

ACT 6:8 And Stephen, full of faith and power, did great wonders and miracles among the people.

The reason for Stephen's effective ministry was his preparation. He just wanted to be available to work for God. When you're working with anointed servants of God, waiting on tables should be considered as privileged work. He saw signs and wonders every day. He learned faith from the apostles. (See Act 6:2-6) The Apostles had laid hands on them.

ACT 6:4 But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word.

ACT 6:6 Whom they set before **the apostles**: and when they had prayed, **they laid** *their* **hands on them**.

ACT 8:6 And the people with one accord gave heed unto those things which Philip spake, hearing and seeing the miracles which he did.

HEB 2:4 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?

It is worthy to note in Acts 8:6 that the miracles convinced the people of God's reality. They all gave heed to what Philip preached.

God will give to dedicated men and women spiritual gifts to do the mighty miracles.

JOH 10:37 If I do not the works of my Father, **believe me not**. 38 But if I do, though ye believe not me, **believe the works**: that ye may know, and believe, that the Father is in me, and I in him.

What Jesus possessed was a confidence in his own ministry. He believed that the greater works would be produced as He ministered to the people.

Some people will choose not believe the Word of God, even when they see miracles first hand. Jesus said, "<u>believe the works</u>". No one else could do such miracles, so it had to be God at work. It is imperative that people believe in His name. Miracles will help. (Act 8:6)

ACT 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:

JER 32:21 And hast brought forth thy people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs, and with wonders, and with a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with great terror;

PSA 106:7 Our fathers **understood not thy wonders in Egypt**; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked *him* at the sea, *even* at the Red sea. 8 Nevertheless <u>he saved them for his name's sake</u>, that he might make his mighty power to be known.

ISA 8:18 Behold, **I and the children whom the LORD** hath given me *are* for signs and for wonders in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in mount Zion.

We are the children spoken about in this prophecy.

We are to work the signs today to bring the message of God to this lost world. God wants to use every believer in signs, wonders and miracles.

The only credential you need is faith in God; everyone with faith can fulfill this prophecy.

MK 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe.

ACT 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; 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*. 5 And he gave heed unto them, expecting to receive something of them. 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.

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. 9 And all the people saw him walking and praising God:

Peter was in possession of a healing anointing that came from many hours of daily prayer. He was not only filled with The Holy Spirit, but he was filled with a passion for God. He believed in miracles. He practiced miracles. (Act 3:7)

ACT 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?

ACT 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.

Like Peter we need to take advantage of God's anointing; the miraculous power within. Whilst we talk about the miracles, we are giving witness of Christ's life within. (Act 3:16) Faith in the name of Christ was the catalyst for this creative miracle.

ACT 4:2 Being grieved that they taught the people, and preached through Jesus the resurrection from the dead. 3 And they laid hands on them, <u>and put them in</u> <u>hold unto the next day</u>: for it was now eventide. 4 Howbeit many of them which heard the word believed; and the number of the men was about five thousand.

7 And when they had set them in the midst, they asked, **By what power, or by what name, have ye done this**?

8 Then **Peter, filled with the Holy Ghost, said unto them**, Ye rulers of the people, and elders of Israel,

ACT 4:13 Now when they saw the boldness of Peter and John, and perceived that they were unlearned and ignorant men, they marvelled; and they took knowledge of them, that they had been with Jesus.

ACT 4:20 For we cannot but speak the things which we have seen and heard.

Like Peter and John we will witness only what we see and hear. We have to see miracles to talk about them. If we talk about miracles we bring the life of God into our conversation. This increases faith in others.

THE HEIRS OF GOD

Those who are led by the Holy Spirit are the followers of the True Shepherd. Those who willingly walk with the True Shepherd will experience every aspect of Psalm 23.

PSA 23:1 The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

ROM 8:14 For **as many as are led** by the Spirit of God, **they are the sons of God**.

Those who are wanton are not living as the sons of God.

ROM 8:15 For ye have not received the spirit of bondage again to fear; but ye have received <u>the Spirit</u> <u>of adoption</u>, whereby we cry, <u>Abba, Father</u>.

As Christian believers we should not be bound to anything. Once set free it is sin to return the old restricted lifestyle that caused our bondage. In Christ we have not only received cleansing from sins, but have been given son-ship by adoption.

ROM 8:16 The Spirit itself beareth witness with our spirit, that we are the children of God:ROM 8:17 And if children, then heirs; heirs of God, and joint-heirs with Christ; if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together.

As God's position in heaven never changes, our position as sons in the greatest family on earth can never change. We are heirs of His kingdom!

GAL 4:7 Wherefore **thou art no more a servant, but a son**; and <u>if a son, then an **heir of God**</u> through Christ.

Servants have no privileges. Servants are not given inheritance.

GAL 3:28 There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female; for <u>ye are all one in Christ Jesus</u>.

GAL 3:29 And if ye be Christ's, then are ye Abraham's seed, and heirs according to the promise.

READ: John 15:1-8

As sons of God we are expected to behave responsibly and act as sons.

This <u>walk of obedience</u> is spoken of as **"abiding in Christ."**

JN 15:4 Abide in me, and I in you.. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me.

JN 15:5 I am the vine, ye are the branches: <u>He that</u> <u>abideth in me</u>, and I in him, <u>the same bringeth forth</u> <u>much fruit;</u> for without me ye can do nothing.

The true disciples (sons) are His fruit bearers. We should not only be good looking flowering branches, but fruit bearing branches. (Jn 15:8)

JN 15:8 Herein is my Father glorified, <u>that ye bear</u> much fruit; so shall ye be my disciples.

The fruit bearers are known as true disciples. True disciples are bloodline sons. As joint-heirs of God we must multiply as heirs of God.

JN 15:14 Ye are **my friends**, if ye do whatsoever I command you. 15 "Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but **I have called you friends**; for all things that I have heard of my Father **I have made known unto you**."

Servants are not told what is in God's mind, but as friends of God we are told the secret things by revelation.

Friends are usually a blessing. Blessing is that which is usually added to you. A true friend will add something to your life. Those who continually take your blessing are not usually considered as friends.

Friendship with Christ will always add the true riches of the heavenly realm to your life.

THE CROSS

LUK 9:23 And he said to *them* all, "If any *man* will come after me, let him deny himself, and **take up his cross** daily, and follow me."

It is a choice that the believer makes every day.

It is the choosing of God's way before man's ways.

PRO 14:12 There is a way which seemeth **right** unto a man, but the end thereof *are* the ways of death.

HEB 12:2 Looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of *our* faith; who for the joy that was set before him **endured the cross, despising the shame**, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Jesus did not have to endure the cross. He could have released twelve legions of angels to rescue Him. (Matt 26:53-54) **The only way that prophetic** written scripture could be fulfilled was by Christ's obedience.

HEB 11:25 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 <u>respect</u> <u>unto the recompence of the reward.</u>

Moses chose affliction or (the way of the cross) for two reasons.

- 1. He esteemed the reproach of Christ as being a greater personal treasure than all the treasures that would have been offered to him in Egypt. (Heb 11:24-26)
- 2. He had a respect of the recompense of heavenly reward. (1 Cor 3:13-14)

1 COR 3:13 Every man's work shall be made manifest: for the day shall declare it, because it shall be revealed by fire; and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. 14 If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward.

ACT 20:22 And now, behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there: 23 Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying that bonds and afflictions abide me. 24 But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy, and the ministry, which I have received of the Lord Jesus, to testify the gospel of the grace of God.

Paul was called of God to suffering before he became an Apostle. (Acts 9:15) This way of life was confirmed by prophecy in many cities. (v.23) Paul was determined to finish what God had given him to do. He respected the call of God. (v.24b) God's ministry gifts must be available to others even in extreme tiredness. (Jn 4:6-30)

The whole city was revived because Jesus allowed His spiritual gifts to be released to the woman at the well.

MAT 14:13 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. 14And Jesus went forth, and saw a great multitude, and was moved with compassion toward them, and he healed their sick.

Ministry demands are great. Jesus had no time to grieve over John the Baptist. The people followed Him into the desert where He healed them.

MK 10:45 "For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many.

JN 19:6 When the chief priests therefore and officers saw him, they cried out, saying, Crucify *him*, crucify *him*. Pilate saith unto them, **Take ye him, and crucify** *him:* for I find no fault in him.

JN 19:16 Then delivered he him therefore unto them to be crucified. And they took Jesus, and led *him* away. 17And **he bearing his cross went forth into a place called** *the place* of a skull, which is called in the Hebrew Golgotha:

Pilate found no fault in Christ Jesus. For the scriptures to be fulfilled in the ministry of Christ Jesus, He willing took up His cross and walked to Golgotha.

READ Isa 53:2-10. Christ demonstrated personal denial.

MK 8:34 And when he had called the people *unto him* with his disciples also, he said unto them, "Whosoever will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me."

THE LANGUAGE OF FAITH

An attitude of spiritual idleness leads to the speaking of idle words.

Many believers fail to see the spiritual consequences of the following verses.

MAT 12:36 "But I say unto you, That every idle word that men shall speak, they shall give account thereof in the day of judgment." 37 "For by thy words thou shalt be justified, and by thy words thou shalt be condemned.

PRO 13:3 He that keepeth his mouth keepeth his life: *but* he that openeth wide his lips shall have destruction.

JAS 1:19 Wherefore, my beloved brethren, let every man be swift to hear, <u>slow to speak</u>, <u>slow to wrath</u>:

MAT 12:34 "O generation of vipers, how can ye, being evil, speak good things? for out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh."

If we contradict God's word we reject His blessings. Some people constantly confess sickness.

When we talk about our sicknesses we are glorifying the Devil himself. We have simply reduced ourselves to being "sympathy seekers". We've decided that "self seeking" is a better practice than "God seeking". It is not a wise practice to be over sympathetic with those who are sick or to identify with their every pain. As ministers of Christ we must stand on the "grounds of substitution" and command the sickness and pain to leave.

JOS 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.

JOS 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. 6 Be strong and of a good courage:

LK 10:19 "Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and **over all the power of the enemy**: and nothing shall by any means hurt you."

We can only take possession with "mountain moving faith".

LK 1:37 For with God nothing shall be impossible.

MAT 17:20 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**."

ISA 54:17 No weapon that is formed against thee shall prosper; and every tongue *that* shall rise against thee in judgment thou shalt condemn. This *is* the heritage of the servants of the LORD, and their righteousness *is* of me, saith the LORD.

Every spirit-filled believer has been given a "faith heritage". We are conquerors because Jesus conquered. We have the right to condemn every kind of weapon that rises against us. The more of our inner life He possesses, the more we given the ability to conquer by faith.

ROM 8:37 Nay, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him that loved us.

The Word of God must become our "faith language". Proper Word confession will change our life and ministry. **Speaking faith cancels fear**.

PSA 27:1 The LORD *is* my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? the LORD *is* the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

Paul preached a "faith word" because his life was a "faith filled life".

ROM 10:8 But what saith it? **The word is nigh thee**, *even* in thy mouth, and in thy heart: that is, **the word of faith, which we preach**;

The Word of God is so close that it is actually part of our life. We control it and activate it by faith. It is already in our mouth, because it is in our hearts. This is the platform from where we activate the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The heavenly realm is therefore part of our life and this "river of revelation" is ready to flow from God. Tongues, visions, new songs of the Holy Spirit, prophecy, the Word of knowledge, the Word of faith, the Word of wisdom is all part of our life. This is the blessing of God, ready to be released by faith.

THE LORD THAT HEALETH

Jehovah-Rapha "The Lord that Healeth Thee"

EX 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.

PSA 103:3 Who forgiveth all thine iniquities; who healeth all thy diseases;

PSA 105:37 He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and *there was* not one feeble *person* among their tribes.

Knowledge of God's Word is not enough to bring freedom from sickness. We must walk in the truth of it until there is not one shadow of unbelieving talk.

JN 8:32 "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free.

ACT 4:33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: and great grace was upon them all.

This "Great grace" means "miracle anointing."

ACT 4:29 And now, Lord, behold their threatenings: and grant unto thy servants, that with all boldness they may speak thy word, **30 By stretching forth thine hand to heal**; and <u>that signs and wonders may be done by the name of thy holy child Jesus.</u>

ACT 5:12 And **by the hands of the apostles** were many signs and wonders wrought among the people;

ACT 5:16 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**.

HEB 2:4 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?

1 COR 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:**

Paul was not interested in "ministerial manipulative words" when he was preaching. He looked to God to demonstrate His power. He lived and worked within the boundaries of the power of God.

1 COR 2:55 That **your faith** should not **stand in** the wisdom of men, but in **the power of God.**

Christ came to fulfill His Father's Will. In so doing He ministered every Word given to Him by God. When it is delivered from God it has power.

God's desire is to use us as vessels to heal the sick! Many times we are the only ones that God can use to heal. Let's be clear on this issue.

We are the ones that do the healing.

Most of God's ministers are not medical doctors; but as children of God we are the chosen anointed vessels.

We have no right to refuse to heal the sick.

MAT 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:** 17 That it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Esaias the prophet, saying, Himself took our infirmities, **and bare** *our* **sicknesses.**

ACT 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.

As God was with Christ, God is with us. **God wants** to fulfill His promise. Doing good works has a much higher order to it than we might think. It is healing the sick and casting out devils. In many cases it is the kind of work that even medical doctors, psychiatrists, psychologists can not do.

God's anointed river cleanses and makes whole.

NUM 23:19 ...hath he said, and shall he not do *it*? ...shall he not make it good?

Missionaries are not usually called to feed the poor. As ministers we are called to heal the whole man, body, soul and spirit.

THE POWER OF HOLINESS

Jesus prayed alone to maintain His ministry anointing. Known as the Son of the highest (Luk 1:32) before birth and as the King of Kings during His ministry even this earthly position was not enough to maintain His relationship to God.

JN 6:15 When Jesus therefore perceived that they would come and take him by force, to make him a king, **he departed again into a mountain himself alone**.

Those with an anointing to heal the sick need not advertise it.

MAT 8:3 And Jesus put forth *his* hand, and touched him, saying, "I will; be thou clean." And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. 4And 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.

MAT 9:30 And their eyes were opened; and Jesus straitly charged them, saying, "See *that* no man know *it* "

READ: Mat 12:16

MK 3:11 And unclean spirits, when they saw him, fell down before him, and cried, saying, Thou art the Son of

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

Christ will only reward believers on the basis of holiness.

MAT 7:22 "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?" 23 "And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity.

We should read the character of spiritual men:

2 COR 3:2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts, known and read of all men:

ROM 2:24 For the name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles through you, as it is written.

Sanctification maintains our relationship to God:

PSA 51:10 Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. 11 Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. 12 Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me *with thy* free spirit. 13 *Then* will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee.

1 PET 3:15 But sanctify the Lord God in your

1

hearts: and *be* ready always to *give* an answer to every man that asketh you a reason of the hope that is in you with meekness and fear:

TIT 1:15 Unto the pure all things *are* pure: but unto them that are defiled and unbelieving *is* nothing pure; but even their mind and conscience is defiled. 16 They profess that they know God; but in works they deny *him*, being abominable, and disobedient, and unto every good work reprobate.

PSA 104:2 Who coverest *thyself* with light as *with* a garment: who stretchest out the heavens like a curtain:

We cannot claim to have a life of holiness and live in darkness. The heavens may look black, but God lives within His own radiance of glory. It is not possible to live in two dimensions at the same time.

1 JN 1:5 This then is the message which we have heard of him, and declare unto you, **that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all**.

We are His firstfruits of His holiness; we were spiritually re-born to live in His holiness.

JAS 1:16 Do not err, my beloved brethren. 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. 18 Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that **we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.**

WORD MINISTERS

1 COR 9:16 For though I preach the gospel, I have nothing to glory of: for necessity is laid upon me; yea, **woe is unto me, if I preach not the gospel**! 17 For if I do this thing willingly, I have a reward: but if against my will, a dispensation *of the gospel* is committed unto me. 18 What is my reward then? *Verily* that, when I preach the gospel, I may make the gospel of Christ without charge, that I abuse not my power in the gospel.

The true (approved) ministers are those who preach from a personal conviction (passion) that they are indeed called of God to minister the Word of God.

2 COR 5:14 For the love of Christ constraineth us;

2 COR 6:3 Giving no offence in any thing, that the ministry be not blamed:

Even Paul, who was a preacher of excellence, encountered misunderstanding. The more the Apostle showed love the less he was appreciated.

2 COR 12:15 And I will very gladly spend and be spent for you; though the more abundantly I love you, the less I be loved.

EPH 3:7 Whereof **I was made a minister**, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

1

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;

1 THES 2:7 But we were gentle among you, even as a nurse cherisheth her children:

1 TIM 2:7 Whereunto I am ordained a preacher, and an apostle, (I speak the truth in Christ, *and* lie not;) a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and verity.

Paul was not ordained by man. Ultimately ministers should be called and ordained of God. (Act 9:15; 22:14, 21)

1TIM 4:12 Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. 13 Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine. 14 Neglect not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery.

Timothy was separated and ordained to the ministry by the presbytery. Paul encouraged him to study and not neglect the gift of God. Prophesy by-passes natural knowledge and experience. Paul wasn't concerned about Timothy's age. It matters not what man thinks. Age has nothing to do with ministry readiness. (Jer 1:6-7) We must think in terms of God's calling and anointing for the ministry. Preparation for the ministry takes time. Note these scriptures. (1Tim 4:13; 2Tim 2:15)

Other scriptures: Deut 31:7; Mat 10:9; 1 Thes 3:2; Rom 1:14-15; Act 6:2; 10:42; 16:4; 20:28; 26:16-18; Mat 28:19-20

THERE IS A RIVER

PSA 64:4 *There is* a river, the streams whereof shall make glad the city of God, the holy *place* of the tabernacles of the most High. ⁵God *is* in the midst of her; she shall not be moved:

"There is a river" This is the absolute faith statement. They saw the reality of "Heaven's river". God was in the midst of the city, because God was in the midst of the river. The sons of Korah saw the river of God in vision as they worshipped God. On occasions I have visited Jerusalem. There is no natural river in Jerusalem, but I've seen the source of the spring called "Gihon". The Gihon spring is not a natural river. They must have experienced the supernatural River of God.

ISA 43:18 Remember ye not the former things, neither consider the things of old. 19 Behold, I will do a new thing; now it shall spring forth; shall ye not know it? I will even make a way in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert. 20 The beast of the field shall honour me, the dragons and the owls: because I give waters in the wilderness, and rivers in the desert, to give drink to my people, my chosen.

Many times we pray for the new wave of Glory to come. Oft times we have prayed for a spiritual revival to rid the church of spiritual lethargy. As the "River" is already in the desert, the new wave of the Spirit is already upon us. He wants to give spiritual drink to those who hunger and thirst.

GEN 2:10 And a river went out of Eden to water the garden; and from thence it was parted, and became into four heads.

A river went out of Eden, where Adam lived and was commanded to work. This river enlarged and became four heads. God desires that His Rivers of Glory flow into every corner of the earth. Once spiritually revived, we should receive a "God given" new anointing to open doors in His "ready harvest" worldwide, bringing the blessing and impartation off "river enlargement".

REV 22:1 And he shewed me a **pure river of water of life**, clear as crystal, **proceeding out of the throne of God** and of the Lamb. ² In In the midst of the street of it, and on either side of the river, *was there* the tree of life, which bare twelve *manner of* fruits, *and* yielded her fruit every month: and the leaves of the tree *were* **for the** <u>healing of the nations</u>.

This pure river is ever proceeding directly from the throne of God. This tree of life is watered from God's river. It possesses twelve different kinds of fruits and its leaves are able to bring healing to nations.

Twelve is the Bible number for government. Proper spiritual government leads to spiritual unity and this unity will bring spiritual healing to the nations. The secret is the pure waters coming from God's throne, which feeds the trees. See Eze 47:12

EZE 47:12 And by the river upon the bank thereof, **on this side and on that side**, shall grow all trees for meat, whose leaf shall not fade, neither shall the fruit thereof be consumed: it shall bring forth new fruit according to his months, because <u>their waters they</u> issued out of the sanctuary: and the fruit thereof shall be for meat, and the leaf thereof for medicine.

Some have never experienced the increasing levels in God's river. This river started as a trickle of water inside the sanctuary. Remember, Jesus asked His disciples to "follow Him". He wasn't always in the sanctuary. Following God can infer to follow the river. As we follow the trickle we gain the confidence to enter the waters of greater depth. God expects the believer to walk to the next level of experience. These waters brought great healing to the land.

EZE 47:4 Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through the waters; **the waters** *were* **to the knees**. Again he measured a thousand, and brought me through; **the waters** *were* **to the loins**.

5 Afterward he measured a thousand; *and it was* a river that I could not pass over: for the waters were risen, waters to swim in, a river that could not be passed over. 6 And he said unto me, Son of man, <u>hast thou seen *this*</u>? Then he brought me, and caused me to return to the brink of the river.

God asked him an amazing question. <u>Hast thou</u> seen this? (v.6)

God wanted Ezekial to answer so that it was etched into his spirit. What a vision! Finally, there were waters to swim in.

Many of God's people have yet to see the river of God, let alone swim in it. We are ashamed to admit we don't see as well as we should by the Spirit. Begin to see by faith and then swim into deeper waters.

EZE 1:1 Now it came to pass in the thirtieth year, in the fourth *month*, in the fifth *day* of the month, **as I** *was* **among the captives by the river of Chebar**, *that* the heavens were opened, and <u>I saw visions of God</u>.

Ezekial was living near a natural river source (Chebar), but he needed to see God's supernatural river source.

He saw visions of God and an open heaven. He had no special training to access visions; just a close relationship to God. We need more than glasses to see the heavenly realm. We need God in our life. **PSA 65:4** Blessed is the man *whom* thou choosest, and causest to approach unto thee, that he may dwell in thy courts: we shall be satisfied with the goodness of thy house, *even* of thy holy temple.

PSA 36:7 How excellent *is* thy lovingkindness, O God! therefore the children of men put their trust under the shadow of thy wings 8 They shall be abundantly satisfied with the fatness of thy house; and thou shalt make them drink of the river of thy pleasures.

God loves to give us drink from His River. Church leaders need to make sure there is spiritual meat and drink in the house of God. David was satisfied with the abundance in the house of God. He drank of the river of God, and constantly tasted of His "lovingkindness" with great pleasure.

God wants us to receive prophetic revelations whilst in His River.

Always prophesy out of the "River flow".

"It is given unto us to know." See Matt 13:11. Unfortunately we seem to have moved beyond the simplicity of parables! The heavenly River realm is made possible because of the "eternal" pure river that proceeds from God's throne. (Rev 22:1) God will bring us back to the river over and over and over again.

The incredible vastness of the river requires that we go back again and again.

Many believers are so smug about their knowledge and experience of God. There is no end to spiritual growth! We need to swim again and again, going deeper and deeper. Revelation is received in the depths of the River of God.

- JER 1:5 Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb<u>I</u> sanctified thee, and I ordained thee a prophet unto the nations.
- Jer 1:6 Then said I, Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I *am* a child.
- Jer 1:7 But the LORD said unto me, Say not, I *am* a child: for thou shalt go to all that I shall send thee, and whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak.

The ministry call of God comes from an intimate knowledge of the river of God. God is desirous to build up ministries that can reach into the river of God and then speak into nations. **God is not concerned with age, only obedience.** "whatsoever I command thee thou shalt speak". (Jer 1:7) Jump into the river. **God is waiting for you to be a blessing . The river is always flowing.** Don't wait,

jump in and bless someone prophetically.

EZE 47:9 And it shall come to pass, *that* every thing that liveth, which moveth, whithersoever the rivers shall come, shall live: and there shall be a very great multitude of fish, because these waters shall come thither: for they shall be healed; and every thing shall live whither the river cometh.

The River brought life. It resulted in a "very great multitude of fish".

Notice the healing power of God that is in this river.

Everything that was touched by its flow lived.

Personal change is imminent because of the river of God.

2 COR 3:18 But we all, with open face beholding as in a glass the glory of the Lord, **are changed into the same image from glory to glory**, *even* as by the Spirit of the Lord.

What's the River all about? Why is it mentioned so graphically in the Bible? Why is it so necessary for spirit-filled believers to have continual access to this river.

God's River is about revelation; heavenly visions; spiritual knowledge; prophetic power; inner and physical healing.

It's about correct placement at the source; waiting and beholding, till we know we have drunk of His Glory.

It's about experiencing the changes we need for power ministry.

WORD POWER - I

READ: Luke 4:31-37

LUK 4:32 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for <u>his word was with power.</u>

God's Words are words of power. Words of power are words of authority.

LUK 4:36 And they were all amazed, and spake among themselves, saying, What a word *is* this! for <u>with</u> <u>authority and power</u> he commandeth the unclean spirits, and they come out.

The spoken words of Jesus produced an outcome. The unclean spirits came out at His commandment.

All believers need to be effective ministers of the Word with great power. Many of God's people are in hospitals because believers lack "<u>Word</u> <u>authority</u>". We can't wait till the anointed preacher comes to town. We have to believe God and step up with authority and power and heal the sick. We need to memorize **John 1:1-5**

JN 1:1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

God manifests Himself by the power of His Word. Except God had spoken with creative words, there would be have been no creative outcome. God always had a performance to spoken words. God's words never return void.

<u>Question:</u> How much of God's creative Word power is found in your words?

JN 1:3 All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made.

The more of His word we speak the more God releases His creative power. The Person who creates "all things" is within us.

In Genesis Chapter 1 we see that God was pleased with his work.

God had job satisfaction. (Gen 1:31)

GEN 1:31 And **God saw every thing that he had made**, and, **<u>behold</u>,** *it was* **very good**. And the evening and the morning were the sixth day.

God's creative work started and finished with spoken Words.

The wise believer will listen and act when God speaks; for we know it will produce something very good.

LUK 5:4 Now when he had left speaking, he said unto Simon, "<u>Launch out into the deep, and let down</u> your nets for a draught."

Jesus may have finished preaching, but there were still more words of "power" that needed to be spoken. "**let down your nets for a draught**". Peter was tired from casting the nets all night, but he obeyed saying. "at thy word <u>I will</u> let down the net."

LUK 5:6 And when they had this done, **they inclosed** a great multitude of fishes: and their net brake.

PSA 36:9 For with thee is the fountain of life: in thy light shall we see light.

Hannah experienced great changes when she allowed the fountains of God to touch her life. Her spoken words changed into authoritative "prophetic praise". She conquered personal defeat and her story and later "prophetic song" is written in the Bible as great inspiration for many like her who encounter difficulties in this life. <u>Her prophetic words had</u> <u>creative power!</u>

1 SAM 2:1 My heart rejoiceth in the LORD, mine horn is exalted in the LORD: my mouth is enlarged over mine enemies; because I rejoice in thy salvation.

1 SAM 2:8 He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, *and* **lifteth up the beggar from the dunghill**, to set *them* among princes, and **to make them inherit the throne of glory**:

Read: Rev 21:10 -14; 19-23.

Heaven is completely permeated with the Light of God. It needs no outside natural light, for God's glory fills all parts of Heaven.

REV 21:23 And the city had no need of the sun, neither of the moon, to shine in it: for the glory of God did lighten it, and <u>the Lamb is the light thereof.</u> The Word "the Lamb" is the light thereof.

REV 21:11 Having the glory of God: <u>and her light</u> was like unto a stone most precious, even like a jasper stone, **clear as crystal**.

REV 21:21 As it were transparent glass.

Once we commit ourselves to seeing some of the revelation of the wonders of the "Word" of heaven, we will naturally want to move onto the next wonder.

HEB 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged 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.

HEB 4:13 Neither is there any creature that is not manifest in his sight: but all things are **naked and opened unto the eyes of him** with who we have to do.

God's word has the power to change every believer. It will do a quick work separating soul (flesh) and spirit. The intent of the heart must be one that desires a "Word change."

REV 1:16: And he had in his right hand seven stars: **and out of his mouth sent a sharp twoedged sword:** and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

God's spoken truth cuts like a two-edged sword. This is why the Old Testament prophets met strong opposition. John the Baptist was beheaded. Stephen was stoned. Thomas was flayed with knives. Peter was crucified. We cannot change the character of the word of God. It remains sharp today.

REV 2:12 He which hath the sharp sword with two edges;

The Word of God was and always will be a doublesided word, which must be consumed completely and allowed to penetrate into our inner most being. Before eating Ezekial noted unpleasant writings, but whilst eating **he found the taste of the Word was as sweet as honey.**

Read Ezekial 2: 8-10 and Ezekial 3: 1-5

EZE 2:10 And he spread it before me; and **it** *was* **written within and without**: and *there was* written therein lamentations, and mourning, and woe.

EZE 3:1 Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, <u>eat</u> that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel. 2 So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll. 3 And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. Then did I eat *it*; and it was in my mouth as honey for sweetness. 4 And he said unto me, Son of man, go, get thee unto the house of Israel, and speak with my words unto them.

Only after Ezekial had eaten and filled his inner being with the double-sided written roll did God send him on his way to prophesy to His people.

AMOS 7:12 Also <u>Amaziah said unto Amos, O thou</u> <u>seer</u>, go, <u>flee thee away into the land of Judah</u>, and there eat bread, and **prophesy there**: 13 <u>But prophesy not</u> <u>again any more at Bethel</u>: <u>for it *is* the king' chapel</u>, and it *is* the king' court.

Strong words are acceptable, but prophetic words direct from God were far too authoritative in the chapel of the king. Amos lived and worked in humble circumstances caring for flocks. He ended up in the king's court. Amos stayed his course and became a prophet with a word for our times.

AMOS 7:14 Then answered Amos, and said to Amaziah, **I** was no prophet, neither was **I** a prophet' son; but I was an herdman, and a gatherer of sycamore fruit: 15 And the LORD took me as I followed the flock, and the LORD said unto me, Go, prophesy unto my people Israel.

AMOS 8:11 Behold, the days come, saith the Lord GOD, that **I will send a famine in the land**, not a famine of bread, nor a thirst for water, **but of hearing the words of the LORD**: 12 And they shall wander from sea to sea, and from the north even to the east, **they shall run to and fro to seek the word of the LORD**, and shall not find *it*.

One of the greatest spiritual famines on earth was prophesied hundreds of years ago. We can change this trend of not hearing of the words of the Lord.

We need to be hungry for prophetic ministry.

We need to hunger and thirst for righteousness. We need the light and direction that comes from hearing God's prophets sounding out "thus saith the Lord". We need their wisdom, correction, direction and Holy Spirit impartation.

WORD POWER (2)

JER 32:21 And hast brought forth thy people Israel out of the land of Egypt **with signs, and with wonders,** and with a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with great terror;

ACT 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:

2 TIM 2:15 "Study to **show yourself approved** of God"

The word "approved" in the Greek is "dokimos". It means tested or tried. What a wonderful thing to "show yourself approved" of the Word of truth and to be chosen for the purpose of ministering with "signs, wonders and miracles". We were born again to be (approved of God) tested; even stretched into believing to see signs, wonders and miracles. (Isa 8:18) Christ was approved of God; by miracles.

ISA 8:18 Behold, **I and the children whom the LORD hath given me are for signs and for wonders** in Israel from the LORD of hosts, which dwelleth in Mount Zion.

MK 16:17 And these signs shall follow them that believe; in my name shall they cast out devils they shall speak with new tongues.

The miracle signs of God are trully following those that believe. All we need to do is believe for healings and miracles; God will reward our faith with miracles.

MK 16:20 And they went forth, and preached everywhere, the Lord working with them, and confirming the word with signs following. Amen.

1 JN 2:27 But **the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you**, and ye need not that any man teach you; but as the same **anointing teacheth you** of all things, and is truth, and is no lie and even as it hath taught you, **ye shall abide in Him.**

All spirit-filled believers have received an "abiding anointing". In Christ we have assurance. "Believers have His anointing"! It's no lie! It's Bible truth! Those who abide in Him have received a "believers anointing". The anointing is abiding in us. To maintain this anointing, we must abide in Him.

PSA 106:7 Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked him at the sea, even at the Red sea.

Always be mindful of the mercies of God. Many times I have not felt so merciful, but Signs, wonders and miracles show the mercies of God. There will always be those who provoke God with unbelief. Be mindful, God is walking with us. He will do the great and mighty things by showing us His power. He will do the mighty acts!

NUM 10:29 And Moses said unto Hobab, the son of Raguel the Midianite, Moses' father-in-law, <u>We are</u> journeying unto the place of which the LORD said, I will give it you; come thou with us, and we will do thee good: for the LORD hath spoken good concerning Israel.

Associate yourselves with people of faith and purpose to walk in the same blessing that they walk in. Above all be found studying God's Word.

HEB 4:12 For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged 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.

I have said it many times in this book. God's word has the power to change every believer. It will do a quick work by separating soul (flesh) and spirit. God wants men of the spirit, not men of the soul. Some think they need to stay friends with the world to win the lost of this world. <u>We need not weaken our</u> <u>spiritual resolve</u>. If we sow to the world, we will reap the "spiritual impotence" and hence barrenness of the world. **REV 1:16** And he had in his right hand seven stars: and out of his mouth sent a **sharp two-edged sword:** and his countenance was as the sun shineth in his strength.

God speaks powerfully, His truth cuts like a two-edged sword.

Mk 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.

The word of faith cannot be spoken by a believer that speaks idle words.

Idle words kill "directive faith".

Mk 4:39 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. 40And he said unto them, "Why are ye so fearful? how is it that ye have no faith?

Jesus spoke to the sea. His faith Word caused the great calm.

NUM 20:8 Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, **and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes**; and it shall give forth his water, **and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock**:

1

God expected Moses to speak to the rock in the hearing of the people. God stretched his faith. The "impossible words" that he spoke, resulted in a miracle. All the people heard Moses speak to the rock. I'm sure some said, "He's out of his mind, now he's speaking to a rock"!

The water, which proceeded from that rock in the desert 3000 years ago, still flows today.

JOS 10:12 Then spake Joshua to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel, **Sun, stand thou still upon Gibeon; and thou, Moon, in the valley of Ajalon.** 13 And the sun stood still, and the moon stayed, until the people had avenged themselves upon their enemies. *Is* not this written in the book of Jasher? So the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day. Joshua spoke to the "sun" and "moon". They all heard the word of faith.

MK 11:13 And **seeing a fig tree** afar off having leaves, he came, if haply he might find any thing thereon: and when he came to it, **he found nothing but leaves**; for the time of figs was not *yet*. 14And Jesus answered and said unto it, **"No man eat fruit of thee hereafter for ever."** And his disciples heard *it*.

The disciples heard Christ speak the Word of Faith. (See Mk 11:20)

MK 11:20 And in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots.

Like the disciples, the Church hungers to see and hear the effects of the gift of Faith.

Word Power ministry ushers in signs, wonders and miracles!

Other books in the Word series:-

WORD ASCENT

WORD ACTIVE