

THE ANOINTING OF THE HOLY SPIRIT SERIES

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1. DEFINING THE ANOINTING

There are two books for our reference in this teaching series. The first is the book that I have written called "The Anointing of the Holy Spirit." The second book is "Understanding the Anointing" by Kenneth E. Hagin. We will teach on this subject matter systematically. We will go into practical areas when we talk about tangible anointing. (For this written transcript, references to "The Anointing of the Holy Spirit" will be indicated in italics and denoted by AHS. References to Kenneth E. Hagin's book, Understanding the Anointing will also be in italics and denoted by UA. - Ed.)

In our first lesson, we are going to touch on defining the anointing. In this teaching series, we hope to cover this subject of the anointing of the Holy Spirit as thoroughly as possible. What we teach would probably go further than what our reference books have touched on. However, we would still recommend that you get hold of the books, if you have not already done so.

We have to define what the anointing is.

The impartation of God's ability into our lives to do His work is called "the anointing."

All through the Bible, we read about God calling and anointing people to do His work.

Aaron and his sons were anointed to the priesthood (Ex. 30:30; Lev. 8: 12). Moses had an anointing of God's Spirit upon him (Num. 11: 17). Joshua had the anointing imparted upon him through the laying on of hands (Deut. 34:9). Saul was anointed to be king (1 Sam. 10: 1). David was anointed to be king (1 Sam. 16: 13). Jesus was anointed to manifest His Messiahship (Acts 10: 38) [AHS]

The word *anointing* has been used in Old Testament many times even before the New Testament uses it. We see the word *anointing* in the book of Exodus when it mentioned that Moses anointed the whole tabernacle.

Lets look at Isa. 61:1 *The Spirit of the Lord God is upon Me, because the Lord has anointed Me to preach good tidings to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and opening of the prison to those who are bound; to proclaim the acceptable year of the Lord.*

The Lord Jesus used this phrase in concerning Himself in the book of Luke 4: 17-19. This phrase spoke about God's Spirit coming on Jesus Christ. Now the word *anoint* in the Hebrew language speaks about a rubbing in and an impartation of oil. In the Old Testament, Moses used oil to anoint that whole tabernacle. Then at a later time, we see how Samuel the prophet took that anointing oil and came to David the son of Jesse and poured it on him. The word *anointing* in Hebrew speaks of a rubbing and an impartation. Now the anointing can strictly be spoken of as an impartation. Something is transacted. There is an impartation of something. You cannot say, "I received an anointing," and then you cannot show it. An impartation and transaction have taken place. Something has been given in the supernatural and spiritual realm.

A common Christian cliché is, "God does not look for our ability, but He looks for our availability." So many people avail themselves to God who does not have the ability. Later on, what happens is they try to do

God's work without any ability and they don't succeed. God not only wants our availability, He wants us to receive His ability too. To avail ourselves is one side of the story. The other side is to learn to receive an anointing from Him.

If you know God well enough, He does not give the anointing that easily. He chooses you and tests you before He gives the anointing to come on your life. The anointing is precious. A lot of people cry out for the anointing but fail God's tests so it never comes on their lives. Many people ask God to anoint them to prosper but they have never proven themselves in every test in their lives and hence block God's blessings in their lives. Many people desire to do great exploits and miracles in God but they never pass the tests. Hence, the anointing never comes on their lives. Even though God may have a call on your life, the anointing does not come until you pass the test. In other words, the anointing is not automatically given to anyone. The anointing is not something automatic.

Some say, "If God has designed that I will be an evangelist, when the time comes that I should be an evangelist, I will be an evangelist. The evangelistic anointing will drop on me in whatever I do and wherever I am." I am sorry to say this - it will not happen. People called to be evangelists have lived and died without moving into that office. The anointing to operate in an office or ministry is not automatic. You may be called, chosen, and predestined to function in certain offices and ministries but the anointing is not automatic. Too many people are looking for automatic anointing. There is no such thing. There is a price to pay in order to get the anointing. Even when God has chosen and predestined you, the anointing is so precious that you must be tested before it comes on your life. Therefore, to make ourselves available is only half the story. When we avail ourselves, God tests us until we are ready. O glorious day when that anointing comes.

The anointing that God puts on His servants is such a precious commodity that God expects consecration from His vessel before He puts it upon them. Aaron was told that the anointing he received was so holy that he could not leave the tabernacle for seven days or he will die (Lev. 8:33-35). When a sad event happened in his family, he was not even allowed to cry! (Lev. 10:6) The anointing is holy! [AHS]

Too many people look at the wrong side of anointing. They see the anointing seems so easy on some ministers' lives. They can quote many stories of men of God whose characters and lives were not up to the mark, how they fell and disgraced the name of Christ. Remember this: before the anointing came on them they paid a price. After it came, they became complacent and slowly lost the anointing. The gifts and calling of God are given without repentance but the anointing to function in these gifts and calling of God can be taken away. Although there is a grace period for such fallen ministers to repent and change, the grace period is not forever. So remember this whenever you hear stories of fallen ministers, don't think that the anointing is cheap. It is not cheap. It is very expensive, priceless.

Why is it so priceless? The anointing is the supernatural ability of God imparted to human beings. There are many types of anointing as we are going to see in this course. You could be the skinniest tiny little lady but if Samson's anointing comes on you, you could lift an elephant with just your small finger. It does not mean that when the anointing came on Samson, that he suddenly became like the Incredible Hulk and performed superhuman feats. Samson may look like an ordinary person. He may be muscular but not that muscular like people imagine him to be. Every children cartoon I see of Samson shows him about six feet four with muscles bulging up. Every Christian cartoon and video show Samson as huge, muscular, and macho man. He may not be that way. The anointing gave him the superhuman strength.. He accomplished great victories over the bear, the lion, the foxes, and the Philistines just by the anointing and ability given by God.

How do we know that? When the anointing came on Elijah, he too experienced supernatural strength like that of Samson. Remember how when he came down from Mount Carmel in the book of I Kings chapter 18 after the slaying the four hundred false prophets, he told king Ahab to rush back to Jezreel because rain is coming. King Ahab started riding in his chariot and suddenly comes this sound. He turned and looked at his commander and asked, "What is that?" The commander replied, "It is Elijah." Under the anointing, Elijah was running as fast as King Ahab's chariot. An anointing came on his life. A supernatural ability caused him to do tasks beyond human and physical capabilities.

Many people share stories to show that the anointing is not important. Some key church leaders in Malaysia recently told me after being in the Charismatic movement for the last ten to fifteen years, they have seen too much emphasis being placed on power and anointing. They say that God now wants them to emphasize on character building. Hold it there. God does not want us to emphasize one truth in opposition to the other. Character building has been an emphasis for eons of church ages. Why should we start emphasizing on character building when it should have there all the time? If it was neglected, it does not mean that now is the only time to re-emphasize it. You see it would be very wrong for us to emphasize a truth to the neglect of another truth. We may like hotdogs and French fries but we do not eat hotdogs and French fries all the time.

Now without a doubt, we realize the body of Christ needs to emphasize on developing Christian character. However, let me tell you, if today you emphasize on character to the neglect of power, in five years time you will regret. Now you may not see it. Just look at many historic churches that have disregarded the anointing and power for ministry. Many of them are in a poor spiritual state. Their numbers are declining. The bible puts an equal emphasis on power and love. Some say they want quality and not quantity. They have not been growing for the past forty years. They started with four and now they have three members – the pastor, his wife and their son. Grandpa has just died. They say, "That's alright; we want quality people." The only problem we ask is this: What kind of quality are they talking about if that quality does not produce disciples and growth? True quality produces quantity. Their kind of quality is not productive. Thus, it is not a question of either quality or quantity. It is the question of having both quality and quantity. In the same way, we need to have an equal emphasis on character and anointing. We are also going to see that character is crucial to the anointing too. There need to be an understanding of the supernatural.

Let me tell you there is no way we can reach this world without the power of God or the supernatural. You could emphasize character for the next forty years and you will win only a handful of people to Christ. You just raise up a dead person to life and you can win the whole city for Jesus Christ. Therefore, we cannot neglect power just because now we see so many failings of men and women of God. Remember people have a lop-sided view because they see from the outside and not from God's view. They do not understand that some of these so-called men or women of God who once upon a time were anointed and later fell did pay a heavy price to get the anointing. Some think that these fallen generals of God got the anointing easily and that is why they failed. That is not the reason. The only reason some men and women of God fall is that they began to give less time to the Word and less time to prayer. Before a person fall, they start neglecting the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, the meditation on the Word and prayer. If you keep these tools strong all the time, you are immovable.

I could name everyone of them who have fallen and I can tell you the price they paid to get the anointing. Some of them were proven and tested. Finally, the anointing came and with the anointing, came success. Then they did not have enough Word and prayer in their life. The anointing is costly and a heavy price must be paid before it comes.

Kathryn Kuhlman paid a heavy price. She would turn to Jaime Buckingham many times because he was the one chosen to write her biography. She looked him straight in his eyes with tears running down and said she would have given anything to be just an ordinary country housewife having a nice little farm somewhere with a husband and kids. She said because of God's call she had given up much.

The anointing is costly and precious. It is God's supernatural ability that He imparts to His chosen ones who passes the test. That means that God could have a prophecy hanging over your head that may say that you are going to be anointed to be and do something. There are things in life that are free but they are not cheap. They are free because somebody has paid the price. When I speak to many people who are coming up in the ministry, they have this idea that when God has called it will come in its own time in spite and despite of what they do. It will not. God will prove and test and only when one passes His test then the anointing comes. What happens if they fail the test? They may live and die without entering and receiving the anointing. The anointing is so important since it makes you what you are. You can have a million people prophesy over you that you are a prophet. They can lay hands on you until they wear off the crown of your head and make you look like Ezekiel but it will not make you a prophet until the actual tangible anointing

comes then you are one. You may be predestined to be one but you are not one until the anointing comes and hit you and is imparted into your life. The anointing makes the difference. You could have a call of God to be an evangelist and you are doing all you can to get into that ministry. You could have the best mission board to support you. You could have arranged for twenty sponsors to support you financially and spiritually. You planned, write, begged or borrowed to get a place. You could knock on doors and beg to minister there. If the anointing is not there, you could very well fold your ministry up like an umbrella and be kept aside. What is lacking is the anointing. The anointing makes you what you are in God's kingdom. It is very dangerous to move into any ministry without an anointing.

Lets define what an anointing is and what it actually does and its importance. We realize that all through the bible the secret of God doing anything is the anointing. Think about the vast difference the anointing makes. Jesus in His thirty years had the Spirit but did not have the anointing on Him as a Messiah yet. He was called, He was chosen, He was predestined, He was obedient, and none of us could doubt the flawlessness of His life, the integrity of His character or the blamelessness of His walk. None of us could question His life. Yet, in all His thirty years there was not a single miracle. In all His thirty years, there was no impact on the world that He lived in. Can you imagine there are people who want us to believe that all you need to do to impact the world is to be a man of integrity. I know that will affect some people but it is not enough. Think about it the problem that we have for the world to be won to Jesus is not the problem of a lack of integrity or character. Although we have people who have fallen here and there in the kingdom of God, they are only a handful. Many others are faithful. Think about people like Billy Graham. You cannot doubt his integrity. Think about many others who are men and women of character. It does not take character to win the world for Jesus. Jesus lived a blameless life for thirty years and the world around Him did not know about God. Once the anointing of God came upon His life, within a few months the Word of God says His fame was spread abroad. What was the difference? Was His character different? No. He was still having the same character. Was His love different? No. He was still having the same love. Was His integrity different? No. He was still having the same integrity. Was His holiness different? No, He was still having the same holiness. The difference was the anointing had come on His life. When the anointing came, the power was present in His life to impact the world. Just imagine people were talking about winning the whole country to Jesus. We will never succeed in winning nations to Jesus unless we show the power of God and the demonstration of the Spirit of God before their eyes.

Can you imagine ten people with amputated limbs growing new arms and legs? Ten million people will come to know the Lord. Imagine the impact that signs and wonders can have. It can only come through the anointing of God. We are not undermining the importance of character. This is a course on the anointing. To maintain that anointing, we need to have godly character and integrity. Deep in the heart of every born again man or woman they know the power of God was the key to change them. For example, a philosopher, an atheist, and a scholar could out argue and out talk everybody. They are skillful in the art of oratory. However, if they see one miracle, they are won to the Lord where one million arguments have failed to convince them. Just one work of God could win that whole person to Jesus. You do not come to God by argument. You confront them with the supernatural. The world's greatest minds have broken down when they contact the supernatural. When they come over to God's kingdom, they realize and begin to understand the relationship of God's love, which they never understood before. The breakthrough point for them to come to God many times is not through some fantastic arguments you give them. They cannot explain the power of God, no matter how brilliant they are. We need to confront the atheism of this world, the unbelief of this world, the technology of this world, the complacency of this generation with the power of God and anointing of God. The anointing breaks the yoke over people's life. Seeing is important.

The anointing is an impartation of God's ability. Therefore when it comes there must be a change and difference. A person may not change and differ in personality although they may. There must be a change when the anointing comes. You cannot say that you have received an anointing from God and not be able to affect the people around you. The anointing affects something. There will be a definite change. It depends on the measure we receive. Sometimes it is a lesser measure and sometimes it is a greater measure of the anointing we received. The anointing effects a change in you so that we could say you are changed to another person. Now if we are without ability but we give our availability to God, and He gives us the ability, isn't it reasonable to say that there should be something different. See something was added. You came in minus the ability; then the anointing is a plus to you. Something was imparted to you. So, when you walk out there must be a plus there. Something different shows up after the anointing came. Whether it is of a greater or lesser difference, there must be something.

Lets look at I Samuel 10:1 *Then Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it on his head, and kissed him and said: "Is it not because the Lord has anointed you commander over His inheritance? When you have departed from me today, you will find two men by Rachel's tomb in the territory of Benjamin at Zelzah; and they will say to you, The donkeys which you went to look for have been found. But now your father has ceased caring about the donkeys and is worrying about you saying, What shall I do about my son? Then you shall go on forward from there and come to the terebinth tree of Tabor. There three men going up to God at Bethel will meet you, one carrying three young goats, another carrying three loaves of bread, and another carrying a skin of wine. And they will greet you and give you two loaves of bread, which you shall receive from their hands. After that you shall come to the hill of God where the Philistine garrison is. And it will happen, when you have come there to the city, that you will a group of prophets coming down from the high place with a stringed instrument, a tambourine, a flute, and a harp before them; and they will be prophesying. Then the Spirit of the Lord will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man.*

Notice there was a symbolic anointing where Samuel took a flask of oil and poured it over Saul's head. Saul was literally drenched with oil. In the Old Testament days, that was how they pour the anointing oil. Psalms 133 tells us the anointing of God was like the oil that flowed down from Aaron's beard down to the border of his garment. If I were to pour just a little bit of water over you, it wouldn't even get beyond your eyebrow, let alone reach your beard, if you have one. Now there is plenty of oil flowing all over Aaron. Some men of God try to follow it literally. It is not very practical to do it. Can you imagine if I were to do it with everybody that way? I would have to use gallons of oil. The way the Old Testament folks used plenty of oil was symbolic of the outpouring of the Holy Spirit.

As Saul went ahead, he saw everything taking place as prophesied by Samuel. People carrying the goat and the wine and then he goes there. Here comes the Spirit of God on him. He turned into another man. What does it mean, "turned into another man"? What did he become like? When the bible says, "turned into another man," it must be dramatic. Something must have taken place. In other words, Saul was never the same person after the anointing came. The anointing has the power to turn you into a different person. That is why when you move and operate under an anointing you feel like you are a different personality altogether. Kathryn Kuhlman described her experience under an anointing as being out of the body experience. She says she feels like she is just outside and somebody else was speaking through her when the anointing is operating. That is a very high level of anointing of God. The anointing is like another part of a personality taking you over so that literally when you yield to it, you could be like a different person. Now the anointing does not force us but we have to yield to it. If you really yield to that anointing, you are like a different person. What happened in the yielded stage was his first experience. Saul yielded to it and he was a different person.

Now the next statement made by Samuel is important. Verse 7 *And let it be, when these signs come to you, that you do as the occasion demands; for God is with you.* This is a powerful thing about the anointing of God. When the anointing of God is over your life there are things that you say and do that carries the weight of God's power that you may not even be worthy of. Remember when God's ability is working through your life, you may do things you would normally never do or is foreign to your character. Some people think that the anointing will work with your personality. It may be different from your personality. I am not talking about a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde where both the good and evil force resides in one person. It can seem like two different personalities. As we go through this course, we need to learn how to harmonize the two personalities together and let it flow as one. It can be like having two personalities. You could be a soft-spoken lady but when the anointing comes upon you, you preach like a machine gun. People do not understand the impact the anointing can have on your personality. You could be different when the anointing is upon you. It could turn you into another man or another woman.

Now Saul's problem was his inferiority complex. In spite of his big size, he felt as inferior as a tiny little kitten. When he met Samuel and Samuel said, "God has chosen you," the first thing Saul said is, "Who am I? Who is my father's house? I come from the smallest family of the smallest tribe." He was just a little kitten. As we study through this course, we will find certain men in the bible who do not know how to conform their personality to their anointing. The anointing and the personality will appear to be diametrically opposing. Samson was a powerful man under the anointing but when the anointing is not there, he was easily

influenced, easily falling for women because he did not know how to rein his personality and subject it to his anointing.

The anointing is the supernatural ability imparted by God to a yielded human vessel to perform His task. When the impartation comes, we need to understand the change that is involved. It could change you to a totally different person. We sometimes experience the difference between our spirit and our soul. Good thoughts and bad thoughts struggle inside us and we have to make a choice in God. As you mature in God, you keep making the right choices.

Now the anointing is like another factor working inside you, speaking to you, influencing your life, when it comes upon your life. It's a tremendous factor that can influence your life. It is sometimes like another person's voice speaking in you. The anointing depends on the degree your personality yields to the Holy Spirit. In order to convey the strength of it but not to in any way degrade the value of the personality of the Holy Spirit, I will use the negative illustration. Sometimes you got to use a stronger illustration to give people the impact and understanding.

When demons possess or attach themselves to persons, they begin to manifest their personalities. If a person is perfectly normal and a deaf and dumb spirit gets into this person, that person becomes deaf and dumb. If a person is bold in the natural but the spirit of fear attaches itself to that person, that person becomes a timid and fearful coward. Now not all fear comes from evil spirits. There is a human and emotional aspect of fear. Some sicknesses are demonic in origin but some are organic. When a demon spirit possesses a person, the degree they possess a person will be the degree they manifest their demonic and evil nature. In other words, lets says a spirit of fear or a spirit of suicide comes on a person. At first the person experiences just oppression. Under oppression, a person only has those thoughts occasionally. So occasionally, they have a strong feeling to commit suicide. They do not want to commit suicide so they resist it. Occasionally, the suicidal thoughts come back again. When the spirit gets into a person and literally possesses a person, within twenty-four hours that person will be trying to kill him or herself. This is what we call total possession. Possession can be in different degrees.

What is the positive illustration? The anointing is the Spirit of God, with due respect to Him, "possessing you." His personality is so powerful that He could possess you until you become an extension of His being. Stephen was described as being full of wisdom in Acts 6:5 whereas Jesus was described as coming in the power of the Spirit in Luke 4: 14. So, the anointing is actually the Spirit possessing us. Think about that – it is powerful. The anointing is not just a sword He gives you and then you go and fight. No, it's the Spirit all over you, and possessing you. You are carried by the flow of the Spirit. Just flow along with the Spirit of God. Just be carried by the tidal waves of the Spirit of God. Just go along with that.

Now from time to time, Saul flowed into that. In one of his first good things that he did after he was proclaimed king in I Samuel 11:4 *So the messengers came to Gibeah of Saul and told the news in the hearing of the people. And all the people lifted up their voices and wept. Now there was Saul, coming behind the herd from the field, and Saul said, "What troubles the people, that they weep?" And they told him the words of the men of Jabesh. Then the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard this news, and his anger was greatly aroused.*

That was not the ordinary Saul. Remember under normal circumstances, he was just a timid guy always looking down on himself. He did not want to be in the limelight. The Spirit of God came on him, and the Bible even uses the word, *his anger was greatly aroused*. That is a very natural comparison. An angry person does things he normally would not do. If someone videotaped you during your moments of anger and you replayed it later, you will be so ashamed. O my, I was like an animal. We realize that under anger people do funny things that are completely out of sync with their personality. When the Spirit of God came on Saul, he began to show traits out of character with his personality. He made the decision under the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Now demonic possession is the different. Demonic possession eradicates your free will and

subjugates it all together. Holy Spirit possession gives you freedom. That's what I like in 1 Samuel 10:6-7, *"Then the Spirit of the Lord will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. And let it be, when these signs come to you, that you do as the occasion demands; for God is with you."*

When the anointing is on your life, you are sort of possessed by the Holy Spirit. To a certain degree, you could pray for people. Although the Spirit of God possesses us, our free will is intact. Lets say you are ministering under an anointing and there are some persons waiting to be ministered. God gives you some free choice. We are going to talk about some specific instructions that He may give at times. Sometimes He does not give you specific instructions. Even if He tells you to lay hands on the people, there are many styles of placing hands on people, like by placing your palms firmly on a person's head, or placing it on the person's shoulder. Either way, the anointing still works.

Sometimes God does not give you any instruction and that gives you some freedom to move according to a style comfortable to you. When the anointing of the Spirit of God is there whether you shout or speak softly, it works any way. That is an interesting part about God's anointing. When you are possessed with the anointing of God, you are given certain liberty. Here is where we have to be careful about passing judgments on some ministers' styles of ministering under the anointing. Some may be flamboyant and may take their coats off and wave them at people and they start falling left and right. Some may be stiff, glued to the pulpit, speak in a monotonous tone and are downright boring. In either extreme of personal styles, if the anointing is there on their lives, they will still do God's work. Within the liberty is what I call personal preferences and personal styles. What happen if people do not differentiate between the personal style and preferences and the actual anointing. Many people think that when the anointing comes on a man of God, they become robotic - that every move and word they make or say is God. No, it is not so. A certain amount of liberty is given to you to channel the anointing of God.

When a demon possesses a person, there is no more free will. When the Spirit of God and the anointing of God rises within your life you got a certain amount of free will or movement within a certain boundary. A certain freedom is given to you to move within the framework of the anointing.

However, there may be some specific commands He gives. My soft-spoken nature would make it difficult for me to obey if the Holy Spirit gives me a hard command. I remember once the Spirit told me to hit a person's stomach three times. The phrase "hit the stomach" three times could be interpreted differently. If you were a boxer like Mike Tyson, you could punch that person three times but you had better be sure that you are under the anointing. Otherwise, you may be sued for ministerial abuse and be thrown into prison. "Hit the stomach" could mean hitting with an open palm. Within His instruction is a framework you could move about.

His instruction sometimes makes you function beyond your personality. The Holy Spirit does not limit to just your personality but beyond your personality. Sometimes He tells you to shout. It may not be your nature to shout but then you have to shout because He tells you to shout. For some other people they are just looking for the time to shout. Their personality is rather loud and glitzy and they would love to shout anytime. However, the Spirit of God may tell them to whisper, which is foreign to their personality. Is that possible? Yes. The Lord told Moses to take the rod and hit the rock. He hit the rock and the water came out. Then the next round the Lord told Moses to speak to the rock. Moses hit the rock instead and the Lord said, "Alright, no Promise Land for you."

The anointing can transform our personality altogether when it comes upon us. That is the impact of God's anointing. That is what the anointing does. We are defining what the anointing does to our life. The anointing will change us to be like a different person. When you have the anointing on your life and you learn to flow with it, you have the potential to become a totally different person. The anointing need not change your personality but it can. You could flow into it so much so that the anointing becomes your nature and you become part of the anointing. If you do not flow along with the anointing, your natural personality and the personality that comes with the anointing of God may be so diametrically opposed that you will look like Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde and you would feel like one too.

In case you have not read Robert L. Stephenson's novel, Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, let me digress here. Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde are one and the same person. However, he had two different personalities: the outside world saw a serious hard-working doctor known as Dr. Jekyll, but there was also a fun-loving, young man in him known as Mr. Hyde. He wanted to find a drug that could give each side of his character its own separate face and body. So, he mixed a liquid and drank it. In the beginning, he enjoyed the strange new thoughts and passions, but as time passed, Hyde became more and more evil and stronger than Dr. Jekyll. He needed larger doses in order to stay in Jekyll's body. Eventually the chemicals he used were no longer prepared, and so Mr. Hyde committed suicide and sent Jekyll off of his body.

There was once a well-known healing evangelist in the US who had problems with alcoholism. Outside of the anointing, he was an alcoholic but under the anointing, he was a powerful evangelist and faith healer. During the service, he would sit in his chair drunk. When it was time for ministering, he would get up and start ministering powerfully under the anointing. After the service is over, he would get back into his inebriated state. It is quite possible for a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde ministry because such ministers have not learned to harmonize the two natures in them. On one hand, they desire to serve God but on the other hand, they have not died to their flesh. They may have paid the price to secure some levels of anointing by earnest and constant praying and fasting. However, they have not taken care to uproot strongholds from their flesh. In the weaker and unguarded moments of their private lives, they give in to their strongholds and indulge in secret sins.

We are showing the impact and power of the anointing that God gives. The anointing that comes is so powerful you can even feel like separate personality that God gives to you to be a part of your life. Notice here in I Sam. 10:6 again and I want to emphasize the fact *Then the Spirit of the Lord will come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. And let it be, when these signs come to you, that you do as the occasion demands, for God is with you.* You do as the occasion demands for God is with you. When the Holy Spirit comes upon you, you are turned into another man. There is the possibility of taking a different personality, different thought pattern, different emotions as if a new personality is added to you.

That is why under an anointing you can feel God's emotion to a certain extent. Like for example under the anointing you could sometimes feel a greater special love for people. Outside of the anointing, you do not feel as much. This is what Kathryn Kuhlman said in her biography, "A Glimpse of Glory." When she is under the anointing and she sees a sick person like a sick child the feeling inside her is so immense that she feels like she could give her life so that this child could live and she dies. That is not a natural human emotion. There is something else coming out now through the being of a person.

We have to look at the negative side when a demon possesses a person to really understand what makes a person a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. You could be a respected professional by day and a shadowy underworld figure by night. You could be an angel in church but a devil at home. What causes this? The demon. The demon literally gives the person a different personality and a different set of emotion.

Now seeing that in the negative lets understand the positive side. The anointing is such that it actually has the potential to change you if you keep flowing in it long enough. It is like a habit is formed if you keep repeating the action for a long time. If you keep yielding to a certain characteristic of the anointing, it can become a part of your life and change and transform you. I have seen through the past years as I slowly yield to one type of anointing after another that my personality is totally different from where I was before. People who had seen me in action when I first started tell me I am completely different today. When I started ministering, I was different from today. In those days when I preach, people would stare at me. I would preach on repentance, hell and judgment. I would point out the people's faults and sins. That was probably why they stared at me. Either they were seething with anger in their heart or else, they were mentally scrutinizing my life to see whether I had the same faults and sins I was preaching against. Somehow, when the pastoral anointing came over my life and when I preach, people do not stare any more. I began to develop an understanding why people has failings and faults and began to teach the Word as an antidote and solution to their problems. Somehow, as you grow older in the ministry, you find that you grapple with some of your own difficulties that also plague your congregation. I have changed, not the people. Now when

I preach, the people laugh. At least laughing is better than staring. I do not prepare jokes purposely to be a comedian and entertainer. No, I prepare my sermons but I do not prepare the jokes. It just comes out naturally in the course of my preaching. When God gives you an anointing, He literally wants to become a part of your nature through time. In the end, you personify the message and the message is preached through your life. You and the message are one and the same. That is the wonderful part of the anointing.

It would be just like one of David's mighty men who fought until his hand cleaved to the sword. He fought so hard and so long that he and the sword were like one. That is what happens when the anointing changes your personality. I have seen how the anointing can change a very introvert guy into an extrovert. I was an introvert before. Even my personality has changed. In those days, if I were to sit in a house meeting where there were many people around, if you want to talk to me, you will have to come to me. I was too shy to make the first move. Now it is different. I do not even make myself do it. It comes naturally. When I see a person I would start a conversation and get to know that person. If somebody is alone with no one to talk to, I would go to that person.

That gives us hope. Many have a wrong picture of the anointing. We always think that the anointing has to flow with our personality. It does not have to. Our anointing may be indication of our personality but it does not have to because the anointing has the power to turn us into another person. When it does, we still have our personality and we have to differentiate the two.

There may appear to be a little contradiction here but it is not. In the book of I Sam. 10:6-7 it says here, *And then the Spirit of the Lord shall come upon you, and you will prophesy with them and be turned into another man. And let it be, when these signs come to you, that you do as the occasion demands; for God is with you.*

Notice in 1 Samuel 13:8-9 *Then he waited seven days, according to the time set by Samuel. Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattered from him. So Saul said, "Bring a burnt offering and peace offerings here to me," And he offered the burnt offering.* However, God did not approve Saul's offering.

My question is why is it that I Sam.10:7 Saul was told to "do as the occasion demands" and here he did whatever the occasion demanded at that time and it was considered a wrong thing. Saul waited seven days for Samuel to show up and there was supposed to be a sacrifice before they go to war. He did as the occasion demands. He made the sacrifice. He did everything possible to help the situation. When Samuel came after Saul made his sacrifice, he gave him a strong rebuke. Why was it not possible for Saul to make that sacrifice when I Sam. 10:7 gave him the allowance for that?

There are two differences. I Sam.10:7 is qualified by verse 6. Only when the anointing comes you do as the occasion demands. If the anointing does not come and you do what the occasion demands, then it is not of God.

The second thing is the anointing never contradicts the written law and the written Word. The written law the Word of God in Saul's time did not permit him as a king to offer sacrifices. Even though I Sam. 10: 7 says to "do as the occasion demands," it takes for granted that you understand that it is within the context of the Word. Doing as the occasion demands does not mean that you go against the written Word.

Just like some people read Mark 11: 24, *Whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive them, and you will have them.* What happens if someone asks for the wrong things that are against God's Word? It takes for granted that you understand the fact that your prayer must be based upon the Word. If you do things contradictory to the Word, your prayer is completely cancelled out. The "do as the occasion demands" is not automatically operative in all situations.

Saul failed to recognize two factors. He failed to recognize that he must wait for the anointing to come upon him; and he failed to realize that the anointing does not give you permission to contradict God's Word. In other words, if the anointing is on your life and if you are a man it does not give you permission to lay hand on a woman's sensitive parts. If you are a woman, it does not give you permission to lay hand on any part of a man that would embarrass him. Having the anointing does not give you the license to contradict the Word. You cannot give an excuse that you were operating under the anointing of God. The anointing will change your personality and you have certain liberty to operate a certain context. There are boundaries set by the written Word.

Secondly, the anointing must come. If the anointing does not come, it will make no effect. When the anointing is not there and people are not falling under the power, some ministers deliberately push the people down. I have been in the ministry long enough to know when a person is pushing where the average person do not know. There are many skills of pushing people down. Normally when the anointing does not come, Kathryn Kuhlman will not minister. Some people say she is long winded but she cannot help it because if the anointing does not come, she cannot do anything.

However, if you read her biography, you would find that towards the end of her ministry, her anointing seems to have stopped and in her services, she started pushing people down. Her biographer, Jaime Buckingham felt sorry for her in her latter services when he too saw that the anointing has already stopped. He stepped forward to be ministered by her and fell deliberately on the floor - not under the anointing but to save her face, so to speak. Kathryn Kuhlman also suffered from cancer and despite many anointed men and women of God praying over her, she was not healed. A recent report from a visit to heaven clarified this matter. Some Christians from a local church had made a study trip to heaven under the direction of the Holy Spirit. One of them spoke to Kathryn Kuhlman and she said the reason why the anointing stopped towards the end of her life and ministry was because God wanted her to retire and spend her remaining years with Him. However, she still insisted on serving God despite the anointing being stopped. When she persisted in her willfulness, the Lord had to allow cancer to afflict her in order to slow her down. That was why she was not healed, despite being visited by so many anointed men and women of God. God is always gracious to His servants. After laboring so many years for Him, God may grant a period of rest to His servants to spend time with Him before they depart from this earth. However, some do not take heed to God's desires and in the end, are afflicted with sicknesses and diseases.

Kenneth E. Hagin has a very interesting insight in his book, *Understanding the Anointing*. He quotes Isaiah 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.*

*Sometimes we turn that phrase around and say, "It's the anointing that destroys (or breaks) the yoke." That's saying absolutely the same thing: **The yoke shall be destroyed because of the anointing.***

*This is true in our lives and ministries as well: The yoke of sickness or anything else that the devil tries to put on us will be destroyed **because of the anointing.*** [UA]

In Kathryn Kuhlman's case, the anointing was lifted up in her latter years to enable to take a rest from her ministry. Unfortunately, she did not heed the Lord's request, and the enemy took advantage of the situation by placing some sickness upon her. As the anointing was already lifted up from her, there was no more anointing to break the yoke of sickness upon her.

William Branham can preach a sermon but he had to wait for the angel of God, before he could minister. The angel of God is the manifestation of his anointing on his life. I saw a film of him in one of his services. After he preached, he walked up and down the stage waiting for the angel of God to come. For several minutes, he kept everybody waiting. Why, because he was waiting for the manifestation of the anointing. For him the anointing was the manifestation of an angel. You can only do as the occasion demands when the Spirit has come. If the Spirit does not come, do not try to fake it. So many men of God sometimes do as occasion demands when the Spirit did not show up yet. It looks like they are creating an

impact but it is a big bluff. If you have about thirty guys lining up there for you to minister, you could start praying over them one by one. The problem is the anointing only came over you when you reached the fifth or sixth guy. Then people started falling under the power. However, the first few people you pushed down will get disappointed with you.

The funny thing is the response of people. You can fool those who cannot sense the anointing. However, you cannot fool me since I am familiar with the anointing. Whether people fall or not is not the criteria. You could push two hundred people down but if the anointing is not there, it is not there. What happens is this. That is what I call the law of percentages. If you push down the first four persons, the rest will become more yielded. They become more expecting. It helps them but did not help the first four. The general people do not see the things that are going on. When they see people falling, their faith level rises. So, the "skilful" minister pushes the first ten percent down in order to get the ninety percent to believe. This is not the way. Some people stand so close to you that you just want to go backward. Anyway, this is not the way that God wants you to minister. I mean if they fall praise the Lord. If they do not fall, also praise the Lord. They will receive if there is an anointing there. I know it when the anointing is coming upon me. I know the anointing comes on people even though they did not fall but their tears were running down. They know something has come on them. For some it may take some time before they fall.

So we are talking about this anointing of God and how it flows. If its not there you cannot do what the occasion demands. In I Sam. 10 verse 6, *And then the Spirit of the Lord shall come upon you* qualifies verse 7, *do as the occasion demands*. Only when the Holy Spirit comes, then you do what the occasion demands. Let me tell you, you realize in I Sam. 11 Saul did what the occasion demands even though he was in a fit of anger. Why because the Spirit of God was on him. That makes the difference. Whether he was in perfect or imperfect state of emotion, still the anointing took place. In I Sam. 11:6-7 *Then the Spirit of God came upon Saul when he heard this news, and his anger was greatly aroused*. That tells me the rest of the things he did had some anger involved. Now the Spirit of God was on him that was O.K. but the anger part I am not sure about it. I do not think it is quite O.K. Yet in spite of that God still works. God works in spite of the anger that Saul had.

It was the same way with Samson. Samson did certain things that were not from the Lord but when the Spirit of God came upon him, he was able to work mighty exploits. When the Spirit of God comes upon you, there will be some blessings coming forth. You can be sure of that. That is why some people do not understand about the anointing of God and they would think that a person really had to be that perfect before he can receive something. No, as long as there is a genuine anointing upon you, you can receive something from God. You can receive what the anointing came to do and to bring.

Demonstration of the Anointing

The following types of anointing were demonstrated in another church service by another pastor but this verbatim report is added here to expand on the above teaching (Ed.).

Spill Over Anointing

After the pastor has given his teaching, he told an elder sitting in the front pew to stand up. He said, "This brother here has been sitting in front here throughout the service. Unknown to him, he was absorbing the anointing that is present on me. This is called the spilt over anointing. This anointing won't last long." He then called a man who had persistent coughing to come up and touch the elder. Straightaway, the man with the persistent cough was slain. When he got up, he found that his throat has returned to normal and has no more irritations.

"That is why some people attend some Christian conferences and were imparted some anointing by the anointed minister of God. They come back to their churches and they operate in the anointing for about six months or so. After that, their anointing wane and they are back to their former selves. Actually, what

happened is that these ministers did not know how to maintain their anointing by faithfulness in their communion with the Holy Spirit and in their prayer life. “

“In the end times, there will be an accelerated mountain of anointing on chosen vessels. God will take the anointing on these chosen vessels and transmit it to their co-workers during the service. They will then multiply the work all over the place during the service.”

“To be able to absorb such an anointing upon a chosen vessel, make sure that the power is first on them. It is not only a matter of faith, but you have to make sure that there is a source of power in that vessel. Never try to build your faith on the Word by your mind, but let the Holy Spirit reveal the truth to you. Do not overemphasize the act of stepping out in faith when you know that there is no anointing on that particular minister. If there is no anointing on a particular minister, there is no point stepping out in faith to absorb any anointing from him or her. You will get nothing.”

“How do we touch the source of power? You must observe the ways of God.”

Anointing Upon an Object

Pastor now touched the mike to transmit the anointing onto it. He selected five persons in the congregation who have coughing problems and told them to prepare themselves spiritually by asking for forgiveness and for grace. Each of them goes to the mike and holds it. They reacted as if they were experiencing some electric shock and were slain in the Spirit. When they got up, they found their coughs gone. Later, many others who wanted healing for their coughs too lined up, touched the mike, and were healed too.

Pastor commented, “The point is this: the healing is done by the anointing and not by the human vessel. The anointing can be on the human vessel and it can be on any material thing. If you want to receive such an anointing from God, you must prepare yourself. God is faithful and He will bless you accordingly. Some ways of transmitting this kind of anointing have been declared in the Word. For example, the woman with the issue of blood had the wisdom to touch the hem of Jesus’ garment and was healed. She touched the source of power. However, some ways are not declared in the Word. I will show you.”

Pastor then stood on a red mat for a while and then walked away. He then asked two men to stand on the mat, one by one, and as they stood, they manifested violently and the demons left them.

Pastor then stood again on the red mat and increased the anointing on the mat. He said. “This anointing on this mat will make you paralyzed like a statue.” He then called two men and one woman to stand on the mat. As each one of them stood on the mat, they suddenly froze and became like statues. The elders lifted one by one like they were carrying statues and laid them on the floor. When the pastor clapped his hands, they came out of their frozen state and became normal. After that, they were trembling and crying because of the fear that they may not come out of the frozen state.

“In the end times, the Lord will release a special anointing for protection over His chosen vessels. People may come in numbers to attack these chosen vessels, but when they get near to them, they would be frozen on the spot. Their friends and relatives would have to carry them away like they were carrying statues. It would be a matter of weeks or days before they die. The only person who could release them from their frozen state would be the chosen vessel that they tried to attack. If he comes and prays over them, they would be healed. If he chooses not to come, these people would perish.”

“These types of anointing that the Holy Spirit are revealing to you will become the norm for the chosen vessels that the Lord is preparing and raising up in secret. What can hinder you from flowing in such anointing will be the man-inspired teachings and doctrines of your past. The devil will use the wrong teachings implanted in your mind as certification to block these types of anointing from flowing in your life and ministry. The Holy Spirit takes time to undo the wrong teachings in your mind and heart. If you do not give time to the Holy Spirit to teach you now, your mind and heart will be a major block to these new types of anointing that the Holy Spirit has prepared for the end times. The second blockage to the anointing is sin in your life. The third is when you are not prepared properly and spiritually. The fourth blockage will be an external one and will come from your loved ones, like your spouses. The fifth blockage is the wrong attitudes in your spirit and it is not easy for the Holy Spirit to undo if you are not willing to change. The devil will bombard you by reminding you of this scripture and that scripture and this teaching and that teaching in order to prevent these new types of anointing to flow in your life. If you do not have the Holy Spirit to reveal to you the truth about these scriptures and teachings, the twisted interpretation and deception given by the devil and his agents will hinder you.

Stationary and Flowing Anointing

“We must also observe the flow of the anointing. Sometimes the anointing does not flow and nothing will happen, even though the anointing is present on a vessel or on an object.”

Pastor touched the pulpit and says, “I have transmitted the anointing onto this pulpit but the anointing is not flowing. It is stationary.” He called a woman to come forward to touch the pulpit. Nothing happened.

Now he touches the pulpit again and says, “The anointing is now flowing. This anointing has the spirit of joy.” The same woman comes up and touches the pulpit. She started laughing hysterically in the Spirit.

“You not only have to be sensitive to the anointing but you also have to be sensitive whether the anointing is flowing or not. If the anointing is not flowing, you cannot do anything. You have to wait until the anointing begins to move, and then you act accordingly as the Holy Spirit directs you. There is such a thing as a stationary anointing and a flowing anointing in the same service.”

“Now the Holy Spirit wants to move the anointing of the Spirit of joy over the congregation. Those on the right side of the aisle raise your hands.” The people on the right side of the aisle raised their hands, and as soon as pastor waved his right hand over them, they burst out laughing.

“Those with pain in your hands also raise your hands.” When they raised their hands, they went into coughing. Later, many came to the mike to testify of healing of various pain in their hands, like bone ache, arthritis, joint pain, muscle pull, etc.

Power Shot Anointing

“This anointing is very powerful. It will be like receiving a cannonball in the stomach and you will be flung behind for several feet.” Pastor then called out Andrew and told him to prepare himself, ask for forgiveness and grace. Andrew then stood in the middle of the aisle about twenty feet away from pastor. The pastor pointed his finger at Andrew, and Andrew let out a scream and was flung several feet down the aisle before collapsing on the floor. “This power shot anointing is for blasting away very deep-rooted strongholds or strong demonic presence in an instant. What would have taken several praying over sessions before a person experiences complete deliverance can be done in an instant with this power shot anointing.”

Anointing Through the Vessel's Eyes

“Demons screamed when they saw the Lord Jesus Christ because the anointing was flowing from Him.” Pastor then called out a woman to the front. Then he asked her to quickly look into his eyes. She screamed and fell to the floor. When she got up, she went to the mike and told the congregation, “When I looked into pastor’s eyes, I saw they were like balls of fire. Some bright laser light shot out from his eyes and entered into my body and I saw some black shadow leaving me.”

Pastor then told the congregation, “When I say, ‘Look at me,’ look at my eyes immediately.” After pausing for a few seconds, he looked up and said, “Look at me.” Everyone in the congregation quickly looked at his eyes and started to cough violently and many demons were expelled from them.

Anointing Through Cloth

Pastor then asked for a white piece of cloth and wrapped himself with it. He took it out and asked for anyone in the congregation who wants deliverance to come forward. Those who came forward and wrapped the white cloth around themselves manifested violently and experienced deliverance.

Breathing Anointing

“God breathed the Spirit into Adam. The breath of God blew over the valley of dry bones, and it became a mighty army. Jesus also breathed the Spirit into His disciples. There is a breathing anointing too. I will breathe the Spirit of joy into this pot of flowers.” He called out some people to come forward and breathe in from the pot of flowers. When they breathe in, they burst out laughing. Pastor said, “The more you breathe in, the more Spirit of joy you will get.” They breathe in even more and burst out laughing hysterically. Everyone in the congregation also laughed. “God can breathe into you, or into material things.”

Transmitted Anointing

“This anointing is a very high level anointing. You can pray for people thousands of miles away and God can touch them.” Pastor then tells the woman monitoring the P. A. system in the room at the back of the hall to get ready. He said, “I am going to touch this pulpit here in front, and the anointing is going to bounce onto the lady in the P.A. system room at the back.” He touched the pulpit, and the woman in the P.A system room screamed and fell on the floor. The congregation caught the whole action on the TV sets placed at various points of the church hall.

2. THE INFLOW OF THE ANOINTING

In the first lesson, we defined the anointing. In this second lesson, we will touch on the impartation of the anointing in our life. Every anointed person receives the anointing and impartation in a slightly different way from others although there may be some common similarity. We will discuss the receiving of the anointing into our life and what it feels like.

Saul received his anointing in a different manner although he had a different response. In I Sam. 10:6-7 Samuel said when the Spirit of God comes on you, you will prophesy. Now Saul was not a prophet at all. He never had any call of God to be a prophet. He stood only in the office of king. The anointing on his life was not supposed to be a prophet’s anointing. Yet, when he came among these prophets the Spirit of God was imparted to his life and he prophesied. Was it a prophetic anointing? No, he received the kingly anointing but he experienced and manifested that anointing through prophesying. In those days, tongues had not manifested yet. So, he was not speaking in other tongues. They spoke in the Hebrew language. It could have been an outburst of praises onto the Lord. That was his physical experience of it. The bible did not describe what he felt. The bible merely recorded what he did. He prophesied in his language. It was in words. Can

you imagine what it was like? What did he say? He may have uttered praises to God. He may have poured forth words in great ecstasy and emotions. I could imagine him walking by that terebinth tree near Tabor. The prophets were playing cymbals, harps, and all kinds of musical instruments around that area. They were worshiping God. As Saul was coming, the Spirit of God came on his life and he says, "O, the Lord is good. He is so wonderful, etc." Now that is his physical experience. He may have had a burst of great emotion welling up on his inside. He was like another man. I do not think he was even a good singer. He sure had the experience of his life.

The anointing is like electricity. If you wear rubber shoes and a small current of electricity flows through you, it will not flow out of you and harm you. As long as there is no connection to the earth, you are safe. However, according to the laws of electricity, some semiconductors become good conductors at a very high voltage. Before electricity can flow, there must be an inflow and an outflow. A battery has electricity stored inside it. Batteries have a certain shelf life since the chemical ingredients inside will react and stop the flow of the electrons. A battery has a plus and a minus sign. As long as the plus and the minus ends of the battery are not connected, storing your battery in a dry place would allow it to last longer. As long as the plus and minus cannot connect each other there is no outflow. The moment you put a wire from the plus to the minus end, there are electrons flowing through.

Now when the power of God flows into our life, there will be an outflow of manifestation. There is no inflow without an outflow. It is impossible even in the natural. Your tank could be filled up to the brink until it cannot take in any more inflow. The moment you open any tap, the water in the tank starts flowing out through the tap and then the water from the main reservoir starts flowing into your tank. If there is no outflow there is no inflow. The amount of outflow is proportional to the amount of inflow.

When Saul came near these prophets the Spirit of God came on him like electricity and it needs to flow to something. Since it flows in, it must flow out. When it flows out, there is always a manifestation. People may fall under the power. It is not limited to that since there could be new manifestations. Falling under the power is very common. Why do people fall under the power? There is an outflow of anointing. I know what it is like since I have fallen under the power before. You feel like this force comes on you and your body cannot take it. When the power touches you and goes through you, that is when you fall. It is not just a matter of the anointing touching you. Sometimes, different people fall under the power differently. Some people fall forward. Some people tell me, "The bible says we must fall forward." They quoted Daniel who falls prostrate before God. That's the misuse of the scripture. They say the only time people fall backward is when they are crooks. Imagine there must be a lot of crooks in church then. Easily more than 90% of falling under the power is backwards. They say when the soldiers came for Jesus at Gethsemane, He said, "I am He," and they all fell backward. What an interpretation. When Paul fell off his donkey, he most probably fell backward. Whether you fall forward or backward does not indicate whether you are good or bad or whether it is from God or not from God.

Sometimes when the power touches people, it has not gone through them yet. It is just still working in their life. You began to see some effects. Some of them do not fall. Some shake but the moment the power goes through them, and then they fall. It depends on the degree of the anointing and the response of the recipient. It is not possible to say that you have been baptized in water by immersion and come out dry as a duck. If you have been baptized in the sea, your hair and body would be wet. When a heavily anointed minister laid hands on you, it is not possible to say you have received the anointing from him without experiencing some effects. I am not talking about strong effect. Sometime it could be a tangible sensation inside you. Some people sense warmth; others a cold chill and still others feel like needles poking them. Whatever it is, there is a tangible substance received. That is an outflow. If you touch electricity, you would feel something. Your body gets a jerk whether you like it or not. The power of God is no respecter of person – there will be an effect.

Just a few weeks ago, I met this guy for lunch. He has not been to this church for about a year or two. He just came once or twice. I said, "I haven't seen you in church." He said, "Yes." "Why?" "Because when I entered the place, I don't know why I started crying. My tears could not stop from beginning to end. I am scared." I said, "That's alright. Come and let the tears flow. After sometime you will adjust to God's presence and you will find your life is changed." It is something that needs to take place whether a person falls under the power, or a person shakes. At least you know they have received a little bit and something did happen.

Some people would start crying when the anointing starts moving in their life.

See there is an outflow depending on the different degree of the anointing and the receptivity of the recipient. Now how much it outflows through our life depends on a different factor. In the law of electricity, it depends on how good the conductor is. Under normal circumstances, water is a bad conductor and will not conduct electricity. However, if the electricity reaches a very high voltage, even water will conduct electricity. Actually, water does conduct electricity but only small amounts of current. When the voltage is too high, water becomes very dangerous since even that weak conductor can carry enough current to kill a person. So there are two sides to it - it depends on the amount of current transmitted and it depends on the conductivity of the material.

Likewise, each person in the spiritual realm has a different conductivity level. For whatever reason or background we come from, some people are better conductors than others of the anointing of God. The anointing flows easily in some people. Some people are poor conductors of the anointing and are just like dead wood. They could stand before the power and the anointing of God and they are touched only a little. The wonderful thing is that our spiritual conductivity level can change with time and relationship with God. If you are well related to God your conductivity level could reach to hundred percent. There are very few men if any who have reached that level where they could conduct the power of God a hundred percent like Jesus. Jesus was such a perfect conductor that the power of God goes through Him a hundred percent.

When we receive the power of God, there would be a manifestation. Sometimes that manifestation happens once during the first time and that person may never experience it again. An important key to the growth of an anointing in your life is the first manifestation. It is the symbol of the work of the Spirit in your life and the continuity of it. For example in Acts 19:6 it says that when Paul had laid hands on them, they prophesied and magnified God. Whenever somebody receives an anointing, there is an outflow of the anointing and a manifestation of that outflow. As you yield to that outflow, you would continue to receive an inflow of the anointing into your life. Some people may manifest the anointing in a more obvious and powerful way than others.

I remember there was a greater anointing that came upon me to do the work of the Lord in my life. I remember what it was like. The evangelist was laying hands on me and he happened to be one of those evangelists who push you a little bit. He was pushing me until I was literally curved backward. I did not want to go down because I felt the presence of God. If I had gone down, I felt I might miss the whole thing. Then I felt a warm sensation slowly coming out from me. I felt like laughing. I knew that if I let the spirit of joy out, I might not stop laughing. I also knew that if I did not yield to it, I might not receive fully what God wanted me to have. I had to make a choice between the two. See if I had not let it out, I would only have received that degree of impartation that day - up to the degree that I could sense the warmth. Maybe the Lord had designed me to receive twenty volts but I would have received only two volts that day if I kept resisting. I was resisting Him since I did not want to go down. Then in the end, I could not hold it any more, yielded to the spirit of joy, and went down to the floor. I made a choice. Now that is the outflow. The outflow comes by choice also. You could choose to stop the flow or to yield to the flow.

Many of you have prayed for lengthening of arms and legs and you have seen results. Have you notice that depending on a person's choice and yieldedness, you could command the growth of limbs and release the power of God? We could do such commanding prayers to a certain extend depending on the yieldedness of a person under anointing and power of God. I could command a person's left hand to shorten and be pushed back in Jesus' Name to conform to the person's original blueprint found in heaven. For example, if the Lord has created you to be 5 feet 10 inches, and you are slightly deformed and is only 5 feet 8 inches, then under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, I can command your backbone to be straightened up and reach your ideal height according to the blueprint God made you to be. However, I cannot pray that you grow to be 6 feet because that is not your original blueprint in heaven.

However, if inside you, you determined that you are not going to respond, the anointing would not work either. Some people think that the Spirit of God will just work without any response or decision in you. God honors your freewill. You may think that it is all make believe. However, you could literally feel a force

moving you. In the depth of our hearts, we need to say, "Yes, I am going to yield to that anointing when the evangelist prays over me." When you say yes, the power can flow through you. The moment you say no, the power is cut off. See there is an inflow and there is an outflow. The outflow is controlled by our freewill. You could have the most anointed man of God praying over you but if in your heart, you were reluctant or resistant, you will not be able to receive anything. You went forward to be prayed over not because you were hungry for God. Your wife or your grandma dragged you to the altar. Do you think God will violate a person's freewill if he or she does not want God? Sometimes people come up for prayers but inside them they say, "I am not receiving." You might as well pray for the chair - it makes no difference. God respects our freewill.

So in the same way as I was stand there at the stage to minister to people, I have to decide whether I allow the anointing to flow out to the people or not. I control the outflow. Sometimes in a prayer meeting, worship service or during devotional time with God, you felt like crying but you can make a decision to release or not. I have said no many times too. Just as you felt your tears were about to trickle down your cheeks, you told your tears to stop. You won't let them out. You made a decision in the wrong way. You say, "No, I cannot cry because my friends are next to me. What will others think of me?" Therefore, you said no. You know what happened. The Spirit came on you and wanted to flow out through you but you made a decision to stop the flow. Hence, as you did not yield to the outflow of the anointing from you, there is no inflow of more anointing into you. Imagine the many blessings we missed. Those who are pliable to the Lord receive a lot of things from the Lord. Nowadays, after learning all these things, I say, "Lord, I am not going to resist You." If I sense the Lord's sweet anointing and feel the tears coming, I would let them flow. If I sense the spirit of joy, I would yield to it and laugh it out. You say, "If that is the case then everyone of us would look like inmates of a mental asylum. There will be some laughing; there will be some crying; another guy will be on the floor. Why do you think? In Acts 2, the people thought that the disciples were drunk. There is no more inflow of God's anointing into your life if you keep resisting the outflow of an anointing from God.

I still have not finished my story. As the evangelist's hands were on me, I was bend backwards with a warm feeling and a desire to laugh. God came right at that moment and said, "Alright you decide. Do you want to let go or not? I made the decision and said, "Yes, I let go." The laughter came out of my deepest being. The moment I let the laughter out, a few thousand others in the congregation also burst out laughing. Suddenly, I felt that warm flow – it is almost like the warmth you feel when you are next to a fire - became hot like boiling oil. It overwhelmed me. That burning boiling oil feeling lasted for three days. I knew one thing – I received the full measure of the anointing that God wanted to give me that day. I knew I had received an anointing in some particular area that I may not understand yet. I knew God had put something there that no one can take away. Something was imparted to my spirit man. Notice there is no outflow without inflow. The amount of outflow you allow will limit the amount of inflow you let in.

I remember when I was in one of our prayer meetings here, suddenly I felt this great desire to cry and cry but no tears came yet. See it is not just a matter of emotions. No tears came yet because inside me was the decision maker that says to yield or not to yield. I could decide, "No, I am not going to yield to this." On the other hand, I could decide, "Yes, I am going to yield to this." God is so wonderful; He is such a gentleman He will not force it on me if I do not want. Inside of me, I said, "Lord, I don't care what people think but I am going to yield to this." The moment I decided, the tears started to flow like a river. This time I experienced a different thing. Before the tears came and all I had was just a flicker of it, I just had a sensation of His presence. The moment I decided to let go and let the tears flow, it was literally pouring out. I understood what Jeremiah the prophet meant when he said that his head was as waters. The moment I allowed the outflow of the manifestation of the anointing, there is an inflow of the anointing. I felt a hand with five fingers over my chest. It was there for the whole one hour while I was crying. I did not understand what I received. I knew I had received some more of that anointing. Now I learned to recognize that hand from time to time when I feel it.

In our next lesson, I am going to touch on how to continue to know Him as He reveals Himself in the outflow. That is why we say that there must be an outflow before the inflow. We cannot run away from that. If there is no sort of release in you, then there is no inflow coming from Him.

Sometimes it can be very gentle. I remember when I asked John Osteen to lay hands on me. I knelt down before him and I felt his hands touched me. I did not fall under the power. I felt warmth going through my body. That was all the anointing wanted to do. What I am saying here is do not try to work it out if it is not

there. If it is there, flow along with it.

I had another experience. This time I was in my house praying while sitting on my sofa. I am not quite a great shaker. As I was lifting up my hands to God alone in the house, and worshiping God, I felt a power wanting to shake me up. Now there was no devil around. Remember anything can be imitated. I am talking about the real presence of God with the real blessing of God. I felt my hands wanting to shake. Of course, the Holy Spirit is a gentleman. He goes down and speaks to the decision maker in our spirit man, "Would you or would you not?" I know that unless there is an outflow there is no inflow. Since it was in the privacy of my own home, well, I decided to shake my hands. Suddenly both my hands started shaking. Then from my fingers it went to my elbows, from my elbows it went to my shoulders, from my shoulders it went right through to my legs. I was sitting with my legs up by that time. My legs were also shaking. There I was from the top of my head to the tip of my toes shaking. Even my head was also shaking. So there, I was sitting on my sofa shaking from my hands to the tip of my toes. Do you know how long God kept me there? It was two hours. When my hands wanted to shake all I felt was warmth. Now the warmth was my first normal sensation. It is my individual peculiarity. That was all. The warmth is only about two volts of anointing. When I chose to yield and allow the outflow, this was what I felt. I felt like liquid fire in waves flowing from the top of my head to the tip of my toes. When one finished, another came along. Two hours of that. By the time you come out of that, you know that you had become a different person. You know that the anointing of God is on your life. Every time I allowed the outflow with the inflow coming in, the ministry has changed through greater anointing. So that sometimes when I minister when the anointing comes, I feel like a cup of boiling oil. Whenever I point at a person, I could literally see that oil coming on them. The problem with most people is that most of the time they have their entire outflow stuck up. When the tears were coming out, they want to dam up the floodgates and quickly get the tissue paper. In every way, we pull out all the stoppers. Then after many years of doing that we ask God, "Lord, I wonder why I never have your anointing." God answers, "Sorry, there is no inflow of the anointing if you do not yield to the anointing and let it outflow." No inflow without outflow, it is as simple as that.

Demonstration of the Anointing

The following two types of anointing were demonstrated in another church by another pastor. This report is added here to expand on the teaching on the anointing of the Holy Spirit.

Anointing Through the Eyes

Pastor says, "Somebody on the left side of the congregation is having a throat problem. You are feeling very hot and comfortable in your throat." Somebody that fits the description stood up and went to stand in the middle of the aisle. Pastor continues, "The anointing will descend on the vessel and now the vessel will look at you." The moment the pastor looked at that person, he let out a scream and fell to the floor.

Later the person came to the mike and testified, "I saw fiery power coming from the vessel's eyes, and there is immediate relief in my throat."

Pastor said, "There is somebody on my left with a leg that is numb and hot. Can you please stand up?" A lady stood up and went to stand in the middle of the aisle.

Pastor continues, "Kathryn Kuhlman was also known to look at people and they flew under the power coming from her eyes. That is a foretaste of new types of anointing that will be released in the body of Christ. Jesus Christ told someone who was taken up to heaven that He will do new things through the vessel. Actually, the Lord is raising up a new breed of ministers who will move in new types of anointing. The Holy Spirit wants to accomplish great things in the end times, and the way to do this is to release new types of anointing. The Holy Spirit has expressly said that many great men of God that are serving God today will be taken home soon. They have been serving God well but they only knew the old types of anointing. It is their dispensation. Now the new dispensation calls for new types of anointing. The Holy Spirit has to remove

them so that new servants of God will arise with new types of anointing to accomplish the last great revival. The Holy Spirit cannot put new wine in old wineskins. The old wineskins will burst and the new wine will be lost. Thus, the Holy Spirit will have to take home these great men of God first so that they will not be a hindrance to the new anointing. Millions of non-Christians will come to know and accept the Lord Jesus Christ when this new work begins. However, if Christians do not have fellowship with the Holy Spirit, they may oppose this new move of God and find themselves working against God, just like the Jews did not know God and opposed Jesus Christ when He came in their midst.”

“Are you ready, sister?”

“Yes.”

“Now, look at my eyes.”

The moment she saw the vessel’s eyes, she bend forward and a force seems to push her as she backpedal uncontrollably to the end of the hall before collapsing on the floor. She later testified to the congregation that her leg was healed.

Pastor also said, “There is a person whose lungs feel very tight. Can you please stand up?” Jonathan stood up. He commented, “The major problem in the church today is that Christians are not listening to God. They are doing their own thing. If you ever want to see the anointing of the Holy Spirit, you must listen to the Holy Spirit. First, you must have the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Secondly, you must wait for His instructions and directions. You cannot do as you wish. If you persist in ignoring the Holy Spirit’s instruction, you will be taken out of ministry. Finally, when you obey the Holy Spirit, there will be a manifestation. The Holy Spirit will bear witness to you. The Holy Spirit is showing us these types of anointing to prepare us for the end times. The end times anointing will be at a very high level.”

“Now, look at my eyes.” Jonathan looked at the vessel’s eyes and a force pushed him backwards to the end of the hall. He was screaming.

“Powerful forces are binding his lungs. The power of God hit at the powerful forces and they reacted. This eye anointing has blasted the demons inside the person and the demonic forces behind the person will try to put the problem back to him.”

Later Jonathan testified, “I felt a powerful force from vessel’s eyes hitting my lungs. I now feel energized, powerful and very strong.” Pastor added, “The after effect of this anointing is that your spirit man will feel very strong. Your born again spirit man will respond.”

Healing Anointing Through the Finger

Pastor said, “This healing anointing through the finger overlaps with the glory finger. The working is different. The glory finger is through the Glory of God. It is Glory healing. This finger anointing literally points the finger at the root problem. The healing through the finger operates in this manner. A person with a heart problem may have 5-6 symptoms. The root problem is in the heart. The finger anointing points to the root problem and once the heart problem is healed, all the symptoms and side effects will disappear. Even indirectly related problems will disappear. This anointing must be directed by the Holy Spirit, or you will be in trouble.”

“There is a man with a back problem. You are experiencing sharp pain in both your legs. Your throat is hoarse. Your stomach is easily churned and you tend to go to the toilet often. Your back problem has affected your nerves and your blood vessels. That is why you have pain in other parts of your body.”

Several stood up to indicate they have the abovementioned problems. Pastor told the elders to examine one by one to see which one of them has all the symptoms mentioned. As they were checking them, pastor continues, “The very essence of serving God is taking instructions from the Holy Spirit. Too many people who claim to be serving God are actually doing their own thing. They do not fellowship with the Holy Spirit. They know not the Holy Spirit. They are actually lawless. If you fill your ears with the darkness of gossip and slander, how can the Holy Spirit speak to your ears?” The elders finally determined that a man fitted all the descriptions and presented him to the pastor. Pastor said, “Yes, he is the one. Now, get ready – prepare your heart, confess your sins and ask for grace.” He points his finger at the man and he falls to the floor.

After he woke up, the elders examined him. However, he was not completely healed. He still had some pain in his body although his back pain is gone. Pastor paused for a moment and then said, “The Holy Spirit has opened his file in heaven and checked his records. The reason why he received partial healing and not complete healing is because he did not keep his word that he made to God. Many people forget the promises they make to God. They promised to obey God but at critical moments, they disobeyed God and went on their own way. This sin has blocked him from receiving the fullness of his healing. God wants to highlight this: confess all your sins before you fall asleep. Don’t keep your sins overnight.”

“There is a person with heart conditions. You have general weakness over your body. You are experiencing heaviness in your head. Your leg movement is slow. You feel sleepy and tired all the time.”

An Indian woman stood up and claimed all the conditions. Pastor pointed his finger at her, and she ran backwards the full length of the aisle, screaming at the top of her voice uncontrollably.

“The finger anointing is very powerful. It has blasted away the evil spirits that are causing these physical problems to her. The evil spirits were immediately sucked out by the anointing.

After she got up, she went to the mike and testified, “I saw a ball of fire coming from the vessel’s finger. My whole body was set on fire. I could perceive some dark forces outside blasted away. I feel very nice in my feet, legs, and heart. All glory and thanks to the Holy Spirit.”

“There is a person with a womb problem. You experience contractions in your womb, and sometimes you feel your stomach so flabby. Because of your womb problem, you suffer loss of appetite and dizzy spells. Your torso is uncomfortable and you have aches all over your body.

Theresa, a Chinese woman stood up. Pastor pointed his finger at her, and she collapsed to the floor. As she lay there under the power, pastor continues, “All the lawless ones who do not listen to the Holy Spirit when they serve God will go out of business. The Holy Spirit has no more patience with those who are playing church but who are not listening to Him. When that day happens, then the people of God will know the real from the false.”

“If you have problems in your life, pray hard to the Holy Spirit. Healing is the children’s bread. That is a very good point to use in your prayer petition to God. Do not go before God and talk nonsense. God will not tolerate it.”

Theresa woke up and found that all her womb problem is gone.

3. INDIVIDUAL PECULARITIES

In our previous lesson, we have defined the anointing. We have talked about the manifestation of the anointing. We are covering more grounds than our book, "The Anointing of the Holy Spirit." On page two of our book, we wrote:

We can define and understand the anointing by watching its manifested work upon the lives of those it comes upon. Bezaleel and Aholiab received special skill in metal works, jewellery and embroidery (Ex. 31: 1-6).

[AHS]

In the last session, we touched on yielding to the outflow in order to receive an inflow of the anointing. When the anointing comes, there is an inflow and there is an outflow. That is what causes the manifestation. You cannot say that you have the anointing when there is no outflow, or visible sign or some experiences. See God is an experience. I know that we walk by faith in the Word of God and not by sight or feeling. Yet, we do not ignore the fact that there are spiritual experiences in the spirit realm. We have said that the amount of inflow will be proportional to the outflow of the anointing of God. When we release the anointing of God then more of the anointing of God will flow into our life.

Let us see in the life of David how the anointing came upon his life and what was manifested in his life. Turn to the book of II Samuel 23:1 *Now these are the last words of David. Thus says the man raised up on high. The anointed of the God of Israel; The Spirit of the Lord spoke by me, and His word was on my tongue. The God of Israel said, "The Rock of Israel spoke to me: He who rules over men must be just, ruling in the fear of God. And he shall be like the light of the morning when the sun rises, a morning without clouds, like the tender grass springing out of the earth, by clear shining after rain."*

David was a man of war. However, we see that his life was marked with a tremendous outflow of worship and psalms. Remember we said that where there is an inflow there is an outflow. Unless we release the outflow, there is no further inflow of the anointing into our life. Whenever the anointing comes upon David's life, he would always sing or speak forth God's praises in songs and psalms. He expressed himself in worship unto God. There is an outflow from his life. There could be many types of outflow in different lives or even in the same life, there could be many types of outflow but some outflows would feature more prominently than others. In David's the outflow of the psalms and worship stand out strongly in his life. He is known as a sweet psalmist of Israel. In other people's life, the outflow may be strongly manifested in other areas. In some people's lives, the outflow is shaking. They may not be that good in singing and worshipping. That is not their field. When the anointing comes into their life, they get into a shaking. I am not saying that the Holy Spirit causes all types of manifestations. There could be demonic imitation. Or it could be just simply the flesh. However, that does not rule out the fact that there are genuine ones. The problem is not whether there is a manifestation or not. It is a matter of discerning the type and origin of the manifestations. A manifestation of shaking comes on some people. For some people, the anointing is manifested through prophesying. Some people would just rock to and fro when the anointing of God comes upon their life.

Do not make whatever manifestation into a doctrine. The Spirit of God once started moving on a group in Africa. Whenever the anointing hit the people, they would dance. Then after some time, they came out with a doctrine that unless you dance, you do not have the Holy Ghost. That is not what it should be. People began to box the Holy Spirit in. It does not mean that when you dance that, that is the only evidence of the Lord working in your life. Neither does it mean that the Spirit necessarily inspires dancing - it could be in the flesh too. What we are saying is that there is an effect caused by the anointing of God. Therefore, do not take it too far and make statements like, "If you don't rock, you don't have the Holy Spirit." "If you don't shake, you don't have the Holy Spirit." "If you don't prophesy, you don't have the Holy Spirit." We are judging people's experience by our own experience. That is the unfair thing to do. There are many types of manifestation of the anointing. We have not exhausted every type of manifestations. Sometimes it could be

just very quiet.

One thing we can note. The way you received the anointing will be peculiar to you in your situation. There may be similarities with others but the way the anointing comes on your life will be special and peculiar to you. Some people get warm when the anointing comes on their life. Some people feel their legs moving. Some people stand up a bit. Some people believe that when the anointing is there, your hair stands up. Remember we are dealing with what we call side effects of the manifestations. Therefore, do not take the side effects and build some theology upon these side effects. However, we need to touch on this subject so that we could have some understanding of the various forms of manifestation of the anointing.

During George Fox's time, the phenomenon of shaking among his people was called the Quaker movement. There are similar manifestations today. When the Spirit of God gets on the people, they began to shake. Scorners and mockers have attended these meetings and derided the anointing of God. When those same phenomena came on these hecklers, they would feel their heads and bodies about to shake and vibrate. They would resist it. They resisted the force that was shaking them. George Fox's journal contains a record of a man who resisted the shaking so hard that he broke his neck. These are what I call side effects. Some people will not make much of side effects but since we are dealing with this subject matter thoroughly, we will touch on all these areas.

Now the point that we are driving at is this - we must learn to recognize how the anointing manifests in our own life. We can thank God for how He manifests in others' lives. We must learn to recognize how He manifests in our life. If He manifest in your life through a warm sensation then that is peculiar to you. If He manifests through shaking, that is another individual peculiarity. I met one prophetess from India who loves to wear white. She is very sharp in her word of knowledge and word of wisdom. Some people accept her ministry but some did not. The problem was her side effect. When she ministers, both her hands would shake. Some people think that she had gone into a trance. Some people think it was a demon. I picked it up in the Spirit and found that it was a genuine gift of God working. She is very accurate and very sharp in the operation of the gift. She brought many people to the Lord. She passed all the tests on the Word. She passed all the tests on the fruit. The only thing that is strange is her peculiar manifestation of her anointing. There is such a thing as peculiar anointing. Some types of manifestation of anointing are very dignified. Some may not look so dignified.

There is another sub-law that we bring into this. Our experience of the Lord can change as we grow in the Lord. You must add in that factor. Once we learn to recognize His manifestation and how it comes be aware of this sub-point - as we grow in Him and walk with Him through the years, His manifestation in our life can change. In other words, He may not exactly manifest the anointing like He did to you two or three years ago. You will know the change as it comes. Usually the change comes at each phase.

We are going to look at phases in ministry in this study. God divide our life into phases. Usually when we move from one phase to the next phase, the sensation changes. You experience changes in the anointing upon your life when you enter a new phase in your life and ministry. You know that is a different phase and anointing of God that you are moving in. We keep growing from glory to glory; phase to phase in a different anointing of God. You must not forget this sub-clause. Otherwise, you may keep looking for the old manifestation and familiar anointing when God is bringing you to a new phase and new working in your life. Why is it that way? There are so many varied anointing each of them have a different effect on our life. It causes a slightly different manifestation.

Let us go back to the main point. We all must recognize the anointing coming in our life. You must know when it comes. Recognize the sensation; recognize the tangibility, and how it comes to your life. God is not against us analyzing this thing. He is only against our unbelief. If you are seeking to analyze for the sake of flowing better God is not against that. God is against unbelief. You must have an open mind to learn from the Holy Spirit. Therefore, we need to recognize how it comes into our life. If every time the anointing comes upon you and your hands feel like shaking, you know the anointing is there for you.

Let me repeat this so that people do not take this kind of teaching wrongly. This type of teaching is easy to take out of context and build something funny out of it. For example, someone may have a particular sensation of shaking when the anointing comes. He then goes around, saying that you must have feel that shaking when the anointing comes upon you. Do not take your individual peculiarity and make it universal for everybody else. In other words, you cannot tell people that if they do not shake, they do not have the anointing. It would be just like the guy who received the baptism in the Spirit while he was in the bathtub. One day he met another guy who said, "I want the Holy Spirit. I have been seeking the Holy Spirit for years." He said, "No problem. Come to my house. Now go to my bathtub. I received it there - so can you." An anointed bathtub ministry has started. That is how this kind of teaching can easily be misunderstood. Understand that extreme teachings can arise. If you understand the peculiarities and the specific tangibility of the anointing in your life and you know that it's God not the flesh - do not try to do it when you are still in the flesh and no anointing has descended upon you yet. When you know that is God, then you release yourself into them. It becomes your way of knowing when the anointing has come.

See we have to recognize how the anointing comes on our life. The interesting thing about teaching on the anointing is that the anointing is on one side and moving in faith is another. We have to learn to move in both avenues. Sometimes it looks like moving in faith and moving in the anointing is diametrically opposed but they are not; they are complimentary to one another. If you preach the Word and tell the people not to go by their feeling but by the Word of God, you are ministering by faith. If you are ministering under the anointing, you cannot do that. You have to sense not with your five senses, not with your feelings, not with your mind, but with your spirit. You have to move into the realm of spiritual sensory perception where you would know the anointing peculiar and particular to you coming on you.

Let me give some of my personal experience. You may not copy it but it is good to see how it is happening in another person's life. In the early stages of my ministry, I know the anointing only through a warm sensation in my heart. I felt like Lk. 24 when Jesus was walking with the two disciples on the way to Emmaus. After Jesus disappeared and when they realized it was Jesus, they said to one another, "Did not our hearts warm when He spoke?" I felt that sensation. That was my first recognition in my life. That still occurs from time to time. Another different sensation is now added to that warmth in my heart. I want to show the progressive increase of anointing. Every time when the anointing is there, I feel this warm glow coming. Whenever I am doing the right things and the anointing of God is flowing, I could feel His warm glow all over on the inside. Of course, when you have a sensation please check it out first. Do not take this teaching to confirm that every sensation is God. For example, you could be sitting in a room, praying and seeking God and you feel warmth all over your shoulders. First, check whether the radiator is behind you. Check in the natural. Do not reach a point where anything different is attributed to the anointing.

I remember this brother who was sharing about how he was in this house and they were praying for this lady who was sick. As they were praying and everyone had their eyes closed, his eyes were partially opened. This lady had a cat. While they were praying the cat just came from one side of the room and jumped on top of this lady and jumped off. The moment the cat jumped on the lady, the lady said, "I accept it, it's the anointing," and she got up and was healed. To this day, he dare not tell her that it was the cat in case she lose the healing.

Some people need some help like that but check first whether it has some natural causes. If suddenly, you feel a strange feeling on your left shoulder, check whether your shirt or blouse is too tight. Do not just jump to conclusion. Sometimes it is not the anointing. There is a natural cause but we think it is the anointing. Check all possible natural explanations first before arriving to a conclusion. However, there is this warm glow, which I know it is not naturally caused. I first began to experience it when I spent a lot of time praising God. Then the tangibility of it is there. Some people are very frustrated because they could have started their Christian life with hardly any sensation - like me. I do not know why everybody else seems to have sensations of the anointing. They come to the Lord and they could cry, weep, and be touched by the Lord. However, when you come before the Lord, you do not feel anything. You wonder what is wrong with you.

We know the reason for the problem now. I did not know the reason earlier in my ministry. Your batteries are flat. They need charging. It is just like a tape recorder that runs on six volts and if your batteries are about three volts, you would not have any sound coming from the tape recorder. You have to add

additional fresh batteries. Then you have the sound back. Therefore, what happens is people's Word and faith level are not to the point where they could begin to experience spiritually the things of God. If that is your situation, be encouraged you have many others for company. Just be faithful to fellowship with the Holy Spirit; get more Word into you; just be faithful to spend more time in praise and worship; just be faithful to spend more time in prayer. When you spend a lot of time before the face of God, you will build your spiritual voltage to the level where you could sense the tangibility of the anointing. We touch a point to cover those who do not seem to feel any manifestation of the anointing. When you reached a stage where you have a tangibility that is where we must recognize its tangibility and manifestation, pinpoint it, and understand what it is telling you.

After that, the anointing began to operate a little bit differently, where I not only sense a warm over my chest area, I sensed a warmth all over my shoulders. Therefore, it increased. Together with that, I get a few other peculiar signals for different types of sicknesses, diseases, and problems. I learn to recognize the peculiarity of these manifestations. I moved into that for some time. Later on, the Lord changed it again and now I feel warmth from the top of my head to the tip of my toes. For Kenneth E. Hagin, the anointing is like a coat thrown over him. Each person has a peculiar way of experiencing it. However, peculiar and particular you must learn to recognize the anointing of God in your life. How does it come and what does it do? That is the first area - recognize your individual peculiarity of your anointing.

See in the book of II Kings chapter 3. Elisha was asked to prophesy because the three kings had problems and Elisha said in verse 13 *Then Elisha said to the king of Israel, "What have I to do with you? Go to the prophets of your father and the prophets of your mother." But the king of Israel said to him, "No, for the Lord has called these three kings together to deliver them into the hand of Moab." And Elisha said, "As the Lord of hosts lives, before whom I stand, surely were it not that I regard the presence of Jehoshaphat king of Judah, I would not look at you, nor see you. But bring me a musician." Then it happened, when the musician played, that the hand of the Lord came upon him. And he said thus says the Lord.*

See he recognized the anointing coming on him. Before that, he recognized that it was not there. I can observe that Elisha knew what the anointing was like in his own life. He knew it when he came. He knew it when it was not there. He must have some way of knowing. Therefore, he has reached that first point where he learnt to recognize the peculiarity of his own anointing. That takes experimentation. These things that we teach you got to put into practice the next time that you move into the anointing. Sometimes when you start and you are not sure but you examine it after everything is over to see how was the anointing. To see whether there was really an anointing, check the result. See the anointing produces results.

Notice on page four in the book. It says the anointing produces power and conviction. Therefore, there will be a demonstration of the Spirit. There will be a demonstration that it was the anointing. As in Isa. 10:27 the anointing breaks the yoke. You could see the results of the anointing. This is something you cannot miss. Sometimes as you move into it, you may not be so aware. Later, when you hear the testimonies coming back you began to realize what it was. Then you began to check yourself how it felt; what was it like; how did it come; it takes a lot of experimentations. These things that we learn you need to keep practicing them until it become a part of you. The after several times you learn to recognize it. Learn to recognize its peculiar sensation in your life.

Elisha had firstly learned to recognize his individual peculiarity of his anointing. Secondly, he also learned how to get the anointing when it is not there. He learned how to stir up what was called to be upon his life and what was rightfully his to function in. He learned to stir it up. He purposely asked for a musician. While the musician played, it must have helped him to get into a certain stage where he could move into the anointing of God.

David was a psalmist. In the anointing *upon*, (we are not talking about the anointing *within*) the anointing upon comes and goes as the Spirit wills. The anointing upon does not remain permanently on our life. When the work is over that it has come to perform the anointing is lifted off. There are times where there is a demand made on the anointing and when it is not there we need to learn to stir it forth. Elisha has learned it. Suppose David wanted to draw on a greater measure of the anointing. I know the first thing that

he would do. He would take his harp and play it until the anointing comes upon him. Music plays a big role in the anointing upon. If you watch Kathryn Kuhlman's videotapes, you will find that music played a big role in her moving into the anointing upon her life. Kenneth E. Hagin has also mentioned that. You could be ministering under the anointing upon but if suddenly the musicians play the wrong music, the Holy Spirit is grieved and the anointing is lifted up. There is an anointing upon that we learn to recognize. David learnt to get it by music. Notice he says in one of his psalms that songs of deliverance encompass him.

Lets look at the book of I Samuel 10:5 *After that you shall come to the hill of God where the Philistine garrison is. And it will happen, when you have come there to the city, that you will meet a group of prophets coming down from the high place with a stringed instrument, a tambourine, a flute, and a harp before them and they will be prophesying.*

Notice the word there "they will be prophesying." Now this is a group of prophets. They were stirring the anointing upon their life through music. The anointing was definitely upon them. As Saul passed by, the anointing that was upon their life jumped off them and came on Saul. There was an anointing upon. The question is why were they doing what they were doing. Why won't this group of prophets sit cross-legged under the terebinth tree waiting on God? It was not their way to stir up the anointing of God. The way that they had discovered for their lives was to constantly play music. It stirs the anointing on their life. They have reached level two.

Some people only moved into level one. At level one, we learn to recognize how it comes. At level two, we learn when it is not there how to bring it about. We are going to touch on this level a little bit - how to discover your particular way of bringing down the anointing. How do we discover the way in which the anointing can come in our life? By examining your particular manifestation when you first receive the anointing. When you first received the anointing and you prophesy you can be assured that you keep on prophesying to maintain it. If the anointing came upon you and your hand shakes, the next time you want the anointing of God, wait on Him, get into the atmosphere you learn and you stir and you sense that little hand shakes coming.

Now this kind of stirring is a little bit like Samson. Let us look at Samson as he operates in the anointing. In the book of Judges, Samson he has a particular way of moving in the anointing and his anointing was tremendous. He had such a powerful strength that came supernaturally. I want to point to you the fact that when his head was shaved and his covenant was broken, the anointing was lifted up from him. In Judges 16, a phrase there gives you an incident that could point to how he did it in verse 20. *And she said, "The Philistines are upon you, Samson!" Therefore, he awoke from his sleep, and said, "I will go out as before, at other times, and shake myself free!" But he did not know that the Lord had departed from him.*

When Samson had the anointing come upon his life, he seems to have this shaking. When he wants the anointing, he seems to get it. Let me point to some local kind of situation that you could identify it with. There is a sense where you know that the anointing is bubbling forth you just have to release it for it to come forth. In any meeting or in any situation where you know that the anointing is hovering and ready to be released, you know exactly when it will be released. You could sense it. You could withhold it also. On the other hand, you could release more of it when you learn how the anointing comes on your life and what are its side effects. Although that is not the perfect kind of illustration but it will be in line with what Smith Wigglesworth said in his book. "When the Holy Spirit does not move, I move the Holy Spirit." That is a very strange statement to say. When you take that statement out of context, it can give rise to dangerous ideas. The Holy Spirit is God, and we cannot arm-twist Him to do our bidding. However, Smith Wigglesworth is saying that he has learned to recognize how the Holy Spirit moves. He knows like Elisha how to get into the anointing when he has a need. He knows how to move into the anointing when he needs it. That is where we say we need to understand our own peculiar sensation and know how to stir the anointing.

What other ways could it be experienced? Some people may not experience that kind of warmth. They may experience it differently. They may experience a kind of cold wind blowing. It does not mean that it always has to be hot. Some people say that since God is hot, then cold sensation is from the devil. Hell is hot too. We cannot use that as a theology. For whatever reason sometimes when people sense the anointing

they feel this cold shower over them. It comes in waves. Therefore, they have to learn to recognize when it comes, how it comes.

If you observe Kathryn Kuhlman very carefully, she always lifts up her hands. Some people would need to lift up their hands before they get it. For example, in your first experience, you sensed the bubbling of the anointing of God and found that the anointing was released when you just lifted up your hands. Then the next time you sense the bubbling, you release it by lifting up your hands again, and the same anointing comes. Your particular anointing is released through what I call a release of faith God has given to you. It is just as if God has given you a teaching anointing you would have the confidence to operate in it even though at that time you are invited you don't have the anointing upon you. Lets say suddenly you are called to teach. You could depend on that teaching anointing to bring forth the Word through your life. You could allow it to have demands made on the anointing of God. You developed a confidence in the grace and the gift of God in your life.

Let me repeat that statement again. What we are saying here in this level two is that not only do we learn how to stir it, the way we learn to stir it is to recognize the peculiarity of how it first outflow through our life. When first outflow of the anointing happened when you praised and worshipped God, or lifted up your hands, or playing your guitar, maintain what you did. Remember in all these outward manifestations, it is assumed that your relationship with God is fine. If your relationship with God is not fine, you will be like Samson - thinking that since you have been moving in the anointing regularly by a particular release of faith, it will come automatically. However, if you have left the Holy Spirit, and you tried to release the anointing by your usual release of faith, nothing will happen.

Let me rephrase those last few words. When you know there is a peculiar way in which it always comes you could rely on it as long as your relationship with Holy Spirit is right. You could rely on it as surely as you rely on a weapon in your life, which you have learned to use. You could definitely rely on that when you learned to operate in that and you know the anointing is on that. When your relationship is not right and you try to rely on that, you will be like Samson. You go through all the motions, the right actions, but if you have no relationship with the Holy Spirit, nothing comes forth but the flesh. It works if you have a relationship with the Holy Spirit but it does not work if you do not have a relationship with the Holy Spirit.

There are quite a few subjective experiences, divided into the four types of experiences.

Engulfed in His presence

Many believers experience being engulfed in His presence by reading the Bible with an open heart and being willing to let the Word speak deeper into the spirit man. In doing so, the Holy Spirit turns the logos into rhema. This may also be experienced by personal communion with the Holy Spirit in prayers, praying in the spirit, singing in the spirit with high praises, faith confession and meditation on "rhema" word.

Feeling His Holy Presence

Many have also experienced a very clear state of mind, which is the seeming inability of their minds to think ungodly thoughts when they have ascended into the manifested presence of God. For the presence of the Lord is a holy presence. The scripture assures you that when you sow in the spirit, you will not reap in the flesh (Gal. 5: 6-7). When you have overcome the resistance of your soul and your flesh and moved into the presence of God, you will not hear the voices of the devil and the flesh (Gal. 5: 16).

Some experience conviction of sin and forgiveness from God. Some others experience the removal of bondages such as fear, anxiety, resentment, unforgiveness, negative attitudes, and sins. In the holy presence of the Lord, you are often led into repentance and restoration.

Overflowing in the heart

There is also a very strong level of faith and confidence when your spirit touches the manifested presence of God. There is sometimes a strong urge to give heartfelt thanks to God for things that you normally neglect to appreciate Him.

Physical sensations

Some people feel tingling sensations on their palms or even over their arms when they have ascended into the presence of God.

Some may feel a layer of heat over their necks, faces, shoulders, or backs. You need to find out the significance of each of them.

Some people can see a very thin haze (once I saw it golden, other times white) in the atmosphere that is visible to the physical eyes.

Some experience a “drunk” sensation in their head, which is a kind of soft and peaceful feeling that is not eerie at all. Their arms become weak, or the legs become so heavy that they have difficulty moving them. The presence of God is a weight of glory (2 Cor. 4: 17).

Some can even momentarily smell a sweet aroma. (The presence of God is a very pure and delightful presence.)

A little illustration before we close. Stand before me and close your eyes. As we stand here, I pick in my spirit where I sensed the anointing is moving. As I pick it up, I could sense a pull in my spirit. I do not just simply lay hands on the head of a person. Before I lay hand or point to them, I want to sense what the Spirit is doing. Therefore, what the Spirit do I just co-operate and then it flows. In other words, I do not make the decision when I move in the anointing. If I am not moving in the anointing, I forget all these things and just lay hands. When you are moving in the anointing you got to be sensitive to that anointing that is there. I move my hands into that area. As I move my hands into this area, I sense it building up. As it built into certain level, I know that it is just the right time to release it.

Demonstration of Anointing

Another pastor in another church service gave the following teaching and demonstration of anointing. This verbatim report is added here to expand on the teaching on the anointing of the Holy Spirit. (Ed.)

Pastor says, “The Holy Spirit would like to shed more light on the healing anointing. We have seen the finger anointing and the eye anointing. The finger healing anointing destroys the root cause of the sickness or disease and all the symptoms together. It is useful for complex cases where there are so many symptoms, you are not sure what is the root cause. Doctors may even run several diagnoses before coming to some conclusion. Even then, doctors may disagree with one another when diagnosing a particular patient. The finger healing anointing literally puts its finger on the root cause and heals the root cause. Once the root cause is dealt with, all the other symptoms are dealt with too.”

“The eye anointing is also powerful. It is one of the “greater works than these” mentioned by the

Lord Jesus Christ that the body of Christ will do. During His life and ministry on earth, there is no record of Jesus using the eye anointing to heal the sick.”

“There may be overlapping benefits between the finger anointing and the eye anointing. However, there are main features associated with the eye anointing. In the spiritual realm, there are different demonic forces with different abilities. God gives different types of anointing to tackle the different abilities and powers of Satan. In the natural realm, we see that certain medicines are made to tackle certain types of physical problems. Likewise, the eye anointing is useful for blasting away strongholds in a person that came through his or her eye gate. Jesus Christ said, *“The lamp of the body is the eye. If therefore your eye is good, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eye is bad, your whole body will be full of darkness. If therefore the light that is in you is darkness, how great is that darkness!”* (Matthew 6: 22-23)

“If your eye gate is given over to works of darkness, you will allow the enemy to plant his strongholds in your body until your whole body is full of strongholds. When you yield to the enemy’s strongholds in your body, you will accumulate sin and darkness in your being. The Holy Spirit wants to expose the work of the enemy in infiltrating your body through your eye gate. When your eye gate is dark, your heart will also be filled with darkness. These are immense powerful forces of darkness. The only way to attack them is through the eye anointing. You can lay hands on the sick but certain diseases and sicknesses are best dealt with by the eye anointing. God has antidote for every kind of problems but you must learn from the Holy Spirit. If you do not fellowship with the Holy Spirit, how can the Holy Spirit teach you the deeper aspects of the healing anointing? You may learn from men and from books. However, many of their teachings come from their own intellect and not from the Holy Spirit. That is why men’s teachings bring a lot of confusion to the body of Christ.”

“One of the works of the enemy on the eye gate is creating of fears and phobias. Seeing unpleasant, frightening, and evil things provoke many types of fears in people. They can be dealt with by the eye anointing.”

Under the direction of the Holy Spirit, pastor calls out six ladies who are having fears in their lives. When they came up to the stage, the anointing caused them to suddenly relive their fears and they were crying and shaking from their fears. Pastor told them to prepare spiritually to receive the eye anointing. “Now, look at my eyes.” The six women looked at pastor’s eyes, screamed, and fell backwards to the floor. After they came up, each one of them came up to the mike to testify.

First lady: “I had a fear of lizards and fear of death especially after seeing an accident. I felt the full force coming from the vessel’s eyes enter my eyes and destroying the fears. I do not have these fears anymore.”

Second lady: “I had a fear of heights, of entering lifts and escalators alone. I also had fears of high achiever men and the intellectual type of men who are clever at talking. I also had fears of snakes. Now, I can think of them and I do not fear them anymore.”

Third lady: “I had fear of lizards. I felt a great force coming upon me and there was a struggle in me. I felt the stronghold has been yanked out of me.”

Fourth lady: “I had fear of driving since I always visualize accidents. I also had a fear of flying cockroaches. Now I do not have these fears after receiving the eye anointing from the vessel’s eyes.”

Fifth lady: “I must look at something until I am satisfied. Otherwise, I will fear that particular thing. I also had a fear of coffins. Now these fears are gone after I was slain by the eye anointing from the vessel.”

Sixth lady: "I had fear of cockroaches, caterpillars and snakes. Now I can think of them without any fear after the eye anointing came upon me."

Pastor commented, "Fears are an outward sign of demonic control. Many are suffering and not getting breakthroughs in their lives because they do not have this knowledge of this eye anointing. How can you deliver God's people if you do not have this knowledge?"

Pastor called out another woman who was seeing images. He said, "Some see images and they think they are visions from God. That is not true. It can be the work of the enemy too."

The woman said, "I see a pair of eyes staring at me all the time."

Pastor said, "Prepare yourself. Now look at my eyes."

She looked at his eyes and fell down, screaming. Pastor said, "She is not the one screaming but the strongholds themselves which are present in her. These strongholds have their own defenses. Hence, there must be a measure of anointing to break their defenses. There are both internal and external forces attacking her and the eye anointing has destroyed both. In her case, the pair of eyes staring at her all the time was inherited from her ancestors who dabbled in the occult. This caused her to see demonic visions. Some Christians who have not dealt with this kind of demonic eyes inherited from their ancestors claim to see visions. However, their visions are not from God but are from these demonic eyes. External forces are aiding the internal forces in her because there is bond between the two. The external forces are the atmospheric demons that aid and supply power to the internal forces in her.

The woman shouted in pain to the pastor, "I cannot see you." Pastor said, "Now the Holy Spirit is releasing a double eye anointing." There was a powerful reaction in her as she seems to put up a violent struggle. "Even the dark underworld also exercises the power of the eye anointing, for example, the sorcerers, shamans, witches and warlocks. They use their eyes to release evil powers and spells on their intended victims and cause death to them. In the eye anointing, there are many levels. For this woman's sake who is experiencing powerful evil forces in her eyes, the Holy Spirit has to release a very high level of anointing. Sometimes, people see figures staring at them when they look at themselves in a mirror. God will release this eye anointing when the time comes."

The woman now got up and testified at the mike, "I felt a force from the vessel and felt something broken in me. The pair of eyes that used to stare at me is totally gone."

Pastor now called out those who have constant giddiness. He said, "Doctors normally correlate giddiness and dizziness to high and low blood pressure and diabetes. The invisible link of giddiness and dizziness is however related to the eye gate."

He also called out those who suffer from constant migraines and not just headaches. He said, "Through the eye gate, a lot of powers of darkness are kept in secret. They are hiding in the person's eyes and from there, they launch their attacks from time to time. That is why some people have migraines from time to time. When your eye is dark, your inside will also be dark."

He then called out those who are hearing voices in their minds. He also called out those who hear

ringing in their minds even if they do not want it.

Several persons came forward to the stage. Pastor told them to look at his eyes. The anointing came forth from his eyes and broke the strongholds lodged in the people's eyes. Many fell to the floor and there were many reactions. Some were screaming; some were staring at the pastor; some were still reacting while on the floor which pastor said were due to external atmospheric demons assisting the internal forces to resist the eye anointing.

4. THE ANOINTING UPON JESUS

We are now going to chapter two of the book, "The Anointing of the Holy Spirit." In this chapter, we have several areas to cover on the anointing on the Lord Jesus Christ. Jesus Christ was anointed as can be seen from the gospel of Luke 4: 18 and 19 when He Himself said that the Spirit of the Lord is upon Him. What type of anointing functioned in His life and how did it operate in His life?

Our Lord Jesus Christ stood in all five offices. He was an apostle (Hebrews 3:1). He was a prophet (Mark 6:4; Acts 3: 22-26) Peter said that Jesus was a prophet whom Moses spoke about. He was an evangelist as we can see from Mark 1:4 that He went about preaching the kingdom of God. He was a pastor as John 10: 11 says that He is the good Shepherd. He was known as a teacher in John 3: 2 where Nicodemus said that "we know that You are a teacher sent from God." The Lord Jesus Christ was anointed to stand in all the five offices.

Very few people stand in all five offices. Even the apostle Paul stood only in three. He was an apostle, a teacher, and an evangelist. Others may just stand in one particular office. Some have one and some have two. In fact, the more offices we stand in, the more careful we have to know which offices to give priority to. Kenneth E. Hagin stands in two offices – prophet and teacher. He was supposed to give priority to the prophetic office over the teaching office.

Notice Paul knows the priority. When you stand in more than one office, what are the priorities? Notice in the apostle Paul's writing he knows the priority in his life.

Let us look at the book of I Timothy 2:7, *For which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle – I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying – a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.* Also in II Timothy 1:11 *To which I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.* Notice he was very consistent in his listing. Preacher speaks about the evangelist office, then as apostle and then the teaching office. Paul was very specific. This order of priority of the three offices in Paul's life – evangelist, apostle and teacher - is not in the same order of the five offices as listed in Eph. 4:11 and 12, which is apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher. If Paul had followed the order in Eph. 4: 11-12, he would have called himself an apostle first, then evangelist and teacher.

How did Paul function in his offices? In spite of his listing in I Timothy and II Timothy, Paul primarily functioned in the evangelistic anointing first. When the other two offices' anointing arises, he would give room for them. See there is a priority in his life. The main purpose given to him is to evangelize the Gentiles. Once he has found a group, who has accepted the Lord Jesus, then he functioned as an apostle to plant a church among these new believers and then he taught them as a teacher. Do you notice that this is the order he followed all through his life? He would always evangelize first; then he would seek to fulfill the ministry as an apostle and then he would teach. He followed this order in his ministry.

Let us look at the starting of Paul's ministry in Acts 11. We are looking at the anointing of Jesus but we have to compare it with a human being like Paul. Acts 11:22 *Then news of these things came to the ears of the church in Jerusalem, and they sent out Barnabas to go as far as Antioch. When he came and had seen the grace of God, he was glad, and encouraged them all that with purpose of heart they should continue with the Lord. For he was a good man, full of the Holy Spirit and of faith. And a great many people were added to the Lord. Then Barnabas departed for Tarsus to seek Saul. And when he had found him he brought him to Antioch. And it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people. And the disciples were first called Christians in Antioch.*

Notice that when Paul started his ministry, he only had one office. He was merely a teacher. He did not evangelize the people in Antioch. Somebody else did the job there in Antioch. He was called by Barnabas to help teach the church in Antioch. When Barnabas took Paul to Antioch, he only stood in one office and one anointing at that time and that was the office of a teacher. It is easier to function in one type of anointing than in many types of anointing. It is easier to function in one office than in many offices because of the priority one must make. Just like it is not easy for a man to wear many hats. It is easier to just wear one hat. If you have a lot of offices to function in you have to prioritize your time. How much time do you spend in each office and what are the principles involved in the prioritizing the time? There is a difference between standing in many offices and functioning in many anointing. You could stand in one office and function in many types of anointing. You could stand in three offices and function in those three types of anointing. You could stand in one office and function in one anointing. There are a lot of combinations involved.

Paul started as a teacher and functioned in that area for one and a half years or two. As time went on and he served faithfully as a teacher, in Acts 13, there was a promotion for him when they were all gathered together in prayer. The leadership of the church of Antioch in verse 1 and 2 *Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers: Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.* Saul was not among the prophets. He was among the teachers. It says there were some prophets and teachers who gathered. See Paul himself said in I Timothy chapter two and II Timothy chapter one that he stood only in three offices – that of a preacher, which is an evangelist, an apostle and a teacher. That means he was never a prophet. Let us not put something on him that he never said he was. Let us realize where he stands. He was not among the prophets. He was among the teachers in Acts 13. That tells you he still functioned in the one office. One office can have many types of anointing. Verse 2 *As they ministered to the Lord and fasted, the Holy Spirit said, "Now separate to Me Barnabas and Saul for the work to which I have called them."*

As they started Paul in his journeys traveled very far. Notice the moment they traveled, they went to the island and they confronted Elymas the sorcerer. In verse 13 *Now when Paul and his party set sail from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia; and John departing from them returned to Jerusalem.* Then from there they went to synagogue after synagogue, place after place to preach the gospel. After that prayer meeting, Paul went full steam on his missionary journeys. Do not underestimate small prayer meetings. Do not underestimate any meeting that people gather because they love the Lord. Out of that prayer meeting with only a handful of people came forth the first missionary movement that the church saw. From that day onward from Acts 13: 2, I believe Paul moved into the other two offices. He was an evangelist and he was an apostle too. He was already a teacher. Notice also he started as a teacher but in the end in I Timothy chapter two and II Timothy chapter one, the office of teacher was relegated to the lowest priority in his ministry. His highest priority became evangelizing. He wrote to the church in Rome how that he desired to visit them and they will help his party on his way to places where the gospel had never been preached. In I Cor. he mentioned very clearly he wants to lay a foundation where nobody has laid. He wants to reach new people as an evangelist but with the additional ministry of an apostle, which is to establish churches in places he visited.

That means as he stood in three offices, Paul had to be very sensitive to give appropriate attention to his office of teaching, office of an evangelist, and office of an apostle as the occasion demands. The list in I Timothy chapter two and II Timothy chapter one indicates the way he moves. Now it still is important to be sensitive to the order that God has given in Eph. 4:11-12 and I Cor. 12:28-30. Hagin stood only in two offices. Most of the time, he would just move in the teaching anointing. However, whenever the prophetic anointing came, he was supposed to move into that. He did not want to move into that because prophets

receive a lot of criticism and he had to do things that a teacher may not need to do. Because of that, he realized that he moved into the permissive will of God and in his book "I believe in Visions," he mentioned that he fell and was taken to the hospital. Jesus visited him and said that he had been in the permissive will for some years. Not because he sinned but because he did not prioritize the offices carefully that God called him to. It is important that when we stand in whatever office God has given to be faithful and if you are given more than one office you have to be very sensitive to the anointing. When the anointing comes for you to move into one particular office, move into that. If you are a bit slow, the pillar of cloud will move ahead of you and you will be without a covering and protection. We have to move when the pillar of cloud moves. You have to flow where God is leading. Be faithful to the offices that He has set upon your life.

Sometimes human beings out of their good intention do not understand these things and they would prefer that you stay in certain types of offices and anointing that God did not ask you to stay there. Most people would have prefer to move in the teaching anointing because when you move into the prophetic anointing, sometimes you may have to give prophecies that are painful to accept. The prophecies may be positively constructive but it can also be corrective. Because of that, Hagin's teaching ministry was more accepted that his prophetic ministry.

Having established all these in the different offices we look at the Lord Jesus Christ and see how the Lord Jesus Christ stood in five offices. One reason why we do not see many people flow like Jesus flows is because very few people stood in five offices. No doubt, someone who stands in a few offices will demonstrate a more powerful ministry than those who stand in only one office. Jesus stood in five offices. He was faithful to God, heard God, and He functioned in the anointing of all five offices.

We got to clarify some facts in Jesus' life. Firstly, the anointing upon His life was without measure. The anointing could be measured and you could apportion it.

Let me read from the book, "The Anointing of the Holy Spirit," in chapter two page nine.

*God told Moses that He would take the Spirit **that was upon him** and put the same anointing upon the seventy elders (Numbers 11:7). Here is an example of a man having a great anointing of the Holy Spirit, and a part of the power being taken from him by the Lord, to be divided and used to anoint seventy others (Numbers 11: 25). The anointing can be measured!*

In fact, it was said of Jesus by John that He had the Spirit upon Him without measure (John 3: 34). The word 'measure' being used here implies that the anointing had been given in measures to people before but now is given without measure to our Lord Jesus Christ. [AHS]

Let us look at the book of Numbers. During the forty years period in the wilderness, Moses was under pressure as he led the people of God. The call of God upon his life was too heavy. In Numbers 11, the people started murmuring. Moses said to the Lord in Numbers 11: 11-15, *And Moses said to the Lord, "Why have You afflicted Your servant? And why have I not found favor in Your sight, that You have laid the burden of all these people on me? Did I conceive all these people? Did I beget them, that you should say to me, "Carry them in your bosom, as a guardian carries a nursing child, to the land which You swore to their fathers? "Where am I to get meat to give to all these people? For they weep all over me saying, Give us meat, that we may eat. I am not able to bear all these people alone, because the burden is too heavy for me. If you treat me like this, please kill me here and now – if I have found favor in Your sight – and do not let me see my wretchedness."*

Moses was complaining that the burden of the people was too hard for him to bear. He asks the Lord to take him away. The Lord told Moses to appoint seventy people. The seventy people were numbered and on the day when the anointing was to come, one of them was absent. In verse 16, *And the Lord said to Moses, "Gather to Me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the leaders of the people and officers over them. Bring them to the tabernacle of meeting, that they may stand there with you. Then I*

will come down and talk with you there, I will take of the Spirit that is upon you and will put the same upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with you, that you may not bear it yourself alone. Verse 25 Then the Lord came down in the cloud and spoke to him, and took of the Spirit that was upon him, and placed the same upon the seventy elders.

In fact, although two men were missing from that gathering, they also had the Spirit come upon their lives because they were numbered among the seventy. We see that God did not send a fresh measure of anointing. Instead, He took part of the anointing upon Moses and divided it among the seventy elders. Remember that when God calls He gives the ability. The anointing is the ability of God that He gives to perform a task. He is a fair God. He does not call you to do something without giving you an anointing for it. When He calls, He gives an anointing. That anointing upon Moses was sufficient for him to fulfill the task. However, human nature is such that sometimes it is not easy to draw the anointing. That tells us something. The anointing does not just work automatically. You could have an anointing. Moses actually had an anointing to fulfill the task of managing the problems of the people under him but it was not working automatically because Moses experienced the human feeling of rejection, loneliness, pressure, and stress that an overburdened person would go through. Besides that, there were the constant murmuring, resistance, rebellion, willfulness, stubbornness, slandering, and accusation coming from the people. We need to consider all these things.

Moses had an anointing upon his life. It was there all the time although it was not automatically functioning. Let me tell you there is pressure of two million fellows there complaining. It is not easy to take that burden, humanly speaking. Leadership may seem to be in the limelight but it is not as glamorous as people think that it is. Yet God gives the grace. Sometimes, when the anointing is there we do not know how to tap it. You functioned in a manner that revealed your inability to flow with the anointing. What happens if a person die without flowing fully in the anointing? That person's anointing will go to somebody else. See God gives an anointing to get a job done. If the job is not done, the anointing will go to somebody else who is willing to get the job done. God is interested in results and not in decorations. Leadership is not just decoration. If someone gets into a leadership position and does not have the anointing, that person becomes a tyrant and an oppressor of God's people. Holding a position without anointing is dangerous. On the other hand, there are some situations where a person could be called and anointed for leadership but he or she do not draw on the anointing given for assuming that leadership. They would also be crushed under the weight of the position since the anointing is not activated to accomplish God's work.

Moses came to the point where he wanted to die. Elijah also said the same thing after Jezebel started chasing him. He ran for his life. Ironically, he could come against four hundred prophets but he could not deal with one woman. He told God to kill him. The moment he said that, God told Elijah to choose another guy because God was going to select somebody else to get his anointing. That was when God told him to go and choose Elisha. The next time you are in leadership position and you are thinking of complaining - watch out, you may lose some of your anointing to others. The next time God called and anointed you for something, do not complain of pressures coming from the people. Human pressure will always be there. We are spirit beings but we also have a human nature. God did not take away our soul. You have feelings too. However, if you allow them to dominate you and you ever say, "Lord, this is too much, Lord take me home," that's the time some of the anointing is going to be taken off you. When the anointing is taken off, you would have less responsibility too. Less responsibility comes with less reward. You do not fully meet what God wanted you originally to do. This is a possibility because God honors free choice in our life.

The point we want to show in this incident is how God could take the anointing of the Spirit and divide it in measures. Some may be frightened at this like John Wimber was at first. He thought that if he kept imparting his anointing to others, after sometime he would have no more anointing left. Imparting is different from God taking it off you. As you impart your anointing, it never runs out. After all, it is more a stream of supply that flows. You could impart the anointing to people and it will never run dry. It is a different matter altogether if God takes your anointing completely off you and distribute it to others. The point that we are seeing here is that there are different measures of the anointing; there are different degrees of the anointing. Two persons may stand in the office of a prophet but both receive different measures of anointing. It is the same office but there are different levels of anointing. As was given in the book there, "The Anointing of the Holy Spirit," Elijah has the anointing but Elisha has a double portion of the anointing. Both men occupied the same office but they each had a different measure of the anointing. Some ministers are more anointed than others. That is a true because God gives different measures of anointing.

We need to learn how to increase the measure of the anointing. Before we look into that, let us look at the anointing on Jesus and see the statement made by John the Baptist of Jesus. John 1:32, *John bore witness, saying, "I saw the Spirit descending from heaven like a dove, and He remained upon Him. I did not know Him, but He who sent me to baptize with water said to me, "Upon whom you see the Spirit descending, and remaining on Him, this is He who baptizes with the Holy Spirit."* He says he sees the Spirit coming upon Him and remaining upon Him. That was supposed to be for John to know that he is going to be the One the giver of the Holy Spirit. The anointing can be measured. Notice in Jn. 3:34 it tells us that Jesus had been given the Spirit without measure. He had the Spirit on His life and it was measureless. *For He whom God has sent speaks the word of God, (now "He" is capitalized since it refers to Jesus) for God does not give the Spirit by measure.* Now that statement applies only to Jesus' situation. If John made that statement and it applies to everybody then it cancels out what II Kings 2 said where Elisha asked for double measure. God had given the Spirit in measure. Numbers 11 there was the measure taken from Moses and given to the people. The word "He" particularly refers to Jesus who received the Spirit upon His life without measure. He stood in apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, and teacher office in full measure. Some evangelists stand in a certain measure of anointing and other evangelists have a greater measure of the anointing. Even among the five-fold ministry, there are different measures. Jesus stood in all five-fold and had all the full measure of all the five-fold. That is why Jesus was so powerful in His ministry. The anointing makes the difference. Since the anointing was on His life without measure, that verse is also in a sense prophetic of a time coming when God intends to give people a very high level or measureless anointing in the offices. The book of Acts 2 says in the last days God will pour His Spirit. God intends to release a measureless measure of the anointing upon this earth in the last days. God will pour His Spirit upon all flesh. It is the intention of God to release the measureless measure. If God calls you to be a prophet, you could tap into the measureless measure in that office. There is a possibility of moving into that area. God could call you to be a teacher and you could tap into that measureless measure of anointing in that office too.

Now there are key principles to learn how to tap into the anointing of the Holy Spirit. We are establishing the principle that the anointing can be measured. Jesus had it on His life without measure. The book, "The Anointing of the Holy Spirit," tells you how the anointing can be increased measure upon measure. Before we move into learning how to tap into the anointing, we have to know when the anointing comes upon us, how to yield to the outflow of the anointing to receive the inflow of the anointing as we were teaching in the past three lessons. Jesus had to flow by the same laws of the inflow and outflow. Jesus had to know the tangibility of the anointing upon His life. He had to declare the anointing upon His life.

Let us look at some examples of Jesus' life. In the gospel of Mk. 5:27 *When she heard about Jesus she came behind Him in the crowd and touched His garment. For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well." Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up and she felt in her body that she was healed of the affliction. Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that the power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?"* Jesus knew that there was a flow of anointing through His life. He knew there was this presence upon Him. Then we see chapter 6:4-6 *But Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his own country, among his own relatives, and in his own house." Now He could do no mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. He marveled because of the unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit teaching.*

The very next chapter we see that although the anointing was upon Jesus' life was measureless, it was not operative at all. He had to come down to the point of laying hands. Why was that so? The people were not receptive to the anointing in His life. He could not flow through to them. Three areas are mentioned as a possibility of stopping the flow of the anointing - His own country; in His own hometown and in His own house. The non-receptivity of the people in these three areas indicates that familiarity in the wrong sense hindered them from receiving Jesus as a prophet. They did not receive Jesus as a Messiah. Due to their lack of belief, they thought that Jesus the carpenter was trying to masquerade as a prophet. They said, "Isn't this the carpenter's son." Jesus had more to offer them. Jesus knew that the anointing was operating for them. He did not purposely force Himself into it. However, He refused to flow into that anointing in the midst of an unbelieving crowd.

In gospel of Lk. 4 after He declared in verse 18 and 19 that the anointing was on Him, He rolled the scroll, sat down and all the eyes were on Him. In verse 21, He said, *"Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your*

hearing.” Do you know they did not receive Him as the Messiah or the prophet of God? But they said in verse 22, “Isn’t this Joseph’s son?” They received Him indeed but they received Him just as an ordinary person. The bible tells us, and notice what He said in verse 23. It has reference to Him choosing not to flow. He said to them, “*You will surely say this proverb to Me, ‘Physician, heal yourself!’ Whatever we have heard done in Capernaum, do also here in Your country.*” He was saying that some of them were going to say to Him to do that all the mighty works He did in Capernaum. The people’s words were said more in the sense of mockery and sarcasm, rather than in faith and belief. The people of Nazareth tried to put pressure on Him to perform. Jesus said in verse 24 *Assuredly, I say to you, no prophet is accepted in his own country.* Please do not go around and claim that as a biblical promise. He was talking about a purely human phenomenon that can be overcome. Even Kathryn Kuhlman did not have full reception in her hometown. The people would still look down on her. When her ministry went international, she still got the same old critics in her own hometown. Some in her hometown accepted her and wanted to build a memorial landmark in her hometown but there was opposition too to that project. This may be due to some natural human tendencies to put down others out of envy and jealousy.

We see that the anointing was there but He knew that there would not be any flow at all in that place. But subsequently in Lk. 6:6 *Now it happened on another Sabbath, also, that He entered the synagogue and taught. And a man was there whose right hand was withered. And the Scribes and Pharisees watched Him closely, whether He would heal on the Sabbath, that they might find an accusation against Him.* (Now these people did not believe Him.) *But He knew their thoughts, and said to the man who had the withered hand, “Arise and stand here,” And he arose and stood. Then Jesus said to them, “I will ask you one thing: Is it lawful on the Sabbath to go good or to do evil, to save life or to destroy?” And when He had looked around at them all, He said to the man, “Stretch out you hand,” And he did so, and his hand was restored as whole as the other.*

Now an interesting thing about this incident is that it was contrary to what happened in Jesus’ hometown. On this Sabbath, people, namely the scribes and Pharisees, were also going against Him. However, in the midst of their unbelief and accusations, Jesus demonstrated the anointing. Does it not look opposite to what happened in Nazareth, His hometown? In this other place, these guys were staring at Him like vultures waiting to devour Him anytime. They were looking for fault. Let me tell you if you are going to find fault you can find it in anybody and everybody. A major portion of criticism is fault finding. I mean if you do not like someone you just keep quiet. Some people will always find fault with others. “I do not like this.” “I do not like that.” They will find things that they do not like. “I do not like the shirt you wear.” “I do not like your hair style.” You could always find practically a reason not to like somebody. Let your conscience be your judge and do not feel oppressed by other people’s unfair criticisms. You may not be the one at fault. That critical guy may be having a spirit of slander and gossip on his or her tongue.

Now here is the contradictory situation. In Mark 6 and Luke 4, the people of Jesus’ own hometown rejected Him and He could not do any mighty work there, except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. In Luke 6, the scribes and Pharisees were watching him like a hawk. Verse 7, *So the scribes and Pharisees watched Him closely, whether He would heal on the Sabbath, that they might find an accusation against Him.* Despite their unbelief and vulture-like stares, Jesus performed a miracle in front of them.

That is where we have to differentiate between a miracle and a sign and wonder. The bible does not use all these words emptily. A sign and wonder can be a miracle but it can be more than that. A sign and wonder is an anointing that God gives to cut through unbelief. However, a normal miracle and an anointing to do the miraculous may not work under certain circumstances. In other words, if God gives you a certain anointing to perform a sign, you could have everybody staring down at you in unbelief and you could still do it because the anointing was given to cut through that thick unbelief that is present. Sometimes the anointing is just in the miraculous realm and you got to meet the conditions involved. Sometimes, the anointing is a sign and wonder that can be used in what I call a demonstrative manner. You could use it as a challenge. However, you better be sure that the anointing is going to flow. Otherwise, you could be run out of town. If that miracle does not happen, you could possibly be crucified.

William Branham was ministering in Africa in the midst of many followers of false religions. He pulled out a man with a withered hand. Now that is a sign but it is also a miracle. A sign works in the midst of

unbelief. Sometimes God gives signs. Signs are to challenge and to cut through unbelief so that you will believe. It is not just a normal anointing. Signs are at a different level of anointing. He named all the religions present and he told the people, "If your god is real, come and restore this man." There was silence in the stadium. Then he says, "To show you that Jesus Christ is the true and only living God, in the Name of Jesus, be healed." The withered hand healed instantaneously and he became a normal man. After that, you do not need a sermon. He gave an invitation and everybody ran up. That is a sign.

Do you notice God gave Moses three signs. Why did God give him a sign? Moses said they will not believe. Because of the unbelief, God said, "Alright I give you three signs." One of the signs was putting his hand into his bosom, taking it out, and turning into a leprous hand. He puts his hand back again, takes it out and it became a normal hand. Moses also took water, poured it on the ground, and it turned into blood. He took a stick, threw it down and it became a snake. A sign is to confront unbelief and to create faith in God and those whom He has sent. These are days where we need to reach out to God for signs. Now signs do not just come easily. A sign has a purpose.

You hardly hear about William Branham today although he was very powerful in his days. Why? In the 1960s, he turned into wrong teaching and error. As a result, people do not just reject his ministry but they also rejected the purpose of God's calling on his life. A portion of his ministry was genuine but some portions of his ministry were also bad. People did not differentiate the two. You could have served God for fifty years but if you missed God for the last five years, people are not going to acknowledge your ministerial labor for the first fifty years. They will say that you have been a false prophet all along.

Now here is the thing to watch it. A sign has a place and a time. It is different from anointing upon all the time. If God gives you an anointing upon you could flow in it all the time when there is demand made for that ministry. However, a sign may be used for some time and then passed away. You do not find Moses always going around performing the three signs God gave him – the sign of the hand becoming leprous, the sign of the water turning into blood, and the sign of the stick turning into a snake. Now as they crossed the Red Sea and the people started questioning his leadership, Moses did not quickly start his magic show again - putting his hand in and taking it out leprous; turning water into blood and changing the stick into a snake. No, a sign does not come just like that. He never uses it anymore; he used it once in his lifetime. You cannot call up a sign anytime. However, some signs are persistent to a ministry.

William Branham has a particular sign of working with the angel. He ministers to people by holding their hand with his left hand because certain signs operate in his left hand. Some signs are quite consistent but they only come as the Spirit wills. A sign can operate in the midst of unbelief but when it functions in a normal anointing, it goes by the normal laws. There is no exception. The only exception to what we are teaching and flow in the anointing is the category of sign. If God gives you a sign to take to the head of state, you better make sure it is truly from the Lord. Otherwise, you will start a prison ministry. However, if you demonstrate the sign, then you could bring the whole nation to the Lord. Signs are powerful. Let us not ignore the fact. Jesus Christ moved in both categories. There are times when this unbelief is present. God may use you like He used William Branham. He called up a man who had withered hand and he used that man as a challenge. He challenged the people. That is the purpose of signs. Signs are used to challenge unbelief. However, you do not find that at all in Mk. 6. In unbelief, He did not do anything. Instead, He just prayed for a few simple cases. He did not operate any sign.

There is another case that we want to consider in the gospel of Mark 8:11 Then the Pharisees came out and began to dispute with Him, seeking from Him a sign from heaven. It does not mean that if you operate in signs that when people challenge you, you do what they want. You do not do things in the ministry because somebody tells you to. You better settle that in your life and in your heart. You do not do anything because somebody tells you to. Whether it is from somebody in high status or in low status; whether it is because you are under high pressure or low pressure; whether it a popular thing to do or not a popular thing to do - in the ministry if God has called you, you do not do anything because somebody asked you to do it. You do it because you know God has asked you to do it. I had that settled in my early days when God called me. I settled in my heart that I would not do anything if somebody pressurizes me. However, if you prayed and you sensed God is saying something to me and you allowed me to check it out with God, that is different. I fear no man and I fear no devil. In fact, I despise pressure being put on me. I despise people trying to corner me and telling me to do something. When people do that, they are not depending on the Lord. God does not put you into this kind of situation. What you will not do to Jesus do not do to the leaders in your fellowship or in your church.

Jesus Christ was always cornered. He had the ability to do signs if God so will. There are times when thunder from heaven and a voice spoke. He did not ask for it but it came. Here they put Him in a fix by asking Him to show them a sign and they would believe. That is a ridiculous request. Even if He did, they would not have believed. Jesus said no sign would be given except the sign of Jonah. The sign of Jonah pointed to and prophesied His own death and resurrection. He determined never to do anything under pressure from men.

That is an important thing as you learn to move into the anointing of God. If you go to a home group to preach, if you go to a place and do anything you do not do it because you are under pressure to perform. You only do what the Spirit of God tells you to do. Obey the Holy Spirit and do exactly what He tells you to. Do not try to please men but please God with all your heart, mind, and strength. That is what each one of us is training to do - to please God. We are here to please God. If God tells you something, that is final.

We want to point to a particular thing in His ministry to a blind man in Mark 8. In verse 22 Then He came to Bethsaida; and they brought a blind man to Him, and begged Him to touch him. He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the town. And when He had spit on his eyes and put His hands on him, He asked him if he say anything. And he looked up and said, "I see men like trees, walking." Then He put His hands on his eyes again and made him look up. And he was restored and saw everyone clearly. Then He sent him away to his house, saying, "Neither go into the town, nor tell anyone in the town."

I find this incident to be extremely interesting. For the first time you see how one touch from Jesus is not enough. Obviously, He operated by the anointing here. You know what He did. He spat on his eyes. You better make sure it is an anointing. The man looked up and said, "I see men walking like trees." The interesting is this is Jesus Himself. I mean if this is another preacher or one of His disciples we can understand. But this is the Lord Jesus Christ and He ministered the anointing and this man was partially healed. The bible says in Isa. 10:27 the anointing breaks the yoke. It did not mention that the yoke would be partially broken or partially healed. You know what Jesus did? He put His hands on this man again and ministered the anointing. See Jesus here is flowing by the anointing. He is ministering the anointing of God on human lives. He could sense like what we have shown yesterday how the anointing can flow. As the anointing flowed, it must be the Holy Spirit and the anointing of God that caused Him to spit and take that saliva and put it on the man's eyes. He flowed in a certain way in the anointing of God.

Then why is it that the anointing does not give a perfect complete healing? It is because the anointing may need time to operate on a person. I know there are people who say, "If the Lord tells you to pray for people you just pray." You can do it but there are times when it takes a longer period. Why? Different principles operate when you channel the anointing. Here, Jesus was channeling the anointing again to this man. Let us face it we are not moving even at Jesus' level now. Here as we are still trying to reach Jesus' level and seeking to do what He do, a lot more is required from both the minister and the person being ministered to. Like for example when you are ministering to somebody, you may have to stand and let the anointing flow through you. Sometimes the anointing just flow easily; sometimes it is fast as lightning and sometimes it is like a slow current. Sometimes it bounces off a little bit. You flow along with the anointing of God as it flows in your life.

There are two causes for the flow of the anointing - the minister's side and the recipient's side for the anointing to flow. The level of differential of the positive and the negative points of a battery determines the amount of current flowing through. In the same way, there is the flow of anointing from the minister to a recipient. The amount of anointing flowing depends on the level of anointing upon me and the level of hunger in that person. In Jesus' life, there is no question of the level of anointing. His is hundred percent anointed all the time. He is always flowing at peak performance. We cannot question His side. We only can question the recipient's side. There are more issues involved on the minister's side, for example his yieldedness to the Lord.

Then we need to consider the amount of measure flowing at that time. As you notice, you look at the fluctuation in the anointing. The anointing can fluctuate within a person's ministry and it can fluctuate within the same meeting. It can fluctuate from meeting to meeting and it can fluctuate from within one meeting, depending on the level that is flowing. Sometimes when it is flowing very fast you got to move very fast. I sensed sometimes that people minister the anointing there is a heavy flow coming forth. When there is an anointing that is heavy and strong, you got to be quick. You do not delay. Sometimes when the anointing is there, you have to be quick. You notice sometimes when I call pastors to minister together with me to the congregation, I would mention that the anointing is ready. Suppose they start dragging their feet, putting their bibles down, adjusting their dress or shirt, combing their hair and then coming out to position themselves in front of the people. By the time they finished all these the level of the anointing begin to fall. You got to start all over again. All these are facts to note about the flowing of the anointing of God. You have to be sensitive to the level to the anointing that is flowing. You minister and you flow along according to the level of the anointing.

Demonstration of the Anointing

What follows is an account of some actual demonstration of the anointing conducted in another church by another pastor. This verbatim report is added here to show some new dimensions of the anointing

of the Holy Spirit. In this particular service, the anointing was used to unmask the dark powers causing problems to individuals. (Ed.)

Pastor said, "In the end times, God will unleash more of the Holy Spirit to accomplish His plans and purposes. Not everyone will be caught in the rapture. Only those who obey God and do God's will. God wants to release the anointing through the Body of Christ, but now it is in the initial stage. God expects accountability. All gifts belong to God and God will manifest through us to accomplish His job and purposes. God gets all the glory, not any church or organization. God is a jealous God. He is the God who performs the miracles, not you and me."

"There is an anointing to set you free and see to your needs. This anointing will zero in on the root cause. It will summon the dark powers behind your problem and they have to manifest themselves."

First Case

Pastor walked down the aisle and points to an Indian woman to go up to the mike. He then asks her, "What do you want from the Holy Spirit. Think carefully – you have only one request." She said, "I find it difficult to walk with God. I find myself going further and further from the Lord."

Pastor shouts, "Damo." The woman started manifesting and a demon began growling through her throat.

Pastor asks the demon in her, "Is your name Damo?"

"Yes."

"Are you responsible for her spiritual condition?"

"Yes."

"Tell us how you did it."

"I make sure she will forget God. I make her lazy and tired so that she does not have to spend time with God. I make her happy with her life and give her a lot of work to do."

"How did you enter her?"

"I entered her through her stronghold spirits and through her mind. Her ancestors did a lot of wrong things."

"Like worship you?"

"Yes. People who do not believe in strongholds are stupid. They get the enemy to come into their lives easily. They open doors to us to create havoc in their lives."

“Alright, all your legal rights stripped. Go to your assigned place in hell.”

Pastor continues, “Some demons are subtle and are not unruly or violent. You will be surprised that some demons are like gentlemen but they are evil. In the spirit realm, they even dressed up in coats and ties. Not all demonic manifestation are violent.”

Now pastor asks the woman, “How do you feel now?”

“I feel light and my mind is very free now. I have no more thoughts of going far from God. Something has left me like a shadow. I feel liberated. I sense God now, and I will spend more time with Him.”

Second Case

Pastor calls out an Indian man to the mike and asked, “What blessing do you want from the Holy Spirit?”

The man replied, “I feel something is disturbing me and making me feel that I won’t make it to heaven.”

Pastor summoned the evil spirit out, “Razi, come out.” The man now is writhing in pain and groaning.

Pastor asked the demon, “Where were you before this?”

“I was in an elephant’s body. I am known as Rajagabeli and I reside in a mountain in India.”

“How did you come here?”

“Fiery angels brought me here. I could not fight them.”

“What did you do to this man?”

“I troubled him by providing him opportunities to yield to temptations. I made him feel that he will not make it to heaven. I planned to bring him to hell.”

“Why are you crying now?”

“I am frightened because of the judgment of God.”

“Did you receive the document from the Lord Jesus Christ?”

“Yes, I did receive that document. It says that I have been judged and my time on earth is up.”

“How did you get into this man?”

“Through his ancestors’ worship of idols. It is not easy for such people to get out of this trap. We tie a large coil around his family. A large anointing can only break it. Many Christians think that after their baptism, they have no more strongholds. This is not true. This is worldly wisdom and understanding. We create circumstances to drag them down. Can I go now?”

“All your legal rights stripped. Go to the place in hell assigned to you.” The demon left with a loud scream and the man fell to the floor.

Pastor continues, “If God gives you a breakthrough, He gives you a definite breakthrough. A lot of people do not understand deliverance. They impart from their soul. God’s way is the way of the anointing. “

The man gets up and testifies at the mike, “I felt something coiling around my body has left. The thought that I won’t make it to heaven has also left.”

Third Case

Pastor calls up a Chinese woman to the mike, saying, “What do you want from the Holy Spirit?”

She says, “I have pride in my heart and mind and I want deliverance from this pride.”

Pastor says, “Behind negative and wrong thoughts and feelings are dark forces.”

Pastor called out loudly, “Lin Lai.” The demon in the woman starts groaning and moaning and it appears tormented. “Are you behind the pride in her heart and mind?” The demon refused to answer and kept silent. Pastor then consigned the demon to hell, and it left with a low moan. He continues, “Demons have a right to remain silent, but the Judge has the right to pronounce judgment. The kingdom of God is a kingdom of law, order and rules.

After the woman gets up from the floor, she goes to the mike and testifies, “I find my heart and mind have lowly thoughts. Something took control of me. The “thing” was angry and was forcefully removed.”

Pastor added, “God’s workings change lives and character.”

Fourth Case

Pastor calls out Sam to go to the mike. "What blessing do you want from the Holy Spirit?" He said, "I want healing for my low blood pressure."

Pastor called out loudly, "Zalia." The demon started manifesting in Sam. "Where were you before this?"

"I was in a temple in India, guarding the gate. I am a beast but I can't reveal more."

Pastor exercised a word of knowledge and said, "You are a wolf spirit. You make sounds of lies. Because of your attitude, you are sent to a place of wrath. Go." The demon screamed and left.

Pastor continues, "Sometimes, you encounter different attitudes of demons. You have to heed the rules and laws of the spirit world. You cannot do as you like. Even a cop has to conduct himself in line with the laws of the country. If a cop misbehaves, he is charged and discharged. Similarly in the spirit world, you can be charged and discharged if you are lawless."

Sam goes to the mike and testifies, "I feel something has broken and left me."

Fifth Case

Pastor calls up Steven, an elderly Chinese man to the mike. "What do you want from the Holy Spirit?"

"I need deliverance from doubts that keep creeping up in my mind. I even have doubts despite seeing the miracles in the sanctuary."

Pastor then summoned the evil spirit causing this problem, "Addi." The demon manifests but refuses to answer. Pastor then consigned the demon to hell and Steven was set free from incessant doubting.

Pastor continues, "These spirits of doubt make you skeptical. However, they would have a foothold in your mind when you know the truth but you are reluctant or not ready to yield to the truth. These spirits see your uncertainty of mind and they come in to furnish you dark reasoning as to why you should not yield yourself to these truths. The Bible says that the serpent was most subtle. The first attribute pointed out by God regarding the devil is his subtlety. When the evil spirit takes over a person's spirit, there is one problem. It is easy to cast out that evil spirit by a simple deliverance prayer. But when it overtakes the soul and its intellectual, emotional and volitional faculties, then the problem becomes complex and the person's character changes. It has become a very serious case. When you yield to the devil's suggestions, he enters your soul. Temptations come and you yield to them, and the evil spirits overtake your soul. The devil forces the temptations on you, not God. God can deliver any problem but if the person does not want God, He will not come in and help. If you want God to set you free, you must pray. If you do not, God will not. "

"You want the truth, but what is truth? To some, truth is what is acceptable to their mind, to their theology and to their sentiments. That is not the truth. Knowing the truth is the key to your breakthrough. Jesus is the Truth. The Holy Spirit is the Truth. You cannot perceive God's truth without God's grace. Man cannot perceive truth without God. Man's intellect and reasoning cannot perceive truth since it is filled with strongholds and sins. The devil has taken the opportunity to entrench his thoughts and ideas in our minds and reasoning. In that condition, you cannot perceive truth. If you keep entertaining doubts, you will suffer

insanity. You do not discern what Satan has in plan for you. Truth comes from God. Jesus said, "I am the Truth." The Holy Spirit will lead you to the truth. He will teach you the truth. In the spirit world, darkness can shield you from the truth. You do not know the dangers of ignorance of the truth. I lean on the Holy Spirit and God showed that behind my personal doubting is the enemy. God gave grace to crush the enemy and give me personal breakthrough in my thought life and my faith life."

"Some people's problems are complicated because they have a long line of ancestral curses behind them. That is why some cannot have breakthroughs even after praying for so long. God is powerful but He exercises power according to laws. Some demons have powerful grips over individuals because they hold documents over them. Their ancestors have sold their families to the devil in return for demonic power during their lifetime. These demons then hold the title deeds to the souls of their descendants. Such documents are high documents. That is why the demonic control over some people is so strong. It has spilled over to their soul – intellect, emotion, and will. That is why some people are hardcore criminals. Some people are in multiple bondages of the devil. However, it can be done, if the individual plead for grace from God. There is a law in heaven that anyone who asks for grace will not be denied – they will be granted grace. Now you know what grace is. Grace is able to deliver you from terrible bondages and problems inherited from your ancestors."

"However, the individual must ask for grace from God to be delivered. If he does not, God will not. Why did God not deliver Judas? It is because he willed to betray the Lord Jesus Christ. God gave a timeframe to Judas to change his ways but he did not. Satan then asked God for Judas, and God told Satan that he could have Judas. The individual who asks grace to be delivered from his or her individual problems must be humble and upright. The Holy Spirit will do the rest."

"However, after you have asked for grace, you must wait for the blessings in faith. God gives certain blessings at certain times. You have to wait for God's timing. There is a time factor for deliverance. In heaven, there are many legal cases brought by Satan against us. Jesus has to defend us. All legal suits in heaven are settled according to righteousness and justice so that nobody can accuse God of unrighteousness. Only when the matter is settled in heaven, can it be settled down here on earth."

"When the enemy attacks your mind, reject his thoughts immediately. If you entertain the devil's thoughts, you can be entrenched in them and you will be led to eternal doom. There was once a law case in heaven involving one of our church members. The Holy Spirit revealed this case to me to let me know what is happening among the people here. Satan told the Judge, "I want this man because he thinks dirty thoughts." God answered, "I know this man – he hates these thoughts." Then Satan replied, "If that is so, then why did he not reject them? God had to reply, "You can have him." However, I pleaded with God for him and God granted my petition and spared him, for my sake. When a pastor walks closely with God and pleases Him greatly, God will have regard for him. When he prays for a troubled member of his flock, God will hear him and spare the member because of His regard for him. You must know God's ways in order to please Him. However, if the pastor is unrighteous and lawless, God will not have any regard for him. Even his prayers are an abomination to Him, how much more if he prays for anyone of his congregation. That is why, under such lawless pastors, their congregations are suffering and do not have breakthroughs. You should know your pastors and those who labor over you."

5. DIFFERENT LEVELS OF ANOINTING

We have seen how Jesus functioned and flowed in the anointing. Obviously, Jesus was flowing according to the will of God. He also determined how much anointing to flow in at a particular time and place. Sometimes when God tells Him to flow in a sign, He will demonstrate a sign. In Mark 5, when the woman with the issue of blood for twelve years touched His garment, the anointing flowed out of Him and healed her. We see that Jesus knew that the anointing had flown through His life. He knew how the anointing came upon His life and how the anointing can flow out of Him. The fact that Lk. 4:18 Jesus said the Spirit of the Lord is upon Him, tells us that He knew the anointing was upon Him. He was announcing it. He was telling it to the people using scriptures from the prophet Isaiah that the anointing was upon His life for the people. It is for the people to exercise their faith, believe it, and then receive the anointing of God into their lives.

In the same manner when people are not sensitive to the anointing of God, they would not know what it is like when it is flowing. We have to learn to be sensitive to the anointing. In the anointing of the Lord Jesus Christ, we mentioned how the anointing upon Him is without measure. However, He gives the anointing by measures to us. The anointing upon our lives is increased measure upon measure, as we prove faithful to the anointing. The fullest potential of the anointing we can aspire to in whatever office we stand in is the anointing without measure – the same as the anointing upon Jesus' life. That means if God called you to be a prophet aim to reach the measureless anointing in that office. If God called you to be a teacher, aim for that. Seek the anointing upon your life to increase until it is measureless. Now that is your aim.

Jesus made a statement in Jn. 14:12, *Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to the Father.* This implies that now the Holy Spirit is sent without measure. The Holy Spirit has been sent in Acts 2 as prophesied without measure. He is now pouring out on all flesh. The potential is there for people to reach into that measureless anointing that Jesus had. Some people have moved in their respective office to a realm quite close to that.

I was reading the book, "A Man Sent From God" written by Gordon Lindsay. It is the biography of William Branham when he moved into the thickness of the anointing that was on his life as a prophet. He was called to the prophetic office. As he moved into that, he was called to be prophet and evangelist. Kenneth E. Hagin is a prophet and teacher - a different combination from Branham. As William Branham moved into that sign and wonder ministry, he would speak in the same measure like Jesus. He was late for one of the meetings and the crowd was filled to overflowing. As he was slowly inching his way through, the people did not know that he was William Branham. He came across a blind girl. The compassion of the Lord welled up inside him for the girl. She was just seeking and asking where that man of God could be. When she found that it was he, he only said the specific word almost like Jesus. He said, "According to your faith be it onto you." She was healed. She asked him first, "Do you believe that you are sent from God?" "Yes, according to your faith."

When you move into the ministry of signs and wonders, you have to be very precise to follow instructions from God. There is another incident in William Branham's life when he was called to pray for a sick person. That person was just lying on the bed. Nothing happened when he prayed over him. He did it again and nothing happened. They were wondering what was happening. Then he just sat around. There was a grand mother and the parent of the child there. Then finally after some time, he wondered why nothing was happening and he was waiting. He was just sitting down. Then after a while, he came and prayed and then it worked - a miracle took place. That person got up immediately. When asked why, he said the Lord gave him a vision. He saw the grand mother sitting on this chair and the father sitting on that chair. Then he saw himself coming in and laying hands and pronouncing that healing, then walking off. The first time when he did it the grand mother was in a wrong position. She was in a different place and not exactly fitting the vision. That is why nothing happened. He was waiting and waiting for them to get into the position that he saw exactly in the vision. Then only the healing took place. That was the position that you got to be in. These are what I call peculiarities.

As we move into the anointing, you have to move exactly as God showed you - no less, no more. There have been men and women who have moved into levels of anointing close to the level of Jesus Christ in the office God has called them. Every minister called by God should aspire to reach into that anointing

without measure. However there are principles to move into that measureless anointing.

We all start with a measure of anointing God placed on our lives. God is not going to give you the measureless anointing immediately. There must be testing; there must be proving and there must be faithfulness shown. God will give a deposit of anointing upon our life up to a certain level. Then as you are faithful to flow in it, as you are faithful to function in it, then God gives another measure. Then at that greater measure God will test your faithfulness. God will see whether you flow in it. What happens if you are not faithful? You remain at the measure you have been last given.

Let me illustrate with something you could identify with. Let say that you have been given the measure of the anointing where you would be able to prophesy in public. However, every time the anointing and the Word of God came, you resisted it. Do not think that when the anointing comes, it is going to force you to do something. It does not force you. It just prompts you and the obedience must be yours. As the anointing comes, the person resists it the first time. Later in a different meeting, the same thing comes again. That person resists the prompting of the Holy Spirit again. That would be quenching the Spirit of God. That person can go on out of shyness, out of fear of publicity, out of whatever reason. He could justify his disobedience but that is not acceptable to God. He could give a natural reason and God would not accept it. The years could pass by and that person will still be the same. The measure of the anointing given to him was not allowed to function. The gift of God in such a person's life can never be perfected. You have to grow into the perfect operation of the gift.

The Corinthians had the gifts of God but they were not operating them perfectly. This shows us that the operation and perfection of the gift depend on us not on God. Paul never question that the gifts that the Corinthians had were not from God. He acknowledged that they were from God but he wrote that he would show them a more perfect way to operate those gifts. The operation and perfection of a gift depends on us not on God. It is our responsibility.

Let us say the same person with the measure of anointing to prophesy publicly began to flow in that gift regularly whenever the anointing is there. Sooner or later, God is going to promote him or her. He is going to give you a greater measure of anointing to move into something else. God tests and proves us to know whether we are faithful or not.

Now for those in the ministry, when you stand to minister, God may give you words of knowledge. You resist giving them since you rather just preach and teach. Perhaps it is in a home fellowship or in a smaller meeting and the word of knowledge comes to you. You resist giving the word. You ask, "What happens if no body respond?" For the next ten years, you remain that way until you obey. When you obey and you are faithful in that gift, a greater measure of that anointing will develop in your life. You could flow into a greater measure. It will grow from measure to measure, faith to faith, glory to glory. We must not stop. We must grow until we arrive at the perfect function of a ministry that God has for us.

God could give you a ministry of prophesying over people and every time the anointing comes, you could sense God telling you to act on the prompting. However, all these things need a human response. You may say, "No, I do not want to do that. I do not feel like doing that." You resist and you quenched the Spirit of God. If you keep on doing that ten years later you will still be where you are. You would not have progressed. If you are not even faithful to the measure God gives to you, there is no point in talking about the measureless anointing. Unless you are faithful to the measure God gives you will not have more.

Growth in the anointing comes with faithfully moving in the measure you already have. For example, when God first started operating the word of knowledge in my life, I have to faithfully give it. When it comes, I will say, "All right God is showing that this is the category of the sickness He wants to heal," and I faithfully gave it. Whether people respond or not, that is their responsibility. Whether you respond or not is your responsibility. You have to faithfully give it. I found something started happening. The more I give the more it came. The more it came and the more I give out, it gets sharper and sharper. As I continued in it, later, I found out that it began to operate with another side effect. At first it operates with what I call the side effect of

tangibility - I sense it on my body. Later it operates together with vision. It reached a certain point where it started operating with vision. When that operates with vision, it reaches a greater form of accuracy that can take place. That comes because of faithfulness.

In the natural, it is the same way. If you expect to be very good at music, you have to discipline yourself to sit down at those instruments and play it and practice. In the natural, practice makes perfect. In the spiritual, you also need practice to make the gifts of God perfect. You just have to practice it until you are accurate in your flow of the anointing of God. Faithfulness is a tremendous key to grow into the next level of the anointing that God has on our life. This helps us to move into a different phase of ministry that He has for our life. We have to be faithful in those areas.

The anointing can be measured. The anointing enables us to do the works of Jesus. The anointing can be increased. Just as we grow from faith to faith, from glory to glory, and from grace to grace, we also can grow in the level of anointing in our life. In addition, the Holy Spirit is received in measures. We can measure the amount and the level of anointing that operates in our life. There are different degrees, different measures of the anointing. That measure of the anointing we are talking about here now is the measure of the anointing that God gives you to operate.

Lets illustrate: God could call you to operate in the measure of ten volts of anointing. You have a ten volts measure of the anointing. As you move in your anointing, sometimes you find that you were not up to it. You did not spend enough time with God. Alternatively, the response from people to your ministry fluctuates. Sometimes they have more faith in you but sometimes they have less faith in the anointing that God has placed in your life. In some meeting, they have high expectancy but in some meetings low expectancy. Although the anointing in your life is about ten volts, sometimes it flows at eight volts, sometimes at three and sometimes at ten. The level of anointing depends on the type of meeting that you are conducting, the expectancy level of the people and the level of your own preparedness.

Three factors affect the level of the anointing in a meeting.

The Will of God

Although the will of God is for you to operate at ten volts, it does not mean you will operate at the level of ten volts everywhere you go. The anointing upon is not twenty-four hours. When the anointing upon is not functional in your life, it will be lifted off you. It will not be upon you all the time. If the anointing is upon you all the time, you cannot sleep. Even if the measure of anointing that you have is ten volts, remember, it still has to function according to the will of God. It depends on the will of God whether God wants you to operate at that type of meeting. If there is no need for the anointing to manifest then the anointing will not manifest. For example, if you are going for supper, obviously the need for the anointing is not there. Otherwise, if the anointing of ten volts is upon you, you could hardly order your meal. Every time you want to say something, you utter, "The Spirit of the Lord." The anointing comes only when there is a need for it. It depends on the will of God to manifest the anointing although the fullest potential you could move in is the measure of anointing God has given you. The first cause is the will of God.

Preparedness

Then the other cause is your preparedness. Sometimes you may not be more prepared than the other times. Sometimes you may be able to spend time waiting on God more than other times. During that time, you have spent more time waiting on God. In your preparedness, you are more able to tap into the full measure of the anointing on your life. If you have done all the necessary preparation that you could for a meeting and if you are a ten volts anointed minister, you will flow at the level of ten volts subject to the other third reason. You have these ten volts in your life. Sometimes maybe during the day you are running about and doing too many things. Perhaps you have an evangelistic meeting in Japan. You flew all the way there. You had a good rest and the meeting is the next night. In the morning of the next day, you go all over Tokyo sight seeing. In the afternoon lunchtime, you had a large helping of Japanese delicacies for lunch. Then you go and do all your shopping. Just about an hour before the meeting, you rush back into your hotel. You washed yourself quickly and go to the meeting. You may have ten volts but you may be able to flow only in

about five volts of anointing since you have lowered your preparedness. You did not shut yourself aside to consecrate yourself to the Lord.

See there is a price to pay in ministry. Sometimes people do not realize the price you pay. I only share this with bible school students. Most of you want to know what goes on behind the scenes. Many people do not know I sleep very little on Saturday night. I get up early on Sunday morning and wait upon the Lord for the congregation. You pay the price. The sacrifices you made for the body. Sometimes when I travel if I minister, I consecrate myself onto the Lord. My wife knows we do not have any sexual relationship at all when I minister. I just shut myself up onto the Lord. It is the price you pay and people sometimes do not appreciate the sacrifices you make. They do not realize the cause of pain behind the scene and the sacrifice you made. Praise God He will reward you in other ways.

We should realize that preparedness is necessary. By preparedness, I mean your personal relationship with God. There is a degree of preparedness. When I travel to places, I hardly go sightseeing. The only time I could do so is when the meeting is over. Then I relax a little bit and I just let people take me around. A mission director told me how he took a group of foreigners to Singapore. He had this team of bible students. The moment the plane landed in Singapore, they started shopping. Everyone started discussing how to plan their shopping. They shopped till they dropped and they ended up suffering a series of misfortunes. Somebody lost his passport; some were delayed here and there. Why, their minds were not on ministry.

Preparedness affects the anointing of God in our life. If God calls you to minister in some way, God will expect you to give yourself. That is what we mean by giving yourself to your office and ministry. There are some things which I have said that those not in the ministry can never understand. Only those who have been in the ministry understand what is involved. Those who have never lived by faith do not understand what is involved. Sometimes I feel grieved with people who are not in the ministry passing comments on those in the ministry. Wait until you get into it, and then you will realize what it is like. A person who is successful in the world does not mean he will be successful in the ministry. It is a different thing altogether.

Now the opposite is also true - a person who is successful in the ministry may not be successful in the world. The fact is that of all professions, the ministry has the highest price to pay. It is easier to work in a secular job, give an encouraging word now and then to the pastor, and have a little home fellowship in your house. If you have never been in the ministry to give yourself to it, you do not understand the sacrifices that will be involved, the preparedness that is required and the sacrifices at home.

Just to share a little bit of my personal life. We have this washer lady that comes to help us. She said, "You sure have many clothes to wash." For two weeks, we did not have any free time from morning till night to wash clothes. Some people may think a minister must be humble. If I were working in the world, I would need only four pairs of pants and that would be sufficient. In the ministry, you have to have ten pairs of pants. Some church members cannot accept that. They feel that pastor should not have more clothes than them. People get that kind of concept. They do not understand that the pastor is so busy, he has no time to wash his clothes, so he need many spares. You will have more time if you are not in the ministry. In the ministry, you require a consecration and preparedness. My wife sometimes had to keep the children from me while I am in that kind of situation. She will have to be with the children all the time while I am spending my time alone with God. The sacrifices you make behind the scene, people do not see at all.

For that reason Jesus in Jn. 17 says for this purpose, I sanctify Myself. He consecrated Himself because He has such a high mission for us. He gave Himself entirely to the Lord.

Expectancy Level

The third is the expectancy level that people have in our life that people have of you. Sometimes people will say it is just another meeting and the expectancy is not there. When the expectancy is there, you could operate at a higher level. Let us say that you operate at ten volts. You go to a meeting where

everybody did not really look forward to you operating in that anointing. In other words, the people did not pay a price to be ministered by you. Some people really pay a price to get ministered to. Some people will travel land, sea, and air to get ministered by you. Some people just lived next door and say, "If I like it, I will be there. If I do not like it, I will not be there." There need to be a level of expectancy.

One reason why sometimes the anointing works powerfully in some ministers' lives is because they are not so accessible. Let me give an example. You only get to see the man of God in a meeting. He does not mix with the people. He does not talk much with the people. When it is time for him to minister, he shows up. When the ministering is ended, he goes off. You know what he does to the people. Let me give both the positive and the negative point. There is a psychological factor being placed on the people. The people do not have easy access to the man of God. As a result, they look up to that person. As a result, they have a higher expectancy. They are not accessible. You cannot go near to them and the people end up having higher expectations of him. It is very hard to get to them and the result is that the expectancy goes very high. This works as a plus and positive point for them. However, I do not see Jesus doing that. I do not recommend it to people. I would prefer to correct that kind of attitude. I am giving you the reason why some men of God do that. They want to build people's expectancy of them. If you ever go to some of those big time ministries like in America, I tell you they have many bodyguards surrounding them. There is no way you could near to them. You could not even shake hands with them. They look so "special." As a result, you put them on a higher level and your expectancy goes up. They are employing wrong methods but achieving right results.

Jesus did not do that. He rather let it flow as it is. For that reason I have not done that and it is not my nature. My nature is to come to the level of people. Because of that, it can work against you sometimes. This is how it can work against you. Some people do not know their limit with you. I mean you could be a friend with them, dine and drink together and joke together. So by the time you come to operate the anointing of God, they say, "Ah, we are friends." They do not have any expectation of you because they say, "We know you." Some people know their limit but some do not know. In other words, some people could be close to you but they do not lose their respect for you. Some people are close to you and they take the opportunity to climb over your head.

In the ministry, you got to relate wisely to people. We have to relate to all people rich or poor, fat or thin and there are so many different personalities that we have to have the wisdom of God to know how to relate to each one. The most important thing I encourage is being close with the people of God and being one with them. Sometimes I travel to meetings and the organizers tell me to make a grand entrance and secretly exit. I usually tell them I prefer to come and worship with the people. The people then know I am just one with them. However, when I move in the anointing that is when I am different from them. I am ministering to them with the gift and the office of God. If they stand in their office and they minister like I Corinthians says that there could be two or three prophets in a meeting. If one prophet is ministering and has a word hear that person. However, if the word comes to another person, let the person sit down and let the other start speaking. This is to create a body type of ministry. However, when we do it, people need to maintain a level of expectancy from the minister of God. For expectancy, people need to pay a price. If they do not pay a price, they do not have expectancy. When they pay a price, they have expectancy. Just like the minister needs to prepare himself, the people also need to prepare themselves before a meeting. Instead of using wrong methods to heighten expectancy in the people, I would rather teach them to prepare themselves before they come to God. Then they can really receive whatever God has for their lives.

Demonstration of Anointing

The following eyewitness report is furnished below to illustrate the work that an anointing can do. We continue with the account of some ministry done by another pastor in another church, which we left off in the previous message. This particular anointing exposes the actual demon behind our strongholds and problems in our Christian life. (Ed.)

Sixth Case

Pastor called up a Chinese woman to the mike and asked her what she wants from the Holy Spirit.

She said, "I am very sensitive and get emotionally hurt easily." Pastor told the congregation, "The enemy has spilled over her soul and is now hiding behind her soul. Most people would minister to her gently to avoid hurting her. However, demons are hiding behind her soul and there is no time to be sentimental about it. You have to deal with the demon harshly and in that way, set her free emotionally."

After a pause, pastor called out the demon, "Annai, manifest yourself." The woman starts shaking and crying. Pastor interrogated the demon, "How did you get into her?"

The demon answered, "Her mother dedicated her to me when she was a child. I trouble her, her husband and family. I enjoy doing it."

Pastor then expelled the demon from her and told the congregation, "Demons cannot stand the anointing in the church. So when Christians harboring demons in them come to church where the anointing level is high, the demons hide behind their souls. If these demons were to remain in the spirit man of these Christians, they would be hit directly by the anointing. Hence, they hide behind the intellectual, emotional, and volitional faculties of the souls of Christians. Most Christians' intellectual, emotional, and volitional faculties are filled with strongholds and when the anointing level in a church service is high, the demons are able to find refuge behind these strongholds and shield themselves from the anointing. Sin is the bottom line and is behind the growth of strongholds in one's soul. If Christians do not deal with the sins of their intellect, will, and emotion and repent, strongholds will take hold of these parts of their soul. As long as sin is not dealt with and put away, demons have a right to lodge behind these strongholds and there will be no deliverance. Once you have this knowledge, you can lead a person to repent of their intellectual, emotional, and volitional sins. After that, the anointing can demolish the strongholds in their souls and set them free from the evil spirits lodging behind those strongholds. That is why Christians need to prepare themselves and repent of their strongholds before they come to anointed meetings. When they do so, they will find progressive breakthroughs in subsequent meetings. If they do not, they will not be touched at all even if the anointing level is very high in a meeting."

Seventh Case

Another Chinese woman is called to the mike. She said, "I find it difficult to obey and submit to my husband." Pastor told her to repent, ask for forgiveness from God and asks for grace for deliverance.

Pastor called out the demon causing this problem in her, "Myloi," and expelled it from her. He then continued, "The soul plays a critical role in your personal deliverance and breakthrough. The will of the person is critical to his or her deliverance. During the praying over session, the evil spirits can appear before God and present their case but you cannot hear the proceedings taking place in heaven. The evil spirits can argue, "This person does not want to give up his bad habits, so why should I give up my place in him?" According to righteousness and justice, the evil spirits do have legal grounds to remain in that person who refuses to repent. God's anointing must be used according to the laws. You must lead that person to repent first so that the evil spirits do not have legal grounds to remain in him. Once he has repented, then only may the anointing be used to cast out the demon. You cannot use the anointing lawlessly."

Eighth Case

An Indian man is called to the mike. He says, "I need a breakthrough in my prayer life. I find that I can pray for three days but after that, I find it difficult to be faithful and consistent in my prayer life. I find it difficult to be touched by God in a service."

Pastor commented, "There are several reasons why a lot of people cannot be touched by God. Firstly, there is unrepentance in the person's life. If sin is present, God will back away from you. God never fails. He always blesses. Only sin prevents His blessings. Secondly, there is resistance in your soul and will

to the workings of God. Thirdly, there are certain blockages present in your life that are caused by powerful strongholds. Fourthly, there are external blockages coming from your spouse and in-laws. Either the strongholds of those nearest and dearest to you or your own strongholds can stir the demonic presence in anyone of you to cause you problems. Fifthly, wrong concepts that are implanted in your souls. You have to bypass the barrier to the soul to get to the spirit. The enemy put on a spiritual shield in your mind to doubt and question the genuine move of God.”

“You must experience little breakthroughs in your life before you can experience the touch of God. In certain cases, the bottom line is to yield to the Holy Spirit. If you still refuse to yield to the Holy Spirit, God won’t force you.”

Pastor now tells this man to repeat this prayer after him, “Holy Spirit, I am young and ignorant of many things. I ask for grace for my spirit, soul, and body. Holy Spirit, set me free from these chains that block me from having a consistent prayer life. In Jesus’ Name. Amen.”

Pastor then summoned the demon causing this problem in this man to manifest. He stripped the legal rights of the demon and consigned him to the place of wrath.

The pastor tells the Indian man, “There is a time for deliverance. The enemy has documents against you. In Jesus’ office in heaven, He receives many petitions from the devil against His people for their wrongdoing. When Jesus told Peter that Satan demanded for him, it was not idle talk. *And the Lord said, “Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. (Luke 22: 31)* Satan had legal grounds to petition Jesus for the right to sift Peter like wheat because he denied the Lord three times. In your records, your ancestors worshipped Kali, the Hindu goddess of hell. Jesus had to contract with the enemy at a very high level and purchase you with His blood. When your ancestors worshipped Kali, it opened the door for the enemy to take possession of your family tree. You came under the shield of Kali. This is why the power of God could not penetrate into your spirit. Furthermore, you were not totally committed to God. Jesus is a God of rules. He too has to observe rules. There is only one way for Jesus to help, and that is the way of grace. When you prayed the prayer for grace, God could then give you grace and deliver you.”

Ninth Case

Pastor then called up a Chinese woman to the mike. She said, “I want healing for my hands which are getting numb.” Pastor then pointed his right index finger at her and the demon in her started manifesting and saying some angry words in Chinese. Pastor said, “Demons are not linguists. They do not know every language. Some demons are cleaner than you. I once saw a clean shaven executive looking demon wearing a white shirt.” Pastor then asked some questions in English, which were interpreted into Chinese by a Chinese interpreter to the demon. The demon kept quiet. He then expelled the demon by saying, “All your legal rights stripped. Go in Jesus’ Name to the place of wrath assigned to you.”

Pastor explained, “When I say, “All your legal rights are stripped,” this means that the demon has no more right to make petition to defend himself since he has defied the Holy Spirit and violated some laws of heaven. There are rules in heaven for demons to behave too. They cannot overstep the limits permitted by God. If they do so, they will be judged and consigned to hell before their time.”

“In this case, the demon kept quiet under interrogation. Firstly, they hope to escape by pretending not to be there. Secondly, this is his strategy to counter the vessel’s judgment of him. Thirdly, they do not want you to know their secrets.”

“However, this Chinese woman did not receive complete deliverance because the Holy Spirit has

opened her records and revealed that she was not submissive to her husband. She murmur and argue back in her heart. One of the reasons why the church is weak is because the wives are not submissive to their husbands. This is the doorway for Satan to attack the men and the leadership in the church. God keeps good records through His angels watching over you.”

6. THE GREATEST WORKS OF JESUS

Tonight we are concluding chapter two of our book, “The Anointing of the Holy Spirit.” What is the secret for doing the “greater works”? Let me read a few sentences from there. *“The main key to doing both the works of Jesus and greater works is in learning the secret of union with Jesus Christ. Our Lord Jesus Christ said that all the works He did was done by the Father in Him.”* Note how He emphasizes His union with the Father.

The greater works is defined *“as for quality we do not believe that we can improve on any healing or miracle that Jesus has done because a miracle is a miracle perfect in itself. By quality works, we mean that Jesus could have done these works if He had opportunity but He did not have them in Israel during those days.*

We are going to touch on the greater works of Jesus and see some of these opportunities that God has and some principles that are involved in the greater works of Jesus. When Jesus said in John 14:12, “The works that I do he will do also and greater works than this shall he do,” what does He mean by “greater works.” We are talking about the anointing upon Jesus. Since He says we are going to do greater works that Him, what is the definition of “greater”? That’s what we are trying to define.

We define “greater” in two areas. It is either greater in quantity or quality. By the term “quality,” please understand that this does not mean we do better works than Jesus. Instead, this is due to the fact that He did not have the opportunity to do such works in His time. In Jesus’ earthly time, some sicknesses or situations were non-existent for Him to work. It was not because He was not able. But if you compare our times and Jesus’ time, the healing of present types of diseases like AIDS and SARS translate into a work of greater quality. These are works that Jesus did not do. As regards to the quantity of work, Jesus was limited in one physical body during His ministry but now every born again believer has the potential of receiving the anointing of Jesus. Every Christian has a believer’s anointing and the anointing upon. You may not be called to the five-fold office, like an apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor or teacher. But as a business man, a professional or a general worker, you could have a special anointing upon your life for your field of work where you are doing it as on to the Lord. The Lord may grant you special wisdom and qualification like Aholiah and Bezalel in Moses days. They were neither preachers nor teachers but they had the skills that came from the anointing upon on their lives. God specially anointed them with those skills. So the anointing upon is not only belonging to those in the ministry. It’s for every believer whatever function and call of ministry that you have God will give you an anointing upon, especially for you in those areas that nobody has functioned in. Whether in the nine ministries of believers or in the five-fold office, you can function to the fullest capacity in your kind and type of anointing that God has upon your life.

So in quantity we are speaking about the combined amount of works done by great numbers of anointed Christians at any one time throughout the world. Whereas Jesus ministered in one place at a time, now all over the world ministers are healing the sick in a numerically greater way.

The other word meaning of “greater” could be in a qualitative sense. Like for example there are some situations where Jesus did not handle that other ministries had handled. In Kathryn Kuhlman’s meeting in the book “A Glimpse Into Glory” it records how that a doctor has operated a patient and put into the patient an artificial heart pacer. When that person was healed in a miracle service, the doctors couldn’t find that heart pacer any more. The patient came to the doctor to ask for a certificate since he wanted him to verify that he is now alright. The doctor refused, saying that he will be mocked since he actually had implanted a heart pacer inside and it disappeared when the healing took place. They don’t know what happened to the metal

heart pacer.

I have also heard from some evangelist friends and ministers how there were patients whose diseased or fractured bones had been removed and the surgeons screwed back metal plates and rods as replacements. During ministry and anointing the patients felt a heat on the affected parts of the body. When the x-ray is shown there were no more screws or metal. These metallic implants disappeared and were replaced by flesh when the healing took place.

These are present day wonderful miracles of God, which were not recorded as done by the Lord Jesus. In those days, such operations were not available. Certain sicknesses common to modern man were not present in Jesus' times like exposure to radiation. Methods are used today that were not available in the Early Church times. When Oral Roberts was at the peak of his ministry he went into T.V. ministry. When he ministers over the T.V. he would say to the audience sitting at home to lay your hands on the T.V. screen as he prayed. When he prayed the anointing flows through the T.V. set into their bodies. One person who was healed that way was Don Basham who said he felt the power going through the T.V. Sometimes the funny thing is that the T.V. program was recorded two months ago and the anointing was still present to heal.

See these are greater works not because Jesus couldn't do them; He did not have the opportunity to work such greater works because people back then did not have our present day advanced technology. Today, you could have an evangelistic meeting in one city and is linked by satellites to other meetings in huge stadiums in different parts of the world. The man of God shouts, "In Jesus' Name" and demons are cast out from the ten million people watching that live program. That would be the greatest mass deliverance the world has ever seen. This is the opportunity that we have today that in Jesus time they did not have. These are examples of works greater quality and quantity that Jesus did not have the opportunity to demonstrate.

The book of Acts 5 records how Peter's shadow healed the sick and that is a remarkable "greater works." This method of healing was not recorded in the life of Jesus. But it's so special and unique. Imagine healing by shadow. That is something new, something fresh that is not seen before. Some of you may move into some of the most peculiar kind of anointing. But you may get prosecuted for your peculiarities.

But don't go into unethical practices. In the hey days of revival in the 50s to 60s, some preachers were known to say, "If you give a hundred dollars donation you can have a piece of this anointed tent." So they always make sure the tent is very huge and enough left over to cut small pieces out. And they gave pieces of the tent for a hundred dollars donation. I don't think that can be considered as the greater works. I think it's a scam. Where money is involved it is not greater works. Although it is costly to run a ministry, it should always be free. Although it cost you a lot to bring the ministry to people, it must be given freely.

Sometimes you are appreciated sometimes you are not appreciated but you cannot charge a fee. If people really think, they will realize how much money they saved when they receive a healing. Since they came to Christ they stopped smoking and drinking. That's a lot of money saved. Some of them receive the teaching of the Word and they don't get sick any more. So they saved on hospital bill. If people really sat down and counted how much they saved when they are healed, they ought to give to the ministry freely and generously. And here they are very stingy and they don't want to give to God when they actually have more money now. Before their healing, their money would have been wasted on expensive medical care and medication. When they were with the devil they were very generous with the devil. When it comes to love offering they would give less than the cost of their daily five packs of cigarette before they were healed of their chain smoking. A sick person may have almost spent his or her life savings for the costly medical treatment before receiving their healing in a miracle rally. Unfortunately, they do not display the same generosity that God had shown towards them when He healed them.

People often do not realize that although the ministry they received is free, it's not cheap. There was a cost. It cost Jesus His blood. It cost Him to undergo instruments of torture to bring healing and deliverance to you. From our side lets emphasize and remember this: the gospel is always free. Don't complain if people don't appreciate your ministry. Jesus didn't complain. Jesus came to love and to give freely. We must always

realize if people with peculiar anointing start charging money for it or asking an offering then something is wrong. It's not "greater works."

There was another minister who took out his wallet and cut it into pieces and said, "You take a piece of my wallet and put it into your wallet because my wallet is more anointed than yours. You put it there and your wallet will grow fat." That is not "greater works." That is scam. That is not of God that is in the flesh. Here is merchandizing the anointing. And in fact the anointing will not last long. You will always have a small group of people who are naïve enough to believe everything they hear. Some preachers have powerful persuasion and they have ready testimonies on their fingertips to hoodwink the public, like, "How one day I bought this piece of the tent and placed it in my wallet and I got blessed with \$10,000." That is enough to trigger a mad rush for a piece of the tent now. You will always have small groups that are so gullible that anything and everything they hear help them release their faith. Even if the minister takes out his sock and say, "Take this sock and smell it if you want the healing anointing," they would do so without thinking. Then they will say this is special anointing.

When we define "greater works," it has to be scriptural, acceptable, doesn't bother on fantasy, extremity and foolishness. Someone may have a peculiar gift of telling you where you put all your treasures. A person will tell you where you keep your jewelry and describe the left drawer of your third cupboard and say, "God gave you that jewelry to give it to me." That is not "greater works." There is a merchandizing the anointing. You see all kind of things in the ministry. There are those who sometimes tell you the color of your checks the color of your wallet and exactly how much you have in your wallet. Then the people would be caught up, "He even knows that I have fifty three dollars and ten cents." Then the preacher says, "Let me tell you now why God reveal it so that you could give everything to me." God doesn't do all these things to force you to give. Even if that person is accurate right to the details and say, "In your wallet there are two Malaysian fifty dollars, one Singapore ten dollars, one Brunei one dollar and a twenty cent coin," and then proceed to ask you to give, don't give. At any time a ministry uses such gimmicks or tactics to ask for money or payment it has moved into the flesh. I am not saying such persons do not have the anointing. They may have started off with a genuine anointing. But when they move to go into such moneymaking schemes, something has gone wrong.

On the other hand there are genuine greater works. And there are areas in which we could move into the greater works that God has pre-destined to operate in our life both in quantity and in quality. And there is only one primary key to the greater works, which is union with the Lord Jesus.

Lets consider that in Jn. 14:7 *If you had known Me, you would have known My Father also, and from now on you know Him and have seen Him.* Philip said to Him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is sufficient for us." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and yet you have not known Me, Philip? He who has seen Me has seen the Father, so how can you say, "Show us the Father? Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and the Father is in Me? The words that I speak to you I do not speak on My own authority, but the Father who dwells in Me does the works. Believe Me that I am in the Father and the Father in Me, or else believe Me for the sake of the works themselves.

Jesus emphasizes that the key to His greater works is His union with God. He is sensitive that the Father is in Him. That means all He did in Matthew, Mark, Luke and John, the signs and miracles and wonders He says the Father is in Him. He told His own disciples if you don't believe in Me believe in the results of that relationship. Now He told that also to the Pharisees outside. He told that within His own kingdom and those outside His kingdom.

In the gospel of Jn. 10 He says to the Pharisees who question His authority in Jn. 10:37 *If I do not do the works of My Father, do not believe Me,* but if I do it then it's the Father who did it you better believe in Him. Now He told that outside to people who were not His disciples and He told that in Jn. 14 to His disciples. To Jesus it's important that everything He did was the out flow of His relationship with the Father. He was sensitive to the presence of the Father in His life. He did exactly as the Father desires.

Then He turned around in Jn. 14:12 and says *the works that I do he will do also; and greater works that*

these he will do, because I go to My Father. Why is it that going to the Father is so important? Because in verse 13 And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. Verse 16-18 And I will pray the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may abide with you forever – the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him, but you know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you. I will not leave you orphans; I will come to you.

That's a tremendous statement that He is making here. That it's so good that He is going so that the Holy Spirit can come. Now if Jesus did not go the Holy Spirit will not come. That ties back to Jn. 14:12 the reason because I go to My Father. You can do greater works because I go to My Father. What's so special about Him going to the Father? Because when He goes to the Father the Spirit can now not only dwell with us but in us. So that strengthens the fact that doing the greater works ties back to the knowledge and union and consciousness of Jesus in us. That is the most powerful statement that Jesus has made. Just as the Father was in Him Jesus is in us through the Spirit. And if you want to move in the greater works you have to develop a strong sense of the indwelling of Jesus in your life. Therefore when you stand to minister to people you must be conscious that your other body is just a shell. And it's not you but Jesus inside you who is flowing out and ministering through you. That is a very important statement that He has made.

See whenever you minister as you stand to minister you are conscious of certain things, conscious of the people, conscious of Jesus. But your most important consciousness is Jesus in you. And every time you develop a consciousness of Jesus in you flowing out that's when you get into the best position for Jesus to flow. For example when you turn the tap on, the internal laver opens the width of the pipe for water to flow through. Then you turn and turn until it cannot turn any more and you know that is the biggest flow you can have. As you turn your tap to the fullest, you become dependent on the original flow. If in your residential area the water pressure is very low you can turn the tap to the fullest and you can see water just dripping. But if you live in an area where the water pressure is high you turn it full you get gallons of water gushing out. So there is an area that is beyond our control that is God.

That is what I am talking about - there is a spiritual position that you could position yourself. So that whatever is determined from God's side and from the other two factors preparedness and expectancy you open yourself to the fullest possible. We open ourselves to the fullest possible when we are conscious of Jesus in us. The Holy Spirit, the Father and the Son in you ministering to the person in their full flow. As I minister to people, the important thing is that I must be conscious of Jesus. See you must be conscious of Jesus in your life and develop that consciousness in you. As I am conscious of Jesus in me I have to wait on Him.

Right now as I am saying I am not sure how Jesus wants to move. So I must check with Jesus in me. After all it's Jesus in us who does the work. Paul himself said, "It's no longer I who live but Christ Jesus now lives in me." See Jesus is in us. It's not we who do the work but it's Jesus in us who ministers. So you got to check with Jesus inside. And if Jesus inside us doesn't do anything you don't do anything. If Jesus inside begins to move and begins to flow you begin to move according.

But this anointing within can be stirred forth. You open your tap to the fullest by having a consciousness of Jesus in you. Now it also helps if on the receiving end of the ministry, the person being ministered to also concentrate on Jesus. If he is thinking of something else there is a slight block. But if he also is concentrating on Jesus and I am concentrating on Jesus, there is a free flow of whatever level God wants to minister.

Illustration: As you stand there you concentrate on Jesus in your life and you sense Jesus in your spirit. As you sense His presence, you sense that warm glow flowing out. I could sense it coming through my hands. Now right where you are sit down close your eyes, relax yourself. With hands lifted or hand on your laps or whatever position, in a position of what I call to receive whatever from the Lord. Right now you just visualize and concentrate Jesus in you. Jesus in your life flowing forth. Jesus in your life blessing you. Say after me, "Jesus I thank You that You are in me." You are in my life. My body is Your vessel. You live in me You work Your works in me. You are in me doing the works. It's not me doing the works; it's You flowing through me right now. Thank You Jesus. You are flowing in me. You are working in me. You are working through me."

Open your eyes right now. Do you notice a heightened sense of the anointing. Some people wonder how did I know whether the anointing was over this part of the congregation or over that part. How do I know that? From Jesus inside flowing forth. You have to be conscious of Jesus in you first. If you cannot be conscious of Jesus in you, you cannot be conscious of what Jesus is doing outside. You have to be conscious of Jesus in you.

Can you come up and stand here with your hands lifted up. In the previous lesson you should know about tangibility. There must be tangibility. So he senses certain tangibility as he concentrates on Jesus. Now what exactly do you sense right now? Warmth in your hands. Anything else? Warmth in your tummy. So this is his peculiarity he is sensing warmth in both his hands and tummy. Now as he concentrate on Jesus in his life now Jesus ministers through him to others. Now you just visualize Jesus ministering through to him. I want you to tell me how you are sensing it. Whether you are sensing a flow over here, over there. Just sense and flow along. The brother who is ministering is saying he is sensing it over the chest area. Now since he is doing the ministering as he hold his hands to the chest area there will be a build up over in this department. Do you sense anything over your chest as he holds you over? Very heavy all over your chest area. That is because whatever he sees he just flows along. Sometimes I see a flow flowing sometimes I see a light. Sometimes I see a particular vision. Sometimes I see Jesus Himself standing either on the right or on the left of that person and I would flow along with it.

See ministering in the anointing is not we doing it. We are just being instruments of the Lord Jesus and of the Holy Spirit and we just allow Him to minister. As our brother minister he can lay hand on his chest. And as he lay hand there is a channeling of the anointing upon his life. Each person you may sense the anointing differently. When you are the same person ministering to different people for whatever reason as I described just now only God knows what is operating and what is working, what He wants to do in a person's life. You may sense the anointing stronger in one area than in another and you flow along.

As you lift up your hands waiting to receive, you do the same thing like he did - concentrate on Jesus. Open your spirit to Jesus. Right now as you get ready to minister and you notice Jesus in your life and flowing forth to Him which particular area you sense strongest rising through to Him. He is sensing over his head. I particularly pick up that brother Philip desires wisdom. So God has to touch him in that area and impart wisdom in his life. For that reason God wants to put an anointing over his mind. As the hands are placed over your head you sense a force going through your head, don't you Philip?

We have to very sensitive to the anointing. As we go through this course in lesson six we realize that it's not just a matter of ministering blindly to the people. There are all these finer details you got to be sensitive to. Tonight we are concentrating on the fact that it starts with Jesus in you. Even though I say that sometimes I can pick up in a person's life exactly what the Lord is doing, I don't start from the outside. It's always from the inside. It's always from your spirit outwards onto people. So we have to be very conscious of Jesus inside us.

In your private life when you pray in tongues be conscious of God in you flowing out. In your praise and worship as you flow along be conscious of God in you flowing out all the time. Develop that consciousness. There are different degrees of Jesus in our life. We can develop it until we are very highly conscious of Jesus all the time. Of Jesus in our lives. Jesus flowing through us. And it helps Jesus to flow through. Because we become more yielded we become a greater channel for Him to flow through. Just like Jesus was conscious of the Father we need to be conscious of Jesus to let Jesus flow through our life.

7. THE BELIEVER'S ANOINTING

We are sharing from chapter three, "The Believer's Anointing" from our book, "The Anointing of the Holy Spirit." The believer's anointing is the measure of the Spirit of God that every believer receives when they are born again. It is placed within the spirit of a believer. That measure of believer's anointing can be increased. It does not remain stagnant. Some people who teach on the believer's anointing say that it couldn't be increased. But it can be increased. In the book we mentioned why it can be increased and we just want to run through just to make sure we cover them before we go into new territory.

The reasons why it can be increased is No. 1 a believer can grow in faith. It stands to reason that if you can grow in faith you will grow in the measure of the anointing in your life. So that is one proof why it can be increased.

The second reason why it can be increased is that a believer can grow in grace. The bible says we grow in grace. Grace can be multiplied and grace can increase. And if we grow in grace then we grow in the anointing because grace is tied up to the anointing just as faith is tied up to the anointing. You cannot grow in faith without growing in the anointing. You cannot grow in grace without growing in anointing. They are proportional since they grow together. They are not separated. They are interlinked together.

The third reason why the believer's anointing can grow is because of the growth in glory. We are changed and being transformed from glory to glory. And there are different measures of glory right now in this place and all over the world. Every one of us is in different stages of glorification. One day when Jesus comes we will have the fullness of glorification of spirit, soul and body. But right now we all have different degrees of glorification that have taken place in our spirit and in our mind and in our soul and in our body. So a growth in glory produces a growth in the believer's anointing within.

The believer's anointing can do five things. There are five signs which follow the believer. And these are five things that every believer who is born again no matter whether they one minute old Christian, one year old Christian, ten year old Christian, they can do the same thing with the believer's anointing. Remember we are not talking about the anointing upon but the anointing within. The anointing upon operates on different laws from the anointing within. They work on totally separate laws.

I have been struggling to find a natural illustration and I believe I have found that. You see electricity flows on certain laws. The electricity is a good symbol of the anointing of God. There are many observable facts in electricity that are tied up to the way the anointing flows. When electricity flows it can produce light, heat, and turn a fan. It can produce vibrations that make sound. So that is what I call the normal level the electricity operates on. However when the temperature changes, the flow of electricity begins to follow different laws. If you read about it in science, it's called the theory of super conductivity. This theory was so hard to understand that the first scientist who managed to explain super conductivity was awarded the Nobel Prize. That indicates how difficult it was to crack the theory of conductivity. It's easy to explain the ohms law to calculate the current and the voltage. These are standard laws.

But super conductivity is a different realm. What does it mean? You see if I connect ten volts of electricity to one end of a wire and allow it to pass through certain electrical appliances and flow out to another wire, the initial ten voltage will be reduced to five volts after passing through resistance in the appliance and wire. In layman's terms, I release about ten million electrons into one end of the wire but there are so many molecules that serve as blockages along the wire that finally only five million electrons can successfully pass through to the other end of the wire. So this is called resistance. As a result of that you need tremendous power to run heavy-duty equipments and machineries.

But super conductivity is where I put ten million electrons through one end of the wire and yet the same ten million electrons pass out at the other end of the wire without resistance. What happened is that the wire is cooled down to a certain temperature until all the molecules in the wire have stopped vibrating. There is no resistance at all. That means I could just take a battery to run a big machine because there is no energy loss or wastage. A hundred percent input produces a hundred percent output. There is no loss in energy. That is why scientists were interested in superconductivity as it means a huge saving in industrial and fuel costs. Our modern technology runs on electricity. Can you imagine how interested scientists are to find out how they could understand super conductivity? If they could understand it they could build electric cars. Today electric cars are not viable because it's very hard to retain the amount of electricity to keep the car going for a longer period of time. If they could discover a way it will be fantastic. And if they could discover a way to understand super conductivity they would be able to build powerful lasers. Today lasers are not so viable. They are very expensive to build because of the amount of energy that is required to charge a crystal and put the amount of electron through it in order to produce the light that they call laser beam. It is too

expensive. If they could find a way to cut down resistance and get all the electricity working it will be so cheap.

In fact through the beginning of this year one of the greatest excitements was that somebody discovered super conductivity that broke the previous theory. And today they realize that certain elements that have super conductivity that nobody could explain it still. Do you know today they haven't got the explanation yet? The first guy who does it will get the Nobel Prize. They had something that works but they don't understand how it works. They couldn't explain it. So they observed the elements under the electronic microscope. You know what they discovered? The super conductivity is below the freezing point temperature. The cold temperature caused vapor nitrogen to liquefy and examined under the electron microscope, found that the molecules look like flattened pizzas.

The anointing within is like electricity running at room temperature. The anointing upon is the law of electricity functioning at super conductivity level. There are certain different laws that operate them. There are similarities because the whole thing is still electron but there differences. So that is a natural illustration to differentiate between the anointing within and the anointing upon.

We are going to consider how the anointing within functions and grow its five functions based on Mark 16:17-18. Jesus said that those who believe in His name they shall No. 1 cast out devils; No. 2 speak in new tongues; No.3 have authority over serpents and preaching the gospel. When preaching the gospel it is not for you to take Mk. 16:17-18 and go out into the Malaysian jungle looking for a python or a king cobra just to test out Mk. 16:17-18. No. 4, immunity to poison when we are preaching the gospel.

Again we say that when preaching the gospel I qualify it so that people won't go around and get the funny interpretation out of it and say, "Well, Mk.16:17-18 tests whether you are really a believer or not. In this church there is a huge big bottle that is marked with a skeleton and a skull and there is poison in that bottle. All of you line up here and drink the poison. That will test whether you are a believer or not." But that's not the way to do it. You may be a believer but still die out of your ignorance and stupidity. So that is not what the scripture was given for. That scripture was given so that as you go preaching the Word of God people may try to poison you and nothing will happen to you. You are immune to it as you are preaching the Word of God.

The fifth area that is mentioned is recovery of sick through laying on of hands. Now those five realms of function are the anointing within function in five realms. The first realm casting our demons speaks about the anointing within a believer that gives you *exousia* over spirit beings that are demons. And because of the anointing within you, the spirit beings can be controlled by you. There is a source of power that flows through your life with the believer's anointing. When that power is released and if demons don't obey you the anointing within begin to make them uncomfortable.

No. 2 speaks about supernatural communication with God. You have a hot line to God. Isn't it wonderful to have a hot line to God? Any time day or night that bypasses your mind and understanding you could just pray in tongues and then you could reach out to God. You spirit will commune with God's Spirit. That's because of the deposit of the anointing within you. So you have authority over demonic realm, spirit beings. You have in a sense not to be misunderstood you have "authority" with God. The first is over demons; this is with God. Because of the anointing within you could approach God and you could prevail with God in your request. God honors the anointing that He has placed within your life. Makes you different so you have authority. I always use the word authority, authority over demons, authority with God.

The anointing within deals with *exousia* the anointing upon deals with *dunamis*. *Exousia* is delegated authority and power. *Dunamis* refers to the demonstration of the power of the Holy Spirit. That is more frequently used of the anointing upon. *Exousia* is always used of the anointing within. *Exousia* means the authority of the believer that God has given.

So you have No. 1 authority over demons. No. 2 authority with God.

No. 3 you have authority over the animal world. And serpents are among the worst. You have authority over the natural kingdom of animals. You could cross a river somewhere in East Malaysia and there comes a huge long Malaysian crocodile coming to you and you say, "In Jesus' name," and the crocodile will go back and turn the other way. And that was what happened in Mel Tari case when he was crossing the river and a crocodile came at him. He said, "In Jesus' name," and the crocodile understood English and went the other way. What was that? That was the authority of a believer. One day the dogs will come to you barking and in Jesus' name, you rebuke them and the dogs will run away. Don't go and try on somebody's pet. But it's useful to know what authority you have. See we have authority over the animal kingdom. You need to have that realization because one day God is going to send some of you to some African jungles somewhere where there are tigers and lions, wild animals and you will be called to preach to some offbeaten track somewhere. You have to cross a few lions' den. You pray, "God send me a helicopter," but God says, "Use your believer's authority." You will need it one day. We need to know we have authority over the animals. They don't have authority over us. You could take authority over animals. Please don't go to the zoo after this and tell the zookeeper, "I want to test out something. Can I please get into the lion case please?" That may be the last we hear of you. So we have the authority over the animal kingdom. Some people have authority and they don't realize it so they never use it.

Then the fourth area we have authority over natural substances. If you are sent to a place where there are poisonous substances in the air, like anthrax or nuclear radiation you could claim the authority of the blood of Jesus Christ. You will be protected and the poison will not affect your system. You have authority over poisonous substances. That gives us tremendous authority. Our Lord Jesus was powerful He has set the examples. So we have authority over natural substances. Remember it's not an authority that you could just play around with.

Lastly we have authority over the works of the devil. It's *exousia* in five realms. We have authority over the works of the devil. The works of the devil are sicknesses and diseases upon people's life. The reason why I call authority is that you have to release it. Do you know that all five authorities are released in the same way? The last one is over sickness and diseases. It says, "They shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover." That is what I call a point of contact. But it says they shall lay hands in the name of Jesus.

Lets look at Mk. 16 very carefully in verse 17-18 *And these signs will follow those who believe:* if you are a Greek scholar and you read it in the Greek New Testament you realize that in the original Greek New Testament there are no colon etc. And I believe for one place that is where they put the colon in the wrong place. They should put *and these signs will follow those who believe in My name: they will cast out demons; they will speak with new tongues; they will take up serpents and if they drink anything deadly, it will by no means hurt them; they will lay hands on the sick and they will recover.* I would rather put the colon after *in My name.* That means that when you are doing all the five things, it is because of delegated authority. You see delegated authority needs a delegated name that you carry. It's not your own authority remember that. If you come in the authority of somebody to bear somebody's name and you say, "I come in the name of so and so," you have to use a representation.

And all the five realms of authority that the believer's anointing gives us is released through the invoking of that majestic name of Jesus. In the first case where it talks about demonic realm, it's easy. When you invoke the name of Jesus demons tremble. So you really want to give the demon a disco you say "Jesus, Jesus, Jesus," and they will start dancing. Demons tremble at that name. You want a release of the languages of tongue, communication with God – "Jesus, Jesus." In My name they shall cast out demons. In My name they shall speak in new tongues. In My name they shall have authority over the animal kingdom, over serpents. In My name they shall have authority over poisonous substances. In My name they shall lay hands on the sick and they shall recover. All five need His name. And there is one way the name of Jesus is released and that is what we want to see all five realms of authority are released in one way. Through the power of the spoken Word. That is words being spoken.

Now when you operate the anointing upon over demons, demons can leave without you saying anything.

Acts 19 the handkerchief was so anointed that when it touched demon-possessed people, the demons ran off.

But when you operate a believer's anointing, remember it's like electricity operating at normal room temperature. You would have to say something. The believer's anointing is released through the power of the spoken word. And that's where a lot of Christians missed it. I could imagine when God created Adam and Eve, God told Adam, "I give you dominion over the birds of the air, over the fish of the sea, over the cattle of the field and over every creeping thing that creeps." And Adam said, "Yes sir." The next thing you know Adam takes a club and starts marching up and down. "Adam, what are you doing?" "I am taking authority." "What is the club for?" "To help me take authority." No, Adam was no cave man walking about with his club. So when the animals were not obedient he would take the club and he will club them. That's not the way. God never give Adam quote unquote an apparent weapon. He had no gun he had no club. What weapon did he use? How is Adam going to exercise his dominion? The word. All Adam had to say is, "Pelican, come here." "Yes, sir." "Lions, quiet." "Yes, sir." He walked about his dominion and authority; he needed no gun and no club. And he goes to the sea and he said, "Whale, come here." "Yes, sir." He doesn't need any weapon. His spoken word is enough.

When Jesus came on this planet earth and manifested, He showed the power of the Spirit life within Him and He showed the power of the anointing upon. He showed both. And the powerful thing that He shows was that His word has life Jn. 6:63. His words had power. And that's how you release the believer's anointing. You have to say something. A lot of believers have the believer's anointing but they don't know how to release it. It's just like buying a powerful car that could run at three hundred kilometers an hour. But you harness two bulls to the front of your car with ropes; crack the whip and cry, "Gidddupppp!"

It's just like a missionary who traveled all the way to visit one of his native friends. He crossed the sea, crossed the jungle and came close to the lions. Finally exhausted he reached this cave where this native dwells with the other natives. When he went there, there was a telephone there. "How come there is a telephone here? Where is the line?" The native looks up and said, "No line. This is for display only. That phone is useless; it is only for decoration." Yet it has all the potential of being a fully functional phone. But it has no place to plug in. No line no release.

God has given believers tremendous authority. But the authority is not released. We have the *exousia* power of a believer but believers are not realizing how to exercise this power. Some are allowing their homes to be plundered by the enemy without taking authority against it like Adam allowed the serpent to tempt Eve and deceive her while he was with her. Yes the bible says Adam was with her. She gave the fruit in Gen. 3 to the man who was with her.

Some old story tells you once upon a time there was Adam and Eve. Adam was out farming or gardening and Eve was wondering near the tree hanging around. Adam was very far away. There was the serpent and it was at the branch there and said, "Why don't you eat of this fruit?" Eve took one bite and straightaway went looking for Adam. Finally after some time, she found Adam and says, "Adam, try this fruit." Adam takes one bite and asked, "By the way where is it from?" She said, "O that tree of knowledge of good and evil." And he ended with Adam's apple in his throat. Silly old story. That is not true.

The bible tells us in Gen. 3 that Adam was with her. What was Adam doing? Adam was supposed to have authority and domain. He was supposed to have authority over everything that creeps. He could have told the serpent, serpent shut up and the serpent would shut up. He could have rebuked that serpent. A lot of Christians are allowing Satan to dominate their lives, to wreck their families, to overcome them. And they are crying to God, "God, help." God asked, "What are you doing? I gave you the authority: in My name they shall cast out demons not Me." It never says, "In My name, God shall cast out demons for them." In My name they shall cast out demons.

The first law operating in the believer's anointing is to understand the power of words. Words are the capsules that contain the believer's anointing and release it forth. The believer's anointing in all five realms

depends on the word we speak. The next time you want to release the believer's anointing over anything, speak it out verbally. That is why we say grace over food. You know we are releasing tremendous authority and power over substances that you partake of. When you make a confession over your home you are releasing the anointing, and this anointing is not the anointing upon but the anointing within. Words are powerful and believers are not using them enough. You are not taking authority. *Exousia* is not operating. Believers are just as dumb as Adam standing next to the woman letting her talk to the serpent. Usually the wife gets turn on starts taking authority here and there. Children get sick. Things don't quite work out. Both come to church. The Lord starts working on the husband and say, "You are the head of the family and you should take authority." He is allowing his home to be wrecked ruined because he is standing there like Adam dumb while the serpent is crawling all over his kitchen, all over his living room. He is just saying nothing. The day the husband starts taking authority and say, "In Jesus' name I won't allow you to put sickness on my family." That will be the first time the devil picks up his bag and say goodbye. That will be the day the devil leaves. The authority is released through the spoken words.

Now it's also controlled by a second factor. For some of you when you hear there is power in the spoken words you have become a ghostbuster maniac. The first demon possessed person you see, you grab them and commanded, "In Jesus' name get out." The demon laughs, "Yes," but stays put instead. I wonder why the demon doesn't obey him. Some bible carrying, tongue talking, hand laying fire anointed come to the sick and said, "In Jesus' name be healed." That fellow got worse. They go back check the concordance and their bible. Check Mk. 16 and it says, "They shall lay hands on the sick and they shall be healed." I did lay hands in Jesus' name and I learned that words released the power and my words don't work. What is wrong?

There is a second factor that controls it. Don't forget the first part that says, "Those who believe in My name," that is, your faith level. Your faith level controls the amount of believer's anointing released when you speak His word. If your faith level is small even though your words are big and loud but a lot of doubts behind your mind and in your heart your anointing released is a trickle. It is not the loudness of your words that determines the power content. Sometimes when you take authority you can't help it if your voice does get higher, louder etc. But it is not just the loudness of the voice the demon obeys. But if you don't have the faith you copy the method but not the principles you are heading for disaster. If you want to copy, copy the principles. And then if you don't have other methods go ahead and copy them but develop your own method. So you copy his method but you don't know the principles behind. He has faith but you only got loud voice.

If it is the loudness of the voice that cast out demons it's very easy for all of us. All we have to do is to fix an amplifier system and turn it loud. Put the demon possessed right in the center where all the loud speakers are facing him. Turn it high. Then you just relax in a sound proof room. You don't have to scream; you let the electronic system do the deliverance for you. They won't come out because of the loudness of the voice. That's not it. It's not just the loudness of the voice although when you exercise authority you do tend to get louder. But it's the faith level behind the spoken words that releases the anointing.

So you learn that there are five different ways of believer's anointing works. It operates through the spoken word in all the five of them and using Jesus' Name. No. 2 it operates through your faith level. We are exhorted to grow in faith and not doubt. God has given to the believer enough power to do the works of Jesus with the anointing within. If you could walk with the full revelation of the anointing within, where whatever you say you believe that it comes to pass.

Now notice what the believer's authority operates in Mk. 11:23 *For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, "Be removed and be cast into the sea. And does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.* Let me take the middle part and expand on it because that is the part that is not very clear to people. It says, but believes that those things he says will be done. Let me pull that whole phrase out because it has to be seen clearly.

It says, "...believes that those things **he says** will come to pass." It's different from believing that what **he believes** will come to pass. It did not say, "but believes that what **he believes** come to pass." That's what a lot of people are doing. They think they are in Mk. 11:22-24 but they actually are acting on Mark chapter zero verse six neither here nor there. Mark 11 :23 says, "but believes that those thing **he says** will come to pass".

Instead, a lot of believers are believing that what they believe will come to pass. They are exercising faith on something inside instead of something they released.

Mk. 11:23 specially is true of the believers anointing. You have to believe in the anointing that God has given to you when you were born again. You have to have absolute faith in that. The next time you pray for somebody you don't have to pray and open your eyes, pray and open your eyes, looking for some symptoms or some signs. That is not the anointing of a believer operating. That is trying to tap on the anointing upon which is a different operation. A lot of people when they pray for a person they begin to check. Are you O.K? Can move now or not? They are always checking. They pray with half their eyes opened. They are checking for physical signs.

You may do that when you are operating in the anointing upon because the anointing upon is a different realm. But the believer's anointing will not permit you to do that. You must believe that what you say is already coming to pass. And the better way of releasing it is this. You will come a sick person, even if that person doesn't show any symptom of recovery, and say, "In Jesus' name be healed," and exercise all your faith in the words you say going through the person. You cannot be exercising much faith in your own words if you doubt your own words. You have to keep repeating them to encourage your own faith.

Let me give you an example. You cannot come to somebody and say, "I think that the longer the prayer the faster the answer." And you pray, "Father we thank you he is recovering etc," and you have to repeat about ninety nine times. The longer the better. It is not always so. Sometimes the longer the prayer, the faster they die. I like to enjoy watching people how they release their anointing in their life. Sometimes some of them I know they are doubting their own words. They can believe that what they believe will one day come to pass. But they find it difficult to believe in the words that they say. So the words that they say they have to exercise a little bit of faith. They have some faith in God some faith in their heart but they have no faith in their own words.

Look at Mk. 11:23 it is faith in words. Let me put it in plain English. It is faith in words. Whoever says if you have faith as a mustard seed you will say to this mountain be removed and be cast into the sea and if he does not believe in his heart but believe in his own words it will come to pass. It's believing in your own words. Do you know people don't believe in their own words? That's the problem. If you don't believe your own words you cancel your own anointing. When you release the believer's anointing the faith level is determined. So the next time you prepare yourself and if you are casting out a demon you get more results if you treat your words like bullets. If you don't value your own words just like a soldier value bullets, you will have no effect. Treat your words like bullets that are thrown out. The next time you release a believer's anointing treat your words like bullets. A lot of believers are too loose lips. In fact so loose that their lips are dragging the ground. Their words have lost its power. The bible says in the book of James that if any man who does not know how to control their tongue their religion is false. The more powerful you are spiritually you are the less words you speak. That doesn't mean the more spiritual you are the more you don't talk. I am talking about a principle here. Your words are like bullets. If you use them carefully they are going to be powerful. So when you pray to cast out demons next time believe in your own words. You come and you say, "In Jesus' name, come out," whether you scream or shout or say softly, the demon may do whatever he wants but you just walk off. And if you walk off believing in the power of your own words that fellow will recover. We will need to waste less time trying to work ourselves up.

Smith Wigglesworth tapped on this a lot. One day he was brought to this house and there were a few pastors with him. He is one of those I really admire who walked in the authority of a believer. He moved in the anointing upon but walked in the authority of a believer. Authority of a believer makes you a king. A king in five realms. Do you know it never included human spirits? So please exercise your kingly domain in the right domain. For example the Government of Indonesia cannot just come into Malaysia and say I am the Government here. They only got authority in their territory. So we do not have authority over human spirits. But we have authority over the other five realms. So don't take the word I am a king in Christ wrongly. We have no authority over human beings; we must know our realm of authority. You have to work differently with human beings. It takes great patience and love.

Smith Wigglesworth one day was going to this house and this demon-possessed girl was there. He took one look at her and he only spoke one sentence: "In Jesus' name, come out." Then he walked away. That's all. He believed in his own words. The demon outwardly was still there in her. The pastors there said that she is still possessed. Why did he let her go like that? He should have slapped her until the demon came out. The demon-possessed girl followed him downstairs and made monkey business out of the whole thing. As Smith Wigglesworth was going out, he turned around, took one look at the demon and the girl and said, "I told you to leave," and just walked off. No manifestation but the next day she was completely healed. He believed in his words and he released the anointing of a believer. That's how the anointing of a believer is released. The next time you want to tap the power in this realm remember how to release the anointing within so that it could be powerful for God.

8. FALLING UNDER THE POWER

We have touched on the tangibility and the substance of the anointing to some extent. We may touch on it again later. That's a phenomenon that is prevalent when the anointing upon is strong. We need to understand falling under the power. Kathryn Kuhlman calls it slain in the Spirit. We will first consider that falling under the power of God is a side effect of the power of God operating. Since there are different degrees of operating the anointing of the Holy Spirit, there are also different degrees of falling under the power.

Let me give the natural first before we go to the spiritual. See in electricity there are different degrees of electricity and voltages. If you touch on the power line like the high-tension wires, that will be the last time you ever did so. You may find the next moment you are in heaven. That's very high voltage. But sometimes even when a lower voltage is released into your body, you may be thrown several feet away. Then some others have a different phenomenon where they touch that high-tension wire and find they cannot let go. Then their bodies slowly collapse. In the natural there are a lot of phenomena. Or sometimes people touch it they just jerk. So if such different phenomena can happen in the natural, how much more in the spiritual realm? It's an interesting realm. Don't think that falling under the power must happen in a certain way or style. You wouldn't expect that of electricity in the natural. You may be flung in a funny position in the natural. You can't control and say that this is the way to fall and that is the wrong way to fall in the natural.

In the spiritual realm, there are different degrees of anointing. And because of the different degrees of anointing sometimes people get the jerk. And sometimes, people fall in funny positions, some fall forward, some backwards, some side ways and some shake. You cannot standardize the falling into an official pattern. There is no such thing as a common pattern. You cannot make something that is a phenomenon into something dignified. Some side effects remain a side effect. And for that reason sometimes the power of the Spirit is so strong that it could just drop on the whole congregation and hundreds will fall at one time and it is too late to mobilize any catcher into action. You could knock on anything under that power. You could knock on a nail and you get up and are all right. So to a certain extent when there is a high degree anointing, the power will push a person down. Sometimes they could fall several times. But if the power is of a high degree, whichever way you fall, there will be a supernatural cushion. However there is a degree where the power is strong enough to knock you down but not strong enough to cushion you. If you fall, you will feel the full gravitational impact. You could wake up with a sore head or a back pain. You are wondering if this is the power of God, how can this pain happen? Your theology says that if it's the power of God, when you fall, you should be all right and there is no need for catchers to cushion your fall. If people fall under the power, let them fall even if there are broken glass all over the place.

That was my theology before I met Jesus in person when He taught me on the anointing of the Holy Spirit. But when the Lord began to show me that there are different degrees of the manifestation of power, I began to understand the need for catchers. Because you never know to what degree the power will flow. And some of you may have met some people who fall differently. Some fall and they didn't feel anything even though the whole church heard a loud thud sound. I have seen some people who have fallen and they knocked on certain objects and there is a wound on their side. How do you conclude? What does theology say? Do we conclude that therefore it's not the power of God? You can't say that because there is power. There are people being healed. The answer is in understanding that there are different degrees of power that

flow. Sometimes the power is strong enough to cushion you sometimes it's not. We are talking about anointing upon where there are different degrees flowing.

There are three reasons why we should encourage the use of catchers. One of them is that when a person falls, it could be that the power is not enough to cushion them. And so it's good to catch them.

The second reason is that there are unbelievers there or a person who is new in the things of the Lord and they keep hearing all kind of sounds. The unbelievers are watching all these falling over. Maybe God wants them to be prayed for. But because they see all these falling over, they refrain from joining the healing lines. But if they see people being cushioned by catchers when they fall, they may be less fearful to come forward and they won't miss the blessing. So that is the second reason.

Third reason is the usher plays a role as an intercessor. There are different laws that operate on corporate anointing. In my book, "The Anointing of the Holy Spirit," I have not touched on corporate anointing. But let me touch on it. The corporate anointing has different laws to operate on it. Corporate anointing is affected sometimes by the presence of people around. Kathryn Kuhlman understood that. In her meetings, nobody can sit on the first two rows of front seats except those she has chosen.

Long ago in Singapore there was this man of God. He would walk through the corridor and people would fall right and left. He operates certain law on the corporate anointing. It requires the first two rows to be filled with intercessors to create the atmosphere. I can assure you if the expectancy level there is high and if the intercessory group covers certain spots, when we operate the anointing these spots will experience a heavier anointing than other spots. So that is the third reason - the row of catchers can serve as a buffer zone from unbelief. See the anointing can be affected by people's presence, especially people who are anti this and anti that.

In II King chapter 3 when Elisha came, he said if it were not for the presence of king Jehoshaphat, he would have nothing to do with the king of Israel. It seems that the presence of certain people affects the anointing. All you have to do to affect a person's anointing from operating is put in the first two rows a group of skeptics, and anti-Christ kind of people and they will affect the anointing. Is there a solution? Yes. Put an intercessor on either side of the skeptic. If you understand this, you would know how to counter the negative faith atmosphere generated by these skeptics. You give me one thousand intercessors and you have a room full of skeptics and I will place the intercessors strategically around the skeptics. I would put the prayer warriors in the hardest places where the anointing is hard to flow. See the anointing can flow but there could be pockets of unbelief amidst pockets of faith. If there are intercessors in one area, they will pull the anointing to their direction. And when the anointing comes over a particular area, it runs into resistance created by the unbelievers there. That is the third reason why we have catchers. They create a buffer zone. The catchers should be persons of faith who can flow with the Spirit of God and they are there creating the buffer zone. The spirit of unbelief is not affecting the meeting because there is the buffer zone of intercessors and catchers.

In America you have a fourth reason for having catchers. When a person falls and the catcher is there to cushion the fall, they won't break their legs and sue you. There are so many fellows now suing preachers there because they fall under the power in America that praying over has become an occupational hazard. A catcher's role is not just to catch. There are certain ways to catch. You got to stand at a proper distance from the person. So a person is six feet tall you don't stand seven feet away. So when the Spirit shouts, "Timber," you run forward to catch. Catchers have to be trained. You cannot stand too close or too far. If too far when they fall you catch the wrong part of their bodies. Imagine if we can train counselors, we can train ushers but why don't we train catchers? We don't learn by instinct; we learn by being trained. Sometimes when you are under the power you are conscious but cannot move. And we are going to show some scriptures what the effect is like on people. Some people are conscious and if they are disturbed they will wake up. Some people are conscious and cannot move. We see different side effects and people need to be trained in all these things. The falling under the power is just a phenomenon but if you know how to flow with it and co-operate with it, it brings great blessings.

Lets see some scriptural aspects of the side effects that can take place. I enjoy the book of Ezekiel but he is one of those strange prophets. Ezekiel and Isaiah are two prophets I never want to be like but I admire their ministries. Isaiah had a tremendous prophetic ministry. Let me tell you something about Ezekiel. One day God asked him to cut his hair bald. Strange thing. Thank God I am not a prophet; I am a pastor. In chapter one the last verse it says *Like the appearance of a rainbow in a cloud on a rainy day, so was the appearance of the brightness all around it. This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. So when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard a voice of One speaking. And He said to me, "Son of man, stand on your feet, and I will speak to you." Then the Spirit entered me when He spoke to me, and set me on my feet; and I heard Him who spoke to me.*

So here Ezekiel fell under the power. He fell forward. The interesting thing is God didn't keep him falling. God raised him up and asked him to stand. And the Spirit of God came into him and helped him to stand. You have seen falling under the power wait till you see raising under the power. That's the Spirit of God that raised him up. I believe this was what it was like. It was not that Ezekiel just fell under the power. And then he was under the power lying down before God. And God said stand and he climbed up and stood before Him. No, it didn't happen that way. I saw in my spirit the way he was lying down and the Lord said, "Stand," and his body was raised up. Something lifted him up. Something carried him right up. Just like they do in the cartoon. And God started speaking to him. Interesting phenomena.

We have also Daniel as he met the Lord and the angel manifested to him in chapter 8:27 *I Daniel, fainted and was sick for days; afterward I arose and went about the king's business.* It's not the word *sick*; it's the word *weak*. The word *sick* does not convey the right translation. You don't get into God's presence and get sick. You get into God's presence and you may feel a little bit weak under the power of the anointing. So that power lasted many days. We have seen that happened when people come under the power sometimes for days their bodies feel different. We are look at the different effects of the power of God on people. Some feel weak for some time and they just don't seem to know what to do but just enjoy God's presence all the time. There are different effects on different people. Sometimes it can affect just a part of your body. It can either hold your body up or hold your body down. You remember the story in the book of Kings where the prophet prophesied about the altar that was built and he said, "This altar will be destroyed." The king said, "Arrest him." His hands couldn't come down until the man of God prayed. So what held him up? When the power of God came, he just couldn't move. So the power of God is not only a power that cause you to fall it's a power that could just render a part of your body motionless.

In the early day in our ministry we used to have a gathering of prayer. At one time we were very deep in the Spirit in Penang. We put a chair in the center and we prayed for a person. This sister sat on it and when everybody finished praying, she could not move. She could talk to us but could not move. The power was so great that she was literally glued to the chair. The power can manifest in different manners and different ways. Sometimes it affects part of your body.

Lets look at the book of Ezekiel again and see some of those phenomena that came upon his life. Chapter 33:21 *And it came to pass in the twelfth year of our captivity, in the tenth month, on the fifth day of the month, that one who had escaped from Jerusalem came to me and said, "The city has been captured." Now the hand of the Lord had been upon me the evening before the man came who had escaped. And He had opened my mouth so when he came to me in the morning, my mouth was opened and I was no longer mute.* Verse 22 it says the hand of the Lord had been upon me that evening before. The man came. The man came in the morning and that's when he could speak. What happened was that one night while Ezekiel was just praying, his mouth fell under the power. Imagine if you came and talked to him and said, "Hello, Ezekiel." Ezekiel just kept his mouth shut. "Why don't you open your mouth and say something?" Now you understand why I don't want to be like Ezekiel. He is a prophet and strange things happen to prophets. It says *the whole night*. The night before the power fell on him. How would you like to fall under the power with your mouth open? And he had that the whole night. This is the power of God working. He could not talk. His mouth was slain under the power. The next morning when the man came then only he could speak. While Jerusalem was being destroyed that night he felt the effects of it in his spirit. He was a prophet intricately linked to Jerusalem.

The reason we share all these things is some people are very skeptical. So when some things begin to happen in the spirit realm, people tend to doubt it more than to believe it. As a result of it, they shut themselves up from the manifestation of God. I do not say we become gullible so that you just absorb every doctrine that comes from the enemy. But yet I say we have to be opened to the Lord as to not to reject Him when things happen the way He wants it.

Lets look at the book of Ezekiel again this time in the earlier chapters in chapter 4:1-3 *You also, son of man, take a clay tablet and lay it before you, and portray on it a city, Jerusalem. Lay siege against it, build a siege wall against it, and heap up a mound against it; set camps against it also, and place battering rams against it all around. Moreover take for yourself an iron plate, and set it as an iron wall between you and the city. Set your face against it, and it shall be besieged, and you shall lay siege against it. This will be a sign to the house of Israel.* Now you notice why in Ezekiel 33 his mouth opened. His whole life was focused on prophesying the destruction of Jerusalem and the redemption of God for Israel. His whole life was a picture of the prophecy. Later on in the book of Ezekiel you see how God took away his life. His whole life was a pattern of his prophecy. Verse 4 *Lie also on your left side, and lay the iniquity of the house of Israel upon it. According to the number of the days that you lie on it, you shall bear their iniquity. For I have laid on you the years of their iniquity, according to the number of the days, three hundred and ninety days; so you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Israel. And when you have completed them, lie again on your right side; then you shall bear the iniquity of the house of Judah forty days. I have laid on you a day for each year. Therefore you shall set your face toward the siege of Jerusalem; your arm shall be uncovered, and you shall prophesy against it.* He was to lie on his left side for three hundred and ninety days. Even if you sleep on a bed you sleep on different side. Your body has a natural way of adjusting, even in the middle of the night your body can turn and adjust itself. Ezekiel had to sleep on one side for three hundred and ninety days and that is over a year. Now you know why I don't want to be like him. There is no natural way you can do it. Your body rebels against it. That's why God told him, "I will put my power there so that you will be stuck there." It's not an easy profession to be a prophet. After he finished that God said, "Lie on the right side for forty days." That is over a month.

This is the verse that I like when God said in verse 8 *And surely I will restrain you so that you cannot turn from one side to another till you have ended the days of your siege.* That's where His power locks in him. God's power is tremendous. Having seen that this is the part that we are going to closely examine. On one part it is him and on another part it's the Lord.

Let me show you where the scriptures are. Ezekiel 4:4 *Lie on your left side.* I believe that was Ezekiel; he finished making everything that the Lord made as a symbol of Jerusalem. Having finished it he would probably have wore his robes or whatever. I mean he is going to wear that robe for one year in the rain or sunshine. It says he was the one to lie down. The moment he lies down he was locked in the power. And he was released after the number of days. God doesn't turn him the power doesn't catch him and turn him. He was released and then he went to the right side and lie down and then he was locked in that position by the power of God.

What is that saying to us? When the power of God is flowing there is a part that is from us that learn to yield and there is a part that is from God that gives the flow. So when the power of God is flowing, you have a choice to yield or not to yield. Now these are spiritual things. When the power was flowing there is a point of time that you could choose not to let it go. Up to the moment where Ezekiel has not lie down yet he could choose to disobey. He could choose to walk away from his call. He had a free choice. But from the moment he release and obeyed and lie down the power was fully released and locked in. The moment he was locked in there was no way out of that. There is a moment a very thin fine line from free choice into being bound in the Spirit. Paul said in the book of Acts 20 to the Ephesian elders at a place called Miletus he told them I go bound to Jerusalem. He called it *being bound*. He is being bound by the Holy Spirit. This is the magnetic drawing that he chooses to yield to. Now that he choose to yield to is so strong that it is almost compelling. The same Greek word used for *bondage* is fully used there but not in a negative sense. He yielded so much that he is now like a bondservant to God. Not only as a servant but a bondservant. In the year of Jubilee, a servant can be free. A bondservant chooses not to be free.

In Matt. 4 and Luke 4 it says Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. That sounds very dignified, sounds very pleasant. But wait till you read Mark Chapter one *and the Spirit drove Him into the wilderness.* There is a point where you can choose and as you choose and choose God understands your commitment, God understands your love for Him. God knows the freedom He can now have with you because you love Him so much and He takes you over. You move into the bondservanthood. As you move towards the tidal waves, you can still back off. But when you plunge yourself into the tidal waves, it is too late to back off. The tidal waves now carry you. By this time, even if you want to choose to come out you cannot. You are flowing there now.

Now this is one possible illustration that you could experience. For example if the power and the presence of God is strong. It depends on the type of that anointing that is manifesting. Sometime I could yield to the power of God that is being manifested. Not all the time but sometimes as I worship God I sense that His power wants to shake my hands. Note this: as I am shaking my hands I have full control and I can stop it anytime. But as I yield to a certain extend it reaches a point where it comes to the level of the subconscious. It can come to the point where I keep on yielding until the movements are more on the subconscious level. I could purposely move my hands this way and that but it is definitely conscious. But as I

keep yielding to the anointing more and more, the hand movement comes faster and faster until it cannot be at the conscious level any more. It sends a signal to your brain and say just keep it going. We don't have these cars here but in America you could just lock your car at a particular speed. Then you don't have to press the pedal any more. You could press the miles per hour you like and you could just lock it in. And you could take your legs off the pedal. To release it you just press it again. So your brain sends a signal to the automatic department and he locks it. So there is a realm where it goes into the automatic section. But that is under the power of God and not under our voluntary shaking.

Under the power of God there is a certain realm for example the Spirit of God moves into your life where you could chose to yield or not. Then as you yield there is a certain level of yielding where you still can choose to stop. But you could yield so much that you are literally caught in the flow of the current of God. At that point, even if you want to stop you have to wait till the current subsides before you could really stop. There is such a realm in the power of God in the anointing of God.

Let me show with a different illustration here. There was this person who was in the ministry. When the person was yielding to God he reached a point where the power was so strong that the Spirit literally filled the person and possessed the person. The person still has free choice but the flow of it was different. Word for word it was like the Spirit literally speaking through. And he was just a hearer of himself. His free will was still intact. In a demon possession, the person's free will is gone. The demon just subjugates you. But when the Holy Spirit works, your free choice is intact.

At one time when I was deep in prayer, God gave me an experience that I never ever forgot. Now under the normal circumstances, you pray in tongues when someone lays hand on you. You receive the baptism in the Spirit. What I was doing was I was having my experience with God and I was worshiping God and fellowshiping with my Papa God. And I heard the sound of wind. I felt a ball of fire hit me. And believe it or not the tongues that flowed out were not controllable. I was like on the sidelines and it was like something deep within me flowing out of me. I know what is praying in tongues since I was already baptized in the Spirit. I know it since I pray in tongues six hours, ten hours, forty-eight hours but I knew that was a totally different realm where God knows me so well. He doesn't subjugate my free will but He knows that I have chosen to be a bond servant with Him where He is free to drive me if He wants. He doesn't do it all the time but at times He takes liberty.

It's just like for example I could have a relationship with you and I know you well enough. If I don't know you well enough before I visit your home I make sure I call you. I don't want to catch you in your pajamas or when your house is in a mess. I make sure that I don't embarrass you. If I know you on a normal level, I make sure you know that I am coming. If I know you very well and you gave me the liberty to come to your house anytime, I would do so. So according to our relationship we take liberty. If I really know you very well sometimes I make myself at home in your house. I will be the one who welcome your guests. I go to the fridge and help myself and serve all the food. It is not your house but your friend has given you the liberty to treat the house as your own. So God's relationship with us is the same since He knows our level of free will.

There are different levels of our free will. And that's the position where your free will has been surrendered to God and you say, "Lord, do anything you want with me. Send me anywhere; I will do anything." But yet you need to pray that prayer of consecration and dedication. God sees the depth of your meaning. People pray that but with different degrees of meaning. As God knows your meaning, He takes the liberty at times to just flow through you while you appear to sit at the sidelines. You welcome it and God knows you welcome it. That is why He took the liberty.

That was what I experienced. And I felt someone else speaking through me. It was lovely. After I came out from that experience, the Holy Spirit told me that's what the experience in the second dimension. That is why I realize that there are different degrees of yieldedness. There is a point where you yield and there is a point where you couldn't stop it even if you want to.

Another illustration is like when you fall. There is a position where you could lean back a little and you could still get back and don't fall. But you reached a certain position and you start falling even if you want to get back to standing you cannot get back any more. The gravitation pull is too strong already. There is no way you could resist it. So to a certain extend when we work with the power of God in different degrees, there are different degrees of yieldedness that you could choose to go through. Sometimes the power could be operating at fifty volts but yet there are different types of responses. Although it's fifty volts yet it's flowing in some people at fifty, some at forty, some at thirty and some at twenty. The manifestation may be at fifty volts but the degree of resistance in the people prevents the electron of the Holy Spirit from fully flowing through them. So there is what I call the phenomena of falling under the power and if you understand how it operates and what it's operating you could flow along and open yourself to the things of the Spirit of God instead of closing yourself up. For that reason some people never fall.

Now let me put all the other teachings together. It is not necessary to fall to get a blessing. Sometimes you fall and don't get a blessing. Sometimes, you remain standing, but you may still get a

blessing. Falling under the power as I mentioned in the book has nothing to do with your spirituality. Some people say if you don't fall you are very resistant to the Holy Spirit. That is why you don't fall. On the other hand there is another group that says if you fall there is something wrong with you. For that kind of reasoning then the one who remains standing is a stronger Christian. The one who falls is the weaker one.

It's the opposite altogether. It has nothing to do with that. God's power as I have illustrated has different ways of working. You have people who fall under the power who are very spiritual people in the bible like Ezekiel, Daniel, Paul. But you have other people who fall who have nothing. When Jesus came out from the Garden of Gethsemane and the soldiers came for Him, Jesus said, "Who do you seek?" They said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus in the gospel of John said, "I am He." They all fell. Nothing happened to them. They just got up and arrested Him. Their hearts were not changed.

In the book of Acts 26 Paul recounted the incident in Acts 9 where he fell from his donkey. He said he was not the only one who fell. Because in Acts 26 he said *we fell*. That tells us Paul and his team was going along. And when the light of Jesus came all of them fell but only one got touched and changed. So falling under the power has nothing to do with spiritual level.

But I want to teach this truth on yielding so that we realize. Now you could be yielded while you are standing and open yourself to the power of God. I have a very rare book by Evan Roberts on the "Wales Revival". In it somebody was with him and he was being persecuted. He was in the street and people were throwing abuses at him and he just walked away untouched. And the person who was a minister next to him said, "How can you go through all these without being affected?" He said, "I close my spirit." And he said this type of abuse doesn't touch him at all. So there is such a thing as closing and opening something within us. Just like we could choose to close our mind. We could choose to close our physical hands. You could come to find fault with somebody. Sometimes when you open your spirit and really yield there is such an avalanche of the flow of spirit that you are just taken in and you fully yield to that. I have to learn the truth of yieldedness.

I have to learn yieldedness by learning to obey God in simple things in the natural. I could only share from my experience. I came from a background that is very dignified: we don't raise our hands. I feel very uncomfortable from the church where I came from to lift my hands. I never really tasted the flow of the Spirit of God. Christianity was more or less a rational intellectual faith and religion as far as I was concerned. Then as I confronted the Charismatic movement for the first time I began to lift up my hands. Then I felt something. Then after some time of embarrassment I learnt to lift my hands high. When you lift your hand high for the first time you feel so conscious that you are the only one and everybody were staring at you. But actually no one was staring at you; it's your own self-consciousness. When you got rid of that you enter a new realm of the spirit.

Then I joined the Charismatic movement and I was active in it. One day I was ministering in this camp. Then in this camp they were having this presentation. They were singing "Arise children of Israel" and they were dancing the Jewish dance. After singing several times, they called me up to dance. I have never danced before so I just hopped along. That was the first time; it was embarrassing. But something happened; something broke loose in me. Although it was just a simple presentation but something in me broke loose. I felt something flowed to me and I felt a greater freedom from that day onward. Something also broke in my soul. From that day onward I felt a greater flow of the Spirit. As I began to progress on the Lord I was sitting on my sofa and I felt the power of God shaking my hands. I had a choice to shake or not to shake. Mentally I was saying, "If this is of God you better don't miss out on that." Then my intellectual mind says you got nothing to lose. And I made a decision to release it. The moment I released it God shook me from the top on my head to the tip of my toe. There I was for some one hour of shaking and I tell you when you come out from there you will never be the same. I felt liquid fire going through me. I felt a greater flow of the Spirit from that day onward in everything that I do in my living, in worship, in ministering, in counseling everything. It was like something was enlarged within me. Before that I was only a three quarter inch pipe that carries the water of the Spirit. Now God had taken it away and replace it with a two inch diameter pipe to carry the water of the Spirit.

Let me say this some of you have never danced in the Spirit. At first some of you only learn how to lift your hands. Some of you began to learn how to dance in the Spirit. It takes a freedom. It takes a losing of your dignity and a dying of self to do it. Don't think it's easy for some of those ladies to come up to the altar here to dance in the Spirit. They are not doing it for you. This is what I am going to share. God could be dealing with something in your life. It may not be the same way but in other areas of yielding. He may not be dealing in our life to do it publicly but privately. If He is dealing in your life in the area of dancing and you are not yielding to it, you will never see a greater flow in our life. But the moment you yield to it and you flow along with it something happens. You could be a song leader for example and you are always leading in a very dignified way. But you learn to yield to it not necessarily publicly but privately. People notice something different in how you lead. Although you could lead in exactly the same way but there is a greater anointing flowing through you because you have become a wider channel of God's anointing.

So there are many ways that God deals with our lives and it works through His Spirit taking a hold in our life and releasing a greater anointing in our life. For example, some of you have never prayed in tongues for three hours. You do it and you see the difference in your life. There are many other realms in tongues, groaning, singing in the Spirit. I mean there are thousand and thousand of ways. I have only named a few. The Holy Spirit is so creative He could invent more things and more ways. Some of you God could be dealing with you to wake up in the early hours of the morning. It takes great effort to yield but the moment you start yielding you may never tell and whisper to a single person in the whole world. And you may go about doing things the same way but yet people who are on the receiving end sense the difference. He has broken you more for it's through a broken and contrite spirit that the presence of God flows through us.

9. THE MINISTERIAL ANOINTING

IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

We are going to highlight aspects of the ministerial anointing in the Old Testament as this will help us move into the ministerial anointing for those God has called for.

Our Lord Jesus Christ functioned in all five offices when He was on this earth. He was an apostle Heb. 3:1, He was a prophet in Acts 3:22-26, He was an evangelist in Mk. 1:14 He preached the gospel, He was a pastor that is the word shepherd in Jn. 10:11; He was a teacher in Mk. 4:1-2 and Jn. 3:2 Nicodemus recognized that He was a teacher. So Jesus Christ stood in all the five ministerial anointing, the five-fold office the office of an apostle, the office of a prophet, the office of an evangelist, the office of a pastor, the office of a teacher.

We all should be able to give a one-sentence definition of all the five-fold offices.

An apostle is a church planter.

A prophet is used by God to direct the church.

The evangelist enlarges the church. The word church is referring to people not building.

The pastor cares for or strengthens the church. He shepherds the church.

The teacher teaches or edifies to build the church.

So all relate to different aspects of the church. Jesus Christ's goal in His five-fold ministry was to plant, build, and direct the church. All the five-fold ministries are never to work outside of the church. They are always to work within the church context.

It's sad that today in churches you would hear only a pastor, sometimes an evangelist, rarely of other type of ministries that could stand in their own right and office in the church ministry. But God has ordained the five-fold ministry to stand in the church itself within the church and to bless the body of Christ.

Jesus stood in each of the five-fold office. And what happened is in the book of Ephesians 4:8 *Therefore He says; "When He ascended on high, He led captivity captive, and gave gifts to men." (Now this, "He ascended" – what does it mean but that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth? He who descended is also the One who ascended far above all the heavens, that He might fill all things.) And He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, and some pastors and teachers. For the equipping of the saints for the work of ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ.*

So when Jesus Christ ascended, He delegated the offices that He stood in and poured the anointing to somebody else. Remember that God from time to time may change vessel or vessels may complete their work but the offices will continue. Like when Elijah completed his work and went off, Elisha stood in his place. Whenever a man of God completes his work and goes home to be with God, his office is actually vacant for the taking.

The five-fold ministries is for all generations from the time the church started until Jesus comes again since it's *for the perfecting of the church*. You cannot say that the apostles have been done away with for the church is not perfected yet. As long as the church is not perfected yet, we need all the five-fold ministries, not just one or two.

Notice the same trend in the Old Testament. God ordains only three offices in the Old Testament. They are the prophets, priests and kings. Sometimes the office is left vacant. Why, because the men whom God called in that generation were not obedient. So a particular office may lack a man in that particular generation. Sometimes God may appoint one man to stand in one or two or three offices so that he could minister fully to that generation.

Let me point to the trend that flows in the bible. Moses had a peculiar kind of anointing. Moses stood in three offices. The generation that he led could flow in the realm that God wanted them to. Their generation saw the great deliverance despite all their murmuring and complaining. When Moses died, they appreciated him. Moses did the work of a priest. In the book of Exodus in the encounter of the Israelites with the Lord in chapter 24 do you notice that it was Moses who offered the burnt offering? He was from the tribe of Levi. His brother was Aaron, whom God appointed as the high priest. Moses was a prophet and Moses was a judge and that's carries a kingly anointing though not in its full extent yet. So Moses functioned in all three and there were times when he had to balance between all three offices.

When he found that his work was strenuous, he told the Lord, "Lord I cannot take this burden." Lets look at the book of Numbers 11:16 *So the Lord said to Moses; "Gather to Me seventy men of the elders of Israel, whom you know to be the elders of the people and officers over them; bring them to the tabernacle of meeting, that they may stand there with you.* God took some of the anointing on his life and He put it on the seventy people. When the same anointing came on them those people started prophesying. The Spirit also came upon some people at home as their names were on the roll. What came upon them was not so much the office of a prophet but was the office of a judge. Those seventy elders began to function in judging the people. These seventy received a portion of the anointing upon them. You never read about them again except that what they did was to judge the people of Israel. Apparently they didn't become prophets neither were they priests.

These were not priests because the priestly anointing was delegated to Aaron in the book of Leviticus chapter nine. Moses took Aaron and consecrated him and anointed him for the priestly ministry. From that time onward Moses didn't have anything to do with the priestly ministry like he formerly did. Thus, Moses could free himself to concentrate on the other offices that he actually stood in. And he began to function more and more in the prophetic realm. The priestly office he delegated to Aaron.

There were different phases of ministry. Moses stood in three offices, one he was a prophet, two he was a priest, three he was a judge. So he stood in three offices. He seems to function very well in them but as time grew, he had to function in less and less and the anointing in his life for the office of priesthood and judge was transferred to others. So God does change with time.

If you watch Kenneth Hagin's ministry today, he functions less and less in certain types of anointing and more and more he concentrate just on the teaching anointing. But in the early days of his ministry he functioned more in the prophetic than in the teaching. Today he doesn't function in his various anointing not because he has lost them. It's just that God's will had changed. That's the most important in the ministerial anointing. It's so diversified. An individual can flow in different types of anointing at one time. At different times, you can flow in some, then in one, and then sometimes in none and then in three types of anointing

again. When you look at the whole picture, you see a colorful flow of the Holy Spirit.

I believe Moses flowed in all three equally when he started. As time goes on, God wanted others to be raised into that realm of ministry. Then comes Aaron. Moses was the one who prepared Aaron to be ordained to the priesthood. He washed, anointed and clothed Aaron. He anointed the different parts of the furniture in the outer court, in holy place, in the most holy place. When everything was ready the pillar of cloud filled the place and that's settled it. Aaron is now in charge of the priestly anointing. And he stood in the anointing and God demonstrated that He was with Aaron. When Aaron gave the first sacrifice the glory of God came down.

Then there were the seventy elders when Moses said, "Lord, I cannot take it any more." That was a very dangerous prayer. He can remove you from your office. It's just like somebody who prayed, "God heal me, O Lord saturate me with your power." So one day God answered him and the power of God started coming until it flowed so much that the person said, "God stop it. I can't take it any more." Then it stopped. Later that person thought it over and said, "Maybe I prayed the wrong prayer." Yes he did. He should have prayed, "God enlarge my vessel," then he could take it some more. If you could enlarge your physical man how much more God can enlarge your spirit man.

So here we have the anointing of Moses that was taken away from him. He functioned less in there because he told God he could not take it any more. God will go along with your level. He may ordain that you function in that certain anointing but if you ever say, "Lord I cannot do it," He could easily get someone else. Nobody is indispensable. He could easily get somebody else. It's a dangerous thing to ever think that we are indispensable because God could easily get somebody else.

Samuel is also powerful and effective because he stood in three types of anointing. He was a priest, prophet and judge. You notice that whenever God needed to move a particular generation from one transition to another, He need the three offices to function to the fullness, whether through one man or through three different men for the three different offices. Moses lived in an important transition. There are transitions in our lives; there are transitions in a family; there are transitions in a generation. The world is today going through a transition economically. Transition period is very critical since if it is not bent the right way the deformity will continue for the rest of years to come. So in the transition period God saw to it that all three offices must function. All three offices have to function whether through one person who stands in all three or in three separate people who stand in one each. He needed that for the perfection of that generation in the Old Testament.

Samuel stood between the period of the judges and the period of the kings. He was the marker pen in between. On one side were the judges; on the other side were the kings. He was the key guy who saw the transition. Therefore God needs the three offices to function fully during this period of transition. Samuel functioned in all three offices to the fullness. If God could have find three people to put the various anointing He would have used all three.

But do you know what the bible says in Samuel's early days? When Samuel was born, there was no open vision. There was no revival. He was born into a dead, dried, decayed generation. The bible even said in the book of I Sam. Chapter 2 there was no open vision. In other words, there was no prophetic ministry, no prophetic voice. What about the priests? The priests were worse. Eli the fat priest was enjoying his food. What were his sons doing? Enjoying the food too. When people were sacrificing half way the sons would say, "Hold it there. I like my food roasted not boiled." Then they would help themselves to the food while it was sacrificed. What were the priests doing? They were dead. They had a form of religion without the power. There was no anointing. They were not anointed they were supposed to be but they were not. What about the judges? Unheard off - everyone did what was right in their own eyes. They had no leader. Practically God had no office that functioned at all, not because He did not want but because there was no vessel.

God finally found Samuel and started training Samuel to hear His voice. Before that, Samuel was waiting on God. He was serving in the temple faithfully. In spite of all the things he saw around him he was

faithful. If ever you live in a dead generation one key is to be faithful and you will be the very key to the revival there. The three types of anointing of God came on his life to stand in all three offices.

Notice one thing through time he tried to pass that anointing to his children and his children did not function in them. They were corrupt judges. That's why the Israelites wanted a king. I Sam.8:3 *But his sons did not walk in his ways; they turned aside after dishonest gain, took bribes, and perverted justice.* Obviously his sons had no kingly anointing. Samuel wanted them to function in that but they did not have that. People ask, "How could that happen?" Well, I probably have found the key to why that happened. See there was a flaw in Samuel's life. It was not so much as his lack of responsibility but that the circumstances were not perfect. I believe he could have overcome it, as he was a responsible parent. Samuel missed one thing in his lifetime. He never had a good home. His mother was Hannah. His father was Elkanah. Elkanah had another wife who was Peninnah. Elkanah, Peninnah and Hannah. There was fighting in the house that was in I Sam. 1. They were always fighting because Hannah didn't have any children. And Elkanah had two wives. He loved Hannah more. But Hannah was barren but had her prayer answered when Samuel was born. The Lord answered Hannah's prayer because she promised that she would dedicate Samuel to the Lord.

When Samuel was about two years old, he was taken to the temple and was given to fat Eli. Fat Eli did he had a good family? No. That fatty father had terrible sons. So Samuel never knew a good family life. There was one tiny flaw so when he himself had a family he possibly didn't have anything to pattern after. So his sons were bad judges. The anointing could not be transferred. Finally the people wanted a king. They need the office of a king who can carry the kingly anointing. So Samuel through the choice of God transferred it to Saul.

When Saul was not very faithful did he lose his anointing? He lost his office. If you lose your office it means you lose your anointing because it's the anointing that establish the office. You don't have an office without an anointing in God. In the world you may have an office because people cannot tell between an anointing and an office. People can put you into a position but when God puts you into a position He makes sure you have an anointing. He will never put you into a position without the anointing and ability. So for God it was the anointing that He puts into the office. Saul lost his office. He lost his anointing. If he loses it, somebody will find it.

Since it is ordained of God that the offices continue, the anointing came on David. It started him on the road to kingship that was ordained for him. You notice that David had two offices; actually he was a king and he was a prophet. In the New Testament, he is regarded also as a prophet. He moved into the prophetic realm. He got two anointing coming upon him whereas Saul had only one. Samuel had three but in time he imparted the kingly anointing to Saul. In the end from Saul it goes to David.

You notice that Samuel functioned more and more as prophet and priest because he had transferred the kingly anointing to somebody else. David was supposed to rise in that realm. It's interesting thing to see this function because whenever the people of God are at its highest peak, all the three offices are fully functioning, whether through one person or through three persons. The high point of Israel in the Old Testament is when all three offices were functioning. The dark points were either none was functioning or only one was struggling to function. Sometimes you have only one functioning strongly.

Lets just run through very quickly. The high point is when Moses was coming out of Egypt with the people of Israel. Three offices were all functioning. In Samuel's time, all the three offices were functioning and the surrounding nations were scared of Israel. When the anointing was functioning, the Philistines were afraid. Then during David's and Solomon's time before he fell, you notice these eras were high points in Israel. If you examine them carefully its because all the three offices were functioning.

There were many low points in the book of Judges. During the book of Judges you notice all the anointing were struggling. The priestly anointing was completely dead. Look at the book of Judges there was completely no priest there. Once in a blue moon the prophetic anointing comes out. Sometimes you even get a few funny stories like the conflicts between the old prophets and the young prophets. The old prophet

prophesied wrongly to mislead the young prophet and the young prophet believed and obeyed the old prophet. A lion finally killed the young prophet. During the period of Judges, when the people cried under the weight of foreign oppressors, the kingly anointing would drop on a few individuals who were raised up to deliver them. Then they will reach a little molehill peak. Then they forget God and they will lose the office of a judge since no man was found to stand in it again. When the judge died, no one knows how to tap on the anointing and so there was no more kingly office and Israel falls again to the enemy.

There were many low points in Israel. In the times of the kings it reached such a low until in the time of the kings the priestly office was completely forgotten again. Then you have the kingly anointing not functioning properly as there were a lot of bad kings in Israel. Then you have only one tiny office faithful called the school of the prophets. Once in a while you got a few bright stars there like Elijah or Elisha. But when they died, people forget to take on the office.

See many times when we look at people and we look at man of God and woman of God we say well God use them because they are special. We forget it's the anointing that makes them special; it was not them that made them special. Did you realize that Elisha was not very special until the anointing came on him? I mean in character wise he was not that impressive. The anointing and the office that he was called to made him special. The interesting thing is that in I King 19 when Elijah was told to go and get Elisha, God said that he would be the prophet in his place. When you look at men of God here and there you realize that when they die the office remains but the vessels have changed. God doesn't want the vessels to change and the offices removed because the kingdom of God must go on. The vessels may change but the offices remain and maintained by different vessels under the same anointing or greater anointing. As long as you have the three offices in the Old Testament you have the peak of Israel. If you study the history of Israel carefully the high and the low were determined by whether the three offices were functioning or not. Sometimes it's semi-low; sometimes it's high, but sometimes it is zero when none of them were functioning.

10. THE MINISTERIAL ANOINTING

IN THE NEW TESTAMENT

When you look over in the New Testament how many offices do we have in the New Testament? Five. Every time you have all five offices functioning you have a peak. Every time you begin to lose one or two or three offices and nobody function in them the revival goes down. God ordains all five to spearhead and lead the revival and the move of God. When you could release the five-fold ministry, you release the revival of God. The five-fold offices train and build the body for the church ministry.

As we look at the book of Acts we realize that when the church first started it was a powerful church. There was the apostolic ministry but it was even more powerful when the prophets start coming out from them. By Acts 11 you read about prophets coming out from them. By Acts 8 you read about evangelists coming out from them. The church was even more powerful. every time you have all the five offices functioning, the church is at it's peak.

However, every time you begin to lose one or two of those offices functioning there is a low coming in. If ever the churches reach a point where all five were not functioning or one office is functioning, it is just a shadow of a revival. So it would be sad in the body of Christ if all you have were just the pastor office. It would be sad in the body of Christ if all you have were prophets. So we have to know that we need all of them. We need prophets in the church. We need evangelists in the church. We need pastors and teachers in the church. We need apostles in the church. We need all five-fold offices to function. if the body of Christ lacks any one of them they will not see the full revival that God wants us to have.

As we look at the ministerial anointing, we see there are complications involved when one person stands in one office and other complications when he stands in two or three offices. Lets deal with the

complication if one stands in two or three offices. We don't know how to balance between the offices. It's not easy to stand in two or three offices. Kenneth Hagin stands in two. Even in those two he nearly died when he didn't balance it properly. It's easier to stand in just one office. Jesus stood in five. That's not very easy because you got to balance between them. You got to recognize when each anointing is functioning. You have to tell the difference between the five different types of ministerial anointing when you operate. Hagin just had two and he almost died. In the book "I Believe in Visions" when he tried to be teacher, prophet or prophet teacher he fell off from his pulpit and broke his arms or something and was hospitalized. God told him he had been in God's permissive will for a long time. For two years he preferred to be a teacher more than a prophet and God says no you must be a prophet than a teacher.

Now these are the skills to function in if you stand in two or three offices. You must know which one is priority above the rest. If you don't know then you won't function properly in all three offices. There is always one in priority above the others. But when the higher anointing functions then you give room to that. Now in the bible the prophetic office is always above the teaching office. God instructed Hagin that he can function in the teaching anointing but every time the prophetic anointing comes he must move into it. If he refused, he is accountable to God. If he refused too many times he will get into the permissive will. If he is in the permissive will too long he will die early and he almost died. Jesus told him he would not live past the age of fifty if that had continued. So we must balance between that.

Paul stood in three offices. In the book of I Timothy 2:7 *For which I was appointed a preacher and an apostle – I am speaking the truth in Christ and not lying – a teacher of the Gentiles in faith and truth.* Then notice in II Timothy 1:11 *To which I was appointed a preacher, an apostle, and a teacher of the Gentiles.* He knew which was his priority. Evangelizing, church planting and teaching. How does he balance these three offices? As long as there was no leading into any area of evangelizing or church planting he would just be teaching. But as he function in the teaching anointing whenever the pull comes to go to evangelize he has to pull out his roots and go forth to evangelize and plant a church. Notice that he flow faithfully in that area.

Let me point to some incidences in the book of Acts 11:26 *And when he had found him, he brought him to Antioch. So it was that for a whole year they assembled with the church and taught a great many people.* So Paul functioned as a teacher. He was in the teaching anointing first. If there were nothing to do, he would just keep in this teaching anointing because that he put it as his last one. Remember the way he qualify in I Timothy chapter 2 and II Timothy chapter I do you notice he always list his offices consistently, evangelist apostle and teacher. He never keeps it mixing it around. He knew his priority and if you stand in more than one office you know which come first. If you have all these three levels and you function at the lower level all the time, when the higher one comes you got to release it and give way to the higher one. So Paul functioned at the lower level first of his calling as a teacher. Then as time goes by about one year over in chapter 13:2 there was this pull to go out. There is something stirring him. In other words there was the apostolic and evangelist anointing falling on him. Even though he could remain there and teach but he must yield to the higher ones. If he didn't yield he would go into the permissive will of God. So it's not easy to function in two or three anointing since not all three will function simultaneously. They will function at different times. But they will function through one vessel.

After he completed his first journey, his first anointing that he felt to go out was with a lot of confirmation in chapter thirteen. But in Acts 15 when he launched into his second missionary journey in verse 36 *Then after some days Paul said to Barnabas.* In other words he just said to Barnabas let us go. He didn't mention any prayer meeting since they are matured now. Now the Holy Spirit can work differently in their lives. But Paul was sensing the pull of an evangelist. The call of an evangelist was calling him to new region. The anointing was coming upon him to go forth and he had to go. So they went into this second missionary journey.

In Acts 16 in verses 6, 7 and 8 you notice they keep trying to go into a new region. What was that? That was an evangelist pull in Paul's life since he was trying to flow into that God opened a way through a vision in the night to show him he must go to a new place altogether - the town of Philippi where no one had preached the gospel yet. He has to flow along in that area.

Then finally you notice when his third missionary journey begin in Acts 18:23 he landed at Caesarea and that ends his second missionary journey and he greeted the church as he went down to Antioch. Verse 23 *After he had spent some time there, he departed and went over the region of Galatia and Phrygia in order, strengthening all the disciples.* See this time he just say he just went. He knew how to flow into that now. He went into the various areas flowing with the anointing of God that was pulling him in his life. Led by the Spirit of God, he was learning to flow and balance within all the three offices that he stood in.

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There are complications involved in a sense that we have to know which anointing is a priority. Which is priority one, priority two or priority three if we stand in three anointing. So that when the higher level comes, you must give way and flow into the higher level of that anointing that God calls you to function in. If we are not obedient to God it's considered as disobedience. Remember disobedience to God is not just disobedient to the Word but if you are disobedient to the leading of the Spirit to God it's also disobedience. We have to learn to obey the voice and the leading of the Spirit as much as we learn to obey the written Word of God. Of course the leading of the Spirit will never contradict the written Word but yet there is a living relationship that we have with God that we have to learn to be obedient to.

We are looking into the life of Paul. He is one person who stood in three offices. If God gives two or three or five different anointing to function, there need to be a skillful co-operation between all the given offices. For sometimes all the five people who stand in five different offices will find it hard to work with each other because of their differences. That is another type of complication that thus comes up with time. Prophets will it very hard sometimes to work with pastors or teachers find it hard to work with evangelists, or evangelists may find it hard to work with pastors. All these complications come because with each anointing a person may grow into it until they are characterized like to the anointing of God. So when a person had a certain call and an anointing they may just see only that area and they may think that is the most important area.

Let me tell you to the evangelist the most important thing is evangelism. To them every thing else is not so important. As long as they concerned, any Christian who don't see evangelism as important has backslided. They feel condemned if they don't win about ten souls per day to God. On the other hand, prophets will speak about their relationship with God and the direction that God gives. So when they see into the realm of the spirit they prophesy. They think that this is THE realm to the exclusion of almost all the others. So it is sometimes quite difficult to get all the five-fold to co-operate and flow together because they are so individualistic. Sometimes they don't understand each other. It's not easy to teach them to flow with another. They develop their own complication when five different ministers flow in their own individual offices.

So how do we co-relate the five-fold ministry? We recognize that as far as in the area of the church is concerned the apostolic and the pastoral office have a greater authority. But in the area of the Word of God and doctrine the teacher has a greater authority. In the area of reaching out to the world, the evangelist has a greater authority. In the area of direction and the future the prophet has the greatest authority. Why do you talk about authority? Lets compare the natural. In the natural world we cannot know everything. There is too much to study. We cannot be experts in every field of study and knowledge. You can be a small little Jack-of-all-trades but a master of none. To know everything you probably have to live to a thousand years. You could have some knowledge of all but to have a complete knowledge of one thoroughly it takes years and years of study. So when we begin to speak for example about medicine, of course the doctor will carry the greatest weight because he is supposed to be the most knowledgeable in that field. You could be a well-known engineer but when you talk about medicine, you have to give more weight to the words of the doctor. In the area of accounting principles you may be the best doctor, the best engineer, but if there is an accountant who is an expert in his field his words carry greater weight. So the question then is not so much who is greater but what area is being dealt with.

When we talk about the relationship between the five-fold offices apostles, prophets, evangelists, pastors and teachers if I hear from a prophet or an evangelist who has never pastor any church who try to give advice how to run the church his words do not carry as much weight as an apostle who has planted several churches or a pastor who is experienced in planting a church. The order of God in Eph. 4:11-12 puts apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor and teacher but in the order given in I Cor. 12:28 it talks about apostle, prophet, teacher, pastor and then evangelist. It is the other way round in the last three. In the church the teacher is above the evangelist. But to the world in Eph. 4 the evangelist is above the teacher. Signs and

wonders are more important to the people of the world than teaching. But the body of Christ is hungry more for teaching than for evangelism.

Lets say one day we organize a big huge crusade and we rent the biggest stadium in town where we gather a hundred thousand people. Let me tell you if a man of God were there and if eighty percent of the crowd is believers you should minister teaching and evangelism will come even though it's in the area of teaching. I know because I attended many crusades. When I look around me I see sometimes ninety percent Christians. My heart pains me because I know the purpose of the gathering was not just evangelism. Many people talked organizing big rallies is only about evangelism. They forget that if we were to just follow the Spirit of God evangelism will be the natural side effect. You could preach about the *begets* in Matthew one and give an altar call and people will still come when the anointing is there. However if eighty percent are unbelievers, then go for it and preach an evangelistic sermon. One day perhaps God may give the grace to organize a big huge campaign and gather all the churches together and gather all the five-fold ministers together and just emphasize in building the body of Christ and the evangelism will be a side effect.

There are times when I sat at a stadium and I looked around me ninety percent are all Christians and the man of God was just preaching a simple evangelistic message. We should be delivering the rhema for the body of Christ at that time. That is important for anyone of us whom God starts sending out. When God sends you out, it's not so much you can teach as to what God wants the people to hear His voice at that hour. When I go to a place I wait on God, "Lord, what is it that You are trying to say to these people?" It's not so much as to what can I do. No, what does He wants to say. Many times I could sense that the Spirit of God was not satisfied.

It's important for us to understand that there are different realms of authority. It's not so much whether the apostle is above the prophet etc, if you understand the body of Christ. If somebody comes to you and say, "I am an apostle. From this day forward call me 'Apostle Tan Ah Kow' and must submit to me. No because the apostle in Eph. 2:20 is the foundation and Jesus Christ is the cornerstone. Apostles and prophets are the foundation and Jesus Christ is the corner stone. Foundation is something that you lay in the ground where people step on. So if a person is really an apostle or a prophet he will not have the attitude to lord over others. The greatest among you shall be the servant of all.

So there are these five-fold offices that God have. But we must realize the expertise in each area. Sometimes the sad thing is evangelist try to tell pastors how to build churches. Or a teacher is trying to tell evangelists how to evangelize. We must teach and we will touch that as we go along know the limitations of our calling and our office. So there are five-fold offices and within each five-fold office can be a line of demarcation. For example when God calls you to be a pastor, you could be a pastor to a particular group of generation. As I flow in the Spirit of God I realize that there are these things that are coming out in our generation as the Spirit of God begin to move and build the church more and more. There could be a pastoral ministry to children. There could be a pastoral ministry to a certain age group of certain type of people. There are certain pastors who have gone to the down and out people and they have built a church out there. David Wilkinson's church in New York is a special church in itself. They reach out to a special group of people.

God can call an evangelist to a city. Every time the person cross the boundaries of the city they lose their anointing. They were not anointed beyond there. There are boundaries set on the anointing. For example a person could be called to be an evangelist to Asia but every time he crosses over to Australia, he loses his anointing. I am just illustrating. God may anoint you for certain territories. Every time you cross over to areas outside your boundaries, the anointing weakens. God could call you to be an evangelist to a country, to a nation. You are effective and powerful to your country. Then because every Tom, Dick and Harry is traveling overseas to develop an international ministry, so you also start doing it. No, if God did not give you anointing beyond that and you start doing it because every Tom, Dick and Harry does it, you begin to move out of the will of God. Every time you move out of your boundaries, there is no anointing to function there. That's a different anointing. Even within each office as I am describing it there could be lines of demarcation. So an evangelist could be an evangelist to five nations. He is anointed for those five nations. He starts moving out into the sixth nation and add it to himself or try to make it seven a perfect number. Since God did not add those two, there is no anointing.

God could call a person as an evangelist to a whole continent. Reinhard Bonnke has a special anointing for Africa. But he tried his time out to other nations once. But he knows where he stands in. He could travel to the States but he doesn't carry the same type of anointing as he carries when he gets to Africa. He could tell people what happened in Africa, encourage and stir them up but he never function in the same type of anointing as he functions in Africa. God could also call a person to be a world evangelist like Morris Cerullo so that no matter where he goes, there is a powerful anointing.

Then there are different modes of operations. Some people could be pastors to the whole world. Instead of them going to the whole world the whole world comes to them. Some people could be evangelists to the whole world. Instead of them going to the whole world the world comes to them. Kathryn Kuhlman's ministry touched almost every part of the world. All she stood in was an evangelist office. So we need to realize that there is a two-way traffic. When God anoints you, you may need to go or they may need to come. But it's the anointing that makes the difference. Let me give the prime example, Jesus Christ of Nazareth. He never left the nation of Israel. But He was anointed for the world, for this universe and for all generations. Even though He has never gone to China or India every nation in the world has heard the name of Jesus Christ. All you have to do is to be obedient to what God ask you to do and flow through and faithfully to the anointing that God has in your life and it will just work out the way God wants it.

So God can anoint you to be an apostle. But you may be apostle to the Jews like Peter was and not to the Gentiles. Or you could be apostle to the Gentiles. Paul says in Gal. 2 that he had the grace and the anointing of the apostleship to the Gentiles. Peter has it to the Jews and he learned to function in it. But even Paul made some mistakes to find the line of demarcation. We must learn the boundaries of our anointing, call and office that God has for us. Like for example in the life of Paul he was anointed with the grace of God to function in the ministry of an apostle to the Gentiles. That was his special call and grace. Incidentally the anointing of God that God gives you is also the grace of God that God puts on you.

There are three areas of grace, salvation grace, ministry grace and operational grace. Salvation grace is what every born again believer receives when they accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. We do not receive ministry grace equally. A person may have the grace to be a prophet. Another person may not have the grace to be a prophet, but may have the grace to be a pastor. We do not receive equal measure of ministry grace. Neither do we function in the same area of operational grace. Operational grace is like for example you could be in an office of a prophet. The way you always hear God is more through the hearing and the inner voice. But another prophet may constantly keep seeing vision. We realize that the word of knowledge can come in many methods. It can come in dream. It can come in a vision. Or it can come through the inner voice. God can speak one message in three, four, a thousand different ways. So there is different operation. For example Bill Hamon is a different type of prophet altogether if you read his book "Prophets and Prophecies". He is not so much in the seeing kind of prophet. He is in the hearing type of prophet. He moves in the type of hearing. William Bramham is a different type of prophet. He is always depending on his seeing or visions. Both men stand in the same office but they operate differently because different operational grace is given.

Every time the bible talks about ministry it talks about grace because there is ministerial grace. In the book of Eph. 4:7 it says to each one of us grace was given. in Rom. 12:3 *For I say through the grace given to me, to everyone who is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think, but to think soberly, as God had dealt to each one a measure of faith.* Verse 6 *Having then gifts differing according to the grace that is given to us.* See there are different types of ministry grace given. Gal. 2 quoted Paul saying that when they perceived the grace of God that was in him, he was referring to the grace to be an apostle. That is ministry grace not salvation grace. Paul had the grace to the Gentiles.

Notice Paul had to find his line of demarcation. In the book of Acts he begins his ministry or rather he tried to begin his ministry. In Acts 9 Paul tried to begin his ministry. The moment he was born again, he was baptized in the Holy Spirit. Three days later when Ananias lay hands on him he stood up and preached to all those in the synagogue. I mean the preacher was in him. He was a preacher. There was no amen but there were a lot of crucifying. Acts 9:22 tells us the Jews wanted to kill him. In verse 23 he was let down in a basket. Then when he later on reached Jerusalem and immediately after he was received by Barnabas, he

tried to preach the gospel again in verse 29 and again there was no amen there was crucifying. This time they had to send him back to Tarsus, which incidentally was his hometown. He tried to begin his ministry but the anointing was not operating yet. Have you ever tried to do something that God tells you to do ahead of time? Just because you know the office that God called you to does not mean it's time to do that.

Did you know Moses did precisely that? If you read carefully the book of Acts 7 in Stephen's preaching, he said the reason why Moses killed the Egyptian was because he wanted the Israelites to know that he was their deliverer. The reason why he was hanging around them was because he somehow knew he was the chosen one. He knew his call but he missed his timing. The same thing happened to Paul here. When you do that you are trying to do it without the anointing of God. One of the most precious things that you learn to do in the ministry is to learn to wait. Of the two greatest virtues in the Christian realm is love and patience. Patience is not just that quality to carry and wait for something to happen. Patience is not just the quality to be able to wait till what you expect comes to pass. But the Hebrew word patience, which means longsuffering, which literally translated as, slow to wrath. It means that during the time you are waiting you are suffering otherwise it won't be longsuffering; it would have been translated as long waiting. So patience means that there is opposition all the time. No opposition no patience. That is why the bible puts patience coming after tribulation. No tribulation, no patience. Some people got only the first part. They only how to *long* but they don't know the other *suffering* part. But the patience that implies both in Greek and in the Hebrew is this while you are waiting you got a lot of agony, suffering and tribulation. So the next time when we say that God is long suffering it is not that God is very patient. No, while He is patience, which is true, a lot of things are making Him angry and he is suffering because of those things. The Hebrew word for *longsuffering* is slow to anger. As things cause you irritation, you cool your temper, exercise restraint and suffer the irritation. It's not just the quality of waiting without anything disturbing you. Stranded on an island with one coconut tree and the sand all around you leaning back on the coconut tree and waiting for the next boat to pass by – peace – no. We have to change the picture. Stranded on an island with a coconut tree but around you, you have about a hundred monkeys jumping all over the place. Taking the peace away from you, disturbing you. So the next time you are irritated that's when true patience can come. When you are just waiting without the irritation it's not patience.

So Paul was impatient like most of us. It seems to be a virtue we all have to learn with life. Two qualities that I find very important are love and patience. Paul was ahead of time. He was sent back to Tarsus and he had another nine silent years until Acts 11. But when Acts 11 came forth Barnabas came for him and his ministry started. Acts 13 things were now getting rosy. His ministry was not getting more and more developed. Acts 13 verse 2 and 3 they were sent out by the Holy Spirit and by the church of Antioch. They lay hands and sent him out. Paul went out into the ministry. You notice in Acts 13 that in verse 5 *When they arrived in Salamis they preached the word of God in the synagogues*. But he did not have the grace for the Jews. He went to the synagogues and he preached and it seems to be a pattern all his life. As you see him continuing in Acts 13 in verse 13 and 14 they went to the synagogues. He did not have the grace when he came out from the synagogues in verse 42 the Gentiles were begging him. He had the grace to preach to the Gentiles but he was going for the Jews. They were begging him and he was going to the Jews. He has to learn the line of demarcation of his call. So the next Sabbath all the Gentiles came and there was no room in the synagogue. There was this Jew. Paul had no grace for them imparted into his life. All the Jews were angry. From that time onward notice in Acts 13 the Jews contradicted him and blasphemed. In verse 46 *Then Paul and Barnabas grew bold and said, "It was necessary that the word of God should be spoken to you first; but since you rejected it, and judge yourselves unworthy of everlasting life, behold, we turn to the Gentiles."*

I tell you when he said those words Gabriel turned to Michael and said, "Halleluiah he has got it at last." I could see the smile on our Father God. He looked down and say that the little soldier down there called Paul finally got it. He has found the area where his grace is. Every single one of you has been graced for certain thing. But most of us are struggling in the area we are not graced for. That's where the problem is. Either we are in the wrong area or it's the wrong time. If we flow with the Spirit of God and where His leads us, the anointing will be there and his burden will be light and his yoke will be easy. If his burden is heavy and the yoke is difficult it's not his yoke it's somebody else's yoke.

At the end of his first missionary journey in the book of Acts 14 as he is going to another place notice who were his persecutors in verse 1 and 2 the unbelieving Jews. Then wherever he went in verse 19 it was the Jews whom he did not have the grace for that came and took the stone that threw at him. All because

Paul went into their synagogue where he didn't have the grace. He stirred the hornet's nest and after he stirred them he says well now we go to the Gentiles. When he finished the missionary journey in the book of Acts 14 I want you to see what his testimony was. Verse 27 *Now when they had come and gathered the church together, they reported all that God had done with them, and that He had opened the door of faith to the Gentiles.* Why, because he was an apostle to the Gentiles.

I like what John Osteen said to David Ingles. He said he never forget what Osteen said to him. He said, "David, go where you are welcome. Go where you are accepted." He was saying the same thing that Paul was beginning to realize to go where the grace of God is in your life. Here in the book of Acts 15 they start again on the second missionary journey. In Acts 16 they went from place to place after Philippi. In chapter 17 verse 1 Paul went to Thessalonica where there was a synagogue of the Jews. Verse 2 *Then Paul, as his custom was, went in to them, and for here Sabbaths reasoned with them from the Scriptures.* Verse 4 some were persuaded some were not. Verse 5 those who were not caused an opposition. Look at verse 10 because of that Paul had to interrupt his ministry and run. Do you think that was a part of God's plan? See part of the things he went through was his love for the Jews. In chapter 18 after he ran he landed in Corinth. When he was there in verse 4 *And he reasoned in the synagogue every Sabbath, and persuaded both Jews and Greeks.* Verse 5 and 6 they opposed him. Finally Paul shook his garments at them and said your blood be upon you own heads. I am clean. From now on I will go to the Gentiles. He went to the Gentiles he not only took a lot of people. The ruler of the synagogue also followed Paul. Of all things in Corinth he went next door to start a church. The bible tells us in Acts 18 that they shared the same wall with the synagogue. In verse 7 *He departed from there and entered the house of a certain man named Justus, one who worshiped God, whose house was next to the synagogue.* I tell you that made the Jews mad. Finally now he has moved into the grace of God Jesus appeared and said, "Paul, don't be afraid."

If you are in the shadow of the Almighty God in the area that God grace you to be come what may He is there. But if you are not in the area of God's grace when the stone come you won't be protected. But when you are in God's perfect will come what may His grace is sufficient for you. Paul got it at last; he matured in his ministry and he ended every well in his ministry. Understand that God has lines of the demarcation in the ministry and in the call of God.

See within the five-fold office there is such a thing as timing and there is such a thing as the area that God has granted you in. Some people think that means we have to take every door that comes. No. Human beings can open some doors that God never wanted you to go. You cannot tell the direction to go just by the availability of finances. Just because you got the finances to go or you don't have the finances to go it does not determine God's will. If it's God will the finances will be there and sometimes when it's not there you go by faith God will supply. Neither can you tell whether you got an invitation or not. There may be some places where God never wanted you to go into that people may put you into. We have to flow with the area that God graces you. If you flow in the area God grace you in, your ministry will grow from glory to glory. There is no struggle; you are at rest. You are flowing in the ministerial anointing that God has for you.

11. EIGHT STEPS TO THE MINISTERIAL ANOINTING

We are going to speak about the eight steps you could take to develop the ministerial anointing. I have broken them up into eight steps but actually you could categorize them into four sections. But before we go into that we need lay down some biblical foundation.

Revelation chapter one talked about the seven Spirits of God. These seven Spirits are mentioned in Isa. 11:2, No. 1 the Spirit of the Lord, No. 2 the Spirit of wisdom, No. 3 the Spirit of understanding, No. 4 the Spirit of counsel, No. 5 the Spirit of might, No. 6 the Spirit of knowledge, No. 7 the Spirit of the fear of the Lord. Seven fold Spirits of the Lord. The seven fold Spirits of the Lord is divided into four spirits because Isaiah combined the Spirit of wisdom with the Spirit of understanding; the Spirit of counsel with the Spirit of might and the Spirit of knowledge with the Spirit of the fear of the Lord. And the word *Spirit* occur only four times even though it's a seven fold Spirits.

These four different aspects of the Spirit of the Lord point also to the four winds of God. We bring the four winds of revival. In the book of Ezekiel in the story of the dead bones turning into the army of God, Ezekiel prophesied and called upon the breath of God and he saw the wind of God. But if you read carefully it's the four winds of God. The bible talked about the four winds, the North wind, the South wind, the East wind and the West wind. The four winds of God are actual physical winds but they point to a spiritual typology.

Now all the four winds will be combined into these four Spirits that are spoken in Isa. 11:2. The Spirit of the Lord is the North wind. The Spirit of wisdom and understanding is the South wind. The Spirit of counsel and might is the East wind. The Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord is the West wind. (For a detailed teaching on the four winds of God, see “_

Praying in the Four Winds of God for Revival.

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Then these four winds of God are also found in the four faces of the four creatures that Ezekiel saw. These creatures are God's transportation system. Whenever God travels you find these four creatures who all their lives seem to be just saying holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty. On one side they look like a calf. On another side they look like an eagle. Then on another side they look like a man. And on another side they look like a lion. These four creatures are actual creatures but they point to the four winds and the four Spirits, which are seven Spirits. The Spirit of the Lord points to the face of a man. The Spirit of wisdom and understanding points to the ox. The Spirit of counsel and might points to the eagle. The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord points to the face of a lion.

Many Christian teachers teach that we are in the Joshua generation and that the Moses generation is dying off. Hold it there: the spirit of Joshua is not arrogant. It's not the spirit that says let the old Moses generation die off. The spirit of Joshua is the four Spirits of God: the Spirit of the man, the Spirit of the eagle, the Spirit of the lion and the Spirit of the calf. Joshua had to be trained in all those four areas to move into the call of God and the anointing of God in his life. He had to tap on the four winds of God.

Firstly, we see that Joshua had to taste the Spirit of the ox, which is servanthood. The ox is a creature that points to servanthood. Joshua served Moses for long years. He was a servant. He would do all the things a servant does. You know Elisha did the same thing to Elijah. In II King chapter three he was called Elisha who pour water on Elijah's hand. The spirit of a servant characterizes the Joshua generation. And we must taste that work of God in our life.

The reason I bring out the four creatures because the four faces have a revelation of God on how to move into the four winds. They are the keys to move into the four winds of God. The spirit of a servant is one of those keys. Learning to die to self, and learning to serve. You remember that Joshua went out with Moses and stayed half way on the mountains while Moses went up for the first time to get the Ten Commandments. But Joshua had to wait half way. Moses went all the way up and got into God's glory for forty days and forty nights. While Moses was up there enjoying the presence of God, the people down there got impatient. They waited and waited and when Moses didn't come down they made a golden calf. Then they started getting into the flesh and enjoying themselves. So the people down in the valley were enjoying themselves in the flesh. Moses was up there enjoying himself in the spirit. And Joshua was half way just waiting. That takes great training. He was neither there nor here. He waited one month and ten days. To wait in the bushes there with no roof over your head. That's a tremendous servant there. That was how faithful he was. Joshua had the spirit of a servant.

Then you have the second Spirit is the Spirit of a lion. See the Joshua generation characterize a bold generation. If you don't taste the spirit of servanthood, you cannot taste the spirit of boldness. If you have the Spirit of the lion without the Spirit of the ox you will be unbalanced. Boldness without servitude equals arrogance. But servitude with boldness is ordained of God. God requires that combination of spiritual

bravery and humility.

Then the Spirit of the eagle, which symbolizes learning to wait of God. The eagle characterizes the Spirit of counsel and might. Every time the bible talks about healing, it talks about wings like "With healing in his wings". Ps. 103 talks about bless the Lord O my soul and all that is within me and forget not His benefit. He talks about how He renews our youth like the eagle. The eagle symbolizes the Spirit of counsel and might. That's one who learn the art of worship and waiting on God.

Finally the Spirit of the man symbolizes the fullness of God. The perfect man was made in the image of God. The full revelation and presence of God Eph. 4: 11-14 talks about how the five-fold ministry will perfect the church to the full stature of a man that God wants. The church should have the fullness of God's presence and revelation of God.

Now these four fold Spirits of the Joshua generation are part of the process of training which are included in the eight steps in training or in preparation to move into the ministerial anointing. For our edification we could take many examples. You will find these eight principles in the life of Samuel. In the life of Moses. In the life of Joshua. And in the life of David. And in the life of Paul. And in the life of the disciples of Jesus. In the life of Jesus. In all these you will find these eight principles or eight keys to move into the ministerial anointing.

Lets look at the eight principles. Lets take one of the most longest life history recorded in the bible, which is the life of David and see the eight developments in his life and draw the keys from there.

1. Receiving the Anointing from a Man of God from the Previous Generation

Lets turn to the book of I Sam. 16:13 *Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the midst of his brothers, and the Spirit of the Lord came upon David from that day forward. So Samuel arose and went to Ramah.* No. 1 David learned to receive the anointing from the generation before him. We need to learn to draw from the men and women of God who have lived before us. There is what I call a continuity of the anointing through all generations.

Just as there is a red line that runs through the bible – the bloodline, you find that there is also an oily line that runs through - the anointing that is imparted. Sometimes in the red line that runs through the genealogy of David to Jesus Christ, only one person was left to carry the bloodline. Like in the book of Kings where one of these mothers of the king killed every of those sons until only one was preserved. I mean the line of David was left with only one legitimate heir. If that sole heir is killed off, then David's lineage will be cancelled and David's seed, the Lord Jesus Christ will not come to any throne. The promise made by God to David will be nullified. Praise God that won't ever happen because God's hand is perfectly in control.

In the same way, the flow of the Holy Spirit and the anointing is passed on from one generation to the next. Sometimes the whole group has it. Sometimes it reaches only one vessel. See the anointing is transferable. Do you notice something about Elisha generation? In II Kings chapter one and two, do you notice that when he was in battle who were the people who told him about Elijah being taken away? It was not the prophet. It was the sons of the prophet. Why sons of the prophet? What happened to the fathers? Fathers were either dying or already dead but the anointing was transferred to the sons. If you study David's musicians, all of them were related. It looks like a family trade. It's not so much as a family as a transferring of the anointing through association. It's the sons of prophets that had the same anointing the prophets had. And so by right they were also going to be prophets. The school of prophets that Elisha ran was mostly from the new generation. Most of them were sons of the prophets.

So David learnt to receive from the generation before him. Do you notice Paul's ministry took off because Barnabas ministry helped him? It was Barnabas who brought him to the apostles in Acts 9. It was Barnabas who brought him to the city of Antioch to start his ministry. Barnabas was the key in his life. In

each one of our lives there is always a link and a key.

I thank God for men of God some who have lived and died. But thank God that although many have lived for about 40 or a hundred years ago, their books are still there and we can draw their anointing from their books. We may never have met John Wesley personally but his writings are still around. I may never have met John G. Lake but that man has influenced my life. I may never have met Smith Wigglesworth but that man has influenced my life. We need to draw from the generation before. That's the first key. No man is an island for we all need each other. And we need to draw from that which is before us before we can go forward. There is a reason for it. If every one of us has to start fresh without the help of the other we will never reach where we are. Suppose it takes forty years to develop a certain truth and an anointing. Then another person has to go through the same mistakes and they died without passing the secret to the next generation. The next generation starts afresh and after forty years they still be where the previous generation was. But if they could pass it on then the next generation can start off where the other generation left off. So we have to learn to receive from that which was before us. We have to learn how to draw the anointing from others.

That's the first step. David received the anointing from Samuel. When Saul was pursuing him, notice how he went back to Samuel to get encouragement.

2. Boldness in Testing the Anointing

I Sam. 17:34 *But David said to Saul, "Your servant used to keep his father's sheep, and when a lion or a bear came and took a lamb out of the flock, I went out after it and struck it, and delivered the lamb from the mouth; and when it arose against me, I caught it by the bread, and struck and killed it. Your servant has killed both lion and bear; and this uncircumcised Philistine will be like one of them, seeing he has defied the armies of the living God. Moreover David said, "The Lord, who delivered me from the paw of the lion and from the paw of the bear, He will deliver me from the hand of this Philistine.*

Second principle is you must test the anointing and be faithful to it at each level you have. You must test it against the lion and the bear before Goliath. It's God method to always train us step by step. We are not running in the Spirit; we are led by the Spirit. We are to walk step by step. If David had to face Goliath before he learn to face the lion and the bear, he would never have been successful. The reason he was successful is because he has been training. And he had exercised the anointing that God has on him.

I want you to know that his ability to conquer the lion and the bear is the result of the anointing and not on the result of himself. It was not his natural self. It was not David in his flesh. It was David plus the anointing. He recognized that the ability he had was from the Lord and he stated it in the book of II Sam. 22:32 *For who is God, except the Lord? And who is a rock, except our God. God is my strength and power, and he makes my way perfect. He makes my feet like the feet of deer, and sets me on my high places. He teaches my hands to make war, So that my arms can bend a bow of bronze.*

He attributed the anointing to God. He had a portion of Samson anointing on him. Sure he had it because that same anointing was transferred to his mighty men. And some of those things they did were impossible in the natural. You read the exploits of the mighty men. Some of their deeds were fantastic. One man with a javelin killed hundred of others. And all of them fought until the sword and his hand were one. These are all attributes of Samson type of anointing. David had that special call since he was a warrior. So with that anointing gave him supernatural strength. When the lion came for his lamb, he pounced on the lion and yanked the lion by the beard. Not many people wants to play with a lion's beard. What about the bear one of the strongest animals around and David just came to the bear and killed the bear. That's the anointing. Having tasted that when he look at the Philistine he was not relying on his own strength. He knew it has to be God. Who is this Philistine now?

David had tested the anointing. If you had not tested the Word of God in the fellowship of ten or thirty people don't try to test it in a group of one thousand people. If you have not been faithful to learn to operate

in prophecy in a home fellowship don't try to test it in public. We have to learn to be faithful. And some of the ways we operated in the word of knowledge and the things of God we start operating in small group. That is where you are trained. Mind you if you have only ten people and you say somebody here has a backache you could easily find out because you just have to ask ten guys. You have it. You learn from there and you learn to hear clearly. You learn from there and you grow from there. When you have tested it against the bear and the lion you are ready for the Goliath. God will not release you until you have done your time of training.

3. Behaving Wisely

1 Sam. 18 is where David starts tasting the spirit of the ox. The other one was the spirit of the lion. After he killed Goliath he was famous. Verse 5 *So David went out wherever Saul sent him, and behaved wisely. And Saul set him over the men of war, and he was accepted in the sight of all the people and also in the sight of Saul's servants.* I like the word that says *David behaved wisely.* Verse 14 *David behaved wisely in all his ways, and the Lord was with him.* That is No. 3 he learned how to serve. He learned to behave wisely.

I tell you I learned my lessons. I am not the same as I was when I first started. I have more diplomacy now. When I started I didn't have much diplomacy. I will just tell you off. But now, I will tell you off in such a way you don't know that I am telling you off. That's called diplomacy. But that's an art that you learn to flow with because you learned to love people. You learn to correct with love. Not just to correct but to correct with love. Give the truth in love. Then you learn to serve. You learn to humble yourself. You learn to take all kind of insults and jeers and criticisms. And you just keep loving. You learn to serve.

What is a servant; what is a slave? Do you know a slave has renounced all rights? You could spit at a slave and a slave cannot answer back. You could kick a slave and a slave cannot answer back. A lot of people don't have the spirit of a servant. That is why when you say anything to them, which offends them very much, they will pounce on you and maul you left and right. It was not the lion; it was their flesh that has not been crucified yet. They don't have the spirit of a servant. David was different when he was with Saul. He knew the right things to do. He was careful and he just learnt to get along well with others. There are a few people like that in the bible. Joseph was one of them. Daniel was another one. They seem to know to do the right thing at the right time.

So he learned to serve and he learned the art of relationship. If you have the gift of God but you don't have the relationship your ministry will not grow. You may be the greatest prophet around but if you have a bad relationship with everybody you won't have any open doors. You only have the rocks and the trees to prophesy to. Even if you do prophesy nobody will hear you because you have a bad relationship with everybody.

So that's the servanthood. Everyone loves a servant. When a person comes with a spirit of a servant its easy to just love somebody. When a person comes with an arrogant spirit its hard to love that person although you know you have to.

4. Recognize the Anointing on Others

1 Sam. 24:5 *Now it happened afterward that David's heart troubled him because he had cut Saul's robe. And he said to his men, "The Lord forbid that I should do this thing to my master, the Lord's anointed, to stretch out my hand against him, seeing he is the anointed of the Lord."* 1 Sam. 26:9 *But David said to Abishai, "Do not destroy him; for who can stretch out his hand against the Lord's anointed and be guiltless?"*

David recognized the anointing in other people's life. Saul still held his office although he lost his anointing. The gifts and the callings of God are without repentance. He lived out his time even though he lost his anointing. He was called and never lost his call but he lost his anointing. What happen here is that David recognized the calling and anointing in others. If you learn to recognize the anointing of God in other people, people will recognize it in your life. David could have killed Saul but said, "No, in spite of his ways, I recognize that God has placed him there. Hence God is the one to remove him. I won't be the one to remove

him.” And he just walked away. He recognized the anointing in others.

And everyone whose ministry has grown fast, you will notice that this is one of the keys that they tap on. When you promote others, others will promote you. When you try to promote yourself others will pull you down. He that waters others will be watered himself. He that helps others will be helped himself. Do onto others as you want others do onto you. He that runs down others will be run down himself. He that lifted up others will be lifted up himself. That’s how you get into the anointing of God. As you help others, as you lift others, as you recognize the anointing in others. One of the things that impressed me very much when I watched Benny Hinn’s videotape when he was ministering in Africa and he had all these ministers around, he always makes positive statement about their ministries. Why, he was recognizing the anointing in others. He was recognizing and uplifting their call. And as a result he was moved into his own call and anointing even faster.

5. Waiting for God’s Timing

I Sam. 27 that’s where the eagle comes in. Verse one *David said in his heart, “Now I shall perish someday by the hand of Saul. There is nothing better for me than that I should speedily escape to the land of the Philistines.* Why was this happening? See all the time when Saul was after him in I Sam. 22 to I Sam. 27 David’s main lodging was in the cave. And in all those years he was in the cave, Saul was pursuing him. It was a waiting period that he really went through. He had the anointing but no office. Saul had the office but no anointing. Something has to give but it takes time to give. Saul reigned for forty years. David had a long waiting period. And even later when he moved into it, it was also a step by step. That’s not very easy to be shut out outside a society, to be called a rebel, a reject of society. To have among your followers thieves and robbers. I am not making this up I Sam. 22:2 says everyone who was in distress, every one who was in debt, everyone who was discontented gathered to him. And he became captain like a pirate over these guys. And it’s not very pleasant living in a cave. Running away all the time. It was a trial and a waiting period. There is where the testing is.

If you are anointed, the gift will make room for you but they will take its time. You will be tested but it’s where you would be like the eagle renewing your strength. You read about how successful he was in battle when he became king. Do you know all his success when he was a king was the result of what he did while he was in the cave? It was in his cave that he developed four hundred mighty men. Those thirty best men of his and those four hundred are the key generals in his army. And even later when he was in trouble it was these who backed him up. Where did he get these mighty men? In the cave and not in the palace. When he moved into the palace these four hundred men were behind him. I mean they have been through the thick and they have been through the thin and they are with him. Some people are with you when it thin. Some people are with you when it’s thin. And they are not ready until they have been through the thick and the thin.

I know because I have been in the ministry since 1976 of January and I see sometimes people will stand with you even when you are unpopular and they know you are right. But I have seen good men who will not stand with you when you are right but unpopular. I will never relate closely with them at all. I know their hearts now. They have been tested and they failed the test. You see Jesus has His inner circle and the outer circle. And in every ministry you will need people who have been through the thick and through the thin. Not people who will just be there when it’s easy but people who is there when the fighting is difficult. But I treasure those who have been through the think and through the thin. You could depend on them. But it all came in the eagle period of David – the waiting. It’s in that time that his army was actually built. God has strange ways to prepare us and it is not like what we would imagine.

6. Waiting for Progressive Levels of Anointing

David returned with his men to Judah after the death of Saul and was immediately recognized as king in II Sam. 2 verse 4 *Then the men of Judah came and there they anointed David king over the house of Judah.* For the first time he is recognized as king. Guess what? He was king only of two tribes. There were ten other tribes who were not in. It was later on that in II Sam. 5:1 all the ten tribes of Israel came and in verse three they anointed David king over all of Israel. So his forty years reign was divided into seven and thirty-three. First seven years he was in Judah and the next thirty three years he had the whole of Israel. The next point that we have to understand is to know to be faithful to the timing for each level of anointing. The

other lion and bear were the testing but this one is different. It's the timing. Do you know that David had the power to conquer Israel during his seven years? He could have defeated them. He had an army that was stronger than the Israelites. The only reason he didn't do that was because he knew God didn't want him to do it. He waited and abided his time. Timing is important. When the people came it was the timing of God. He was anointed three times. First time by Samuel, second time by the tribe of Judah and third time by all of Israel. David had three anointings. And each time he moved into a different phase of ministry.

There are different levels of the anointing for the same office. You could be a prophet and anointed over and over again in different prophetic realm. You could be an apostle and anointed in different realms. You could be a pastor and anointed in different realm. David was called to be the king. And each time he was anointed to be king. In I Sam, his anointing was to be king. In II Sam., his anointing by Judah was to be king. By the Israelites was to be king but it was at a different level of anointing. You can enlarge, increase, multiply your anointing, ten fold, twenty fold, a hundred fold in the same office.

7. Be Teachable and Humble

In II Sam. 12: 16, David made a mistake. He fell. All the kings were going out to war and David was walking along his roof top and his neighbor was Uriah. He had a wife named Bathsheba. And David fell into adultery. In chapter 12 he was told of his mistake and he was honest enough to admit his mistake. In other words, he was teachable and humble. If you make a mistake, admit it, confess it and put it away. Don't let it scar your future. Admit it, confess it, have it cleansed by the blood and put it away. All the time we have to have a teachable and humble attitude in order to move into the ministry and anointing that God has for our lives.

8. Learn the Limitations of Your Anointing

Finally No. 8 this time we look into I Chron. 28 David moved to the fullness of his office and ministry. In I Chron. 28:11 David gave his son Solomon the plans for the vestibule, its houses, its treasuries, its upper chambers, its inner chambers, and the place of the mercy seat; and the plans for all the he had by the Spirit. And in verse 14 he gave gold, silver and all type of things. In I Chron. 28 David had prepared the way for Solomon.

In the eighth point in moving into the ministry of God we have to learn the limitations of the anointing of God. David was a king so was Solomon. But they were different types of king. David was a warring king; Solomon was an administrative king. It is the same office but each had a different anointing. David could not build the temple. Remember he wanted to build the temple and God said he couldn't since he had shed much blood. Was God rebuking him, no. God was pointing to him that his anointing was not a builder but a conqueror. If David had not shed blood he could not have won against the Philistines. He could not have fought those wars and brought every nation into subjection. And Solomon could not have built the temple. But his anointing was to be the warrior. Solomon's anointing was an administrator. Both are kings but have different kingly anointing.

So within the same office we have to learn the limitations of the anointing. If we don't learn limitations we move outside of it. And there are different types of limitations. There are limitations by anointing; limitation by geography; limitations by office. If you move beyond that, you endanger yourself. And if you move within your limitations, you magnify your ministry to the fullness.

12. PREPARATIONS FOR THE MINISTERIAL ANOINTING

Yesterday we talked about the eight steps to move and operate into the ministerial anointing and how the eight steps can also be made into four steps. They are linked actually into the four steps and the four creatures and the four winds and the four Spirits of the Joshua generation.

Today, we are going to talk about the conditions and preparations involved in the ministerial anointing. There is none better illustration than the story found in II Kings 2 where we see Elijah and Elisha again. Verse 9 *And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?" Elisha said, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me."* You notice that it didn't say let a double portion of God's Spirit but he said a double portion of your spirit. Isn't that interesting that he said your spirit and not God's Spirit.

The Holy Spirit can only work in direct proportion to the size of our human spirit. Some of our human spirits are skinny. Some are like worms. Paul says in Rom. 1:9 that I serve God with my spirit. Apparently all the miracles that he ever did were done through his spirit man. It was not his spirit man alone doing it. It was the Holy Spirit working through his spirit. Our spirits are the dwelling places of God. Every thing that Jesus did, He did through His spirit. Of course the Holy Spirit was working through His spirit.

Jesus Himself said in Jn. 14:12 *He who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also, and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.* But in verse 9, 10 and 11 He talked about His own works and he said that His own works were due to the Father dwelling in Him, pointing again to the Spirit working through His spirit. And the key to doing the works of Jesus lie in the development of our spirit man.

In all the greetings of Paul like for example in the epistles in his greetings to them like in I Thessalonians 5:28 *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.* Then in II Thessalonians 3:18 *The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.* He always wishes them grace to be with them. But then as you look at II Tim. 4:22 *The Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit.*

The Lord is not with your mind. The Lord is not with your body. The Lord is with your spirit. So whatever the Holy Spirit needs to do, He does it through our spirit. In the Old Testament, the Holy Spirit does His work in a special way because the Old Testament saints' spirits were not regenerated. But in the New Testament, our spirits are regenerated and we should actually be able to do more than the saints did in the Old Testament. See in the old, they only had the anointing upon. In the new, we have the anointing upon and the anointing within. That additional anointing within should actually move us further into realms that the Old Testament saints could not have moved into before.

Lets look again in II Kg. 2:9 *Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.* So he said, *"You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so."* The transference of Elijah's anointing to Elisha is still conditional. It's not going to be automatic. He had served Elijah for about ten years. He had never worked a miracle in his own life. But he had seen his master worked these powerful miracles. And he knew the secret was the anointing and he says, *"I want the anointing on your life but I want it twice as strong."* And Elijah said, *"No problem but it's a hard thing."* It's not easy. In other words, there is a price to be paid. And he says, *"There is a condition still for you to fulfill. If you see me taken up to heaven, then it shall be yours. If you don't see me when I am taken, then it's not yours."* From that time onwards you can be sure Elisha hardly closes his eyes. I mean, Elijah could disappear any time. Apparently he must have done that quite frequently because when Elisha finally crossed the river back, the sons of the prophets said, *"Maybe a whirlwind has taken him from here and there."* Apparently that was his favorite hobby – disappearing. So there he was, Elisha's eyes were on Elijah everywhere the latter went. Wherever Elijah goes, Elisha had to follow closely.

But before Elisha could reach that stage of having the anointing of God transferred to him, do you know that Elijah tried to get rid of him? In II Kg. 2 everybody knows that Elijah's time has come. In verse 1 *And it came to pass, when the Lord was about to take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal. Then Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please, for the Lord has sent me on to Bethel." But Elisha said, As the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!"* So they went down to Bethel. It's interesting to note that Elijah tried to get rid of Elisha.

You see the office that you are called to spiritually is God's prerogative. But the anointing that you function in, in that office and the level of it is your prerogative. God does not limit your wealth. You limit your

wealth by your faith. When God spoke to David in a corrective way after he has fallen, God made a positive statement to him. God said David, "Why did you do this? If there was anything else you wanted, ask and I would have given you." In other words, God was saying, "David, you limit how much blessing I want to give you. How much you want, ask and I will give it to you." It is not God who set the limit on your anointing. God set a limit on your office but not on your anointing. How much anointing you will move into will be determined by how much you want to excel in it.

You can be called to be a pastor and be a "half past six" or mediocre pastor. Or an evangelist and be a half dead evangelist. It is we who determine how much anointing we will function in. But it is God who determines the offices we function in. So please know your limitation in the right area. You see it was Elisha who determined whether he could really get the anointing. He knew he was already called to be a prophet. When Elijah said, "Stay here," and if Elisha had said, "Yes, master," Elisha would still be a prophet but he would not have the double portion of Elijah's anointing. We don't decide the office. God sets in the church but it's up to us how deep we want to move into that office and the level of anointing that is available for that office. It was Elisha who determined the level of his anointing.

Possibly for the first time, Elisha is disobeying his master Elijah. I believe was a very obedient servant. He was actually Elijah's servant. In II Kings three he was called the one who poured water on Elijah's hand. Whenever Elijah needed someone to wash his clothes he would call, "Elisha." Elisha would run and say, "Yes, master." "Wash my clothes." And you know Elijah seldom bathe. I mean once in a blue moon he changes his skin. He doesn't wear clothes; he wears skin. Once in a while he changes his skin and this Elisha would take it to the river to wash it. After a good meal Elijah would say, "Elisha, water please," and Elisha would take the water and pour the water over his hands. Then he washes the dishes and do every thing as he was a servant.

One day on this occasion here, the master said, "Elisha, stay here. I am going to Bethel." For the first time the servant said, "No." He knows that his master was going off and for the first time he didn't look quite so obedient. And not only that he says, "As long as you live and your soul lives and the Lord lives, I am stuck with you." Finally he went through four places. They are actual places but they are a type of principle that we all have to go through to receive the ministerial anointing.

Gilgal : The Place of Circumcision

II Kg. 2 :1 And it came to pass, when the Lord was about to take up Elijah into heaven by a whirlwind, that Elijah went with Elisha from Gilgal.

Gilgal was the name of the place when Joshua crossed the Promised Land. The second generation was circumcised for the first time and they named the place Gilgal which means a rolling away. That points to the cutting away of the flesh life. If you want to move into the anointing of God, you will have to pay a price. Sometimes after moving into the anointing, some of them stopped paying the price of circumcising or crucifying the flesh and maintaining their spiritual life. They begin to indulge in the flesh. And there is a grace period for them to repent. During that grace period, people look at such ministers and they don't understand how the anointing could still operate in their lives when they are walking in the flesh. But there was a price they originally had paid. Through time if they continue to walk in the flesh, they will lose the anointing but they won't lose the office. So Gilgal points to the dying to the flesh life and to the things of the world.

Please look at the gospel of Lk. 4:1 *Then Jesus, being filled with the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wilderness. Verse 14 Then Jesus returned in the power (the Greek word *dunamis*) of the Spirit to Galilee, and news of Him went out though all the surrounding region.* Notice the difference between verse one and verse fourteen. Verse one says that He was filled with the Spirit. Verse fourteen says that He returned in the power of the Spirit. Verse fourteen talks about the anointing that was on His life. The word *dunamis* always refers to the anointing upon. Now there must be a difference between verse one and verse fourteen. Whatever makes the difference between verse one and verse fourteen took place between verse two to verse thirteen. So there was something that happened in Jesus' life between verse two and verse thirteen that caused verse fourteen to be different from verse one.

They are the keys hidden in the word of God. What happened was the record of the three temptations of Jesus. There were more than three temptations but only three were recorded. In fact for forty days and forty nights He was tempted. After the temptation was ended, He was tempted three more times and those last three were recorded. They were recorded because those three were the summary of all the temptations. All the temptations could be classified into three categories: the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life.

The epistle of John says that those who have the love of God will not yield to these three temptations. For those who have the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, the love of the Father is not in them. And these are those who love the world. I Jn. 2:15 *Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life – is not of the Father but is of the world.* All the sins of men from Adam right up to the end of this age can be classified into three major categories, the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. Jesus was tempted for forty days in these three major areas.

Those are the three areas that Eve fell into. In the book of Genesis 3:6 *so the woman saw that the tree was good for food, (that's the lust of the flesh) that it was pleasant to the eyes, (lust of the eyes) and a tree desirable to make one wise (the pride of life).* All three forms of sin were working and operating and those are the three keys that Satan always uses to tempt, to attack, to distract. He has no more new strategy; all his strategies are in these areas. So we are not ignorant of his devices. Now when it says that the tree of the knowledge of good and evil was pleasant to the eyes, it does not mean the rest were not. It's just the trick of the devil. In Gen. 2:9 *Out of the ground the Lord God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food.* The devil fooled them and caused them to look only at that one tree. There were thousands and possibly millions of good trees and the devil fooled them by making them look at that one tree. All the rest of the trees were also pleasant to the eyes and good for food. But all the attacks of the enemy relate to these three areas.

And Jesus Christ dealt with these three areas. See He was tempted to turn the stone into bread. He was hungry and the devil said, "If You are the Son of God, turn these stones into bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written men shall not live by bread alone but by every word that proceeds out of the mouth of God." Then the devil took Him to a high mountain. It was not just His imagination; the devil actually took Him there. That was a spiritual battle going on. The transportation there was provided by the devil. The devil took Him to a high mountain. Don't be afraid of the devil even if he tries his tricks.

Lester Sumrall was once sleeping on the bed. One night the devil came and shook the whole bed. He turned the whole bed upside down. He said, "Devil, get out" and the devil got out quickly. He looked around and saw the bed was in the wrong position. He said, "Devil, come back." The devil came back and he felt the evil presence again. "Put this bed back to where it belongs." And the devil quickly put it back. "Now get out" and the devil got out. See you don't have to be afraid of the devil. I tell you if the devil actually appears to some, they will scream. The devil carried Jesus to a high mountain. If the devil appears to you, just look him straight in the eyes and you don't have to be afraid of him.

So the devil actually carried Jesus to a high mountain and said, "Look at all these things." Actually he has stolen them from Adam and he said, "I will give you all these things." The lust of the eyes. He said, "I will give you all these things if you will bow down and worship me." Jesus said, "It is written: thou shall worship God and Him only shall thou serve." Round two the devil lost. These are the final three rounds. Jesus and Satan had over forty days of that conflict. Now the devil takes Him to the pinnacle of the temple. And the devil said, "It is written..." In round one the devil comes with the lust of the flesh. Jesus said, "It is written..." and the devil runs off. Then he comes again with the lust of the eyes. Jesus said, "It is written..." and the devil runs off again. Round three the devil comes and said, "It is written..." The devil knows the bible. But he knows only enough to twist it. He knows the bible but we know the bible better. We should. Some Christians only know Jn. 3:16, Mk. 16:17-18. you should know the bible more than that. I don't like the devil because he used my favorite verse. Ps. 91. I mean he quoted Ps. 91. You notice something he adds to the scripture. The devil always either adds or subtracts; we do the multiplying. We take the same word and make it abundant. So the devil said, "It is written: He shall give His angels charge over Thee. Throw Yourself down."

Jesus said, "It is written: thou shall not tempt the Lord thy God. You shall not put the Lord thy God to the test." And the devil ran off. The final round was the pride of life. See the devil was actually tempting Jesus to take a short cut to show His Messiahship. Jesus was to throw Himself down as a Messiah then all the angels will come and carry Him and he had a landing with the angels. It's a bird, it's a plane, it's the Messiah. No, that won't be the way. Some people think that showmanship, sensationalism, and hype are the way to the ministry.

In these three temptations which are the summary of all His temptations, Jesus gave the key to overcome each one of them. The answer to the lust of the flesh is the word of God. Meditate on the word of God; eat it and don't just read it. Reading the word is like smelling food. Eating the word is meditation. We could have a nice buffet laid out with all those nice food. You could enter into the buffet and smell them, "Ah nice food." You pay the money for the buffet and smell it and say, "Nice food; thank you and God bless you." You have not eaten yet. "Yes, I smelt it." Smelling is not enough. Some of us come to God's word and all we do is just quote nice scriptures, nice promises, and say thank you God for blessing. Here are all these scriptures you see all the nice promises of God. You read about them every day. You hear about them. And you say, "Thank you Jesus, praise the Lord," and you just walk off with that. You didn't even meditate and take time to get it into your spirit. All you are doing is just smelling the spiritual food and saying goodbye. Do you know you could have the best food around and if you keep on living by smelling you will still die of starvation or malnutrition? That's what a lot of people are doing. They don't meditate on the word they only smell the word. You need to learn how to meditate and get the word in.

The key to the lust of the eyes is worship. Thou shall worship the Lord thy God. If you are a worshipper of God and if you keep seeing Jesus, the things of the world will diminish in its attraction.

Then there is the pride of life. The key is submission to the will of God.

So we have the three "W"s - the word, the worship and the will of God. If God didn't tell you to do something, you don't do it even if you are tempted to do it. You learn to be obedient to what scripture did not tell you to do as what he tells you to do. It is as difficult as not to do anything as it is to do something. Learn to obey the Spirit. Jesus overcame successfully the three areas of sin. In your life, if you overcome the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life, you have just passed Gilgal.

Bethel : The Place of Communion

2 Kings 2: 2-3 Then Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, please, for the Lord has sent me on to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they went down to Bethel. Now the sons of the prophets who were at Bethel came out to Elisha, and said to him, "Do you know that the Lord will take away your master from over you today?" And he said, "Yes, I know; keep silent!"

Bethel is the next place of God's dealing with us. It is named after the place where Jacob used a stone for his pillow as he slept. He was running away from Esau at that time. He dreamt the angels of God ascending and descending the throne of God. And he said this must be truly the highway and gates to God's throne. And he named the place Bethel that means house of God. Bethel speaks about dwelling in God. Bethel speaks about standing in God's presence. This is the secret of Elijah. Whenever Elijah announces his ministry, he always says, "I am Elijah who stand in the presence of God." Angels always talk that way like Gabriel in Lk. 1, "I am Gabriel who stand in the presence of God." See the angels do not hang around when they are not on assignment. When the angels are sent on assignment they do their assignment and then they come back to God's throne. They don't have a little room where they hang out while waiting for the next command. When the angels finish their assignment, they do not go to the play room and sit around playing cards waiting for the next assignment. But every time they are not on assignment they will be at God's throne worshipping. That's what they mean by standing in the presence of God. Then God will say, "Gabriel, go to Mary, give this message and quickly return to stand in the presence of God. "

The development of Bethel in our life is where we develop our lifestyle to the extent that we love God

so much that we could not take one moment without Him. I know that the presence of God is with us all the time. I am not talking about that. I am talking about how sometimes when you finished your time with God, you go and do all your necessary chores and you just long to run back into His presence. I mean you just come back to God and say, "God, how I missed you, miss your presence, miss being with God." And your relationship grows into that depth, that's Bethel. Relating to God. You see Gilgal is when you learn the correct way to relate to the world. You are in the world but not of the world. You are circumcised and cut. Bethel is about the relationship between you and God. You must grow into those depths where you truly become the dwelling house of God and His presence. Like Enoch, like Elijah who long for that presence. You become a true worshipper of God. Our first ministry is not to be evangelist, apostle, prophets, pastor and teacher or any other ministry. Our first ministry and call is to worship Him. We are first called to be a worshipper of God. Constantly worshipping and standing in the presence of God. That's the second key to develop into ministerial anointing that God has for our life. Learning the art of relating with God.

Lets go to the book of Genesis in the running away of Jacob from Esau. And as he first experienced Bethel in his life in Gen. 28 we see three keys in relating with God. In verse 20 *Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me, and keep me in this way that I am going, and give me bread to eat and clothing to put on, so that I come back to my father's house in peace, then the Lord shall be my God. And this stone which I have set as a pillar shall be God's house, and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You."* Notice it was the house of God in verse 17 he said How awesome is this place. No. 1 Bethel means that you develop a life of worship and awe in God. Now it's deeper than the first level. Do you know that at Gilgal, we left off with worship? We correlated Gilgal with the three temptations of Jesus in the wilderness, where the last temptation was regarding worship. But now in Bethel, the experience of worship is deeper. You are experiencing the awesomeness of God. It is just not a matter of you worshipping God. It's now God coming down on you. The awesomeness of God is dropped into your spirit man.

Do you know that many people don't have a sense of reverence for God? They don't understand the awesomeness of God. They will do things that will be most despicable or grieving when they should be more sensitive to the presence of God. In the natural, we learn how to honor one another and respect one another. There are things that we do with each other to show respect and honor. How much more should we do so to God and to God's presence? Wherever I am in a meeting, whenever God tells me kneel, I kneel. That's not an easy command to follow. You could be in a strange place where nobody else kneels. But you learn to reverence God. If somebody else is ministering and I am not the one ministering and the presence of God is there, I don't do things that will affect the presence of God. Some people don't have a sense of awe or reverence at all in God's presence.

So we develop No. 1 a sense of the awesomeness of God. That is developed also through worship. No. 2 Jacob here notice he expresses a vow in verse 20 to God, *Then Jacob made a vow*, and in verse 22 he talks about the tithes in his life *and of all that You give me I will surely give a tenth to You.* Jacob made a covenant with God. The tithe is a symbol of the covenant of God. The tithe is not just ten percent. It's the demonstration of our covenant relationship with God. It's the expression of our part in God's covenant. So that's No. 2 in our relationship with God. We develop not just a normal relationship; we develop a covenant relationship. Where we realize it's not just a take, take situation. A lot of people relate to God like God is a supermarket. Give me, give me. Give me this, give me that. But when you begin to relate to God, you will realize that God also says, "Give Me. Give Me your time. Give Me one more hour of your sleep. Give Me your possessions. Give Me your Isaac." Mind you God does say, "Give Me" too. It depends on which level of relationship you are with. But there is a level of relationship where God says, "Give," and He is going to test you out. A covenant relationship means you are saying, "Take me Lord all that you want me to. I will go wherever You send me. I will do whatever You tell me. I will surrender whatever You demands." It is the most dangerous prayer. But it is also the most powerful prayer. God will take you at your word and test you out whether you mean business with God. It's a covenant relationship with God.

No. 3 in Bethel notice that in a vision or rather dream in verse 12 *Then he dreamed, and behold a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.* And he recognized in verse 17 that this is the gate of heaven. I want you to know that he learned to work with God's angels. I want to show you in Jacob's life that his prosperity and everything were fulfilled because he learned to work with God's angels and God's spirit beings. We learn to work with the Holy Spirit but God also sends angels. We work together with them. Study the life of Jacob and you notice this. When he was in Laban's house, you know who taught him to get the spotted, speckled calves?

An angel. An angel taught him how to do that in a dream. Remember Laban tried to cheat him but it was an angel who taught him how to how to raise the spotted and speckled sheep to be strong and healthy sheep.

Remember what he saw along the way a group of angels. Gen. 31:10 *and it happened, at the time when the flocks conceived, that I lifted my eyes and saw in a dream, and behold, the rams which leaped upon the flocks were streaked, speckled, and gray-spotted. The Angel of God spoke to me.* It was the angel who taught him that. Chapter 32:1 *Jacob went on his way and the angels of God met him.* Verse 24 *Jacob was left alone; and a Man wrestled with him until the breaking of day.* Angels dramatically changed his life. He learned to relate with angels. For us today it would mean that you relate to God and you relate to all the messengers of God, human or spiritual. Do you know that how you relate to man is also a reflection of how you relate to God? If you cannot receive a man of God then you cannot receive God who sent that man. I say it in a positive sense.

See there are two extremes. In the historic churches, their members tend to put their priests high on the pedestal. Even when the priests make mistakes and do things that are not in line with God's word, the congregation still follows blindly, to their detriment. But denominational churches have a tendency to swing to the opposite end of the pendulum where we down grade the officers and the servants of God. And we regard them as so human that we could employ and discharge people like worldly organizations do. We tend to lose the reverence and the respect for men or women of God whom God sent. They are on the opposite side of the pendulum. We must be balanced to know when God sends a person. Jesus said if you do not receive those sent by God then you are not receiving God.

So the third point is this we learn to relate to God and the test of it is how we relate to the angels and the spirits beings of God and also those humans who are today part of God's plan and purposes. In other words, our relationship with other men of God and women of God are also a reflection of our relationship with God. It's easy to read I John and understand that you cannot love God unless you also love those who are born of God. How can one say that he love God and cannot love those who are born of God. How much even more those who are sent by God.

Jericho : The Place of Conquest

2 Kings 2: 4-5 *Then Elijah said to him, "Elisha, stay here, please, for the Lord has sent me on to Jericho." But he said, "As the Lord lives, and as your soul lives, I will not leave you!" So they came to Jericho. Now the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho came to Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the Lord will take away your master from over you today?" So he answered, "Yes, I know; keep silent!"*

The third area is when they went to Jericho. And Elijah said the same thing, "Stay here." Jericho is the first victory the Israelites had in the Promised Land. Jericho speaks about knowing your position against the enemy. The first three places relate in this way. At Gilgal, you must learn the correct relationship with the world. You are cut from the world. Bethel is your relationship with God. Jericho is your authority over the evil forces. You know your correct position and relationship over them. As regards to Jericho, if you notice in the book of Joshua 6:2 *And the Lord said to Joshua; "See! I have given Jericho into your hand, its king, and the mighty men of valor. You shall march around the city, all you men of war; you shall go all around the city once. This you shall do six days. And seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. But the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets.*

So God says for one week you shall march around it. The first six days you shall march one round. But on the seventh day you shall march seven times around it. It looks like an easy command but it is not easy. Because God says they must not make any noise. They were to keep quiet until He tells them to shout. Notice in Joshua 6:10 *You shall not shout or make any noise with your voice.* I can assure you it is not an easy command. If God were to command you not to talk for six days and you go out into the street and your best friend meets you and says, "Hello, long time no see," - you cannot answer. You go into the supermarket and meet your old uncle. "Hi nephew, long time no see." Your lips are sealed. "Why don't you talk to me? What happened to you?" You wouldn't talk to them. You remember when Elisha sent Gehazi with a stick to the woman's dead son the command is, "You shall not greet anyone along the way." Sometimes when you move in the anointing, God tell you to do things you normally don't do. It's unnatural not to talk. It's spiritual

not to talk too much. But it's natural for us to converse. For seven days you shall not talk or make noise until I tell you to. It's a difficult thing. But at the end of the last round thirteen times they marched altogether they shouted with a great shout and the wall of Jericho came down.

Inside this passage is the key to take authority over demon forces. So No. 1 you conquer the world that tries to dominate your life. No. 2 you get deep into God. No. 3 you take authority over demon forces. You learn your place and position over them. Now there are some keys involved here in Jericho.

You notice here that there were three keys involved in Gilgal. There are three keys that are involved in Bethel. There are three keys that are involved in Jericho.

Then in Jericho we see three keys also. In Jericho in the book of Joshua we saw that they were to march round and round and the priests were to carry the ark of God as they marched around it. Now here as they marched round Jericho there were three areas that they need to experience in, in order to conquer the city of Jericho, which was actually one of the mighty cities in the land of Canaan.

No. 1 they must learn to know what God said not to do and learn not to do. God said that they were to keep quiet. Before we learn what to do, we must learn what not to do. In other words, a lot of people are eager to do what God commands them to do but now they are too busy doing too many things in the flesh for God to tell them what to do in the spirit. It's not easy to learn to wait on God. Because in waiting on God, He deals with our impatience. He deals with our haste. He deals with our fleshly zeal and cuts it off. He deals with our false motives until we truly die to self. So in Jericho we must learn how to wait on God. Not to do what you were not told to do.

In the book, *Some Said It Thundered: Meaningful Encounters with Some Present-day Prophets in Kansas City and Means for Evaluating Their Prophecies* by David Pytches, he talked about the Kansas City fellowship. There was this pastor who was bringing him around. He went Kansas City church and spoke to some of the people there. They told him that God said to do nothing but pray. So for seven years they did nothing but pray. They had about forty prayer meetings a week. A lot of people misunderstood and were asking them why don't they go into evangelism. Why don't you do this, why don't you do that. But there is a time and season of God. Now they are known all over the world. They just passed their seven years and the impact and influence of that brotherhood of prophets movement is affecting the world.

There is a time and a season of God. We have to learn to wait. Learn not to be impatient. Moses was impatient. Impatience is always there to everyone who is new in the ministry. But the older you grow in the ministry you learn one thing – patience and the other you grow more in love. That is why those who are more experienced in the ministry tends to be more mellow than those who are new. If you examine it very carefully even Moses in the early ministry was a little bit impatient. See when God sent him to Egypt he expects after the first sign that he did that Egypt would release Israel. Exodus 5:22 *So Moses returned to the Lord and said, "Lord, why have You brought trouble on this people? Why is it You have sent me? For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has done evil to this people; neither have You delivered Your people at all."* This is Moses speaking when he was young in the ministry. Moses was eighty and he was still a little bit impatient. I mean when God sent him the first time he came back and said God, "Why, why, why?" Isn't it wonderful to see as the plagues go on one after the other he got used to them? He never asks any more about the delay. So we need to learn to wait. When he face the battle against the enemy in Jericho its not so much what you can cope up that gives you the victory but its what the Lord says and you obey. That obedience to God's voice will give you that victory.

I remember in one of our early days in ministry. We were in Nibong Tebal we were going from Bukit Mertajam to Nibong Tebal. We were visiting an old folks home in that area. After that we went over to a house in Butterworth where there was a deliverance case going on. We went in two cars. The car that I was seated reached the destination later. The other car reached first. By the time I reached there, the prayer team members had already exhausted all their methods to cast out the demons. They tried every trick that they knew. Tricks like grabbing the hair. Tricks like shaking the head. Tricks like shouting into the ear. But

the demon didn't come out. It was a spiritual battle but they forget one thing. They didn't speak to God. I mean we should be in communion with God all the time. We should not get into what I call a formula. It doesn't mean that when you minister you know the formula, *Jesus, Jesus*. But you forget to hear Him. Perhaps He is trying to tell you something. You got to hear Him all the time. Hearing Him takes waiting on Him.

When I went there I look at the big drama so I just sat down in a sofa and waited. While they were going through all the motions, I was praying, "Lord, what is it that You are telling to us?" Of course all the rest looked me and thinking why this fellow doesn't join us. Why doesn't he join us in the war dance that they were having. They were talking to the demon, long story, where the demon was from, this and that. This was what I picked up in my spirit. I sensed that there was just this amulet that this woman was wearing on her body. When we took a pair of scissors and cut the charm the demon screamed. The demon also came out. Wouldn't it be easier if we had asked Him first? Ask Him speak to Him but before we can hear we must wait on Him. Learn to wait on Him. So it's important for us as we face the enemy that we hear the commander.

Do you know that in a warfare, the most important thing is communication? Suppose you have one hundred thousand troops against ten thousand but the ten thousand have good communication. The hundred thousand don't know which battle they are fighting and what to do. The ten thousand could defeat the hundred thousand with their superior communication technology. It has happened in war before. The winning factor, if all things are equal, is good communication and good co-ordination. So we must hear out commander-in-chief the Lord Jesus Christ.

When you go into spiritual battle a lot of soldiers of Jesus Christ are running up and charging into battle. Some of us are charging in without hearing the Commander. And halfway there you find that the whole army is charging in one direction while you are in another place. Why, because you didn't hear the Commander-in-chief. Joshua heard Him. Joshua knew what to do. He told them. The Lord said to Joshua and then Joshua said to the people. And they did exactly what the Lord said, six days. Its not easy just to do what the Lord said keep quiet and march. I don't know why they got to keep quiet for six days. There is no natural reason. Some bright Alec says that they reserved their voices until the sixth day they haven't talked for so long and the Lord says talk. They all shouted and the decibel was so great that it caused an earthquake. So we realize that it was not a natural explanation; there were angels involved. God was testing them. God was training them. You know that the next battle they lost. You know why? They forgot to hear Him – over confidence. They have learned to battle they say now this is the formula we can do it all the time no need to hear Him any more. God don't give formula He gives relationship. There are formulas but the formula have so many sub, sub theories. You got to fill in the blanks at different times. There are basic principles that are there but those are basic principles that are related to a person. So that is No. 1 learn to wait.

You notice the second thing in the book of Joshua 6:4 *And the seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark*. In verse 6 the ark is mentioned again. *Take up the Ark of the Covenant, and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of ram's horns before the ark of the Lord*. Verse 8 *So it was, when Joshua had spoken to the people, that the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the Lord advanced and blew the trumpets, and the ark of the covenant of the Lord followed them*. For seven days the Ark of the Covenant with the rams' horns were going around. The ark represents the presence of the glory of the God. When you face the enemy it's the presence of His glory that he is most afraid of. The ark was a type of God's manifested glory given to them. They were actually in a sense surrounding the place with the presence of the glory of God. They were building the glory of God in that place.

Do you notice something about Jesus when He face demons? The demons always cried out in His presence. Do you know what they cried out, "O Thou holy One of God." Jesus carried the presence of God in His life. So that is No. 2 we need a greater presence in our life. There are degrees of God's presence in our life. Eph. 3 is a prayer for the presence of Jesus in the lives of the Ephesians. Notice he was writing to Christians who already had Jesus living in their heart. But there are different degrees of the presence of Jesus in our heart and in our mind. And we need to grow in that full presence of Jesus in our life. There are different degrees of God's presence. If you read Eph. 1, 2 and 3 at the end of the first three chapters in the last few verses, the verses always mention that we become the habitation of God. There are different

degrees of God's presence that we carry of the glory of God. Before we face the enemy we need to learn to be carriers of the glory of God. There are different degrees of it. We need to establish and learn to carry the glory of God.

I forgot this person he trained himself until every step he walk he call upon the name of Jesus. Can you imagine that? He didn't actually call out the name of Jesus. I mean his thoughts were on Jesus. This person carried such a presence of God. He was faithful to his area of call. But his teaching and his life had affected literally millions of people in his area. His work was so established that even the United Nations recognized his work to the illiterate people. That was his call in his area. In his book he talked about how he trained himself until the presence of Jesus grew so much in his life. Literally his life has affected millions that the unbelieving world recognized his work. I have one or two of those books that he used to train the illiterate. He helps those poor and undeveloped countries. And he was recognized. He was just an ordinary simple pastor who developed the presence of God. So there is a presence of God's glory that we train ourselves in.

No. 3 if you ever face the enemy you realize what they did on the last day. They shouted. This is the power of confession. There is no way you can over come the enemy without saying out the promises of God. The mountains are not removed until you say them out. If you read the book of Hebrews it says that Jesus is High Priest of our confession. If there is no confession there is nothing that Jesus could be the High Priest over. It seems that what we say he could create it. And in our authority over the enemy it is more of the power of the spoken words that you speak out that will result in putting aside and tearing apart of the enemy. Jesus' key was His spoken word. If you want your ministry to take off and grow into things, whatever God gives in your heart and established in your heart speak them out, continually confess them, declare them over your life, declare them over your children, declare them over your ministry. You confess it and you declare it because unless you declare and confess it the devil will not budge. It's the power of the spoken word that is the key to tearing apart the enemy. Of course unless you got the word in you, unless you have passed Gilgal, your spoken word is useless practically, powerless. But we are talking about passing Gilgal before going into battle. I mean if you go step by step, you would have gone through Gilgal and become dead to the world. A lot of people are not dead to the world and they tried to confess the word and it doesn't work. But when you are dead to the world and have passed through Gilgal, and your relationship is strong in God now as you begin to face the enemy you begin to speak forth the word. Its powerful you literally rout the enemy.

So we have these three places Gilgal, Bethel and Jericho. Next week we cross the Jordan.

13. THE THREE MISTAKES OF DAVID

Tonight we continue to look at the ministerial anointing. We have seen the eight principles of moving into the ministerial anointing. We saw it in the life of David and those same principles are found also in other men of God life like Paul. Tonight we want to see on areas of how to maintain the anointing of God and the pit falls in the ministerial anointing. We need to understand the dangers involved when one who carries the ministerial anointing fall into serious sin.

For example, Eli who was priest at the time of the boy Samuel had the office but lost his anointing due to his permissiveness and failure to judge his two sons for abusing the temple sacrifices. He and his two sons subsequently lost their lives. *1 Samuel 3:11-14 The LORD said to Samuel, "Behold, I am about to do a thing in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. "In that day I will carry out against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. "For I have told him that I am about to judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knew, because his sons brought a curse on themselves and he did not rebuke them. "Therefore I have sworn to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever."*

Uzziah was a king but tried to be a priest and that proved fatal to him. *2 Chronicles 26:16-21 But when he became strong, his heart was so proud that he acted corruptly, and he was unfaithful to the LORD*

his God, for he entered the temple of the LORD to burn incense on the altar of incense. Then Azariah the priest entered after him and with him eighty priests of the LORD, valiant men. They opposed Uzziah the king and said to him, "It is not for you, Uzziah, to burn incense to the LORD, but for the priests, the sons of Aaron who are consecrated to burn incense. Get out of the sanctuary, for you have been unfaithful and will have no honor from the LORD God." But Uzziah, with a censer in his hand for burning incense, was enraged; and while he was enraged with the priests, the leprosy broke out on his forehead before the priests in the house of the LORD, beside the altar of incense. Azariah the chief priest and all the priests looked at him, and behold, he {was} leprous on his forehead; and they hurried him out of there, and he himself also hastened to get out because the LORD had smitten him. King Uzziah was a leper to the day of his death; and he lived in a separate house, being a leper, for he was cut off from the house of the LORD.

In the same way Saul also fell into the same error. He was a king when Samuel was delayed at one point he started to perform the sacrifices usually the priest should and could perform. *1 Samuel 13:8-14 Now he waited seven days, according to the appointed time set by Samuel, but Samuel did not come to Gilgal; and the people were scattering from him. So Saul said, "Bring to me the burnt offering and the peace offerings." And he offered the burnt offering. As soon as he finished offering the burnt offering, behold, Samuel came; and Saul went out to meet him {and} to greet him. But Samuel said, "What have you done?" And Saul said, "Because I saw that the people were scattering from me, and that you did not come within the appointed days, and that the Philistines were assembling at Michmash, therefore I said, 'Now the Philistines will come down against me at Gilgal, and I have not asked the favor of the LORD.' So I forced myself and offered the burnt offering." Samuel said to Saul, " You have acted foolishly; you have not kept the commandment of the LORD your God, which He commanded you, for now the LORD would have established your kingdom over Israel forever. "But now your kingdom shall not endure. The LORD has sought out for Himself a man after His own heart, and the LORD has appointed him as ruler over His people, because you have not kept what the LORD commanded you."*

So there are dangers involved in moving in the ministerial anointing. Perhaps you could another word if the word "danger" sounds too dangerous for you. Then we say there are limitations to the ministerial anointing. But we call it "dangerous" because you could still be moving within the limits but yet you don't flow perfectly in it. It is possible to flow imperfectly in a ministerial anointing.

So we are going to see in the life of David the three major mistakes he made. The three mistakes he made to a certain extent can tie up to the three temptations that are recorded in the life of Jesus in Matt. 4 and Lk. 4. We have taught on that area but we are going to look at it from a different perspective altogether.

The First Mistake : Abuse of Power

Lets first look at Lk. 4 in the three temptations recorded of Jesus in verse 2 *being tempted for forty days by the devil. And in those days He ate nothing, and afterward, when they had ended, He was hungry. And the devil said to Him, "If You are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." But Jesus answered him, saying, "It is written, ' Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word of God.'*"

We have seen the three temptations of the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life. We have taught on that area but we are going to look at them from a different perspective now. Basically Jesus had the power to turn the stone into bread. Otherwise it would not constitute a temptation. Jesus had the power and authority to take the stones and turn them into bread. The devil's temptation was a temptation to get Him to use His power to satisfy His own selfish needs. The temptation was a temptation to abuse power. And since God never said anything about it, Jesus would not have anything to do with it.

When you receive a ministerial anointing, God puts you in a powerful office in the body of Christ. Unless we learn how not to abuse and misuse power, God may in the first place never let it rise in our life. You see how it is connected now in the ministerial anointing. God is wiser than us. His thoughts are higher than our thoughts; His ways are higher than our ways. He searches the depths of our heart to see and know what we would do if He gives the anointing and the power of God. Kathryn Kuhlman once said that God didn't release His anointing greatly upon some people because He cannot trust them. They are not trust worthy to handle that level of power and authority.

So how does God prove our trustworthiness in our life? By testing us, by seeing how we respond to different circumstances and temptations. Jesus passed the first of His temptations with flying colors. Jesus refused to use His authority, His position and His power for Himself, even when He had a genuine need. The bible says He was hungry. Even when He had a genuine need, He refused to use the power for Himself. In the Indonesia revival, the leaders turned water into wine. That is powerful prayer. That was a genuine need. Supposing that you reached a point where you have certain authority and you know you could exercise that authority. Wouldn't it be tremendous to know that you could enter into a high level of authority where you could pray so powerfully and get powerful results? I wonder how many if they reached that level of power and authority would begin to use it for themselves. Of course in the first place if they have that attitude, they won't reach that level of anointing. But supposing that you are faithful and somewhere along the line you receive that position and authority, you will still be tested as to your faithfulness to the level of power and authority you have.

In God's system of government, Jesus is Lord over all. There is nothing wrong with the system that God has advocated because Jesus is perfect and well able to stand in His position. He is meek, He is humble, He is also powerful. He is also loving, He is also gentle, He is caring, He is all that you ever known. The qualities and characteristic of Jesus qualify Him for His position. Therefore nobody in the whole universe finds His position oppressive although He had great power and authority. And everything that is done has to be done in His name in the kingdom of God. So we see the relationship between power and position. Sometimes people in position do not know or appreciate the value of their position, and they misuse and abuse their position. That is one of the areas that God will test and prove our life. If we are not faithful in little, we cannot be faithful in much.

God may give you a small little task to do, like being a leader of a home fellowship. If you became very oppressive or negligent, you probably can go no further than that. The anointing that is going to come forth in your life is not going to flow to greater heights.

See God test us. And there are other areas. God sees whether you would set yourself as above His laws. We are never above His laws. No matter what position and what anointing He places us in we are not above His laws. We are to fulfill His laws. Neither are we under the oppression of His laws. But we are to fulfill and flow in His laws.

The second failure of David was in the book of II Sam. Jesus passed David failed. Why do we want to see his failure? If we understand how he overcame his failure then we can also understand how as we grow into those areas and avoid some of these failures. And thus God moves us and promotes us into the ministerial anointing that He has for our lives.

II Sam. 11:1 *It happened in the spring of the year, at the time when kings go out to battle, that David sent Joab and his servants with him, and all Israel; and they destroyed the people of Ammon and besieged Rabbah. But David remained at Jerusalem.* Basically what David did was he looked over the roof and there was his neighbor. He was a king that was a general's wife. There was Uriah's wife Bathsheba and she was bathing. Despite knowing the Ten Commandments of God, knowing the fact that he even as a king was bound to obey the Ten Commandments, he got Bathsheba over and committed adultery with her and tried to hushed the whole thing up. When Bathsheba sent word that she was expecting a child, David had to think what to do. Everything that he did was an abuse of his power and position and authority. He plotted how to get Uriah killed. And God was displeased with that.

Some of us may not be in that kind of situation. But perhaps because you are in a position, it may not be the lust of the flesh, maybe the lust of money. That because you are in a position people will reward you with all kind of things to get you to "exercise your gift" for them. That will be yielding to the lure of money. In the ministry you realize those are the same areas that are faced over and over again. That will be the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes and the pride of life.

You would be tested to see whether you would abuse or misuse the position God gives you. With the position that God gives you come great grace and favor. David in the early days of his life was faithful. You read about how he was brought into king Saul royal staff and the Bible says he observed carefully to do everything. He was careful to make sure that what he did was right. But now he was king it seems that there is no other person above him except God. He is tempted in a time of weakness let say laziness to be going out to war instead of staying home. In a time like that he was tempted and he abused his power.

The sad consequence was that the judgment was pronounced and David he nearly lost his whole kingdom. If you abuse your position or your anointing there will be a period of grace for you to repent. If you are repentant, God's grace will cover for you but if you are unrepentant, there will be a period of grace but you won't keep it for long. No doubt you don't lose your call to the office but your office becomes inoperational and your anointing becomes non existent. Potentially it's yours but not manifested because you abuse it. We must not misuse our position or anointing.

There was this man of God who came by and he preached in a public meeting. And he collected the offering for himself and left. Some time later I managed to contact the organizers because there was a hue and cry that came out after that. Now he finds it very hard to come back. He made one mistake. You should never collect your own offering. This is a simple thing. Don't drag the offering too long and don't collect it if you are the beneficiary. You can do it for another person but you can't do it for yourself. Somebody else has to do it for you. The organizers agreed and said they will see to it that it won't be done again.

Lets take a different if for example I have a genuine need. What happen if I come and ask this brother and said I have this need. You see how you can help. You know what happen. He may help me because he loves me and not because he is led by God. And I am putting pressure with my position. So we have to be careful and even more when you operate in signs and wonder kind of ministry. I mean after you operated signs and wonders people see healings and all these. In their heart they will be saying, "Wow, awesome." The next moment if you have collected not just an offering you collected cars and houses. People may just give them also. So you see how easy it is to abuse and misuse power and authority.

So God would definitely test us in these areas to see if our heart is perfect before Him. We must be careful especially the more position and anointing God gives us, we must be very careful if we want to maintain the anointing. Not lose it like David he almost lose his kingdom. He lost a lot of his family members. One of his special sons died. Almost lost his kingdom. See if you use your power and position to take something that is illegal you reap what you sow. For what you get by compromising God's principle and God's word you can never be satisfied with it. Your conscience will bug you for the rest of your life. And in the end you can never keep it either.

So that's the first principle we see what areas God test us before we move into the position and anointing and how to maintain it. We need to know how not to misuse our position and anointing. Never ever do it. Refrain like Jesus refrained - He preferred God's word to turning stones into bread. He preferred to be hungry and go without. I mean He was hungry. Look at Lk. 4, He was hungry. He preferred to be hungry and do without that bread than to abuse His position and authority. We need to graduate bible students who would prefer to go hungry rather than to break God's principles and use their position and authority to get their way round. We need a high level of integrity. That is why we need to know how to work through a system and understand the limitations of a position and office God has placed.

The Second Mistake : Using the Flesh

The second mistake of David is equated to the temptation of Jesus when the devil took Him to the pinnacle and the devil said, "Throw yourself down." The temptation was when Jesus come down the angels of God will catch Him and He would have a soft landing. He was tempting Jesus with a short cut to instant fame and glory. Wrong methods involved. It's also in the area of the pride of life.

Second mistake of David, I put it as second instead of first one because it's in order of the gospel of

Luke. But it is another major mistake of David. Let us look in the book of II Sam. 6:1 *And David gathered all the choice men of Israel, thirty thousand. And David arose and went with all the people who were him from Baale Judah to bring up from there the ark of God whose name is called by the Name, the Lord of Hosts, who dwells between the cherubim. So they set the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill; and Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadah, drove the new cart. And they brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill, accompanying the ark of God; and Ahio went before the ark. Then David and all the house of Israel played music before the Lord on all kinds of instruments of fir wood, on harps, on stringed instruments, on tambourines, on sistrums, and on cymbals. And when they came to Nachon's threshing floor, Uzzah put out his hand to the ark of God and took hold of it, for the oxen stumbled. Then the anger of the Lord was aroused against Uzzah, and God struck him there for his error; and he died there by the ark of God. And David became angry because because of the Lord's outbreak against Uzzah; and he called the name of the place Perez Uzzah to this day. David was afraid of the Lord that day and he said, "How can the ark of the Lord come to Me?"*

Instead he put the ark at Obed-Edom's house which happened to be near the place of the incidence. That is an interesting incident. It is another major mistake that David made. Basically, the cause of the mistake was this. That David's heart was sincere. His intention was pure. He wanted God's ark. King Saul was not interested. David was interested in God's ark. He was sincere and his motives were correct. Let me tell you that being sincere with the right motivation is not enough. In the ministry of God, it's not enough. There are a lot of people in the ministry sadly speaking who are sincere, who are serving God but they are using the wrong methods. Because its their ideas that they use to serve God. Do you know God is not interested in our ideas? He is only interested in His ideas that we are obedient to. What can the brain of man come out with that could satisfy God, nothing. The bible says *not by might, not by power*, we could have added *not by brain, not by logic, not by the ideas of men, but by the Spirit of God*. Sincere no doubt. Its time we don't excuse wrong methods with sincerity of motive. It's inexcusable. To me it only speaks of laziness and a lack of hearing God.

We realize the David was sincere. How do we know, look he was worshiping God. That's how sincere he was. I mean he was not doing something wrong like he was doing in the incident with Bathsheba that we talked about. He was playing the harp. Singing a song. Worshiping the Lord. And he even made a new cart for the ark. His assistants who were helping were also sincere. Was Uzzah sincere, yes. Did he love the Lord, yes. Yet he was struck with leprosy when he crossed the boundaries and performed what only a priest could do. Let me tell you when you begin to serve God in the ministry, sincerity is no excuse. Its good, admirable, but you can die of sincerity.

I have been in the ministry since 1976. I tell you, you could be sincerely serving God. And God can let you fast, without food, in need. Your clothes can really be "holy" clothes, that is, full of holes. And you look and you look around and you think God doesn't care about you. God will let you pay the price for all those things because you used the wrong methods. And you could be like David who got angry with God and God wouldn't be bothered. Do you know David was angry with God? Did he have the right to be angry? Humanly yes but spiritually no. His intentions were right - God should have protected him because of his sincerity. Sincerity is no protection. Especially when you use the arm of flesh to do the work of the Spirit. Not by might but by His Spirit then He will be pleased with. What is born of the Spirit need to be done with the power of the Spirit. You don't do what was born of the Spirit with the power of human flesh. The same Spirit that gives birth to that has to give birth to the methodology too. It was a national mistake. I mean when I talk about the three mistakes of David, I am talking about big mistakes that were national. The judgment was a national judgment. David had to pack his luggage and flee across the river while his son took over as king. These are big mistakes.

Let me tell you the higher you go the same mistake will now look very big. Now the things that you do will also bless more people. But the price you pay is greater. The faster you drive the more careful you have to be. The error that you make driving at thirty miles per hour may only dent your car. But the same error you made when you are driving at about sixty-five mile per hour you may end up with your car smashed and you in heaven. Why because of the different speed. At higher speeds, your concentration and alertness have to be greater. And the higher you go make sure that you back your ascent with your character and integrity. Because the same mistake that you do when you are a small fry, that you do when you are a big fry is even more even though it's the same you pay a greater price. So in this mistake that David did he tried to improve on God's methods. God ordained that the ark was to be carried by Levites and not by oxen.

If you see from God's prospective, it's very degrading. God prefer people made in His image to carry His ark. That is why the poles were there for. That's for human beings to carry them made in the image of God not this ox who doesn't know anything and had no relationship with God. God wants His method. God already said the tribe of Levite has been consecrated for that purpose. David with the advancement of technology probably thought that it was too slow for these humans. Lets improve on God. He built that beautiful cart, put the ark on it and poor Uzzah was helping along. The ox stumbled and if Uzzah didn't stretched forth his hands the whole ark would have fallen down. And Uzzah seeing that it was stumbling cared for the ark. Uzzah held the ark and instantly he died. For a moment there was silence. David was angry and meanwhile he said Obed-Edom you take the ark to your house. He is now afraid of God. Through time he matured and he realized that he was the one who made the mistake.

And in the book of I Chron. 15:2 *Then David said, "No one may carry the ark of God but the Levites, for the Lord has chosen them to carry the ark of God and to minister before Him forever."* So you notice God's choice involved in that. So the second thing that David learnt was when you move into the anointing and you move in your office you must move by God's methods. You don't move by your own ideas. You always seek His method. Sincerity of heart is not good enough. You need God's methods. Especially if His methods have already been revealed in His word. In David case it was more serious because His word already established it. He had the written word of Moses. So he knew what the word said about carrying the ark. Especially more if it's in the written word its inexcusable.

Now there is another bible example that is the opposite of that is in the time of Samuel when the ark was taken away and the reason was the Philistines defeated the Israelites. And when the ark was taken away, they realized that they needed the ark. When they brought the ark, they had a religious celebration. You read the bible in the book of I Samuel that the Israelites shouted so loud that the Philistines were afraid because they say the same ark is now with them. But there is a problem - the Israelites were not living their lives right with God. They were using the right methods but they have a wrong lifestyle. They were still worshiping idols. In David's time he had the right heart but he had the wrong method. You may have the right method and the wrong motives, it also doesn't work. You see if you have the wrong motive and you keep using the right method and it works it's no more a relationship it's just a formula which any Tom, Dick and Harry could have done. Yu have to have the right motive and the right method in order to move in the realm of the anointing of God and keep a keen ear tuned to Him to follow His method.

The Third Mistake : Pride

The third major mistake of David correlates with the temptation when the devil took Jesus to the mountain and on the mountain he showed Him all the kingdoms of the world. All the glory of them and he said, "All these are yours if you bow down to me." You know what Jesus came to do. Jesus came to take over the whole world from the devil. He came to take back authority. In I Jn. 3:8 He came to destroy the works of the devil. The devil said all you have to do is to bow down to me. That's not the way it is. See you have to worship God the right way. David was worshiping God he was doing all those things as a worship to God but it was the wrong way.

The third and last area of David's mistake is in the book of I Chron. 21:1 *Now Satan stood up against Israel, and moved David to number Israel. So David said to Joab and to the leaders of the people. "Go number Israel."* And the purpose for numbering Israel is so that David will have pride in the number of his army. How great his army was. That is the pride of life. See all the three mistakes of David made are areas that Jesus succeeded in. Jesus succeeded in the three temptations, which David failed. But we learn from his failure. As a result of that a plague came on the whole of Israel and David realized his mistake. When he realized his mistake he had to humble himself. And he paid a price for his mistake.

In the book of I Chron. 21:16 *Then David lifted his eyes and saw the angel of the Lord standing between earth and heaven, having in his hand a drawn sword stretched out over Jerusalem. So David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell on their faces.* David was clothed in sackcloth. He admitted to his

mistake. He humbled himself in sackcloth. Of all the three mistakes of David two of them is mentioned how he humbled himself in sackcloth in ashes and probably in fasting too. But in all three David turned to God and humbled himself. He remained teachable. You may make mistakes along the way. None of us are perfect. As long as we have a teachable heart, God will continue to promote you and His grace will be sufficient for you.

14. CROSSING THE RIVER JORDAN

We have gone through Gilgal, Bethel, Jericho and now it is time to explore the River Jordan. Before we cover the Jordan and its significance, let us refresh our memory the earlier three places that Elijah and Elisha went through.

Gilgal represents overcoming the world. This is the place of learning to have a right relationship to the world. It is about overcoming the spirit, the seductive attractions and alluring temptations of the world. That is one of the pre-requisites before the anointing of God comes upon our lives. We have to be crucified to the things that are in the world.

The second place, Bethel, which means the house of God, is where we grow into the depth of relationship with God until we become God's dwelling place. The second development is to have a right relationship with God in order to receive the anointing of God.

The third place we have seen is Jericho. And it is about learning the authority over the demon realm and demon powers. Jericho speaks about our victory over the enemy and all his works.

Finally we go to Jordan, which represent overcoming of the soul life within us. So the four situations that we face are firstly, in our relationship to the world. Secondly, it is our relationship to God. Thirdly, is in our position over the enemy. The other is we must know what is within ourselves. It has to do with our own relationship with our soul. There is no greater battle than the battle that is within our own soul. Many people tried to fight the battle outwardly when they haven't overcome the battle that is in their own life. Now there is a whole realm of teaching on the overcoming of the soul. We are just going to condense it into one session. But the basic idea in Jordan is the overcoming of the soul life within us. It is a matter of subjugating the soul to the things of the Spirit.

With that in mind, lets read the book of II Kings 2:8 *Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so the two of them crossed over on dry ground. And so it was, when they had crossed over, that Elijah said to Elisha, "Ask! What may I do for you, before I am taken away from you?" Elisha said, "Please let a double portion of your spirit be upon me." So he said, "You have asked a hard thing. Nevertheless, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you; but if not, it shall not be so." Then it happened, as they continued on and talked, that suddenly a chariot of fire appeared with horses of fire, and separated the two of them; and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven. And Elisha saw it, and he cried out, "My father, my father, the chariot of Israel and its horsemen!" So he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them into two pieces. He also took up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him, and struck the water, and said, "Where is the Lord God of Elijah?" And when he also had struck the water, it was divided this way and that; and Elisha crossed over.*

The Jordan River represents something different from the Red Sea. If you remember in the book of Corinthians, Paul in his writing about Moses said that the Israelites crossing the Red Sea is a symbol of water baptism.

Now the Israelites cross the Jordan as we see in the book of Joshua. So the Jordan represents a

crossing into something else and something deeper. If crossing the Red Sea represents the water of baptism, then crossing the Jordan represents crossing into the spiritual realm that God desires for us to live in.

We realize that God has made us spirit, soul and body, but we were supposed to function in the spirit world all the time. But ever since man sinned, the soul of man has degenerated into a mere natural function and we have neglected the spiritual function of our soul. The soul of man was made to function in the spirit world all the time. The crossing of the Jordan represents the breakthrough of our soul into the spirit realm. In other words, our soul becomes acquainted with the spirit world. There is a breakthrough of our spirit into the soul so that the Spirit of God controls our souls. In this way, our souls could become an instrument of God for us to relate to the spirit realm. We need to be able to know how to move into the spirit realm and how to get back into the natural realm.

Why should I want to get back into the natural realm? If you live in the spirit realm all the time, you cannot be a normal human being. You cannot live a normal human life. In order to live a normal human life, you have to learn how to get back into the natural realm. You have to know when to get into the spirit and when to get back into the natural realm. For example, while walking, you find that your shoelace has become undone. You stoop down to tie your shoelace. That is a natural act not a spiritual act. There is nothing spiritual about tying shoelaces. While you are in the spirit all the time, you couldn't care whether your shoelace is tied or untied. You wouldn't care even if a dog came near you and tore off a part of your pants. You are just in the spirit realm. To get into the spirit realm while still living in the natural realm, we have to learn how to relate to both. God made us to be spiritual beings that also live in the natural world.

When you are driving a car here or you are taking a bus you have to know something in the natural. When you are taking a bus you have to know the number of the bus to take. Or when you are driving a car you have to know how to change the gears. Or when you go out after this meeting to have supper, you have to decide whether you want fried noodles or chicken rice. When you have decided on one, you are not making a spiritual decision. That's a decision you have to make in order to live in the natural world. Of course if you live in the spirit realm these things do not play great importance to you. It makes no difference to you whether your supper is fried noodles or chicken rice. Yet we need to make many decisions in order to live in the natural realm.

We realize to be spiritual means that we are always spiritually concerned. But to be practical to live on this earth, you have to be concerned with day-to-day chores. When you get up in the morning before you leave your house, I am sure you comb your hair. Don't tell me that combing your hair is a spiritual act; it's not. You can spiritualize your act by speaking in tongues while you comb your hair. You could spiritualize it but it's still a natural act. I am not saying you can't spiritualize certain things. You could spiritualize your driving by praying in tongues but driving is still a natural act. What we are saying here is that there is a spiritual world and there is a natural world we live in.

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Now in the natural world we have five senses to relate to the natural world. The sense of sight, the sense of hearing, the sense of smell, the sense of taste and the sense of touch. These five natural senses relate to the natural world. They are senses that are part and parcel of our physical body. We have the spirit man. Our spirit was created to relate to the spirit world. We have taught before that there are five spiritual senses. Just as in the natural, so is the same in the spiritual. In fact, the spiritual came before the natural. There is the spiritual sense of sight, spiritual sense of taste, spiritual sense of smell, spiritual sense of hearing, and spiritual sense of touch. Regarding the spiritual senses, the bible talks about the eyes of our understanding, the inner eyes of our spirit. Seeing with the eyes of our spirit. The bible talks about hearing the Word that causes faith. *He that has an ear let him hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.* He is talking about spiritual hearing. There is a spiritual sense of taste. *O taste and see that the Lord is good.* Spiritual sense of smell is found in Phil. 4 where the offerings that Paul received from the Philippians were a sweet savor unto the Lord. Spiritual sense of touch. We have one whole series of teaching tapes on the five senses of the spirit man. There is a spirit of heaviness and there is a spirit of liberty. See with our spirit, we relate to the spirit world. With our physical bodies, we relate to the physical world.

Take for example when someone dies. Though the body dies, the spirit and soul still exist. And the

person who died cannot communicate with you in any way because he or she needs a body to do so. When the dead person's spirit reaches out to touch you, the hand will go right through you. Why, because it has no body. That's why demons are disembodied spirits who seek a natural body to manifest themselves. With our body we relate to the natural world, with our spirit we relate to the spirit world.

What about the soul? What do we do with the soul? The soul relates to our own self-consciousness. The soul is an instrument right in between the body and the spirit. The only way for the physical realm to contact the spirit realm has to be through your soul. The only way for the spiritual world to contact your natural world is through your soul. Therefore the soul relates to your spirit and your body. Now if my body relates to the physical world and my spirit relates to the spiritual world, therefore my soul indirectly has a relationship to both the natural world and the spiritual world. Our soul can become the very instrument for evil, as in the case of unregenerate persons. Or in the case of consecrated, regenerate persons, as God desires it, the soul can become an instrument that is used by the spirit within us to express itself in the natural. Our soul consists of our will, our intellect and our emotions and they are subject to either the natural world or the spiritual world. You could affect your soul either spiritually or naturally.

If you watch a very sad movie, the images pass through your physical eyes and are stored in your memory bank. They can cause remembrances of similarly sad incidences in your life. You stir up sad emotional feelings. Or you could be in a worship service where the presence of God is strong. Your emotions are touched and you feel the presence of God. Our emotions can be affected from either the natural or the spiritual realm.

Our will is being influenced to choose either the spirit or the natural realm. If you choose correctly, you are rewarded for your choices. If you choose wrongly, you pay the price for your wrong choices. The will is tucked in the center of a tug-of-war between the flesh and the spirit. Your intellect, your thought life, your mind, becomes a battle ground where you make a choice to program it with spiritual thought or program it with natural thought. What we are pointing out here is the fact that the soul is subject to both the spirit and the natural realm, which amazes people. Many people don't realize that their minds contact the spirit world. We know that the mind contacts the natural world. But our mind is also in contact with our spirit, which then is in contact with the spirit world. What happened is that when man fell into sin, the connection to the spirit world was blocked out. And man today has to rely on natural realm to absorb knowledge and understand matters.

Talking about unregenerate man, man took many years to discover the laws of electricity and apply them. But if you were in the spiritual realm, you would straight away know what to do. Man has lost the intuitive quality. We have to learn things from the natural side. Like learning a piano from grade one right up to diploma level may take a person about eight years. Yet when the spirit world is operating and you go into heaven the moment you see a heavenly piano, even though in your whole earthly life, you never touch or play a piano you can play it instantly. If angel Gabriel were to come here, he will be able to play the piano. He won't have to slog and sit for earthly exams like we have to. But man has lost that from the spirit realm. For man's soul has been cut off and everything man learn has to be from the natural realm. What happen is when you are born again, a renewal takes place.

Let me give you all the scriptures now. In the book of Eph. 4:18 *having their understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart.* There is a darkening of the understanding of the soul when the life of God has been cut off. When Adam fell into sin, the darkness came upon his soul. He was blocked out from his spirit man and was left with the natural realm to grope about with. When Jesus came on the scene, He came to restore the soul of man to its heights where God intended for it to function in. He has come to save the soul of man. He wants to take our souls and bring them back to its original function in the spirit world. When we were born again the process of what we call the spiritualizing of our soul begins. Your mind started being renewed to the spirit world.

Rom. 8:5 *For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. For to be carnally minded is death, but to be*

spiritually minded is life and peace. Because their carnal mind is enmity against God; for it is not subject to the law of God, nor indeed can be. The mind is to be set on spiritual things.

Rom. 12:1 talks about how we must renew our mind in God. So when we were born again, there is the light that shines in our spirit and God begins what I call breaking through from the spirit realm into our soul realm. Our souls begin to break into the spirit realm. Our souls begin to tread into the spirit realm that it never handled before. That's why there are things there that are frightening to the soul. It is just like putting a little child in a strange dark place. The child will get frightened because these are natural circumstances he or she is not aware of or acquainted with. But if it is your own bedroom and we switch off all the lights you are not afraid - you know your bedroom because you are familiar with the surroundings.

Now when the mind starts moving into the realm of the spirit what I call the spiritual mind starts moving into the things of the spirit. When the Spirit dominated more and more of your mind, your mind becomes spiritualized. You begin to move deeper and deeper into the spirit world. Now the moving of your soul into the spirit realm is the crossing of the Jordan in your life. The moment you are born again you have made a decision. When you made a decision to accept Christ, it was at the same time a mental decision but yet a spiritual decision. How do we know? For you have to accept the information about Jesus. How can they believe unless they hear? Who did the hearing, the mind. You received the information and your mind makes a decision. Your soul makes a decision to accept the spiritual information that was given to you. Your soul makes a decision to accept that there is sin in your life and you need a Savior. Then your soul yields to that decision and gives itself to Jesus.

When you decide to pray in tongues, no matter how much the Holy Spirit wants to pray through you, your soul makes a decision. God doesn't violate your soul. Paul says in I Cor. 14:15 *I will pray with the spirit, and I will also pray with the understanding. I will sing with the spirit, and I will sing with the understanding.* Who makes the decision? Although when you pray in tongues, it's your spirit that prays, but who makes the decision? *I will.* Your soul with your intellect, sometimes with emotions or sometimes without emotions make the decision. Your soul makes a decision to allow the spirit to pray through it. But while the spirit was praying through your body, your soul is involved. How do we know? If I were to pray in tongues, my soul decides to allow my spirit to pray. My spirit cannot just bypass my will. My spirit needs the permission of my soul, so my spirit indicates to my soul if it was a prayer burden. My soul makes a decision to yield to the Spirit and my spirit prays through. When my spirit prays through, my mind doesn't understand but the other part of my mind controlling my mouth move my mouth according to what my soul is hearing from the Spirit. When your mouth is moving and praying in tongues, it's your spirit praying but your mind is yielding. When your lips are moving, your soul is still involved in yielding. If you have the special brain-scanning machine that allows doctors to see the brain at work and the electricity in the brain involved, you could see the part of your brain that is controlling your muscles being lighted up. Because your soul is still involved in giving the command to your body even though it is very indirect instructions given by your soul to your body to move the muscles of your lips.

What I am showing is that the spirit never bypass the soul. It always has to have co-operation from the soul. There is no way the spirit can work through without the soul. There is no way the spirit can function without our soul. The difference is if our soul is yielded utterly to God, the Spirit can come forth fully. When our soul breaks into the spirit realm, it is the beginning of Jordan in our life. The amazing thing that is found in the book of Joshua 3:13 *And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the Lord, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, that the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off, the waters that come down from upstream, and they shall stand as a heap." So it was, when the people set out from their camp to cross over the Jordan, with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, and as those who bore the ark came to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests who bore the ark dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks during the whole time of harvest), that the waters which came down from upstream stood still, and rose in a heap very far away at Adam, the city that is beside Zaretan. So the waters that went down into the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, failed, and were cut off; and the people crossed over opposite Jericho.*

It says here that when the priests' legs touched the water with their hands carrying the ark the Jordan was stopped. The moment their feet went in, the Jordan was stopped completely. It was not even when they move in until their waist level then the water stopped. Immediately the waters stopped when their

feet stepped in. The water was gathered in a great heap far away. When you look at II Kings 2 in the same story when Elijah and Elisha rolled up the mantle, they took the mantle and they used the mantle to hit the water. The moment the mantle hit the water, the water parted and they walked over on dry ground. Look at II Kings 2:8 *Now Elijah took his mantle, rolled it up, and struck the water; and it was divided this way and that, so that the two of them crossed over on dry ground.* All the water went to one side.

What are we saying here? The entrance of the soul into the spirit realm is just a mere decision. But the renewal of the soul to the things of the Spirit takes time. Do you know that we use the word “know” in many ways? We say I know but I don’t understand. Sometimes you understand and you know. Sometimes you know but you don’t understand it. You know that certain things are right you picked it up although you don’t know the full reason. So there are three levels of perceptions.

Turn to the book of Acts 27:10 *Men, I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, no only of the cargo and ship, but also our lives.* Paul says I perceive. Acts 23:6 *When Paul perceived that one part were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, he cried out in the council, “Men and brethren, I am a Pharisee, the son of a Pharisee, concerning the hope and resurrection of the dead I am being judged.*

Heb. 4:12 *For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.* The Word is the discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart. Every thought that comes to your mind is being discerned as to whether it is from the Spirit or from the natural realm. If it is from the spirit realm you yield to it. If not from the spirit realm you put it aside.

II Cor. 10:4 *For the weapons of our warfare are not carnal but mighty in God for pulling down strongholds, casting down arguments and every high thing that exalts itself against the knowledge of God, bringing every thought into captivity to the obedience of Christ.* It didn’t just say one thought or two thoughts. But it says to bring every thought subject to Christ. So God wants the soul to yield to the spirit world. And before God’s anointing can flow through you, your mind has to be renewed and spiritualized. You have to be a certain mind set before you can move into the things of the Spirit. See the hindrance is not only in the outward body but also in the inward mind. Your mind set. How your mind is set determines whether you can move into the anointing or not. When your mind is set on the things of the Spirit, you are in a position where you can yield to the things of God.

You may not understand it so I have to use practical illustration to show. For example in this life all of us have responsibilities in the natural too. It would be nice if everything in the natural were taken care. But there is something special for you to do too. For example, there are times where I also have to go to the supermarket to buy groceries. Just because you are a man of God, don’t ever tell me you never go to the supermarket. All the shopping is done for you. How nice but lets be honest and practical. You do run about. You do have to apply for your own passport. You can ask your travel agent to submit your applications but there are some documents only you can fill in and sign. So sometimes you have some days that you do more of that running around than other days.

Now if a person comes to me for prayer and I am just having about two or three daily chores to carry out as my earthly responsibilities, if that person’s need is urgent, I would just lay hands and pray. But usually I would say I will pray for you now. And some of them want something more. Most of them want a word from the Lord. And they know that I do move into the Spirit and I do pick up things in the Spirit. I could if I take the time. But you got your tight schedule. I could be with that guy one hour and I would pick up everything under the sun. But since there is a time and a place to do all things, I would say, “I will be in this meeting and during the meeting that’s when I set my heart and mind to yield utterly. That’s when you come and be prayed for if the Lord wills I may pick up something.” So what I am doing is a practical thing. I am saying that my soul is set ready to move into the things of the Spirit at certain time. But at other times I could if I want to I could take the time. But right now in this place if I were to move into the gifts I would know how to get about it. I would create the atmosphere. I would create all the things necessary. But if I don’t do all those things I cannot even ask the Holy Spirit because I haven’t even done my part. But if I could get all of us to worship God all of us to reach a certain height and point in the Spirit and I voluntarily yield myself then I will get something in the

Spirit and move in it.

So there is a time and a place for doing certain things. That's where we say to move into the realm of the spirit you got to have a certain mind set. Don't tell me when you are about to go to the supermarket to pick up a toothbrush that you pray in tongues and then you move in the Spirit there. No, you don't set your mind to do that. Now some times in some places a word of knowledge may just come because of the overflow of what you have set your mind into. Sometimes after the meeting, the anointing is still there and I am still partly in the Spirit. In other words, when you understand what we are talking about the soul moving in the Spirit, you could literally say I am now in the Spirit, I am now out of the Spirit. You could tell when your spirit has moved into Spirit and when your soul has moved into the natural realm. And you say, "I am now in the natural realm, give me time to get into the spirit realm." You will be like Elisha who says, "Bring me a minstrel." You know how to get into the things of the Spirit.

That's what I mean in the Jordan. You notice Elisha crossed over the Jordan and later he crossed back. The Jordan is the dividing line between the natural realm and the spirit realm. The Jordan represents our souls crossing into that spiritual realm and then getting back into the natural realm. That's the crossing of the Jordan. And there are certain times and place when you could decide when you can move into the spirit realm. When you have set yourself, you have a certain mind set. And people like for example Paul Cain would spend eight hours a day in prayer. If I know that I am going to minister and I know that I had to minister in the Spirit I will spend hours praying and waiting on God. You ask, "Brother, do you live that way all the time?" No, when I sense my physical body needs a rest, I rest more. But when I know that I have to move in the Spirit sometimes for six days in a row I would hardly sleep. Then when it comes to the rest time I will sleep. That is why schooling is good because it sharpens our mind. Before it was a blur mind, untrained mind, undisciplined mind but after schooling your mind becomes disciplined.

In Acts 27:10 and said to them, "Men, I perceive (*theoreo*) that the voyage will certainly be with damage and great loss, not only of the cargo and the ship, but also of our lives." *Theoreo* means to see in the spirit realm and to understand at the same time. You see and you understand at the same time.

Gino means just to see and *ginosko* means to understand as in Acts 23:6, *But perceiving (ginosko) that one group were Sadducees and the other Pharisees, Paul began crying out in the Council, "Brethren, am a Pharisee, a son of Pharisees; I am on trial for the hope and resurrection of the dead!"*

But here in Acts 27:10, *theoreo* is to see and understand. Both your soul and your spirit are involved.

Eidon is the word that sometimes used in the natural for seeing as in Acts 28:26 saying, "Go to this people and say, "You will keep on hearing, but will not understand; and you will keep on seeing, but will not perceive (*eidon*).. But many times it's the word that is used when it talks about seeing in the spirit. So when it's used for seeing in the realm of the spirit it refers to seeing with your spirit man. It's your spirit man at work.

Ginosko is definitely your soul at work. *Theoreo* is both your spirit and your soul at work. That's why it's powerful. If I see something in the spirit and I don't understand, I cannot flow in it. You can only appreciate what you see and that's all. But if you see something in the spirit and you understand it then that's when it's powerful. We can flow in it. We need some understanding, and to have that, we need the renewal of the mind.

Having that basic understanding, lets reach this conclusion. When our soul breaks into the spirit realm, it's easy to break through. It just takes a yielding of the soul to the things of the spirit to break into the spirit realm. It looks hard but it's easy. You ask those who pray in tongues whether it's easy or not. Praying in tongues is so easy that you could literally do it anywhere, anyhow, any place, any time. It's the easiest form of praying. Of course extended praying in tongues takes discipline. But the act of praying in tongues is easy.

Then what is the struggle? The hard part is to yield. I tell you if you were one of the first two priests there carrying the ark in front, you would have all kinds of anxiety feelings running through your mind. Do you know the two priests carrying the ark behind had an easier task than the two priests in front?

Remember the Jordan was at its highest. It was flooded. The current was flowing swiftly. You better have faith. That is one time where you either have faith and live or have unbelief and drown. Those two guys at the back have it easier. But the two guys in front had to put their feet in. It is one thing to walk in a river against a strong current flowing against you. The other thing is to hold an object and balance it at the same time. With all those holy things inside the ark, you better not be a shaky carrier. Walking is easy but in the act of walking through the river Jordan, they had to cancel out every thought that walking through a swift running river is impossible in the natural. Everything that they have ever learned said that is impossible. If you were the priests there and you have just been schooled in science you would have told Joshua, "Are you out of your mind? We have never done this before. Where in the world has such a thing been done before? Wouldn't it be easier for us to just cut some logs and put them across and build a bridge?" So everything within their training say that it is not possible. All they have to do is to step in and there was a miracle. But the understanding of it may come later.

The renewal of the mind takes time. But the yielding of the mind is instantly decided by your will. To yield is an act. To renew is a continuous process. There is something that you act out even though you don't understand yet and later the understanding comes. With God He wants us to obey first then understand. That's a wonderful thing. He doesn't even want to keep you without understanding. He wants to explain. But He says, "Do it first then I will explain." That's a marvelous thing about our God. He does reveal Himself. Although it is a mystery He loves us to understand Him. He unfolds the mystery to us. But that spirit world is that way.

When the soul starts moving into the spirit realm, it is just like Peter walking on the water. When Peter stepped out of the boat, do you think walking was easy? It was. Did Peter have to change his style of walking while he was on the water? No, whatever way he walks, he still walked on the water in his same usual way. He just had to act it out. I am sure if you had the chance to interview him and said, "Peter, did you feel anything solid under you?" I am sure he did because he walked normally. Although it was water underneath his feet, he probably felt something solid underneath. But the moment he saw the waves something went on in his mind. Remember it was not his walking style that caused him to sink. It was his thinking life that caused him to sink. His mind started saying, "Argh, argh." Fear started creeping and he began to sink. At first he was in the spirit realm. I mean it was the Spirit flowing through him and controlling him. Suddenly because fear comes he went back into the natural. And he nearly drowned.

Whatever happens to the soul determines how much our soul can move in the spirit. While we are talking about breaking into the realm of the Jordan is when you are no longer dominated by your mind. Let your mind be yielded to the spirit, be prepared to just obey whatever your spirit says and the understanding will come later.

When your mind is not set on the spirit world, you are just in the natural world. It takes a lot out of you to get into the spirit. That's what we mean by the soul breaking into the spirit realm. If you know how to break in you know how to come back. So the spirit realm becomes a realm that you are acquainted with. You could move in the spirit and in the natural world.

15. SIX LIMITATIONS TO THE ANOINTING

There are six limitations to the anointing that we want to talk about. That means when we move into the anointing there are certain boundaries that God has set. We are free to move within those boundaries but not outside of them set by God for His anointing.

1. Free Will

The first area is what we call free will. The anointing of God never bypasses the free will of man. In other words, you may desire to minister the anointing to a person but if he or she does not desire it, there is no way that you could force the anointing on him or her. This is one of the limitations that free will imposes on an anointing.

Strangely, when the person is in the presence of the anointing, the anointing can work something in him or her just by being present there. Like in Kathryn Kuhlman's meeting, a lot of people were healed who never went there for healing. In the same way under the anointing of God, I have called out people who never intended for healing to come upon their life. But it's funny how the anointing works because another person who really wanted to be called out for healing did not get called out at all. I tell them that it was not my choice but the Holy Spirit's.

Some people who got healed said, "I went there and got healed and I don't know why since I didn't even ask for that healing. I didn't even want that healing." Some of them say, "I didn't even want to believe." But just being present they got healed. A lot of people when they got healed, they believe but there are also some who got healed and still don't believe. They know they are healed and say, "It's strange that I could receive a healing when I don't believe in divine healing at all."

So the question in people's mind is how come God healed them when they haven't even go through what I call the basic laws of asking, seeking, praying. Remember the laws of the anointing work differently from the laws of personal faith. The law of personal faith requires asking, seeking and praying. The laws of anointing operate differently.

The fact that the person was in the meeting indicates a choice. Whether they were dragged there, compelled or whatever way was used but their being in the meeting had an effect. But of course we assume that the majority of those people were highly persuaded to be there. Without the persistence of those who brought them they may never be there. Yet you could sense a difference in a person who was possibly brought in under protest. So you see them in a car tied down, struggling violently and dragged to the front row. I would say it would disturb the anointing. It would disturb me if I know those people are there and they don't want to be there.

If you have one thousand people who wanted to be at an anointed meeting and hungered to be there and paid the price to be there and just that one person who doesn't want to be there, the anointing drawn out by these one thousand people may overflow to this guy. But if you have nine hundred of them who were forced to be there and the hundred who were there of their free choice, you possibly cannot move in the anointing at all. The reason is the anointing will not violate the free will of the recipient.

The second factor is the one who minister the anointing. Let's say you operate in prophecy. No matter how much the anointing that comes on your life and you receive the word of prophecy, the Holy Spirit will not make you walk to the front of the stage to give the word of prophecy. He will not ask you to do it. He will impress you to do it. He will persuade you to do it. But He will not force you to do it. So the one who ministers the anointing also has a free will. I have a free will as to obey God or not. I have a free will whether I want to listen to what the Spirit is saying to do and obey or not. Sometimes you don't feel like you want to obey because some of the instructions are not quite that easy to follow. I mean if one day the anointing comes upon your life and the Holy Spirit says, "Spit on his eyes." So if I don't want to obey it's my free choice. And the anointing will not work.

See the anointing respect the free choice that we had. If any one operates in the anointing that bypasses his free choice and make him do things without his free choice and will, that person is not of God. He is like a demon-possessed person who lost his free choice. They don't even remember what they do. But when you operate in the anointing you know what you are doing. So remember there is such a thing as a false anointing. Have you ever seen those mediums in a trance? It's not the anointing that's the devil. But

when it's God's Holy Spirit you are intact in your free will. You have a free choice.

The recipient also has a free choice. There are only two occasions God has instructed me. One time when I was ministering God told me to tell the person to go and bring a glass of water and then drink it in front of me. Now the person has a free choice. Will he obey or not? He went and chose a mug of water and not a glass of water. When he came back, the anointing didn't operate for him since he didn't follow the exact instructions. If you operate with God in the anointing long enough, you will know that if you miss that one, you miss the anointing. If God mentioned a glass it means a glass. If he goes and asks, "Lord, can I compromise with coca cola?," it will not work. Your obedience must be very specific to what the Lord said.

William Branham prays for people who get healed. But sometimes he says, "You must go and in three days you are to get baptized in water and your healing will be completed and retained." It is a test of obedience. If the person failed to follow through, he would lose his healing and the whole process stopped.

When Jesus said go and show yourself to the priest do you know they cannot be forced? They could decide to go the next day. And it may affect the anointing of God. Elisha told Gehazi to take a rod and go and lay it on the dead son of the widow. He was told not to greet anyone along the way. Gehazi carrying the staff had a free choice to talk or not to talk. He was not forced not to talk. He had a free choice and he still could talk. So when a person does not want the anointing, there is no way the anointing can be forced upon him. They must want it. They must choose it.

The anointing is subject to a person's free will - it will not bypass the free will. If for example, you are afraid and do not want to fall under the power. You made a mental decision that you do not want to fall under the power. I say most probably you will not. You have blocked yourself out of the manifestation. This doesn't mean that everybody must fall under the power but since you made a mental decision not to fall, the anointing will respect your free choice and you won't fall. God will not bypass your volition. You just blocked the manifestation of the Holy Spirit. God will honor your free choice.

If you say, "Lord, I do not ever want to prophesy," even though the gift may come to your life and stir in your spirit there is no way it's going to flow through you. Mentally you have made a choice not to exercise the gift. If you have made a choice saying, "Lord, I will obey you only in this method," straightaway you blocked out every other methods but the one method you have chosen. So the anointing is limited by our free choice. That is why you must deal with your free choice to open yourselves to say, "Lord, any way, any how, whatever You want to do." We yield our free choice. We yield our will to God so that God could use us to the maximum possible and not be limited in any way.

There may be times that you get the impression that the Holy Spirit is telling you punch that guy when you came for ministry. You better make sure it's the Holy Spirit. But if you shut yourself out from all those things, it will never happen to you. God has a funny way of getting around us. He will slowly persuade you. He will persuade you and reason with you. He doesn't push it on us; He reasons with us.

Those prophets Isaiah and Ezekiel may seem crazy to the world but to me I know that they are obedient. I admire them because if God gave me the same instructions I may never be as obedient. Think about this instruction that God gave, "Go and shave your head bald." How many of you will do it. God says, "Go and play with the mud and make a city of Kuala Lumpur." Who will do it? God says, "Take your clothes and bury it in the sand in the sight of everybody." Then God says, "Go and dig it up again." God says, "Wear it," and you wear it. And there was Isaiah who walked naked for three years saying, "Thus said the Lord." This is very hard instruction. But yet mentally having shut those things out God will never work in your life. That is Old Covenant but the New Covenant has some interesting things that if we shut our mind and our free will off we stop God from working. We have to open our free will to God. So this is what I call the limitation of the free will.

Turn to Mk. 5 verse 17 after Jesus healed the demon possessed man it say *then they began to plea*

with Him to depart from their region. That's marvelous because Jesus went there to preach the gospel to them. Later on you read in the gospel of Mark chapter 6 towards the ending that Jesus went back to that region. But when Jesus originally went there all the people on their free choice told Him not to come. Is it God's will for Jesus to go there? Yes. Otherwise Jesus wouldn't head there. Don't think Jesus went there just to deliver that man and go home. We know that is not true because later in Mark chapter 6 He went to the same place again. It was the perfect will of God for Jesus to enter into the area of Gadarenes to preach the gospel. But because the people rejected Him, do you think Jesus will go against their free will? He never. He went with their free will and He went back. He went home because they didn't want Jesus. Free choice was involved.

Lets give another example here in the gospel of Mk. 1: 43 *And He strictly warned him and sent him away at once.* What did Jesus strictly warned him? Jesus healed the leper. After Jesus healed the leper, Jesus told him not to tell anybody about this.

Once we were having a meeting in Singapore where there was not enough room in the auditorium. A brother who was a businessman offered me about one month before the meeting to pay for all the advertisement. I said please no. If we advertise in the newspapers we cannot contain the crowd. So I say maybe if get a bigger hall I accept that. But we cannot get a bigger hall so I said no for the time being. So it's a situation like this where you don't want the publicity because you cannot handle it.

So here in Mark chapter 1:44 *see that you say nothing to anyone.* Look at what this man did. He didn't obey Jesus' instruction. Now Jesus strictly told him. Jesus warned him. The man went out and he told everyone. He was sincere but sincerely wrong. I mean I can be sincere in a lot of things but sincerity is no argument. Sincere people are dangerous if they do the wrong thing. Now here in verse 45 it says *However, he went out and began to proclaim it freely, and to spread the matter, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter the city.* You know what happened He was outside in deserted places. I mean Jesus could have the comfort of those cities and towns but He can't even go in. He had to stay outside the city under a coconut tree. All because this man had a big mouth. Sometimes it's good when you need a publicity.

When William Branham goes to a place he had to hide from people. If people knew which hotel he was staying in, he would never be able to sleep day or night. I tell you it also gets dangerous when you become well known. So there is this Jesus out there in the desert under the hot sun, counseling people. Now here is a case here a free choice was given to a man and the man didn't obey. And Jesus was affected. His ministry was affected because of this free choice. The anointing was to work in the city. Jesus had His own reason for working within the city. But now He has to go out to the desert places and He cannot go in at all.

At other times He tells the man go and tell others like in Mark 5. That is when they should go and tell. Jesus also told His disciples after Matthew 17 and Mark 9 and Luke 9 when he came down from the Mount of Transfiguration and Jesus said don't tell anybody about it. Because it was not time yet to tell that is why Jesus kept it from the other disciples. The anointing works but the anointing can be limited by the decisions made by a person's free will.

2. Unbelief

Secondly, the anointing can be limited by unbelief. Mark 6:6 *And He marveled because of their unbelief. Then He went about the villages in a circuit teaching.* It tells us here in Mark 6 that Jesus could not do any mighty work because of their unbelief. So the anointing is limited to people's faith level. Do you know one reason why the Holy Spirit could work so much miracles through Kathryn Kuhlman is because by the time people came their faith level was built up. I would reckon the majority of you came here tonight just for teaching. And as a result you tap on the anointing of God for teaching. In this place even people who come on Sundays, they come for worship and for teaching. A smaller group wants the ministry. So as a result you get proportionally to what you came for. Your expectation and faith level limit the anointing that is able to flow.

There is a place and time for every type of meeting. I mean if every meeting we conduct is for

evangelism, you will hardly get any teachings at all. All you get is a beating in your heart – go out and evangelize. You will never grow we need to teach not only just send. Neither can we in every meeting emphasize on healing alone and then give only five minutes to teaching. You will never grow either. So we have a meeting where we preach. There is a place and time to pray. There is time for evangelism and there is a time and place for everything. I am not saying that's wrong I am saying there is expectation level that we have built ourselves in.

And so in the same way we see here that the faith level of the people that Jesus was going to minister to His own hometown was not there. In fact I would call it zero. They didn't even want Jesus to minister to them. They didn't receive His teaching or His ministry. As a result the anointing was not operational to benefit them at all.

Lets look at another case in the gospel of Mark right at the ending in chapter 6:53 *When they had crossed over they came to the land of Gennesaret.* That is the place where the demonic who was delivered has been sent out and to broadcast. That's when he was to tell. Now one thing that helps people is testimony. When people hear about what the Lord has done their faith builds up and they come expecting. So here they come expecting in verse 54 *And when they came out of the boat, immediately the people recognized Him, ran through the whole surrounding region, and began to carry about on beds those who were sick to wherever they heard He was. Wherever He entered, into villages, cities, or country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged Him that they might just touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched Him were made well.*

Notice the faith level was so high. How high was it. The moment He landed they saw Jesus, quickly they ran and get the sick people. Why, they expected the sick to be healed. They have heard their faith level was now higher. When I talk about faith level I have to repeat this here that we have to have faith in God as well as a measure of faith in the instrument of God. We have to tap on the anointing upon.

I have shared this once but its good to repeat it there. The Catholics tend to regard their priests so highly that they are like next to God. There is a positive and a minus in that. The Protestants tend to look at the ministers as equal with them that they say, "What have you that we don't have or can't have?" And oftentimes, they tend to lose the blessings that come from respecting ministers of God that God has set in the church. Under normal circumstances both ministers and laity are equal. But if the anointing comes on their lives, they are speaking on behalf God and not just themselves. I could be your friend we could share fried noodles and pizza together. But if the anointing of God comes on my life and I have a word for you I am not responsible for your obedience any more. My responsibility is to give you the word and if you don't obey I am not responsible. You are responsible to God. I am only the instrument. The Protestants have a way of always downgrading the ministers of God. Sometimes you treat them like employees. After all if we hire you in the ministry, so we can also fire you. This is the extreme on the Protestant side.

The balance is to have enough respect to understand that when someone is called to an office they are in a sense representative of God in the context of the office, without going to the extreme of idolizing or worshiping them. Some people you can get close with them because they know how to respect you no matter how close they are. But some people you cannot get close to them because when you get too close they become so familiar their familiarity really breeds contempt. Then when you come with the anointing of God on your life, they don't understand that the ministering you do is under the anointing and is God's doing and you are no more the same guy who plays marbles with them. So most of us don't know how to divide between the two roles played by an anointed person – as a minister of God and as your personal friend. So we get mixed up and we missed the blessings of God.

Now here is the area where I want to show why the anointing of God works very high like in the Thessalonians. I Thes. 1:5 *For our gospel did not come to you in word only, but also in power, and in the Holy Spirit and in much assurance, as you know what kind of men we were among you for your sake.* Look at that the gospel came with power. Why did it come with power because in I Thes. 2:13 *For this reason we also thank God without ceasing, because when you received the word of God which you heard from us, you welcomed it not as the word of men, but as it is in truth, the word of God, which also effectively works in you*

who believe.

In other words, we not only have to respect God's words we have to respect the instrument that God brings when they are obedient. See when Jesus came into His hometown they asked, "Is this not the carpenter?" They were not prepared to receive Jesus as a Messiah. They were only prepared to receive Him as an ordinary carpenter. Because they have no respect for the instrument they did not receive the anointing. We have to have as much faith. I know the devil has in the past few years distorted faith in men and women of God. But let me tell you sincerely in each one of our heart and life we all look for role models. Don't forget that it was still Paul who said, "Follow me as I follow Christ." Lets not get rid of those scriptures. That means Paul is saying as he is imitating Christ you still can take him as a role model. So just because of what had happened in these past decade when men and women of God has fallen because of their personal lives you are going to see what the causes are. We turn around and go to the extreme of the pendulum and say, "We do as they say but don't do as they do." I tell you if anyone who claims to be a man of God and yet cannot say, "Do as I do," but can only say, "Do as I say," such a person is a Pharisee.

So we need to realize that everyone still needs a role model that they could build their life upon. People still need mentors to move and pattern their lives and then move on from there. We don't want to limit ourselves to a person but yet we start somewhere. We have to start somewhere to build in our lives.

One of the reasons why the anointing moved so powerfully in Acts 5 was because they began to esteem the instrument of God higher than before. Look at Acts 5:15 that even the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. Now look at verse 13 don forget without verse 13 you cannot get verse 15. Verse 13 *Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly.* It didn't say that they esteemed God highly of course they do. But they not only esteemed God now they began to esteem His vessel. When people says to have faith in God but don't have faith in the vessel of God they have locked themselves up. People who talk that way do not know how to tap on the anointing. And they can be in the presence of anointing and because they don't regard the man of God as a man of God they get nothing. They blocked themselves from the anointing of God. Let me tell you. You got to have faith in the man of God as well as faith in God to receive from the man of God.

When William Branham ministered, he would always ask, "Do you receive me as a prophet of God?" You know why he is asking that? You have to have faith in him too. When Kenneth Hagin in his book received the first vision and the anointing of God on his palm Jesus said, "You must tell them what I have done for you. You must tell them I have appeared to you. I have put a coal of fire on your hand and I touched your hand and gave you a healing anointing and if they believe what you said they will tap on the anointing." Do you know that is believing in the man of God? Do you know one of the ways the devil discredits men of God who are faithful is by highlighting the sins of men of God who have failed? So that today people have less faith in men of God because they saw one or two fall.

Let me tell you the world is made to operate that way. If you have one hundred sheep all white and one black they will think that the rest are black. For many years and decades let me tell you the number of people who fall are few compared to the silent majority faithfully working their hearts out for God. But the world will never broadcast, "O he has been faithful for these forty years." But just because there is one black sheep there they want to make you think that everyone of them is that way. Do you know why? Because if the world could succeed in getting that kind of mentality into the body of Christ they will straight away cut off the anointing of God that God has put on His men and women to bless the body. Unless the church esteems the gift of God the members will not tap on the gift of God.

If I want to I know how to create an esteem but I prefer to let people intelligent enough to think for themselves. I would know how to put the theatrics out. I mean we are not fools in this kind of areas. I know some people do it in order to try to create that esteem. Let me give you an example, if for example you have very little contact with me. Every Sunday as every member is praying, I hide somewhere in a hidden room that side. Then at a given point in time I will just step in. I mean the excitement and the energy are built up to a high level, then you come in to minister and moved out as soon as the ministry is over. It will build a high level of expectancy. Then why don't you do it? It's not scriptural. But human beings are emotional and easily

persuaded by theatrics. I would rather have people build their faith in God and faith in the man of God through teaching them to understand how to exercise faith. You have to if you are tapping on the anointing of God/ You have to believe in the men of God who are the instruments as well as have faith in God in order to tap on the anointing of God.

One of the sad things I find here is sometimes when I work closely with people that they forget that sometimes some of the things you are saying have a *thus says the Lord* even though you don't use that phrase and they take it to be merely your own suggestion. And they forget that they are answerable to God for their lives. I know that there are real genuine good people but when people don't understand and when they treat you, "O he is just a small boy" - no more anointing can flow to that person. So it's important for us to know how to flow in God and how to give honor where honor is due.

However, be balanced and don't go to the extreme of idolizing the man or woman of God. When the person gets unscriptural, you also follow him out of scripture. That would be wrong. That is one extreme. Sad to say, in the body of Christ, a few go to one extreme and the other few go to the other extreme. We need to know the balance that is involved so that we can esteem a gift when a gift is there. Just flow along with it.

The anointing is subject to the faith level in two realms. You have to have faith in God and faith in the instrument of God.

3. Calling and Office

The third area is what I call the limitation of the call and the office. When God calls you to be a prophet you don't try to be a teacher. If God calls you to be prophet and teacher then you can be both. But if God calls you to be a pastor don't try to be an evangelist. If God calls you to be an evangelist, you don't try to be a pastor. You learn to be faithful to what God calls you to do. Trouble starts when those who are not called try to do the work of those who are called. We must know where the boundary lines are and not cross them. God doesn't want all of us to be Jack-of-all-trades. He wants us all to flow in the gift and call God has set for you. We have a few cases of people in the bible who crossed those boundaries like king Saul. He was a king and when he tried to do the priest work, God rejected him.

In the New Testament it looks like you get away with it longer. But you don't get away with it in the end. The limitations that you have crossed will cost your very down fall. You don't get away with moving out of the office of God that He has set you in. He has placed you there, so don't move out. Remember if you are in the office in whatever role or position in any church you are not there to serve men. You are there to work with men or women of God or to be a blessing.

Now it works both ways. Just as we need to have faith in the man of God, others are putting their faith in you too. If you yourself begin to grow on the ministry, everything you do becomes a reflection of God. Somebody else is looking at you. Somebody is looking at your life. You may not be the preacher or a pastor but I will say somebody is looking at your life as a role model. So that if you fall somebody else may fall. As long as we are faithful within the office of God, there's no problem. But there have been those who are not faithful to their own office.

Lets look in the book of II Kings 18:1 *Now it came to pass in the third year of Hoshea the son of Elah, king of Israel, that Hezekiah the son of Ahaz, king of Judah, began to reign.* And while he was reigning, Sennacherib came and surrounded king Hezekiah. Then in chapter 19:1 *And so it was, when King Hezekiah heard, that he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth, and went into the hours of the Lord. Then he sent Eliakim, who was over the household, Shebna the scribe, and the elders of the priests, covered with sackcloth, to Isaiah the prophet, the son of Amoz.*

Hezekiah was a king but he was not a prophet. In a time of trouble Hezekiah is an interesting figure. He stood in one office but he was one of those who know how to co-operate with the other offices. He

established the priesthood again. He rebuilt the temple. That means that he helped to establish another office and put it in its rightful perspective. Why, because he had secular power as a king. So he restored the priesthood. But even though he was powerful he recognized the line that he cannot cross. When it came to the prophetic realm, he sent messengers to Isaiah who is a prophet. And he received the word from the Lord. Here is where you see the co-operation of priests, of kings, and of prophets.

And Isaiah received the word of the Lord in the book of II Kings 19:5 *So the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah. And Isaiah said to them, "Thus you shall say to your master, Thus says the Lord. Do not be afraid of the words which you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed Me. Surely I will send a spirit upon him, and he shall hear a rumor and return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land."*

This is a tremendous incident here. Because of the fact that king Hezekiah co-operated with Isaiah the prophet and together they brought deliverance to Israel. You may not think much about that but let me say this the word of assurance in a crisis is a great comfort. Hezekiah has no word from the Lord. He was a good king. He was faithful to his office as king and he brought prosperity to Israel. In that situation he needed a prophet's word and even when he reached the end of his role he rely on another ministry, another prophet. He is a king relying on a prophet to bring about the word of the Lord that will bring comfort to the Israelites. This is not the first time. There are several times he did it. Which is why I see the humility of Hezekiah. In his humility you know where your limitations are. And you don't go beyond it. You know the limitations of your call and your office.

At the same time we must realize that a call does not mean an anointing automatically. A call means an office. But the anointing may leave the office. You do not lose your call. The calling and the gifts of God are without repentance. But the anointing may not be there. The anointing will be there as long as the other laws are followed but on you personally the anointing may not be there. Sometimes people have used their office without the anointing. And it still works because of the faith level of people. But for it to function perfectly, you need the office to function with the anointing.

Let me show you an example here. In the book of I Sam. 1:13 *Now Hannah spoke in her heart; only her lips moved, but her voice was not heard. Therefore Eli thought she was drunk. So Eli said to her, "How long will you be drunk? Put your wine away from you!"* Hannah said she is not drunkard she is sorrowful. Now verse 17 Eli pronounced a blessing. *Go in peace, and the God of Israel grant your petition which you have asked of Him.* The moment Eli said it, it was done. Who was Eli? Eli wouldn't be one of those priests you say was anointed. But he was in office as a priest. He had no anointing but because of his position and his office, his pronouncement released the blessing. He was not even operating in the anointing. When he saw Hannah he said this is a drunkard woman and he scolded her. One moment scolding and the next moment blessing. When she said, "I am not drunkard I am just praying for a child," he just said, "God bless you." And he was not interested in channeling the anointing. He was just saying, "God bless you; go in peace," and it was done.

See when you have an office and a call people who look up to your office and position and call can tap on your *exousia* without *dunamis*. There is *exousia* power and *dunamis* power. *Exousia* is power by authority. *Dunamis* is power by content. So here is Eli one of the fattest men in the bible. His mere words carry enough authority to gladden the heart of a sorrowful woman praying for a child. But in actual fact he has lost his anointing. Because later on God sent a prophet and said that he was rejected although he was still retaining his office. Is there anybody else? Yes. You remember king Saul. Do you know he lost his anointing when he trespassed the office of the priest? Let me show you how he lost his anointing. In the book of I Sam. 16:14 *Now the Spirit of the LORD departed from Saul, and an evil spirit from the LORD terrorized him.* He lost his anointing but he was still in the office. Why, because the human being still didn't know that he had lost his anointing. And he was still their king. He did not lose his call and his office gift. But he lost the anointing.

Sometimes one may lose the anointing but still be in the office for a certain length of time. He remains there due to a grace period while another is chosen to stand in that same office and anointing but is

made to wait for God's timetable. Needless to say, the person chosen to fill in that office has to be patient. Remember this if you are not faithful to what God called you to do, God will raise up another. Positions in God's kingdom are not sacred that God has to preserve you no matter what you do. The anointing is precious. You may be called to an office but if you are disobedient, God will remove His anointing first. And after He removed His anointing you can be sure He is going to remove your office.

When the Spirit departed from Saul, God had actually called David and anointed him. Do you know David could have taken over the whole kingdom straightaway? I mean if he could fight Goliath and the bears and the lions, He would have easily defeated Saul in a battle. He was no ordinary man. He grabbed the beard of the lion and he really gave it a good whacking. That's no joke. Do you know why Saul was afraid of him? It is because Saul knows David had the anointing, which he lost. Saul is afraid because everybody wanted this guy to be king. He is insecure now. When you lose your anointing you become insecure. So when you are insecure you got to try to preserve your own office not by spiritual means but by natural carnal way. Saul took his spear and he tried to kill David. David could have crushed king Saul and got rid of him in fact many times but twice is recorded for us. When Saul went into the cave, David cut a piece of the robe and showed it to Saul. If he could have cut the robe he could have cut his head. His own mighty men were with David when they entered into Saul's camp and saw Saul asleep. One of the mighty men said, "David, give it to him." He said no. Do you know why Saul lasted so long in his reign? It is because David did him no harm. All David would have to say is, "Get him," and that would be the end of Saul. He had the office and the anointing to do so.

You could lose your anointing and keep your office and that is the most terrible position to be in. Even in this world you have to be qualified in order to hold any office. Even in the natural it works that way. If you are in a company or business, if you know your work thoroughly and are well qualified, when another new person comes in, you are not threatened. But if another new person comes in and you are not so sure about your work you will feel threatened. Especially if that guy seems to know more than you about the same job that you have suddenly you became a liability.

Now let's put that into the spiritual kingdom. God will continue to raise up five-fold ministry. You could be in the ministry for long. You are there in this church when suddenly a bright young spark fresh from the bible college opens a church down the street. If you still hold a position but have no anointing, you better think about packing your bags. You are insecure. You may throw spears and modern spears are character assassination. People try to destroy someone starting up because they are insecure. If you have the office and the anointing you know what you will do. You will know the limits of your own office and you may even go across the street and ask the new pastor, "Tell me if you need any help." You know why you can do that? Because you are secured. You know you got your own anointing. Like Hezekiah, you know that this guy has the gift. This other guy may have the same type of office but has a different anointing. Or he may hold a different office and a different type of anointing. God has His own gift in this guy and you know how to fellowship and draw from that guy whatever God has put in him.

We must understand that there are limitations of office and call. And involved in that is the anointing of God. People should not feel insecure in the ministry. If you ever feel insecure it's not the other guy who needs to be checked up; it's you yourself. Sadly in the body of Christ sometimes positions are retained where the anointing of God has left. When it has left you can be sure it goes to another. And when it goes to another you may become like king Saul.

The bible tells us here that we need to discern our call and office. You have your particular call. Let's say in this city of 1.5 million people. Even if you have ten churches or fifteen churches with ten thousand people each, you have only touched about ten percent of the population. So why are you afraid of other churches? But there is such a fear in the hearts of pastors. So you realize that it's not enough just to know your call and your office and position. You have to be sure you have the anointing to function in that otherwise all your life you live in insecurity. When we know our office and call and know the anointing know the limitations of your anointing. Don't go beyond that. Just because somebody starts satellite T.V. doesn't mean it's God's will for you to go into. It may be right for them but not right for you. Flow with what God asked you to do. Because if you don't let it be a strain on the budget trying to support a satellite ministry that God never asked you. But if you flow with what God asked you to do it's no problem there. So don't copy the ministry but flow with what God asked you to do. Just flow with what God wants you to do. Know your own

limits.

You see the limit that God set for you and it may be different from the limit God has set on another person. And they have to be faithful to their own limitations. God may have called you to go to a hundred nations God may have called another person to go to ten nations. And in one year you see that fellow running to and fro to about ten and here you are still running around one. And you look over you feel insecure just because you are comparing your own ministry with that person not comparing your own ministry with God's ministry for you. So before long you start getting a green eye. Then you look around and see why God blesses that guy here and there and you don't because a different calling.

I talked to one person recently he said before I die I am going to set my foot on every nation. So its important for us to know where God called you and what God called you to do be satisfied with that. Know your limitation. See the danger if you don't know your limitations you tend to be doing things that are not anointed. You are doing this because you are doing things to secure your own position. Keeping up with the spiritual Jones. Worldlings may run the rat race in the natural world. But in the spiritual realm you don't have to run the spiritual rat race. Just flow in what God asked you to do.

We have talked about free will, faith level, call and office.

4. Operation

The fourth limitation concerns the operation of the anointing. For example if God calls you to operate in visions, then you be faithful. But if God never call you to operate that way, don't attempt to copycat someone who does. You have to be faithful to the method God has chosen for you. When Kathryn Kuhlman starts operating in her style, Oral Roberts came to her meeting and admitted to her that God never ask him to operate that way. But when Oral Roberts minister he has to lay his hand on every person. That is his special operation.

See God sometimes call a man with a message and a method. God has not limited me to a method. But for some people God limit them to a method. Do you know William Branham was also limited to a certain method? He had to use his left hand to hold a person to discern. Sometimes it would break into other people where he could call them out. But he will always uses his left hand. And when he move his left hand he will know exactly what is wrong. God sometimes call a man or woman with a message and a method. If God gives you a methodology that He says, "This is your special operation," please don't change it. God likes you the way you are. Even no matter how hard you try to imitate another person's anointing by the outward way, you won't have it. God limits a person to certain operation. As you flow along remember the limits of the operation that will open onto you.

Now the operation can change with time and season as you progress at each phase in your ministry. Kathryn Kuhlman will never lay hand when she operates. She requires quietness. Benny Hinn with the same type of anointing needs the same thing he wants you to be quiet. Some preachers are funny. They tell you to take notes. And if you don't write something down he will stare at you. Why are you not taking notes? Always carry a pen and a paper. And you got preachers who come and say, "Put down all your pen and paper. I don't want anyone of you to write anything. Just sit quietly open your eyes and open your ears and don't open your mouth." And when you try to write some points down he will say, "Hey you there, put down your pen." There are all kinds of funny preachers. Why? Shall we make trouble with them? So that those preachers who don't like you to write down notes, fill the whole front row with note takers. Then the preacher cannot move with the anointing. Or preachers that need to see people taking notes to help their faith level, put the whole first row of fellows who stare down at them like vultures. I am sure it will affect the anointing.

Learn to flow with each preacher's anointing. It is their limitations of their operation. If they don't have it they cannot flow. That is their pattern and method that God ordains for them to flow with. You may not be happy about it but if you attend their meeting, just flow along with their method. Don't quarrel about that. After all it's their meeting that you are attending. If you are not happy just don't attend. I take notes but I train

myself to remember everything. But I encourage people to take notes. At the same time I would like a certain atmosphere of reverence. But I don't require pin drop silence to operate in the gifts. I am more practical that I just require that there will be enough low level of noise where what I say can be heard by the person at the back. When the word is given and if only people in the first ten rows can hear then there is no point. But I can assume that a lot in Jesus ministry when He was ministering the children must have been crying in one corner. Imagine some of His meetings are held without microphone. Some of them are held in the valleys. You try putting five thousand men, women and children in a valley. You can be sure that everywhere children are running about. You can be sure that somebody is talking somewhere. You can be sure that somebody needs to go to toilet somewhere. What I am talking about is the method that God requires a person to use. Flow with it because that person may be limited to that operation. If they don't have that they cannot operate. They are limited to the mode of operation.

When I travel to New Zealand there was one meeting there that I mentioned that they were to bring their handkerchiefs. Not many brought their handkerchief and so the method was scrapped to operate in another way. But what God wanted to do and operate that way was not operational. But it ended up with another meeting in a different town that we could operate that way that God wanted to. Sometimes when you sense different type of anointing that God wants to operate, if the people flow or if the people don't flow that determines how you could channel the anointing of God. So there is what I call limitations of the anointing. So just flow along. Some preacher may require absolute silence. Some preacher when they give their invitation, says, "Nobody move" and you start moving they scold you. Please return to your seat. I have seen that. "You over there can't you wait thirty seconds for a lost soul?" That person feels so guilty. Can't help it the preacher needs that.

5. Character

God can limit the flow of your anointing to your character. It's very hard to say which came first.

Sometimes its very hard for us to tell whether it's the character that change because of the anointing or it's the anointing that is flowing with that person's character. If we knew the person from small then we can know and tell. Like for example you met Jacob Kurien. He has a loud voice all the time. You are not sure whether his loud voice was because of his anointing or whether he already has a loud voice and God use his loud voice to start with his anointing. But if you knew him from small and his voice was very soft then, but as he flows with the anointing, he goes "PRAISE THE LORD' Then you will know that it came from his anointing. The funny thing is that when you start moving in the anointing after a long time the characteristic of the anointing that is required becomes a part of you. In the natural, in the spiritual there is a pattern.

Let me illustrate from the natural first. Do you think these actors when they act certain bad guy roles, he may act until he really becomes a crook in his real life. And some of the actors have what I call stress – actor stress. They act the part so long that in real life they cannot tell whether they are still the person or not. And they find themselves in real life becoming like the person like originally acted. That's in the natural world. So some of those actors began to resign and go to other profession because they find they cannot cope up with that kind of stress. So that's the stress they have.

In the spiritual realm there is no doubt if God wants you to be an evangelist and you move into many areas where there is no microphone, God may naturally endow you with a tremendous voice. It is a part of you and sometimes naturally you talk that way. Like some of our soul winners here. Even the way they normally talk is very aggressive. When the anointing comes to win souls they are very aggressive. Even after the meeting, they speak in the same loud, aggressive manner, "You must come for supper." Same tune. They are still playing the same instrument. You don't know whether it's the anointing or it's just them.

We understand that the anointing can come irrespective of character. But certain types of anointing require a change in character. If you were as timid as a mouse and you are called to be an evangelist and soul winner, you have got to overcome your timidity. You may say I am not that character. You got no choice. If you are called and if you say you are not going to change then the anointing cannot flow in your life. You have to be very out going.

I find that God has changed me a lot. I know definitely that change is because of the anointing and not because I change first. The anointing come first and then the change in character. I am normally more introvert and very quiet person. In a group I will not start a conversation. You want to talk to me you have to start the conversation. But you cannot pastor a church that way. You cannot say I am what I am. Anybody want to talk to me they have to come to me. When you are in the group you have to learn the normal art of conversation. As a pastor you have to. It's easy you just say how are you. That's what I do in a group I will reach out and ask a question which normally I would not. In my natural self I am a chess player. You wouldn't believe it but I have no girlfriend at all in my school days. Not because I was that sanctified but because I never approach people. I had my own world, my own chess world. Always reading my book. You invite me to a party I bring my book along. While everybody else is dancing I will be reading my book. I only attended one party in all my school days. That was my character but as God began to show me His call I had to change. I am sorry to say that I did not change instantly. I wish I could have said that. It took me three to four years to learn to approach people, learn to flow with people.

And for some of us we maybe in an area where our character limits us from public speaking. You may never have spoken. But if God calls you to be a teacher to the body of Christ, you are going to start somewhere and it may be harder to start because of that. But somehow you have to break it and let it become a part of you. So there is what I call limitations of character. There is a positive and there is a minus. It doesn't mean that just because you have a loud voice you are most probably called to be evangelist. You may not. God may in fact change you from the loud voice person to be a soft spoken pastor. Think about the apostle Paul. He was one of the most educated men in his days. Brought up at the feet of Gamaliel. Pharisee of the Pharisee, well-educated, top man. And God sent him to the barbarians. You wouldn't send him to the Gentiles. God sent him to the barbarians. The Gentiles in those days were called barbarians. And the Jews here they are educated and God called this Peter who always engages his mouth before he thinks; loud speaking, brash in his habit, uncultured in his style, fisherman, man in the street, talk rough, and yet God sent him to the most educated. Here is fisherman proclaiming the gospel to doctors of the law. In Paul, God sent a doctor of the law to the barbarians. Strange are the ways of God.

So don't interpret your character to mean that's where His call. There are limitations of character that we must understand. We must overcome some areas of our character in order to facilitate the anointing through our lives. In some areas we must develop a new character in God. What we are not in ourselves we have to change until the day comes you are so conformed you are the call and the call is you. When people look at you, you fit exactly into the mould that God made you to be your part in the body. Our character had to change and conform to that which God so desire.

6. Body

Then we come to the limitations of the body. Our body is not a new body yet. We must realize that no matter how anointed you are or how much God uses you, our body has a limitation. Even Jesus in John 4 felt tired. Jn. 4:6 *Now Jacob's well was there. Jesus therefore, being wearied from His journey, sat thus by the well.* Jesus had a physical body that felt tired. And in His Gethsemane experience in Matt. 26:43 *And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy.* I want you to notice this in verse 40 and 41 He asked them why are you asleep, can't you watch with Me? But then when you turn over to Mk. 14:41 Jesus said *"Are you still sleeping and resting? It is enough!"* Now what does He mean by *it is enough*. Then in Lk. 22 in verse 40 and 46 *Pray that you may not enter into temptation. Verse 46 Why do you sleep? Rise and pray, lest you enter into temptation.* In Jn. 18:1-2 *When Jesus had spoken these words, "He went out with His disciples over the Brook Kidron, where there was a garden, which He and His disciples entered. And Judas, who betrayed Him also knew the place for Jesus often met there with His disciples. Verse 4 Jesus therefore, knowing all things that would come upon Him, went forward and said to them, "Whom are you seeking?"* Now in Gethsemane here is Jesus and it says He knew all things. So Jesus prayed to the stage where He knew that it was time to deliver Himself. It's too late now to pray. He said it's enough to pray. And He tells His disciples arise let us go. See there is a time to pray and there is a time to sleep. Sometimes when you are tired you need to continue the work like in Gethsemane. At other times when you are tired and the work is finished you need to rest. In fact one of the miracles of feeding of the five thousand was when Jesus said let us go to rest. He wanted to rest. He wanted to get some time away from the crowd because there is much coming and going. And the crowd followed them. We need to know when to rest. There are limitations of the body. In the book of Phil. 2 Epaphroditus *because for the work of Christ he came close to death.* In other words he over worked himself and he nearly died.

Let me give a little example also from natural realm. If God call you and an anointing comes on your life when you are a little child lets say 12 years old and God's gift starts operating, which can happen. In America there are a few boy preachers. And some of them would preach the word and their parents would take them and hide them. They had no chance to be little children, no change to grow up like a child. They will be hidden like little hermits. When ministry time comes, let them out of the cage. They are supposed to read the word, pray and they got no chance to play with other children. When they grew up, some completely turn their backs from God. They had spiritual development but they didn't have natural development. They were imbalanced. We need to be skillful in balancing the spirit, soul and body. Too much of the physical is bad but you cannot live fully spiritual and ignore the natural without facing consequences.

Let me give a simple example that may be of value. When I was young in the ministry, I felt that it was not important how you look like. In the whole of my seminary, I never own a comb. I don't have my hair combed neatly like today. I figure out that it was not important. It's not important what you look like on the outward after all what's on the inside that counts. Which is true but it's half the truth. The reason is what happens on the inside becomes reflected on the outside and people find it easy to accept you. You could be the greatest prophet in the world. But you come with long fingernails full of dirt, and your hair that has never been washed for about six months because you were praying a lot in those days. And your clothes are so messy because you couldn't be bothered with folding your clothes. Then your shoes have so much dirt because you have been evangelizing all over the place that literally it was a dirty shoe. And you have no time to wash your shoe because you spent your time with God. You ask me, "Don't the smell bother you?" No, because I only smell the spiritual fragrance. Even if you are a true man or woman of God it's very hard to get people near you enough to listen to the prophecy you have. And so through time I realize that personal grooming was important to a certain extent. You don't have to overdo things but its important to have a good image. That was half the truth that I mentioned I had. Do you like everybody to be like you? No, then what do you like everybody to be like then dress like it. So it's important as we see here that the physical realm is important to a certain extend. Small, small things can disturb and close doors to your ministry.

If you travel to some places in some countries and if you wear an open neck shirt to preach no one will want to hear you. Its funny I don't know why but some countries have that attitude towards preachers. So even though you don't feel comfortable wearing a necktie, you have to do so for the sake of the hearers in that country. Even though today most of the time I wear a necktie but when I first started in the ministry I hated ties. But I have to learn to like it. I have to train my outer man to present myself properly in the Lord. So for that reason there is nothing wrong with wearing jeans. But you will never find me in one, why because I want people to have the right mage.

Let me tell you this if you are in the ministry there is a certain image that you convey in the natural. You learn as you flow in the ministry. The funny thing is the Spirit teaches you how to carry yourself in God. Why are these things important? If people cannot get close enough to you to hear the word, the word that you have is not worth it. Although they say don't judge the book by its cover everybody knows that they buy books by the cover. In one bookstore at one time I was talking to this salesgirl and there was this horrible looking book that had the devil's face drawn on it. And the person said, "I tell you this book could hardly sell." Why? There is a cartoon picture that is not pleasant. So presentation is important.

Then it comes to your physical body. When it's the time to rest you need to learn how to rest. Do you know that there were some people who are so active whether in business or in ministry who don't know how to sleep? They need pills to sleep because they are so highly strung and stressed. We got to learn how to rest our body properly. Sometimes men or women of God with wonderful ministries die prematurely because they don't know how to take care of their body. No matter how greatly God use you remember your limitations of your physical body. And in the 1950s a lot of person with great anointing fell. But some men and woman of God pushed themselves beyond natural. Although the anointing will sustain you, it will sustain you to a certain extend and you have to use your common sense and wisdom. Beyond it God is not going to protect you if you deliberately overwork your bodies. I had to learn the hard way because sometimes I minister so much I hardly get time to catch up on my reading here and there. So sometimes after all those hectic times of ministry, I just sit down and read. Why, that's my hobby and at the same time I want to learn, I want to grow. There are times where for one year at a stretch I will sleep very little and push myself and read and then when I fell sick, I was forced to rest. You don't want to get sick. Why, because here you are

preaching the word and when you get sick, it is not a very good testimony. Its not easy to explain to people because people will have their own reason why your are sick. Ah he disobeyed God here, disobeyed God there. You got to just know your body. And know to what extend you could push your body.

Some people tend to overwork their body and some people tend to underwork their body. If you have never pushed your body to the limit you do not know what a versatile body God has given you. In those days when I had to organize camps and all those things in the seminary we work with just 2 hours of sleep for 48 hours just to get the job done. And sometimes when I see others in the ministry coming up and they have these things to do and they complain I said, "You don't know the price we have paid to reach there." We have to learn to push ourselves to the limit then we know when to rest and when not to rest. There are times you got to learn to push your body. But at the same time when you push you better take a break and rest when it's required. Don't say, "No time to rest." You are heading for disaster street in fact not disaster street it's I.C.U. ward. Then you are forced to rest. So know the limitations of your body.

The anointing is limited to that realm. If you are persistently not sleeping very well and you are pushing yourself and you claim God is behind it, when you fall sick, you wonder whether it was God or not. God is the one telling me to sleep at three wake up at four. Then later when they fall sick they wonder whether its God or not. If it's really of God, there's no problem. Moses was for forty days and night with God. There are limitations but you have to check yourself if it is your own zeal that has been over done.

Now in some areas all of us has an element of religious zeal. Just remember don't push it on another person. Encourage but don't push. Everyone has his or her own limitations. In my early days when anybody stayed with me in the ministry early morning you hear my voice that wakes you up purposely. I will come in the middle of the night and say 'PRAISE GOD' at midnight I will say, 'PRAISE THE LORD'. And it will be exactly midnight when I wake them up. Then in the morning I will say 'PRAISE GOD' and say its time to pray in tongues. Sometimes people are still having that in the ministry. They made the ministry like military camp. You can do it some of the time but don't do it all the time. Remember the limitations of the physical body. So don't push your zeal on others, which I used to but now repented. Let each grow at their own pace.

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