

EXPERIENCES IN THE SPIRITUAL WORLD

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1. LIVING IN AN OPEN VISION

We will cover a series on the experiences in the spirit realm. What we will be doing is to dwell more on the deep things in the spirit but on the experiential side. It is something that you find it hard to define but we will attempt to do so. The majority of the people do not know what it is like to really be in the depths of the spirit. If we have an idea of what the spirit realm is like it is possible to get motivated by it. So our purpose is to share some experiences from the spirit realm that could make you desire to spend more time with God in order to want to move into that realm.

II Cor. 12:1-4 I must boast; there is nothing to be gained by it, but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows - and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter.

Now Paul was educated and he would not be short of words as far as the average man is concerned. So you could imagine the impact of what he is saying. This is not an ordinary man who lacks the vocabulary. Paul was brought up at Gamaliel's feet. He is one of the most highly educated people in his days. And for him to make a statement that he has been in the spirit realm, and that when he came back he could not describe what it was like, imagine the impact of that. It was just like a Noble prize scientist who is on the top echelon of intellectual ability coming back from the spirit realm and say I could describe atoms, molecules but I can't describe what is there. It would have the same impact. Paul was above the ordinary in every thing that he pursued in God. So there is a spirit realm, which is quite hard to comprehend, and we want to talk about something in that area that could motivate us deeper into that realm.

Gal. 5:16-19 But I say, walk by the Spirit, and do not gratify the desires of the flesh. For the desires of the flesh are against the Spirit, and the desires of the Spirit are against the flesh; for these are opposed to each other to prevent you from doing what you would. But if you are led by the Spirit you are not under the law. Verse 25 If we live by the Spirit, let us also walk by the Spirit.

There are different levels of being in the Spirit. A person can call him or herself Spirit filled but yet lives in the flesh. There are different levels of being in the Spirit and there are also things to do in order to keep being in the Spirit. The vast majority of the church of Jesus Christ is not in the Spirit. If the whole church of Jesus Christ is moving in the Spirit today, the whole world today will be shaken by what God is doing. I would rather say it this way. Most of the churches are in the Spirit some of the time. But only some in the church are in the Spirit all the time. And there is a certain realm in the Spirit that, that is there. We got to learn to flow with the Spirit. We got to maintain in order to qualify in a way God will look down and say that's being in the Spirit. Jesus Christ as He moved on this earth was always in the Spirit.

Let me just give you a few tips here. If you ever worry about anything on this earth, you have just moved out of the Spirit. Do you know that Jesus never worries? He himself said in Matt. 6 look at the birds of the air and the grass in the field. They put their trust entirely in the hands of the heavenly Father. Jesus rebuked, exhorted and told the disciples they must not worry. Most of us know Matt. 6:33 which says, "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, And all these things shall be added onto you." The condition to receive all the blessings of God is to seek first the kingdom of God. But that is only one of the conditions.

The other conditions are mentioned prior to verse 33. You have to read first from verse 25 - 33. And those are the other conditions. If for a moment you worry about your needs you have just stepped out from the realm of the Spirit to the realm of the flesh. This is Jesus himself speaking in Matt. 6.

So that's just one of the small points I am talking about. It looks like major point but that's only a small point. Being in the Spirit, living in the Spirit and maintaining in the realm of the Spirit is not as easy as people make it. A lot of people go in and out of the kingdom all the time. They say I am abiding in the vine. But most of the time they are pulling away from the vine and then coming on again. Then they ask Jesus, Jesus why do I not have fruit. You say that if I abide in the vine I will bear much fruit. Jesus says you are abiding some of the time. Most of the time you are running around. Those little time that you have with Jesus, He would quickly channel all the nutrition to you so that you could bear fruit. And just as you got a few droplets you pulled off and you went aside again. No wonder it takes a long time to bear fruit.

Now some of those things that we are going to talk about are from the experience. Sometime back in the prayer series we mentioned that there was a time I prayed 48 hours in tongues just to see what it was like. And I just briefly mentioned that after that it was like living in an open vision, where it looks like if you were looking out at people and if a demon came across the room you also see the demon there. Usually some people would see it through the discerning of spirit. And they see it in the flash or for a while and then the vision disappeared and they are back to their natural sight.

But living in an open vision is to see all the time. I am not talking about a short vision that lasts for about 5 minutes. I am talking about living in an open vision; living in all 4 dimensions all the time. Most of the time we live in this 3 dimension.

This was what it was like. It was very strange to live in that realm. And it didn't just suddenly go off. See we have barely touched the fringe of what God wants. When I saw the benefits of praying in tongues for 8 hours, it stirred my desire to see what happens if you go further. That was when I went for 2 days without sleep and for 48 hours I just went on in tongues. And you would have to have a big jar of water. You will get pretty thirsty in the natural. But at the end of those 48 hours something snapped. It was like a veil was opened. It was like moving back into the Garden of Eden where if God comes you see God. You look out into the sky you could actually see where the thrones of the demons are. And you could actually see angels flying up and down. It was like living in an open vision. But it slowly began to fade and I realized it has to be maintained. There is a certain realm that is there.

Words Are Pictures In The Spirit World

One characteristic of the spirit realm is that every word is a picture. Part of the observations is that while in that realm whatever words that is spoken form an object. And after that the Lord began to show me what heaven is like. See what I was experiencing is what heaven was like. Like when I said the word *chair*, a chair would appear. Literally in the spirit you see a chair being formed in front of you. It is like in heaven you ask God, "I would like extra rooms to my mansion." In an instant it is there. I back this up with scripture. When in Gen. 1 God said let there be light. Instantly it came. Some theologians and scientists tried to say that in the 6 days Creation account, each day was 1 million years long. They are trying to take the bible and fit it into 20th century theory of the evolution of the earth.

In the Hebrew the word *day* in Genesis 1 is the same Hebrew word as the word *day* mentioned in Exodus, mentioned Leviticus, mentioned in Numbers, mentioned in Deuteronomy, mentioned in Joshua, mentioned in Samuel. So it is the same word *day*. If God had wanted the 6 days to be 6 million years, He would have used some different Hebrew words. He wouldn't use the same word *day* as belonging to the 24 hours day to mean 6 million years.

Why do we find it hard to understand is people ask, "How can God build the whole world in 24 hours human day." They don't believe in God's power. They don't realize the size of God. Think about it. Men have not seen the limits of the universe. Up to today the bigger the telescope is, the bigger they find the universe is. They have not even seen the borderline of the universe.

Now in the spirit realm it was a small measure of it. What you say becomes. I was astounded at that. And what you think becomes. When you are thinking of something there is a creative force that is released. And when you began to move and experience the spirit realm you realize that the thoughts and the words that flow forth from our life have tremendous creative force.

And while I fellowship with people, every time they say a word I saw a picture. It is just like when people talk to us, we grasp their words and understanding the meaning of the words. And with an effort we visualize what they say. But most of the times we are more or less just get the feeling of the word.

But in the spirit realm the picture is the word and the word is the picture. It is just like a person sharing with me about something in their past. While he is sharing I begin to see the picture of what he is sharing. I begin to see some of those things actually occurring. It is just like if I were having a conversation with our brother, "How are you? You had a good day." "Busy day but meaningful." The moment he said, "Busy day and meaningful." I begin to see a road. If he keeps talking then the scene starts coming up. I am just giving you an example of what that spirit realm is like. That's why it is dangerous. If you move more into that sooner or later you can start picking up the person's name.

When the Lord appeared to me He told me about 3 signs. Only one is operating. The first sign is just calling people wherever they are seated. The second sign is when the anointing comes I will be able to pick up everything from that person's life. God will not do it to everybody. Let me tell you what the spirit realm is like: its impossible to lie in the spirit realm. You could just see right into a person. That is a glimpse of what Jesus is like. You could never lie to Jesus. He could see you right through in your heart.

Now these are things of the Spirit that Jesus was moving in all the time. But I am illustrating what that realm is like. And there is a timing to move into that. I don't move into that much. Once in a while I move into that but most of the time it is on a personal level. But there is a timing for every anointing and every gift before you move into that.

Sometimes when people are on the telephone line with me and I happen more on a one to one basis, I need to hear like what William Branham said, "You need to get that person's spirit." Once you get that person's spirit the whole thing comes out.

One sister was sharing with me in Singapore. She was saying, "I have got this tremendous headache." The moment she said, "headache" suddenly the picture of a car accident came. And I said it had something to do with an accident. She did not have an accident. Then I began to tap further. The moment she say she did not have the accident immediately the Lord said it was a close person of yours who had that accident. From that day that accident occurred you lost this good friend or yours. And that person died and under that depression this headache came. She said, "Exactly right."

That's what I am talking about in the spirit realm every word you say comes out in a picture. The spirit realm is 100% picture and vision. Then we understand in Acts 2 what the bible is talking about when it says that young man shall see visions and old man shall dream dreams and they shall prophesy. All these are ways of God working through pictures. I find it strange because in the natural world we work with words, we work with logic. But in the spirit world it is like every thought is real, every word is real. And you cannot differentiate words and reality. Word is reality.

In the natural world sometimes you tell the mountain to move. Then only slowly the mountain moves; sometimes it may take a few months, sometimes a few years. It seems like a delayed process in this natural world. But in the spirit world what is said comes to pass instantly. What is conceived in the mind immediately it comes to pass. I don't fully understand why the spirit realm is so different form the natural. What causes the delay? Why when you reach to the natural realm there is a delay even though what you say comes to pass instantly in the spirit world. We know that what we say in the end does come to pass, but the process of

it coming to pass can be quite long.

But yet in the spirit world it was tremendous. And every time somebody said a word when I was in that realm I saw a picture. Why doesn't God let you live in that realm? It can drive you crazy. Let me explain what its like. It's not easy to live in that realm all the time because everywhere you keep seeing pictures. It's very hard to differentiate between what is real and what is spirit. No wonder God doesn't let it happen all the time otherwise you cannot live a natural life. If a person starts talking to me and I began to see a picture, that picture is as real as that person. Then as the person is talking I see a dog coming and I think it's a real dog. But its not; it's a visualized dog. It's impossible to live a natural life in that realm. Which is why God doesn't permit it all the time. Otherwise we cannot be human any more.

When you are in an open vision all the time you look out of the window you are not sure which is of the physical world and which is not of the physical world. When you are driving a car then suddenly you see the highway disappears in front of you and you see something else and you can't drive. You can't even walk normally. As you walk suddenly there could be this vision of a valley as you turn to the next road. As you turn you fall into the drain in the natural. In that realm it is literally impossible to separate the natural from spiritual. In other words the spiritual becomes as real as the natural.

Slowly as I faded off in that condition I was a bit dazed. All you want to do is to just sit down on a chair like a prophet and just prophesy. And it's very difficult to pay attention to logical conversation. For example you know what its like when you talk to people and they are not listening to you. When you are in the spirit realm you will be giving that same impression. While someone is talking about his house, or where they are from, you are not paying attention to what they are saying. You are paying attention to the pictures that keep coming out.

That's the spirit realm; that is one of the first observation I have noticed in the spirit realm. And I know that is what heaven is like. In heaven what you need the moment you say it, the moment you believe it, the moment you ask from God, instantly it is there. Lets say in your heavenly mansion that you are staying and you have a nice landscape garden. And you say, "How nice if I could have just that river of water here flowing." Instantly it comes. We will be very careful with our words in that realm. That's what that realm is like regarding words.

What about thoughts? It makes you uncomfortable in the natural when you move into that realm. What people think you can sort of see the picture coming out of them. And if a person is demon possessed you could straightaway tell it. There is no way the demon can hide. In fact the demon looks at you eyeball to eyeball.

In regard to thought life when I experience that I understood what Jesus experienced when He knows the thoughts of the people around him. They couldn't hide. Let me give some examples here in the gospel of Lk. 6:6 *On another Sabbath, when He entered the synagogue and taught, a man was there whose right hand was withered. And the scribes and the Pharisees watched Him, to see whether he would heal on a Sabbath, so that they might find an accusation against him. But He knew their thoughts.*

Now in the spirit world when you become very strong in that you cannot avoid the pictures. Like if I read chapter 6:6 as I read it when the anointing or that realm is there I would began to see Jesus walking into the synagogue. The words produce the pictures and the words are the pictures. It's almost like in Kenneth Hagin's book *I Believe In Visions*. In his first vision he said that he was given a scroll. He read the prophecy from the scroll. Every time he read one line he would see the action come. When he prophesies famine he sees the famine. When he prophesied war he saw the war. That's what the spirit realm is like.

How did Jesus know their thoughts? Hatred, jealousy or anything negative produce darkness in the spirit world. There was in John Osteen's book when he spoke about the authority of a believer. And he spoke about how this witch doctor among the Eskimos had the ability to travel out of his body and sort of have

astral traveling. And this witch doctor wanted to do a curse against the preacher who came to the Eskimo community. As he came out of his body trying to do harm, he went near the believers meeting and saw a bright light. As he came near he saw that the light came from the people themselves. When that witch doctor went back into his body he wanted to be a believer. And the Christians didn't know that there was a light on their life.

When Jesus said that you are the light of this earth He meant it literally in the spirit world. You could recognize a believer just by looking at them. That is how the angels know us. That's how demons know whether you are of God or not of God. There is a light that flows from our life.

When someone has a wrong thought there is darkness in them. In the spirit realm when I look at people's faces or minds, sometimes some of them have little black dots in their heart. Some of them have little black dots in their mind. Some of them have a cloud. I say God is this all the time there. And those represent thoughts, motives and intentions. The more evil a person is the darker their inner parts are. I am not talking about the natural body. I am talking about the soul. You could look into a person's soul.

And what Jesus experienced here was quite easy to see in the spirit realm. For these kind of people when they were looking at Jesus with hate, there would have been a darkness and a cloud about them. It would be very observable from the spirit realm. We don't exactly read a person's thought but the moment that person open their mouth and say any word that would become like a channel that you could see into that person's mind.

As I said its very easy to express the spirit realm. It would be just like a person is talking about anything all you see is not that person. You cannot read that person's mind. But one clue from that person is enough to tell you all that is on his mind. It is just like a forensic expert or a criminologist. They could go to a place where a crime has been committed. The average human being would say we couldn't tell what the crime is since every thing is burned. We can't tell how the crime was committed. But the forensic experts take a few samples here and a few samples there and examine them under a microscope. They come back and say this person died at about midnight. This person died in this manner. They are able to draw some conclusions just from those small samples.

In the same way you know a person within 5 minutes under normal conversation. Sometimes it takes us quite a while to know a person. In the spirit world you cannot actually read a person's thought. But if that person were to open his mouth and say just one word, that one word becomes a revelation of the entire person's life. That's how powerful the spirit realm is like. The moment a person open the mouth and say anything you see the mind. In the spiritual realm, you are observing a person's soul. The moment their soul open for an utterance their mind is revealed. So in a sense it is not reading the mind. But it is reading the words that comes out from the soul. That's what the spirit realm is like in terms of the thoughts and in terms of the words.

Logic Breaks Down In the Spirit World

The other aspect of the spirit world is that it is very illogical. Logic breaks down in the spirit world. We all like to be logical. We all like to think line upon line. And we are all comfortable with that. In the spirit realm even logic cannot reach. Understand what Paul said in II Cor. 12 he says inexpressible word which he cannot utter. Paul was a very logical man. We are not doing away with logic. We just need to understand the different realms of the body, the mind, and the spirit so that we don't confuse those realms. The spirit realm is not a realm of logic; it's a realm of reception. Logic is perception. The spirit realm is a reception. It is like a channel of wisdom from God flowing into you all the time. Every thing you know in the spirit realm has to come from God and not from yourself. But in our natural realm we know the effort that we make in trying to understand a revelation from God. Yet when you enter into the spiritual realm it feels like you are plucked into God's wisdom and every thing you know is God's knowledge imparted to you. You are just a receiver of the flow of God's wisdom and knowledge.

In the book of I Cor. 2:12-14 *Now we have received not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit which is from God, that we might understand the gifts bestowed on us by God. And we impart this in words not taught by human wisdom but taught by the Spirit, interpreting spiritual truths to those who possess the Spirit. The unspiritual man does not receive the gifts of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, and he is not able to understand them because they are spiritually discerned.*

Now understand the value of what I am talking about here. It is not that we are against intellectualism. We have always encouraged people to pursue study and the depths of knowledge as much as they can. A lot of people study and gain knowledge because they want a better career. Let me tell you I studied and tried to get knowledge because it's a hobby. Incidentally if you get knowledge and everything in the process of time you get a better career you treat that as a bonus. We all must have a childlike inquisitiveness that must not be murdered. From a child we are all hungry to know the world around us. But somewhere along the line as we grow into teenage life and adult life we treat study just for career. We must get back our childlike inquisitiveness, the hunger and the thirst to know and to understand.

I found in my experience of the spirit realm that the moment I switch to logic the visions become less. The moment I switch off logic the visions become more. That's the reason I am giving you this point. If you understand both sides like right now as I move strongly into the logical area, the visualizing part diminishes. And if I want to minister in the spirit I must let go the logical part of my being. If I don't let go I cannot minister in the spirit. Which is why now you can understand for a minister to minister both in the spirit and in the teaching side is very difficult to mix both. Because to go into one is to diametrically oppose the other. And it takes quite a balance to get into both. I have chosen to try to get into both realms so that when it comes to teaching we are logical and perceptive. Right now if I am talking about the logical realm the vision just disappeared. But if the anointing is there and I want to move into that spirit realm I have to voluntarily choose to give up that logical part of myself and just open to the spirit of receiving. It is not really a passive state. Passiveness of mind is not what God wants. It is what the devil wants. It is still active but it is active in worship and in tuning to God. It's a totally different realm.

If you observe how people minister one to one, you could observe whether they are using the logical part or the spiritual part. I could minister in the logical part and say you must get this verse into you. Once you move in the spirit realm you know that there is another realm. And the other realm is different. And if I want to see something in that person's life I must voluntarily give up the logic part and move into that spirit realm. Then only I will be able to get into that. There has to be an internal letting go.

You see I am an experimenter in the spirit realm. Once I experience it I want to know what makes it come and what makes it go off. How do I maintain it? How do I flow into it? Most of the time in our overnight prayer meeting I wouldn't lead that long in worship. But because this subject we are talking about require a certain amount of prayer, a certain amount of worship, we will need a longer time of worship to help us enter into this spiritual realm. There is a certain level of anointing that is required before we can move into different things. It is very difficult to move in the spirit to move into healing if we don't have enough depth of worship. Some people may just take it in a natural way. Some train people by saying, "When you look at someone try to get a picture." Sometimes they try and end up getting something from their own soul and it is not of the spirit. It is their own soul trying to conceive something. That's not moving in the spirit at all. I know what it is like when you try to see something with your own soul. In the end there is no anointing and there is sort of a pressure that is there.

But the realm of the spirit is a rest. As you move into it you just rest. Like right now if I want to move in the spirit, I don't force God and say God I must get something. When you do that you cannot get it. The realm of the spirit is such that when you choose to move into that you rest in God and you seek after God and try to tune yourself to God. If God doesn't show anything you cannot get anything. As you surrender more and more into that realm it can be quite frequent.

That is the second thing I found that the realm is. After that 48 hours of prayer in the Spirit I found

myself in the spirit realm. But while I was still strong in the spirit realm there were times when I suddenly got weak even before the spirit realm faded off. That happens when my mind begins to switch gear into the logical side trying to get back into my intellectual ability, but over at the spirit realm the visions slowly faded off. Then I understood what Jesus says that the moment you doubt the spirit realm is paralyzed. Remember Jesus say in Mk. 11 If you say it to the mountain and if you do not doubt in your heart. I began to understand that doubt is the intellectual mind trying in its natural state to understand the spirit realm. Trying to explain it without waiting for God to explain it.

It is not just the devil putting doubt in our mind; doubt is also actually a working of the mind. Which is why the more educated a person the greater ability they have to be skeptical and doubtful. But you go to a village of simple hearted villagers and you tell something about God they believe it, they received it and they get a miracle. But the more educated we are the greater our ability to be skeptical. Why is it so? It is because we are much more able to explain things away. We got more information and more arguments that a person in the village who doesn't have much schooling cannot explain away. They will straight away say this is God. But the intellectual man will say this phenomenon can naturally occur through unseen radiation. They have more logic, more arguments, are more skeptical, and have more doubts.

And I began to understand what doubt does. How it works. And it turns you away from the spirit realm. Which is exactly what Paul say in I Cor. You look at the spirit realm and say this is foolishness. But one day when we all get into heaven you don't try to use logic. The bible says the gate into heaven is a huge pearly gate. Your logic says pearls come from oysters. The size of the oyster must be big to get such a huge pearl. You can't because anything can happen in the spirit realm.

Notice in the book of Exodus when God spoke to Moses and said, "What is that you have in your hand?" Moses threw that stick down and it turned into a snake. How do we naturally explain a stick turning into a live snake? If Charles Darwin saw that he would have fainted. He would say, "How can a piece of stick evolve into a snake within seconds?" That itself defies logic. Any hunter will tell you to catch the snake by the neck. God said, "Catch the snake by the tail." Moses is quite an experienced shepherd and he may have encountered real snakes before. That would be the first time in his life to catch the snake by the tail. If he ever talks to God he would have said, "God I am going to do it just because you said it." It is the most unreasonable command.

Think about the scientists that say they have found an explanation of how the Israelites crossed the Red Sea. They say a strong wind was blowing. And it just blows a path aside. They didn't read that part of the scripture that says the waters stood up like a wall on either side. If the wind blows a path the water would not stand up on either side. Perhaps in the crowd of the Israelites was a very scientific person and said to Moses this cannot be where in the world got water stand up like this. And every one of them would say, "What kind of trick is this? Do you expect us to cross through?" Maybe God just lifted the clouds that were blocking their view of the Egyptians coming after them. Then they had to say to Moses, "Like it or not, logical or not, we are crossing now." Sometimes the body of Christ needs some encouragement. Maybe as Moses was parting the Red Sea a poor fish got stuck halfway in the wall of the water. And as they were crossing a little child saw that fish and say, "Father can I pull this fish out for dinner? The father said, "Don't touch, don't unpluck it." If you read carefully that story in the bible and check all the details and descriptions, you will find that the waters were like wall besides them. The most illogical was happening.

There are a lot of things that you cannot explain with logic. Jesus multiplies the 5 loaves and 2 fish. You cannot explain this event because there is that spirit realm that we are dealing with. And here is the blessings if we are willing to move into that realm voluntarily and seek to yield you will be able to see greater miracles. Jesus didn't have to think logically when we talk about 5 loaves and 2 fish. When you start learning how to yield that logical realm to God and just go in that spirit realm, you will tap into the realm of blessings and miracles. The logical mind cannot tap into the power of God. It is only the spiritual mind that can tap into the power of God. That was the second major difference I found.

Yet what is the use of the logical mind? Our mind can be renewed so that the logical mind can be trained after we accept the things of God. Paul says in I Cor. 2:7 *But we impart a secret and hidden wisdom*

of God, which God decreed before the ages for our glorification. Who is it that teaches to argue? When people say, "Where is God. Prove to me there is God." Then you say, "Prove to me where there is no God." Who teaches all these the Holy Spirit who trains us that any argument can also be pulled apart through logic. In the end you come right down that you must believe God by faith.

Whenever we want to go higher realm we don't talk logic with God. You only talk worship with God. And may God give each one of us a hunger as we pray tonight. See there is value in praying. Just one experimentation of those 48 hours of prayer was enough to change my understanding of the spirit world. Just one spiritual experience in your life brought into the natural realm to be understood with the scriptures could change your entire life in God. Which is why I mentioned that I understood that worry was also a part of the logical mind thinking. If you don't have the logical mind you cannot worry. Worry depends on logic. All worries are based on arguments. May God help us to move into that great realm of the spirit which is available for all of us.

2. TRANSPORTATION IN THE SPIRIT

As we pray we enter into the spirit world. And it's important for us to understand what the spirit world is like. The bible has some principles and guidelines as to what the spirit world is like. However many times we are just left with our experiences with the spirit world. Which is why I dare not being a theologian call something as laws of the spirit world unless I can really know that they are laws and that they are revealed in the Word. If it's a subjective area that the Word is silent upon we can only call it as common experiences.

First of all the spirit world has no distance. That we know in principle. But the experience of it can be astounding. And as we began to explore this realm, we understand that the spirit world needs a lot of interpretation. But the realm of the spirit has no distance. That means that as you pray as you enter into the depths of the spirit some of the things you see and experience could be from another place or another land. Or it could be nearby. So geographical distance is never there in the spirit world. When we talk about geographical distance we also want to include the distance between the heavenly realm and the natural realm here.

Lets look at the book of II Kings. And we see some statements made by Elisha that give us a clue of the spirit realm. And we not only share those experiences, we also want to share about the how and the what in the spirit world. In the book of II Kgs. 5 the background is how Naaman has been healed. And Naaman offered some gifts to Elisha who refused the gifts but Gehazi, Elisha's servant was covetous and went after those gifts.

2 Kgs. 5:20-27 Gehazi the servant of Elisha the man of God, said, "See, my master has spared this Naaman the Syrian, in not accepting from his hand what he brought. As the Lord lives, I will run after him, and get something from him." So Gehazi followed Naaman. And when Naaman saw someone running after him, he alighted from the chariot to meet him, and said, "Is all well?" And he said, "All is well. My master has sent me to say, "There has just now come to me from the hill country of Ephraim two young men of the sons of the prophets; pray, give them a talent of silver and two festal garments." And Naaman said, "Be pleased to accept two talents." And he urged him, and tied up two talents of silver in two bags, with two festal garments, and laid them upon two of his servants; and they carried them before Gehazi. And when he came to the hill, he took hem from their hand, and put them in the house, and he sent the men away, and they departed. He went in, and stood before his master, and Elisha said to him, "Where have you been Gehazi?" And he said, "Your servant went nowhere." But he said to him, "Did I not go with you in spirit when the man turned from his chariot to meet you? Was it a time to accept money and garments, olive orchards and vineyards, sheep and oxen, menservants and maidservants? Therefore the leprosy of Naaman shall cleave to you, and to your descendants for ever." So he went out from is presence a leper, as white as snow.

Elisha was taken up right at the moment as Gehazi was turning back not as he was going. The moment the man was turning back Elisha was there in the spirit. And he saw the whole thing and heard the whole thing except they cannot see him for he was in the spirit world.

In the occult realm, which is a non-Christian realm, they have what you call astral traveling. Those who yield themselves to the occult state of spirit realm seem to be able to travel into that realm. They thought that everything in that realm is good not realizing there are also evil spirits out there. But there is a realm that even the unbelievers who yield themselves utterly to the realm of the spirit seem to be able to move into. They even might have what you would call a word of knowledge.

I read some accounts by Christians who researched into both Christians and non-Christians astral traveling. They call it astral from secular definition. And some of these non-Christians who move into that realm talk about areas of walls that they come to meet or demon spirits (they don't call them demons but they call them creatures) that they saw outside. And for the unbelievers and the occult people to do that, they need a certain level of freedom from their body.

There are different levels in which our body is related to our soul and our spirit. Lets say this bible is the body and your human spirit is the hand. Your body can be under the dominion of your mind and your spirit. Or your body can be dominating your soul and your spirit. The spirit, soul and body are in different types of relationship. It's just like a husband and wife relationship. There are some wives who are dominates their husbands. And there are some husbands that dominate over their wives. There are some who have a perfect relationship of equality and consultation. And you could see many couples have different types and degrees of relationship.

In a similar comparison there is a relation between our spirit, soul and body. And some people have their body control them so much and their soul control them so much that they are never able to move into the spirit realm whether they are unbelievers or whether they are Christians. Even the unbeliever who wants to move into the realm of the spirit and experience astral traveling has a price to pay. They either go on a vegetarian fast or they try to seclude themselves from worldly activities. They give themselves to concentration of what they call meditation in order to enter that realm. The principle behind it is the isolation of the body from the soul. So that the soul is free. In the same way if you try to concentrate after a heavy meal, your body seems to be enlarged and your soul reduced and your spirit absent.

If you have been on a long fast, you will notice you feel very light. It is just not physical lightness although you will loose a few pounds. But there is another realm of lightness like your spirit and your soul are related to the body but not so firmly gripped by the body. Like your spirit and soul are floating above your body. That kind of lightness is necessary in order for a person to move into the spirit world. Which is why a Christian needs to have a fasted life.

Now verse 26 a sentence that has been used by Elisha is *did not my heart go out with you*. In some of the older translation the translators put *did not my spirit go out with you?* Elisha's spirit went and saw all the things that took place.

In the book of II Cor. 12:3-4 *And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows - and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter*. Now here Paul says he reached a point, we know he is talking about himself because later on he says because of the abundance of these revelations a thorn in the flesh came into his life. So we know it was him in the end. But here is an experience in the spirit world where Paul was not sure whether he was just there in the spirit or whether his body was also there. That qualifies our statement that transportation in the realm of the spirit has no distance. There is a degree where we move into God where only our spirit is able to transcend geographical distance.

I would classify such transportation in the spirit realm into 3 categories. The first is where those geographical places you see in your visions come to you, like over a phone line or satellite transmission in the natural. When you look into a television and see a satellite transmission let say of a live Olympic games, you are not there but yet you know what is happening there. All those things that are happening there are transmitted through electro magnetic waves and they bounced off the satellite. They come right down to where you are even though you could be on the opposite side of the earth. It could be the picture or the places coming into your living room.

The second degree is where like Elisha where his spirit actually goes to the place itself. Does it come slowly or does it come instantly? Usually such traveling could be quite fast. But there are times where some people have experienced it as a slow motion. If you are new in the spirit world, when you are praying you may have a very interesting sensation of rising up. But when you check your body you find that it is still down there. This is the second realm. And as they are rising up they may get very frightened.

The first time where I experienced it was in a Baptist seminary. We did our students' devotion after we come back from our fieldwork and each one of us took turns to lead. It was my turn that night. That night I closed my eyes, which I usually do to lead in prayer before the devotion. As I was praying I felt a floating sensation. Although my voice was still speaking I felt as if my spirit was on the ceiling. It was a very odd and queer sensation. The reason we share this thing is that in case some of you experience the same things you won't think that is queer, peculiar or strange. Sometimes it helps to hear another person's experience. It encourages you not to be frightened.

Then there were a few times when in deep prayer I had a sensation of being lifted into the heavenly. I know it was the second realm where my body didn't go up. That was when we were sharing in a church about the second coming of Jesus. When in prayer it was like I was taken out and I reached a certain distance where I saw the curvature of the earth. Suddenly I was being moved into an area where I could see Europe, India and Asia. That was quite high up. In the spirit realm that was when I saw demon forces that looked like warriors. They look like intelligent looking human beings. A group of them were coming in a South Easterly direction down towards India and South East Asia. This happened before the walls of communism came down. And I saw these warriors coming downwards and the Lord told me that these are warring demons and that they have come to create war. Subsequently after that you read in the papers about things that happened in India. The Lord was speaking about praying against them coming to this direction. It seems that they were being moved out of Eastern Europe to create trouble in India and South East Asia. When demons are cast out from a place they do not become unemployed. They look for work somewhere else. They look for things to do. So they just shift their place of work or create new trouble.

Then there are times I experienced things like what Paul mentioned in Col. 2:5 *For though I am absent in body, yet I am with you in spirit rejoicing to see your good order and the firmness of your faith in Christ.* So there are times in the spirit that you are transported like Elisha where you are watching in the human level not so high up. Paul was saying here that he could behold the order of the Colossians. There are times when God gave him to know what is happening in the church of Colossae by a supernatural visitation.

So there were times when in prayer the Lord has taken me into the homes of people, usually for certain purposes and reasons in order to show something. I have not had the kind that Kenneth Hagin had where one day in the spirit he got into the car with a young girl (whom he was interested in) and a young boy. And he was seated in the car behind them. And he was with them all the way as they drove into the park committed sin and drove back. All the time Kenneth Hagin was sitting there.

When you have the first type you are physically aware of your physical body. Just like you are watching the Olympic games on T.V. You could be conscious of what you are doing physically. Conscious of what is happening in front of you. But when you are having the second category you completely loose consciousness of your physical body. All your consciousness gets into your spirit. And sometimes when you get back into your body you suddenly feel cold. Because your body was cold all the time but you never felt it. Or you feel your knees having those familiar needles sensations for kneeling too long. But you only feel it

after you get back into your body. Before you get back into your body all those sensations that you have are not there. You are only conscious of the spirit world.

Possibly what Paul experienced in II Cor. 12 is the second type, where he was not aware whether he is in the spirit or in the body. By the time you reached the third category you are physically transported. There is a total awareness that your body has been taken up. You won't be in the zone where you are thinking was it in the spirit or in the body.

The third type of transportation is where even your physical body is transported like Philip who was transported. Your body has yielded to a certain extent. It has to do with our relationship with our spirit, soul and our body. Some of us are not related properly to your physical body. If you are not related properly to your physical body you won't be able to experience all these differences. We have to have a right relationship with our physical body. So when our physical body knows its place and is very yielded to the realm of the spirit it can reach a stage where your spirit carries your body along. The Spirit of God coming upon you carries your body along. And at that time your physical body seems to take on a peculiar quality, which was never there in the natural.

For example let's look over to the book Ezek. 3:1-3 *In the sixth year, in the sixth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I sat in my house, with the elders of Judah sitting before me, the hand of the Lord God fell there upon me. Then I beheld, and lo, a form that had the appearance of a man; below what appeared to be his lions it was fire, and above his lions it was like the appearance of brightness, like gleaming bronze. He put forth the form of a hand, and took me by the lock of my head; and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven, and brought me in visions of God to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the gateway of the inner court that faces north, where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provokes to jealousy.*

If you read carefully you will notice that in verse 3 although the word visions is mentioned that there was a physical catching hold of Ezekiel. He was caught by the hair and taken in the midst of the people he was sitting with and transported to Jerusalem. And even though he was physically taken to Jerusalem the people there could not physically see him. The physical body may take on a special quality of invisibility in the third category of transportation that is not naturally there all the time.

Even in Acts 8 as Philip was translated physically, his body had to take on a different physical quality in order to break the force of gravity. This is something that is physically not possible. So under the third category the body takes on a very supernatural quality. Which explains why when Moses was with God for 40 days and 40 nights he didn't have to eat. His stomach must have taken on a special quality. Some of you try to fast 7 days on water already knows what it is like. Moses went 40 days and 40 nights without food and water. The bible especially mentioned without food and water. How could he stand that in the natural? Your stomach will be protesting. Your physical body will feel weak.

There is a time during a 40 day fast that your body crosses the line of the spirit. If our body doesn't cross that line our body is just subject to the spirit. But when our body crosses that line and enters into the spirit world the body takes on a different quality. I believe when Moses came down from the 40 days fast he didn't come skinny. Moses walked down and he was so strong that he took the tablets and he broke it. He still got all his strength and he looks the same. Not a single pound lost after 40 days and 40 nights. It was because he was in the depths of God's strong presence.

So we need to reach a stage to understand that the spirit realm really overrules the natural. And there are times when God permits you to get into that realm so deep that your natural body is just simply overruled. And the higher laws start working. It doesn't age it doesn't feel hungry it doesn't need any physical sustainer. And it can go through walls even in its natural state if he is suspended under the spirit realm. It can do things which normally only people who are very well trained, skillful, circus actors can do. They tie their hair to a lorry and pull the lorry. When they do it takes great concentration on their part. But for a person like Ezekiel, he was just caught by the hair and pulled like a rocket up. Even when those guys who pull the lorry by the hair do it by slow motion. God just caught Ezekiel up. Under natural circumstances, something you

could never do it on your own. Your hair can never carry the body weight. But the spirit realm rules the natural body in this third realm.

We need to have an awareness that is there. Even if some of you have not experienced the first, second and third realm be aware that its there. And who know that tonight as you are praying you may suddenly experience the first realm. Then the second realm is when you feel floating. As you pray you feel like you are walking on the ceiling. Maybe second realm is opening just be open to that. In the second realm we still need our heart to be in the right attitude for the experience to continue.

Do you know that a spiritual experience can be cut short by natural event, especially in the second stage. But the third stage is you are gone already. The second stage is possible where you are just about to take off into the spirit and you are praying and somebody comes to you and say hey, hey, you are sort of wake up from the spirit world and all that you are getting into suddenly is cut short. It is possible in that realm. But there is a stage where you will never be disturbed. But there is a stage in twilight zone where you can be disturbed, can be called back and that is the stage which can be very critical. When we move into this area we may have to put a *do not disturb* sign.

The second area of experience in the spirit world is what I call spiritual material, spiritual food, spiritual creatures that are there in the spirit world. The spirit world doesn't just have spirits. They also have real spiritual tables, spiritual bread, spiritual food, spiritual books and things out there in the spirit world must not be taken lightly. Each one of those spiritual materials has a quality to impart certain thing. This is what I believe. When God made the tree of life. When you eat it, what do you get? You get life. If God make a tree of wisdom, and you eat it you get wisdom. When God makes a tree of knowledge of good and evil, when you eat it you get a knowledge of good and evil. If God make a tree called holiness, and you eat it you get holiness. Just as in the natural we eat different type of food, and we get different substances from different type of food. There is in the spirit world qualities that are acquired through partaking. If you would to have an opportunity in the spirit world to see some of the things in the spirit, if you ever partake of it they impart a quality into your spirit and into your soul sometimes into your physical body in ways that we cannot explain in the natural. They have a certain quality of impartation that affect spirit, soul and body.

Charles and Frances Hunter wrote about Roland Buck in *Angels On Assignment* and his daughter wrote the other book about him in *The Man Who Spoke To Angels*. He met Gabriel the angel. He met Michael the Archangel and spoke to them. And had visions and conversation with them which are recorded in those books and all of them are very good. But there was one particular thing that happened one night. One of the angels appeared to him with a ladle. In that ladle was a liquid that looks like a golden colored liquid. Then the angel said tonight I have gift from Father God to you. He was a slightly overweight man. After he ate eat that food from heaven, instantly he felt a sound on his physical body. He was wondering what was it. Then he realized that all the fat was burned up. So if after tonight you saw somebody coming here overweight and went back reduced to ordinary weight, that may have taken place while they were praying. But of course it was just one special gift the God gave. And he felt stronger and he felt 30 to 40 years younger. All these sound strange to many people.

Once you are aware of the fact that the spirit world is very real, you will find that it is as real as the natural world. There are foods up there. Sometimes God gives you an opportunity to partake of it. And when you partake there is an impartation in spirit, soul and even physical. There is a positive side effect upon your life.

1 Kgs. 19:4-6 *But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a broom tree; and he asked hat he might die saying, "It is enough; now, Lord, take away my life; for I am no better than my fathers." And he lay down and slept under a broom tree and behold, an angel touched him and said to him, "Arise and eat." And he looked and behold, there was at his head a cake baked on hot stones and a jar of water.*

But it was no ordinary cake. This would have been really genuine angel's cake. And there was a jar

of water. So he ate and drank and laid down again. Verse 7 the second time the angel said arise and eat because the journey is too great for you. Verse 8 he arose and ate and drank. And he went in the strength of that food for 40 days and 40 nights. These two meals lasted for 40 days and 40 nights. For it scientifically to happen that meal has to have natural and molecular effect on his physical stomach and body. It has to be something physically imparted for him to carry on like that for 40 days and 40 nights. So here are scriptures that tell that there are times God does give us heavenly food. The Israelites tasted manna, which the book of Psalms tells us its angels' food.

Why do they have to eat in the spirit world? The only reason for eating in heaven is impartation as well as pleasure. So that every thing we eat impart something into our spirit, soul and body. The pure need for eating in the natural today is mainly to sustain our body, to keep our body in good shape and form. But in the spirit world the spirit food has tremendous impartation value. I heard the testimony of a Christian who went up to heaven and visited some members of her church there. In one home that she visited, she was offered a glass of water to drink, which she found refreshing and soothing. She also ate some fruits offered by her host. Her host in heaven told her that in heaven they eat to remain young looking. The process of eating the heavenly food is part of the system like we have like laying on of hands. Laying on of hands today is besides baptism in the Spirit, healing, deliverance or ordination is also for impartation. We lay hand to impart. In heaven part of the impartation is received through the food itself.

Lets look at the book of Deut. 2:7 *For the Lord your God has blessed you in all the work of your hands; he knows your going through this great wilderness; these forty years the Lord your God has been with you; you have lacked nothing.* Then chapter 8 :4 *Your clothing did not wear out upon you, and your foot did not swell, these forty years.* The book of Psalms records and tells us that there was not a single weak or sick person in their midst for 40 years. How was that possible? The answer was in verse 3 of chapter 8. *And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know; that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but that man lives by everything that proceeds out of the mouth of the Lord.* It is connected to the manna in some way. There is a tremendous impartation in that spirit world and that spirit food.

So tonight while you are praying the spirit world opens itself to you and suddenly you see the cup filled with liquid in front of you, you rub your eyes and pray and its still there. Why do you think God shows you a cup? Take it, drink it, something will take place in your life. There will be an impartation. It will not only impart physical changes in your soul, in your physical body. But it will impart sometimes even an actual gift. You could in the spirit world if there is such a tree let say a tree of music. You partake it even though you are a non musician straight away you can play music. In the spirit world that's how things are imparted. Or if there is a tree call fruit of prophecy. You have never prophesied before, but when you ate it suddenly you prophesy.

In the book of Revelation, John saw this huge angel coming down from the heaven above. Rev. 10:8-11 *Then the voice which I had heard from heaven spoke to me again, saying, "Go, take the scroll which is open in the hand of the angel who is standing on the sea and on the land." So I went to the angel and told him to give me the little scroll; and he said to me, "Take it and eat; it will be bitter to your stomach, but sweet as honey in you mouth." And then I took the little scroll from the hand of the angel and ate it; it was sweet as honey in my mouth, but when I had eaten I my stomach was made bitter. And I was told, "You must again prophesy about the many peoples and nations and tongues and kings."*

That book was an actual impartation of the Spirit of prophecy. It took place through eating in the spirit world.

The same thing also happened to Ezekiel in chapter 12:17-19 *"Son of man, eat your bread with quaking, and drink water with trembling and with fearfulness; and say of the people of the land. Thus says the Lord God concerning the inhabitants of Jerusalem in the land of Israel; they shall eat their bread with fearfulness, and drink water in dismay because their land will be stripped of all it contains, on account of the violence of all those who dwell in it.*

Now there is here an actual eating. But as he was eating in the natural there was something that took place in the natural. He was shaking as he ate it. Now the Spirit of prophecy was working through the natural substance as well. Now the real spiritual one is in chapter 3 :1-3 *"Son of man, eat what is offered to you; eat this scroll, and go, speak to the house of Israel."* So I opened my mouth, and he gave me the scroll to eat. And he said to me, *"Son of man, eat this scroll that I give you and fill your stomach with it."* Then I ate it; and it was in my mouth as sweet as honey.

Same like John the apostle. And after that the Lord says you go and you speak. Now these two experiences of Ezekiel come quite close. One is completely similar to John the apostle. The other is Jesus Christ taking the cup and the bread. And saying this bread is my body and this cup is my blood. Now the partaking was like the turning point. When they partake they were his. But when he partook wrongly like Judas it says after that very moment the devil came into him.

The apostle Paul mention in the book of Cor. 11 it says that the Lord's Supper is partaken wrongly by some and because of it they died. But if partaken correctly it brings tremendous blessings. That is the reason why Christians practice saying grace. Not only as a thanksgiving to God. But by saying it we could experience the anointing of God on the food. Sanctify it by word and prayer and partake it and have some sort of a impartation also in the spirit world as a release of our faith. In the ways spiritual things are imparted up above.

As there is a realm there it may happen in your dreams, it may happen in your prayer. I was having a 3 days fast without food and water many years ago. And I was in the third year of seminary. On the second night I had a very peculiar dream. In that dream I was in my old house. And there was this man who came to the house. That man looks very like my father. And the man was carrying many layers of round type of food that looks like pancakes. In that particular dream I was sitting in front of the house like waiting. When he came by the man said eat all of this its for you. So I took it and I ate it one by one. After I ate it I woke up. When I got up I felt the presence of God. And that night the Lord said I have given to you what you have asked. And that night I realized something was imparted to me. And I knew in my spirit that I have actually eaten something. When I woke up I still felt the thing in my stomach. Remember I have not eaten because it was the second day of my total fast without food and water. I knew that there was something that was imparted. Each time something was imparted it seems that even my personality changed. It seems to affect your soul totally. So that the more you receive this kind of thing in that spirit and it gets into you the more you move into the spirit realm and partake of the spiritual thing.. Just like Roland Buck his physical body was changed.

You will not believe in 10 years' time the person you will become. You could be the most introverted person ever. But through a series of partaking certain type of heavenly food, you could be the most explosive personality. This is something which is quite impossible in the natural. For the heavenly food transform our personality, transform our mind, and transform our being. And I know that something that took place inside. Of course I didn't understand it fully in those days. But through time there have been many more things that have been partaken.

You ask, "Can dreams be so real?" Yes, what about Solomon. Remember that it was in a dream that the Lord asked him, "Ask of me what you want." He may have slept let say with an I.Q. of 150. And he woke up with an I.Q. of 400. So something does take place in the spirit realm. In your prayer sometimes you see a light. And you want to run from that light. Even the light that shines can transform us. John G. Lake was fasting for the baptism in the Spirit in his early days. One day as he was praying he felt a ray of light came and shone around him. That one ray of light was what he held to for the rest of his life. The purity of that light has continued to transform his life even onto the late days of his ministry.

In the book *Scenes Beyond The Grave* there was a scene in which they saw Jesus Christ in the children's paradise and all the scene was being reacted. And after that there was a scene of a preacher going out preaching. Then there was this person who did not accept Christ yet. Right at that moment what they saw in all the 5 dimensions including time and the spirit dimension was a ray of light came right down

from heaven and came into this man's heart. Something physically was imparted. There was a real light that shone on that person. And there has been many times in my prayers I have seen light sometimes flashes of light. And I have been opened to them. And when I am opened they went out.

Not all that we see in the spirit is necessary of God. Satan can also appear as an angel of light. I want to be balanced here not to frighten you but to be balanced. Otherwise people will yield to every funny kind of manifestation without having the Word. If you yield to the spirit realm minus the Word is the most dangerous thing you could ever do. Without the Word there is no protection in the spirit realm. There is no guidance in the spirit realm. It is just like driving a car when everybody has no rules. You can drive on any side of the road and there is no traffic light. It will be a mess. In the spirit world the Word is the protection. As long as you know your conscience is clear, your spirit is right in the sight of God. Usually all those disturbances do not come. And many of those manifestations are from the Lord. And when they are from the Lord we still have to yield to them.

Let me recount an incident from Kenneth Hagin's life. Before Hagin had the vision of the angel. In one of the visions he saw both Jesus and the angel. As he was talking to Jesus he saw the angel next to Jesus. And every time he turned around to look at this angel, the angel opened his mouth like he wanted to talk. But when he looked back at Jesus the angel closed his mouth and did not talk. He did that several times. Then when Jesus had finished talking to him, Jesus said, "The angel here has a message for you." And of course Hagin being like many intellectual said, "Lord if you are here why don't you give me the message. Why must it be him?" So the Lord has to show Hagin all the scriptures that didn't my word say the angel will be ministering to you. Finally Hagin turn to the angel. The moment he turned to the angel. The angel said these words: "I have been wanting to speak to you about your finances." And the angel said, "Some finances are on the way. By the way that man has offered to do all your things here. You are not supposed to give it to him because that is not God's will for you." But there is one funny part. The angel said I have tried to come and tell you before. That means that before the first encounter with the angel, the angel had tried to talk to Hagin. And he mentioned that incident sometime back. And that incident was before this incident when Hagin was living in a trailer. He remember one night that the angel recounted. When he was in his trailer and that night he felt like somebody came into the trailer stood right near to him. You know the feeling like somebody had just entered the room. But this is the statement he gave me. The angel said, "Because you did not open yourself to the spirit world, I could not speak to you." The angel told him, "I have come to talk to you earlier because you didn't open to the spirit I could not speak to you." And between that trailer experience and the time the angel appeared to him next to Jesus, he went into financial difficulty and financial problem. All because he didn't open himself to the ministering spirit who came to minister to him, he ended up with financial problems. Angels are working with us. Jesus is working with us. Holy Spirit is working with us. And we need to be open to all.

I know some Christians are critical spiritually. O we have Jesus why we need Holy Spirit. We have Holy Spirit why we need angels. There are others who say we have Father God. God doesn't want us to play favorites like that. He wants to learn to relate to God the Father, to Jesus the Son, to the Holy Spirit and to the angels. He wants us to learn all these different relationships. But there is a realm in the spirit where unless we open ourselves to it we cannot move in. And they cannot manifest. But through sharing experiences like that in the spirit we become more familiar with them, we become more aware of them and we become more in a state of realization of the possibility when they do happen. So that when God so chooses we could just go into that realm.

Sometimes a spiritual manifestation take a choice involved. You choose to yield you choose not to. Sometimes some of you have the experience when you pray, pray it looks like if you just pray a little more and you stay a little longer you are going to break into something but you stopped. And in the end you are the loser and you loose out on what God has for you. And I have learnt that it is not only important when to pray, what to pray and how to pray is important where to pray. God can be quite strict. If God want to appear to you on a mountain and you are not there He is not going to appear to you. Which is why I can understand when God tells Moses to meet Him on the mountain. If Moses were to meet anywhere else He won't appear. Why many times Jesus had to climb all the way up to the mountain? Why didn't God talk to Him down in the valley? Besides being quietness there are reasons behind God's manifestation.

Why Elijah should go all the way to the mountain in I Kg. 19. Is God only there? No God is everywhere. But God has His workings, His requirements to discipline us, to check our hunger for Him, our desire for which all works out to physical areas of where, how, which every thing which becomes our total expression of our seeking for God. If God so chooses to manifest to you and say tonight I want you to be in such and such a prayer meeting. And you are not there you may miss out. We need to be open in the spirit realm where God has a peculiar way, a particular way of manifesting in the spirit world. And that is how the spirit world runs and is like. The first area we have said that there is no geographical barrier. And there are 3 realms of moving into that area where you transcend geographical barrier. The second we said that there are spiritual materials. And there is an impartation when we partake of spiritual substances and spiritual materials that have a tremendous effect on our physical bodies and on our souls.

3. THE SONG OF THE LAMB

We are in a series entitled experiences in the spirit realm. As the title tells you it is not exactly the kind of systematic theological teaching we normally give. But we are trying to share some of our experiences from the spirit world and then identify with scriptures and show that these experiences are scriptural. But there will be a lot when we deal with the experiences in the spirit realm that are beyond our natural understanding. Like Paul says when he went to the third heaven he said he saw things there, he heard some things there that he was not permitted to describe and this is found in II Cor. 12. So all the best description that we have in our natural language is only a shadow of what is there in the spirit.

The natural world is very real to us, but the natural world is a shadow of the spirit world. And a shadow is something that is a reflection of a solid object or rather a blockage of light prevented by a solid object. As light flows and shines upon an object the area where the light cannot shine through cast a shadow. So the shadows sometimes quite look like the real thing. It depends on the intensity of the light; it depends on the position of the light that affects the shadow. If the light is not intense then the shadow is very faint. Sometimes the position of the light casts a different shadow too. If the light is very close then you have a bigger shadow. If the light is far then you have a small shadow.

So in the same way as we describe these things, it depends on the position we are describing from. 3 or 4 people who have gone to heaven can come back and describe the same thing but the description of heaven from each of them will sound different. It depends on the position. It also depends on their own spiritual level that they have come into God.

This series flows forth from the experience of how after for about 48 hours of praying in tongues the spirit world opened. And there were some things that were seen and heard in the spirit world that we are trying to describe in the natural what it is like. We have described about the realm of revelation. We could see into somebody's heart, somebody's eyes and you could have knowledge about their past and every thing. Or you could see things almost like the natural scene but actually it is the spiritual realm.

The Realm of the Spirit is a Realm of Music

So the next area we are talking about is the realm of song and music. In the spirit world living things have a song and have music. It seems that there is no living object that doesn't carry a song or carry music. In the spirit realm that God took me in, I was fascinated because I wondered what that sound was. It didn't exactly sound like an organ or a piano or some musical instrument. But there was a constant music at different times in the spirit world. It was a sort of musical vibration that was sounded in the background. Sometimes it sounds like little rivers of water flowing in harmony. Sometimes it sounds like a roar but it's not a roar of discord. It's a roar of harmony. Our natural ears cannot pick up the fullness of heaven's music. In heaven our eyes can see as far as we want to see. But on earth natural eyes can only see to a certain distance. Likewise in heaven our ears will be able to hear as much as we want to. But there is a realm of music, a realm of song that is always there. And every object seems to giving out a sort of music.

Like when there is a heavenly scene, lets say there is a heavenly tree. Each life has a different tune.

The tree seems to be giving a sort of music. The heavenly grass seems to be like giving its own music. Then the creatures in heaven or the angels in heaven when they speak their voices have musical quality. Some of you may have images of the angels talking to each other. They talk normally but there is a musical quality to that sound. As they are speaking there is a sparkle of music, which seems to harmonize with all the background.

The spirit realm that I entered happened while I was still down here on earth. And here was interesting part. While in the spirit realm, I also found that out of every human being there was also a tune coming out of them. Do you know that to those who had problem with their hearts, the normal heartbeat is music to their ears? I read a story of a Christian who was claiming God's word for a heart problem. And his pulse was fixed to a heart machine. And the sound of the machine goes *troup, troupe*, and every time it goes in rhythm he is very happy. So to him that is music.

Inside each one of us there is music, there is vibration taking place all the time. Your heart is beating so there is music going on all the time. We are not talking about natural sound. Inside each one of us is a spiritual tune. And in that spirit world you not only see a person but you hear a person. And when some one is in discord, their spiritual music is also in discord. So there is a spiritual tune that flows and it can be detected. The sounds that come forth from those who are out of harmony with God are not music. That's the strange thing. You could tell a Christian by their song. Unbelievers who are not in harmony with God do not give out harmonic sound. There is a discord that flows that is painful to the ear.

Ps.69:34 Let heaven and earth praise him, the seas and everything that moves therein. Let everything worship Him. Let everything praise Him. Let all that have breath praise the Lord. There is a certain voice; there is certain music in all of God's creation. In the birds, in the trees, wherever there is life there is certain music. Now why do we call it music? Music is basically just a harmony of movement and sound and vibrations. When it's all harmoniously put together we have what human defined as music. When the planets move in their order it is music in God's eyes and to God's ears. Music is the synchrony of sounds, of movement. So there is a certain music when there is perfection. Wherever perfection reigns music results. So music is the perfect balance of all of God's creations.

When God first made the world the Garden of Eden and this planet earth in its perfect state, every thing vibrated with the harmony and the music of God. In the Garden of Eden before the fall of man all the earth was praising God. Every creature was praising God. The praise was coming forth because everything was in harmony in God's sight. If that is being the case we take our definition further. Where perfection is music results. Since God is perfection personified, God exemplifies music. God Himself is the harmony of harmonies. The rhythm of rhythms. The source of all music. Because from Him flows perfection. God is perfect and there is music in God. And then there is music in every thing that God says because God's word is perfect. And there is every thing of music in what God does because His works are perfection. For where perfection reigns, music results.

So when say a word it would produce harmony. Now I am going to take a little bit of illustration from the realm of music. Sometimes, lets say you have a choir or a band, when you have a small discord, let says 1 in discord and 99 played in harmony. Do you think it would drown that person? Of course, you could hardly hear the disharmony. However as the statistics increase from 1 to 2, slowly the discordant sound becomes louder. By the time perhaps you reached 10% the discord becomes quite obvious. Do you notice there is something about music? It doesn't quite go by percentage. Let say a person talks about going to heaven being based on good works and bad works. And they say when they stand before the judgment seat of God, God will put all the bad works on one side, good works on one side. If the scale just tilts a little bit on the bad side you go to hell. If it tilts just one little on the good work side, maybe you have given a cup of water to a thirsty man of God, you go to heaven. That's what most religions believe until they come to Christianity they realize that no man can enter heaven by their works.

What we are trying to illustrate is that in some things 50 - 50 kind of thing makes a difference. In the realm of music you don't need a 50% thing to weigh equally. Just 10% can destroy the whole orchestra. You don't need half the musicians to be bad to spoil the whole music. If there are 7 musicians 1 bad musician is

enough to spoil the music. See music has such a quality that even if a small percentage is discordant, it is very obvious.

So we are trying to illustrate here that in the realm of the spirit you don't need a big fat sin to qualify as a sinner. Why is it so? It is because it works in the harmony that flows. There is a discord that begins to drown out all the other things. But in God there is no discord. His word is perfect. His works are perfect. Now what happens is this whenever there is a powerful harmony compared to a small disharmony, that powerful harmony could sometimes affect that disharmony into harmony. It just would be like as you vibrate this tuning fork here the other tuning fork will after sometime vibrate too. So when we are in discord His word can cause harmony into our being once again. The word that is perfection, the word that is harmony, the word that is music when it flows in our lives it causes a harmony to come forth. So in this way every part of our system becomes tuned to the Word. This is what I call a re-tuning that is being done.

Now what are we basing that tuning on. Every tuning has to be based on something. That tuning is based on what a person hears to be harmonies. There are 2 ways to tune a guitar. You could either tune it to the other strings. However if one of those strings was tuned wrongly and the other 4 strings were tuned to that 1 string, you got 5 strings tuned in harmony to that 1 string. You got 1 more to tune and you tuned it exactly to the rest of the 5. They are in harmony but all are tuned to a wrong key.

In the same way when God speaks His Word there is full of harmony. There is something in us when God's Word becomes powerful that gets tuned up into God. Which is why God says in Col. 3:16 When God's words is in abundance not when it is in famine.

Col.3:16 *Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, as you teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and as you sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God.* When the Word is abundant in us every part of our being the drums in us, the piano in us all get tuned to the Word which is the basic tone that we have to tune to. Then we become in tune with God. See there is always a standard called the key of C. Sometimes when a person tune a guitar they can tune it to D or tune it to E or they tune it to a lower note. And when they press the C cord is not the real C it is a actually lower note.

What's happening here? Let me bring into the realm of human psyche. It is possible for a person to tune their inward being to a certain extent without God through the powers of human concentration, occult, yoga or psychic concentration. They try to think all their inward being into a certain vibration. Lets say the Word of God is middle C. Then you tune everything to middle C. Then it harmonies with the harmony God wants. Without God people are in discord. All their internal parts of their soul are in discord. Sometimes people have bitterness, hurt, childhood experiences, terror, nightmare and all these things. And as they grow up they are in discord. And you wonder why their character is that way. See I am trying to illustrate that life is music itself. Your character is music when it's perfect. Jesus is the perfect symphony. When a person character is irritable and easily angered you know what is coming out. It is a discord. See there is are inner parts of our soul. There are inner parts of our spirit. And there are inner parts of our body. They all flow in harmony together.

What happen with some people especially the occult, the psychic, who try to reach into the spirit realm minus God? You know how they do it. Lets say the word of God is middle C and every part of our being is supposed to be tuned to that. But that person is in discord, don't know God. So they try to tune themselves, they try to reach that realm. Instead of tuning to middle C they end up tuning to D. So their soul, their dead spirit is out of harmony. And everything within them tune to that. What is happening is that there is a tuning to a song but not a song of the Lord. You see the entrance into the spirit realm is that harmony flow. So illegally they try to enter that realm by tuning to the wrong note. And they manage to just touch the surface of the spirit world. Why because the spirit realm contains all the notes. God created all the notes. And they just manage to touch that spirit realm long enough for that evil spirit to contact their soul and manifest. They gain extra strength from the demon spirit where the human spirit that is dead contacts the spirit. Where the human soul contacts the demonic soul and the demonic soul manifests. There is no protection in the spirit realm when you try to enter without God.

But in that spirit realm of God there is a song and a tune. There is an official entrance through Jesus Christ and the word of God that brings us into a continuous flow of the realm of the spirit. It's the song of the Lord. That is why the closer your word resembles the word of the Lord the closer your word contains the heavenly song and the heavenly tune. Let me answer the question that is often asked, why is music linked to prophecy? Everyone can teach that there is a link between music and prophecy, between music and the office of a prophet. But tonight you know why. The reason is because when a prophet or a ministry of prophecy contacts the word of the Lord and speaks it forth, its perfect, its music. And the reason why music has an entrance into that prophetic realm of uttering God's word is because music is part of your tuning to the perfection of God especially the music of God. At every point in history, in time and in the church, when men and woman of God of old has touched and spoken words that are closed or that are heavenly, it has always been the song of the Lord.

Moses reached a stage of what I will call almost perfection made possible through the grace of God. He still has to be redeemed through the Blood of the Lamb. But Moses had walked like no man has walked. He had known God like no man before him had known God. And at the peak of his ministry as he came to the conclusion and although he died he was resurrected. The book of Jude says God sent Michael to get the body of Moses because Moses was resurrected before the normal resurrection. He had walked too close with God. The song was even in his body. When prophecy reached its greatest height it becomes song and linked with music.

Look at Moses in Deut. 31:19 *Now therefore write this song, and teach it to the people of Israel; put it in their mouths, that this song may be a witness for me against the people of Israel.* But that song also prophesies good blessings. And that word that was uttered forth nearly about 2000 B.C. continues on as the word of God although it was known as the song of Moses. And when God speaks a word it will always come to pass. Whether that word came directly from God, that word came from an angel or that word came through man's lips, that word contains the music of God. Even at the climax of the Jewish age which Moses had looked forward to and prophesied, we find that they are still singing the Song of Moses. One of the climaxes is in the book of Rev. 15:3 *And they sing the song of Moses.* That song has not been completed even in the church age. But that prophetic song that was released will be completed in the Jewish dispensation after the rapture.

There have been men and women of God who had moved into that realm. When Paul was writing his epistles, he may not have realized it himself but the music of God was flowing in him. And as he wrote those epistles to persons like Timothy, Titus and to the churches in his time, his words continue on through age after age, through generation upon generation. Until today the 20th century the words of Paul still carry the same weight and authority. And we call it the infallible word. But it came from a humble ordinary pen and through a humble clay vessel. The guitar may be imperfect but when a good guitarist strums a song he will still bring out a song. That explains why whenever there is music the music of God and the praises and worship of God we sense the *Thus says of the Lord* so much stronger. And why do prophecy comes forth when music comes? It is because music is harmony.

In the book of I Chron. 25:1-3 *David and the chiefs of the service also set apart for the service certain of the sons of Asaph, and of Herman, and of Jeduthun, who should prophesy with lyres, with harps, and with cymbals. The list of those who did the work and of their duties was: Of the sons of Asaph: Zaccur, Joseph, Nehtaniah, and Asharelah, sons of Asaph, under the direction of Asaph, who prophesied under the direction of the king. Of Jeduthun, the sons of Jeduthun: Gedaliah, Zeri, Jeshaiiah, Shimeel, Hashabiah, and Mattihiah, six, under the direction of their father Jeduthun, who prophesied with lyre in thanksgiving and praise to the Lord.*

Have you ever wondered why prophecy and the harp, music, symbols go together? They were tuning to the song of God. Without music mankind cannot reach its highest aspiration. Great nations rise with great anthems. Great disasters are overcome with a great song in the hearts of God people. It is said and it is true that when the Japanese nation was conquered in the Second World War, the entire nation was devastated. They have lost hope in their religion. They have lost hope in anything that they have. But there was a song that came to them. Today Japan is known as the Ninth Symphonies. Japanese call it No. 9. That symphony by Beethoven took the hearts of the Japanese people and gave them back the hope, gave them

back the desire to rise. It was performed yearly and the crowds kept getting bigger and bigger. The CD diskette has 74 or 76 minutes. Why such an odd number? Why not 60 or 90 minutes? Because when they did it the Nine was so popular, they said we must modify the CD so that all of the nine symphonies can fit into one CD. That is the history of the 74 or 76 minutes CD. Beethoven's music raised up the people of Japan even though Beethoven himself may never have even met a Japanese. But his music lives on. That nation today has risen.

That's just natural music. Think about the song of the Lamb. Now there is a relationship between natural and spiritual. We humans love and draw towards harmony. People flee disharmony and riots. And people are drawn towards harmony. We draw towards harmonies in the same way there is a drawing towards God and music helps. Which explain why in II Kgs. 3 when Elisha had to prophesy, he says bring me a minstrel. As he hears the minstrel play the Spirit of the Lord came on him. The closer we go to God the more musical you become.

Getting Into The Realm of Harmony

The second area which we want to focus on is when you understand that all of the spirit realm is music, then the entrance into the spirit realm by the correct door is to learn to harmonize into that realm in God. How do we get into that realm? There is an easy way. We all know in Eph. 2 it says that we are seated with Christ in the heavenly places. Why do many don't feel that they are seated up there. They only feel it occasionally. Sometimes as you pray you feel yourself ascending the height of the spirit realm and being seated up there. Sometimes after a prayer meeting, after the presence of God has been experienced in your closet, you walk out with a sense of authority, a sense of harmony, a sense of love. Things can happen and it doesn't affect the peace of God that passes your understanding. Things around you can be in disharmony. But it never causes disharmony in your life. And you have love towards all. You have peace towards all. Because you are experiencing what is like to be seated in the heavenly places. But how do I ascend and remain there? Some people find it hard to ascend into that realm.

Music is the key. And each one of us has a song. If you will listen carefully to your inward man there is a song inside. If that song ever dies you are spiritually dead. Sometimes that song is weak because your spirit is weak. Sometimes that song is strong because your spirit is strong. I am not talking about ordinary song. I am not talking about what many of you experienced of waking up and having a nice tune going on inside like a scripture song, like Morning Has Broken, or Amazing Grace or any of the songs we know. That melody goes deeper than human vocabulary songs or tune.

What is happening is that, that song on the inside is flowing forth is the song that speaks of joy which express that song to your understanding and soul. That song touches a song you know in your memory. When that song on your inside is weak you don't feel like singing. You don't feel like worshiping. You don't feel like reading the word. But isn't it different when that song is inside. All you want to do is read the bible. The first time you come back from work you say where is my bible not where is the newspapers. That song is alive in you. Understand I am teaching you a spiritual truth that is powerful. If you could maintain that song throughout your working life 9 to 5 you will get back home still full of the Holy Spirit. You don't have to get back from work and say fill me Lord, fill me.

I am teaching you a key to maintain that hunger. If you understand the spirit world, you would maintain that song in your heart. And if that song is strong and you listen to it all the time, you will maintain a healthy spiritual life. The bible describes it in a special way it calls it making melody. It is not composing songs. The bible didn't say Eph. 5:18-19 be filled with the Holy Spirit, speaking to yourself in Psalms and spiritual songs, composing songs and melody in your heart. No it says making melody in your heart. The result of the spirit realm being filled in your life, the result of the word being full in your life is the song comes out stronger. The result of your devotional life and meditating on the word, the result of the spiritual realm touching your spirit, refreshing you is that the song comes out stronger. Paul even qualifies it as psalms, spiritual songs and hymns. So we need to develop that song.

In Revelation it calls it the song of the Lamb. Rev. 15:3 *And they sing the song of Moses, the*

servant of God, and the song of the Lamb. It is not just a special song. It's the spirit of that song that flows from God. He composed song and all those songs are expression of that real inner song. That is why you could learn a new song and after 6 months be tired of that song. It is not that there is something wrong with your inside. But it is that we need new expression. That song that is in our spirit is so powerful that no earthly song could fully express the extent, the color, the rainbow and the variations of that one song in your heart. It keeps having the need to be expressed differently. You don't get up every morning and have the same song for 60 years. The Joy Of The Lord is my strength lets say every Sunday you come here and sing *The Joy Of The Lord is my strength* by the 30th Sunday it's a routine a habit. They can't sing *The Joy of The Lord* with joy. But its different if one Sunday you come and sing *The Joy of the Lord is my strength*. The next Sunday you sing *Jesus took my burden and roll them into the sea*. It is a different song but the same joy.

Can you understand what we are trying to describe in that spirit world. It is one song but many colors. Because it's the color white that increase different colors. Red is only one of the colors of white. Blue is only one of the colors of white. You mix it all together it is white like. It contains all the different wavelengths. And every time when God does something new in our life or brings you into a higher realm, it all start changing on your inside. The song goes fast or slow and your life goes fast and slow.

In Rev. 5:8-9 *And when he had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb, each holding a harp, and with golden bowls full of incense, which are the prayers of the saints; and they sang a new song.*

That song must never die in our hearts. As long as that song of the Lamb flows strong we will have the presence of God as seated in the heavenly places 24 hours a day. We have just given you the secret of the presence of God for 24 hours, and that is to hold fast to that melody in your life. Sometimes that melody needs different earthly songs to keep it on your natural mind. But it's a song in your inside. As you pray to God tonight, each one of us have the same Lord but we have a different song on our inside. That song on your inside describes your entire life. It was a song written in the book of life about you. And the day you were born again you were given that song. He wrote it in your heart and in your spirit. And since the day you were born again it has started flowing.

But for some of you circumstances have deafened you to that song and you can't hear the melody in your heart. A melody is not an earthly song. A melody is a tune by earthly definition. It is on your inside. Emmanuel God with us is on your inside. When you tune to that song inside, that song will carry you into the heavenly places. If you tune tonight to that song on your inside, that song will carry you into the spirit world where you can live and move constantly in that realm. The earthly sorrows and earthly circumstances will never touch you up in the heavenly places.

Sadly people have not learned the secret of living in that realm. Once in a while they catch hold of that song. They attend the church on Sunday. Their spirit caught that song from the preacher. Caught that song from the worship. And they went back with the song. They feel the presence of heaven but they don't know what is happening on their inside. They didn't realize that the song was being stirred up. So after sometime they don't hear that song any more. They feel depressed, they fell down, and they feel lonely. Remember this as long as that song comes strong you will never be sick.

Listen very carefully, who ever can tune 100% to that song, he or she has become perfected and may be translated because that song will change your physical body. That song will prevent your spirit from clinging to your body. That song will resurrect your mortal self into immortality. We all know that there is a small illustration in the natural. Those who are positive, those who are cheerful, they know that even plants respond to song and grow better. Human being that are sick are healed naturally by medicine and by natural circumstances faster with music. How much more that song of the Lord that not only heals but that it immortalizes because the song of the Lamb is immortal.

Tonight if you understands Col. 3:16, Eph. 5:18-19 that the word and the spirit works together like the violin and the piano to produce, to magnify the song of the Lamb in your life. It is God's perfect will that His

people live in the perfect world 24 hours. Even when you're doing your business, even when you are out there in the hot sun, as long as you hear that song you are in the spirit. Whenever you cannot hear that song you are no more in the spirit. You are in the natural. May God quicken our spiritual ears. Tonight as you pray in the spirit let your spiritual tongue get hold of that inner spirit on your inside.

4. TWO LAWS OF TRAVAILING IN THE SPIRIT

In order to experience travail in the Spirit we need to understand the realm of faith and why is it necessary that we travail in the Spirit. There has been the Word of Faith Movement that was brought forth to the forefront by Kenneth E. Hagin. And there are many in the Word Movement who have discovered principles that the older Pentecostals have not discovered about how to believe God. Hagin's messages like how to write your own ticket to God, and similar messages give us the other dimension of our relationship with God. Jesus Christ met Hagin and said that many of those people who cry for those things that God promises never received because they do not know what the Word says about those things they asked for. And they do not know how to have faith in God.

But before the Word of Faith Movement the people of God still get certain answers and there was still a great move of God that came about. And there was a certain principle that they tapped on. It was the area of groaning, travail and prayer. And somehow as we pass from that generation that knew crying and groaning and travailing in God into the generation that knows the word of God but knows very little about groaning and travailing in the Spirit, we may ask, "Why do we need to groan and travail? All you have to do is believe, confess and receive."

But as we come to these last days and we passed the Word of Faith Movement we move into a new dimension that combines the Word and prayer. It combines both the understanding of hunger for God and faith in God. But we are going to bring an understanding as to why we continue to have a necessity to groan and to travail in the Spirit. Immediately you will notice that there are some things that you travail for in the past that you do not do now. You just sort of receive them as a matter of faith without much struggle. But in the early days of your Christian's life you have travailed over certain things. But now you don't; you just receive them easily. And at the same time there are certain things that you could travail for and certain things you could never. Even if you try your best to travail you could not. We have heard of crocodile tears but we have not heard of crocodile crying. It doesn't work; something is missing and you could sense a difference. There seems to be a necessity of certain anointing or certain unction that comes on us.

So the question in the Christian's mind is why could we travail at certain times and why couldn't we at other times? Tonight we will answer that question. The other question is why is it that some of the things that you used to travail for you don't seem to need to do so now. Tonight we will also be able to answer that question.

Lets read Heb. 12:1-2 *Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus the pioneer and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.*

It says that Jesus is the author and the finisher of our faith. He begins the process of faith in our life and He completes it. We are what we call in the walk of faith. There is a certain progression in the Christian life and you find them in the bible. It says from faith to faith, from glory to glory, from grace for grace. As we grow in our Christian life we will have faith for more and more things if we grow properly in the way God wants us to grow. Perhaps last year you may not have faith for something that you have this year.

And then faith can also be in different areas. Perhaps you have exercised faith for finances but you never exercise faith for souls. Or you exercised faith for souls but you have not exercised faith for healing. So

faith can also be in different area. Some people are strong in faith in certain area but not in other areas. Faith is just like developing our spiritual muscles. I

In our body we have 206 bones and different types of muscle. I had a book on the principles of weight lifting. It is said in one workout of 2 to 3 hours, it is not possible to exercise all your muscles. Which is why you can have about 20 weight lifters and they do a 2 to 3 hour workout everyday. At the end of 1 year they all look different. And there was a statement made by the author and he said it's not possible to exercise all the muscles because you don't have the energy to do that. That is why in the exercise what they do is on certain days they focus on certain muscles. And at different times they focus on other muscles. So as a result even though every one did the same workout but because there is a slight emphasis on different muscles they look different.

Let me give just one example, when you lift weights up just the distance of your hand makes a difference on which muscles you developed. Lets say you lift weights about 3 feet apart, at the end of it their chest will grow very big. And at the end of 6 months you will find a long line at the middle of your chest. Then other people who do the same lifting, but lift the weight about a foot apart, you find not just one line in the middle of their chest. You will find many lines parallel. Just the distance of 2 feet makes a difference on whether it's the inner muscles or the outer muscle that gets developed. So even on all these areas principles and knowledge makes a lot of difference.

So in the same manner sometimes in the spiritual realm a person develops such a strong faith for finances. But their ability to believe God for healing is almost nil. They are just over developed on certain areas and it's not proportional. Proportional development is what people should seek after. So we grow in faith in different areas. We grow in faith in the same area from time to time also. But as we grow in faith there is a principle that must be reached before you can enter into that area of travail and groaning. The area of travail and groaning is the area where your faith finishes. It is only the area where your faith cannot reach then only you enter into travail and groaning. Otherwise it is almost impossible to enter into it.

It just like in the early days of my ministry to believe God for 1000 dollars takes a lot of groaning. But as I grew in faith and expenses also increased, I had to squeeze much groaning for 3000 dollars. I wonder what it will take for 3 million dollars. Now as I look back I still need faith for 1000 dollars but it is not as great a struggle. It is more like you have to believe God, you have to thank God for it and you got to sow for it and that's all. And the ability to sow is the same ability to reap. The first time we ever sow 1000 dollars, we laid hands on the money, prayed and confessed God's word. Now we think nothing about giving out that sum of money to another ministry. It's the faith muscles that have developed.

So you could visualize that from this point A and B. Lets say you draw a line somewhere about three quarter between A and B. your faith develops up to that point which is a point between A and B. So as you grow you exercise your faith and you stretch. Your faith muscles can stretch to a certain level and if you stretch beyond your faith level there will be damage done. It's just like lifting dumb bells. You reached a certain point and you realize that if you push a little further you may injure your muscles. Which is what a lot of sport people do. However if they go about it gradually the muscles can adapt. But if they push it beyond the limit there will be injury. So there is what I call a maximum limit and that maximum limit changes as you grow.

We were having a pastors' fellowship in my house yesterday. And they saw my dumb bells. They tried the dumb bells it is very hard to lift it up even by one foot. So I said you don't start from there. You start from 7 kilos and you progress to 10 kilos and then you go to 18 kilos. If we push ourselves beyond a systematic progression we will do injury to the body. So faith is the same like the muscles that reach a maximum limit. When we reached that maximum limit anything above it needs something else. Anything above your faith level needs the dimension that we talked about groaning and travailing and agonizing in the Spirit.

Now that brings us into focus on what we have taught on prayer. We talked about different types of

prayer. There is a prayer of thanksgiving; there is a prayer of groaning. And we have classified it only in terms of different areas. Like certain things you pray groaning, Certain things you pray a prayer of faith. But even the same thing that you could pray with the prayer of faith now you may not have been able to pray the prayer of faith 5 years before. It's a matter of how much faith you could have.

So you may have read the logos and heard the rhema for a particular thing but your faith may not be able reach it. For example many Christians believe in divine healing for the body. None of them would accept cancer on the body. They would fight it off. But as I walk with many men of God I come to the question what about perfect healing, like having perfect eyesight. Even great men of God who wear thick glasses pray for miracles like healing of cancer but they cannot get their own short-sightedness healed. Why? It is an area where their faith has not been launched out yet. And so there are many areas of faith that we could launch out for perfection.

There will be areas where we need groaning to come in. Even the promises in the bible, you know they are yours but there is not enough faith. You know that faith comes by hearing and hearing by the word of God. So you put yourself into the word of God and let your faith grow. But in the meanwhile can you do other things besides that meditation on the Word? Yes, and that is groaning. Which explain why many decades ago revivals poured out on different portions on the body of Christ in different generations even though the Christians did not have the faith for revivals. It is because they have the ability to groan although they didn't have the faith for revivals. They have the ability to groan for revivals and by the grace of God revivals came.

Now we look at Rom. 8:23-25 *And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies. For in this hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hope for what he sees? In verse 26 Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we ought, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with sighs too deep for words.*

The First Law of Travail : Not Knowing What To Pray

Now principle No. 1 in verse 26 although it is a statement it is also a law. For we do not know what we should pray but the Spirit makes intercession for us. That scripture have been taught over and over again by many people. They say we do not know what to pray the Holy Spirit makes intercession for us. And it's the scripture that people use for a lot of things. No.1 they use it for praying in tongues. They say that once we reached the end of our understanding we need tongues to come in. No doubt it covers that too but it is not only talking about that. It goes further than tongues. It goes into groaning. It says that *when we do not know what to pray*. We run out of words to say in prayer but there is still a dimension of groaning to help us.

But if you examine it carefully and put it into reverse you see a law there. The things that you can groan about are only possible if you do not know what else to do about it. Put it the other way round. Just as it is mentioned when you do not know what to pray we groan. God leads us into a dimension of groaning. Now the reverse is also true. The Spirit only helps us to groan in that dimension when we reached that state where we do not know what else and how or what manner we are going to do it.

That answers some of your questions as to why you cannot groan for some areas. You know what to do about it. When you know what you ought to do and it clearly given to you, try to groan and you find that you cannot. You will be shedding only crocodile cries. That answers the question why you could groan in some area of intercession and why you could not in others. In some of these areas you have the knowledge. As we grow in Christian life we grow in knowledge. Those things where you have come to understand how it works and the knowledge involved you don't groan as much any more.

Take the area of praying for the sick. Let's say it was your first time to pray for the sick. And your first case happens to be a desperate case of a man, dying of cancer with only 3 days to live. You would be desperate too. You ask God, "Lord, why do You give me such a hard case for a beginner like me? Why don't

You give me somebody with just a cold or flu?" But there you are, a man of God. So what do you do? It is your first time, you groan, you pray, you enter into the realm of the Spirit. And finally you sense that quickening in your spirit. And you go forth, give the command and the miracle takes place. After that you are launched into the healing ministry. Then many healings take place as you prayed for a lot of different cases. Five years later into your healing ministry you get the same type of case. Your faith has come to that level where you could pray for that kind of desperate case. You understand how to minister healing to people with that cancer. You say this is the same type I must get back the groaning. You tried to get back and you ask, "Lord why can't I groan?" The Lord says, "No, it is not time for groaning. You understand how to bring about the healing now." Where you know what to do, it is virtually impossible to groan in the Spirit. Because when knowledge has come God wants you to groan for other areas.

But those areas become what I call a part of your faith muscles where you know how to handle them. Lets take a minister who is a bible school student about to preach his first message in a big congregation. What is he going to do? That fellow would fast for 3 days and finally steps out to give a powerful word. Ten years later they face the same situation. They cry, "O Lord where is the old anointing, the old unction? I think I have lost it." You haven't lost it. You have grown to the stage where you don't need to groan for those things any more. You could just stand and you know how to receive the word. You know how to receive that same powerful word but this time you don't have to stretch your muscles again.

There is a certain natural comparison. In the natural where people are doing muscle development or running, you notice that when they reached their limits, what do they do? They pant; they groan. For a young fellow who have never run before in your life, after 2 kilometers you are flat out; after 3 kilometers your tongue starts hanging out. What do you do when you reached your peak exhaustion? You groan in the natural. But supposing you continue in that. After 6 months 5 kilometers is no sweat. What was the difference? It is because you are used to doing those things. Your body has adapted to those things. So in the natural you notice that the limit can change from year to year. Groaning never takes place when you do not reach the limits of your physical body. But when you began to reach the limit that's when the struggle comes. It is virtually impossible for your physical body to groan until that limit is reached.

It is the same law in the spiritual realm. It is impossible to reach the area of spiritual groaning on areas that you already have knowledge in spiritual knowledge and understanding. Don't get puzzled in this kind of spiritual thing. Don't always look back and ask, "O Lord where is the old time groaning?" No, there are new areas that you should launch into. The reason why you are not experiencing more groaning is because you are not launching into new areas. You have grown complacent in those things you are doing. There are new things that God wants you to spread your wings in. You keep on doing the same old thing and wondering whether you have lost that anointing. You have not; you have grown to the next stage.

And that is the first law that is present in groaning. For when we know not what to pray the Spirit helps us. For we do not know what we should pray for as we ought the Spirit Himself makes intercession for us with groaning which cannot be uttered. You could put it in the positive sense and say for when we do know what to pray the Spirit does not need to make intercession for us but we learn to make the intercession. You can put the same verse in the positive sense to see the full impact of that first law of groaning.

The Second Law of Travail : Tears

Secondly it is found in verse 25 *But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.* Now notice that he used the word *wait with patience*. The second law of groaning and being able to travail is when it consumes or touches our emotion, our expectations or desires. As I examine it carefully the eagerness that is there and I examine it in the Greek it ties with expectation, it ties with desire and then later it ties down to the area that we call the human emotions. It is not possible to groan until it touches you on your soul in the depths of your emotion. Not that we are to be emotional but anything that affects your life that really means a lot to you becomes emotionally attached also to you. That's the second reason why that there are some things that you cannot groan for. You have not developed a soul concentration.

There is such a thing as a mental concentration. Where mentally we focus out thoughts and we put aside every other thought and we mentally concentrate on those thoughts. It just like someone doing a deep mathematical calculation. When you are going into the depths of mathematical calculation you need a lot of concentration. You just don't want distraction. If somebody comes and distract you, you may go off track. That is an intellectual concentration.

There is also the other dimension of what we call an emotional concentration. Unless we yield our soul, our emotion to God the same way we yield our intellect to God, we cannot touch the dimension of groaning. There must be the factor of the second law of what I call the eagerness that absorbs you. It consumes you on your inside until all you could think about is those things. Do you know that infatuation and people falling in love has to do not with choice? It also has to do with emotions. And you know how emotions work. What are the characteristics of a person in love? They always think about that person. They always love to be with that person. They always look forward to be with that person. It begins to cause what I call an occupation of your mind so that it's constantly present with them. So the things that we desire have to be beyond the level of our faith. So if you have not groan for sometime its because you have not gone into new dimension of faith and stretch your faith muscles. You need to go on into a higher dimension. And if we have not groan for sometime is because we have not emotionally touched by that which God desires for our life.

For that we also want to read James 5:17 *Elijah was a man of like nature with ourselves and he prayed fervently that it might not rain.* He didn't just pray - he prayed earnestly. It consumed him; it was a desire that was burning hot in him. He need to have it so much that he want it more than food, he want it more than life. He wants it as a main thing. In other words you reach a point where only that thing can satisfy you and nothing else. Everything else becomes empty unless you get that thing it doesn't satisfy you. It is the kind like what Paul says covet earnestly the best gifts. A consuming desire must come. Just like Jesus said, "Love the Lord thy God with all your heart, all your mind and all your soul." So you reached a point where all your soul is consumed in that which God wants.

Lets look at I Sam. 1:10 *She was deeply distressed and prayed to the Lord, and wept bitterly.* Now Hannah has reached a point of great bitterness. Great bitterness means it consumed her. It was the only thing that will make her life meaningful again. It was the only thing that will now satisfy her. Even her husband came to her and said in verse 8 *am I not better than 10 sons* and she just could not be satisfied still. She wanted a child more than anything. Now if she did not reach what I call a red-hot point, she would never have her breakthrough. In her time she could not pray the prayer of faith, because there was no revelation and no knowledge in her days. So the only way for her to get it was through the dimension that was beyond the level of faith which was in the area of groaning. So she groaned and she wept so that when Eli look at her it looks like she was drunkard. She reached the point emotionally. That's a tremendous point to reach. So groaning doesn't mean that you come to God and just groan. It has to be the Spirit stirring forth. It has to be those that caught and touched you in the core of your emotion. And many times when it results the other secondary result comes forth: tears comes forth. It would be very easy for people to groan in those things that make them cry, because the second law is touched.

Lets say there is as major crisis in your life. And it is a make or break situation. Is it easy to groan, no problem. Of course with the knowledge of God's word you could direct it properly. And you could groan into the highest dimension of God. But if the crisis emotionally doesn't affect you it will take much focusing for the issue to consume you.

Looking in the book of Isa. 38:1 *In those days Hezekiah became sick and was at the point of death. And Isaiah the prophet the son of Amoz came to him, and said to him, "Thus says the Lord; Set your house in order; for you shall die, you shall not recover."* Hezekiah didn't say, "Well thank you. God bless you." In verse 2 *Then Hezekiah turned his face to the wall, and prayed to the Lord, and said, "Remember now, O Lord, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in faithfulness and with a whole heart, and have done what is good in they sight."* And Hezekiah wept bitterly. It looks like a negative sense but it also has a meaning of his total consummation of his emotion. He didn't just weep, he wept bitterly just like he is pouring out his entire life. Verse 4-5 *Then the word of the Lord came to Isaiah: "Go and say to Hezekiah. Thus says the Lord, the God of David your father; I have heard your prayer, I have seen your tears;*

The second law of groaning successfully requires us to be able to be touched so deeply that we cry. Now you understand why in the presence of God sometimes you feel like crying. Its because in the presence of God there are some other things He wants you to move in that all your knowledge, all your training, all your education and every thing has not been able to get you into that. That's one reason. And at the time in His presence there is an easy ability that is given to you to groan. A lot of people at that stage hold back their tears. They don't understand that if they just weep freely before God and enter into it, it will be stretching their muscles beyond the area of their normal ability. And it would move them into a new dimension. Then when they reached that stage it will take a greater presence before they can cry. They are now walking closer and closer deeper into God. Of course the presence of God touches us deeply and it also makes us weep.

But I am speaking about a realm where many of us have felt. How in the presence of God we feel like crying and we hold back. We hold back because of the one next to us. We hold back because of what people would think of us. We hold back for many natural reasons. You notice here that there is a need to reach a point of concentration in the emotion before the true groaning can come. When you reach the true groaning it touches into a certain realm. It's a realm that is deep and powerful.

Let me read from the experience of John G. Lake. He talks about the dimension he moved into in groaning. In his time he was praying both for the baptism of the Spirit and for the power of God to come upon his life. He received the baptism in the Spirit and an anointing for ministry. He related how he had served God and he obeyed God and he was hungry for God. He says, *"I was engaged as a manger of agents for a life insurance company. During the period of which I speak I preached practically every night. After the service I was in the habit of joining a circle of friends who like myself were determined to pray through into God before we could receive the endowment of the Holy Spirit as we believe the early disciples had received. I prayed for the Holy Spirit for nine months. And if a man ever prayed honestly and sincerely in the faith I did. Finally one day I was ready to throw out my hand to quit. And I said Lord it maybe for others but it is not for me. You just cannot give it to me. I did not blame God. One night a gentleman by the name of Pierce said, 'Mr. Lake I have been wishing for a long time that you would come over and we would spend a night in prayer together. We have been praying for the Holy Spirit for a whole year. And there is not one of us who got it yet.' 'Brother I do not believe that you got it either.' So we can pray for one another. I was so hungry to pray. So I went with the intention of praying for the rest. But I have not been 5 minutes until the light of God began to shine around me. And I found myself in the center of an arch of light 10 feet in diameter the whitest light in all the universe. So white O how it spoke of purity. The remembrance of that whiteness, the wonderful whiteness has been the ideal that has stood before my soul of the purity of the nature of God ever since. Then a voice began to talk to me out of that light. There was no form. The voice began to remind me of this and that."*

And he talked about how the Lord really cleansed him. But he still did not reach it yet. Imagine 9 months of prayer everyday. The other guy prayed for 1 year. And both say I don't think you got it yet. And they still want to pray some more.

"Shortly after this experience one afternoon a brother minister called me and invited me to accompany him to visit a lady who was sick. Arriving at the house of that lady, that lady was in a wheel chair. All her joints were set with rheumatism. She had been in that condition for 10 years. While my friend was conversing with her, preparing her to be prayed that she might be healed, I sat down in a deep chair on the opposite side of a large room. My soul was crying out to God in a yearning too deep for words. Suddenly it seems to me that I have passed under a shower of warm tropical rain. And it started falling upon me. My brain which has always been so active became perfectly still. And all of the presence of God settled over me. I knew it was God. And the Spirit said I have heard your prayers. I have seen your tears."

Do you notice God always says I have heard your prayers. I have seen your tears. One of the things that I find very lacking in prayer today is tears. People don't know how to move into that dimension any more. Not like the olden days, maybe once in a while they do. But they have lost the art of that dimension. They have learned the word of faith but they have lost the other dimension. God could not say I have heard your prayers and seen your tears any more. God can say I have heard your prayer take it by faith but the other dimension is missed out.

When God manifested that day, the power was so great that my body vibrated intensely. If I had not been in that deep low chair I would have fallen on the floor. At that moment my friend was calling me to pray for that lady. And he did not notice anything had taken place. And so as I arose I found my body trembling so violently that I had difficulty walking across the room. I knew it would not be wise to lay my hand on the sick woman lest I shake her. It occurred to me that all that was necessary was to touch the tip of my finger on the top of the patient head. The moment I did the current of holy power passed through my being and it went into her and then into my friend and he fell down.

Now notice that something was happening here. Its what I call the hunger of that dimension of the hunger of God.

Now here is another book called *Spiritual Hunger*. He says that in that 32 years of his family life there has always been somebody invalid in his home. By the time he was 24 they had buried 4 brothers and 4 sisters and 4 other members of the family. When he set up his home he married a beautiful woman. The first son was born in a short time the same devilish train of sickness that followed my father's family came into mine. My wife became an invalid, my son was a sickly child. Out of it only one thing developed in my nature, a cry.

At that time the faith message was not fully developed. You will notice that in his book in *An Apostle Visit Africa* that faith for finances were not developed. A lot of them were dying because of lack of finances. But there was a dimension that he touched on: the dimension of groaning and hunger. It was the second law of the spirit of groaning. You get so hungry and so desperate in God that there is a cry to God. And it seems that he cried for a long time. Then he says, "*One thing matured in my heart a real hunger.*" And the hunger of a man's soul must be satisfied. It is the law of God which is in the depths of the Spirit. God will answer the heart that cries. God will answer the soul that asks. Christ Jesus comes to us with the divine assurance that invites us when we are hungry to pray, to believe, to take from the Lord that our hearts yearns for. And finally he got the answer. And there was complete deliverance in his home.

But that is the dimension that we are talking about. It is very hard to describe in words. And I know what it was like. I was having an early morning prayer about 4 am to 6 am with just a few brothers. We used to pray on the rooftop of a flat. As we were praying there was a hunger that developed. And it was that hunger that was finally satisfied and it drove us on. We didn't even know what we were asking for but we knew that there was something that was there. Although we prayed for many months it was only the day I reached the stage where I was so hungry for God that I went there earlier than the rest. When I went there that morning I must have cried for at least 2 hours. But just before they came there was an experience of God's presence. It felt like the heaven opened and like a light came down. Then I heard God called me to the ministry. And I knew that the crying that started has to be satisfied. Then after that call I began to make all decisions to follow the call of God into the ministry.

After that I went to the seminary. The first night I was there I knelt down and I said to God, "Lord, I am here to seek you." And as one day I was praying so hungry for God that I began to speak in tongues. There are still certain things now that I am hungry to move into. Until and unless it reached a point where you have tears for it there is no answer. In a natural realm when you reached a point where your physical body really strain itself you sweat all over. In a spiritual area when you reached a point where you reached your limit you push on in groaning the tears come out. Real tears that come from God flow out. And we must not loose that dimension where God could answer that dimension and say I have heard your prayer and seen your tears. That is the realm that we need to move into in order to give birth to the realm of the Spirit.

As first when you began to groan in the Spirit for some of those things, you realize that it is beyond your knowledge, beyond your faith level. And the interesting thing is this unless you have done your best you never reaches that point. Because the first law has not been reached. Unless you have done your best and all you know how you will never reach that realm.

Do you know how John Wimber initiated the second wave of charismatic revival in the denomination churches? You can read his book and he can share with you how he reached the point where he began to minister and pray for the sick and there was no effect. And he came to God and he really wept and cried. He reached a point where he cried so much and said, "God we are doing exactly what you told us in the word. We lay hand on the sick, we did this, we did that. Lord where are the results?" And he cried and at the point where he burst out into deep cry God gave him one vision that changed his life. God showed him a loaf of bread flying. Then it turned into droplets of honey dropping down on people. God said that was his mercy. And from that day onwards there was a higher healing dimension that he moved into.

I remember that at each phase that God move us into, it has taken tears. When we were being persecuted because of the word of faith message, we literally had no place to go; there were no doors open. But we were doing our best in God. And we reached a point in ministry in the fourth year where every door was closed. When we reached that point I remember crying for the whole day. We exercise faith in everything we knew how. But as I mentioned you reached the end and you know not what else to do. But if we had not done that part until we reached that point where we know not what to do we could never break into that groaning. And after that God opened one small tiny door. From there we started a small seminar and then later on we turned into a church.

Have you notice that people like Kathryn Khulman knew how to cry for God. They knew how to move into that dimension. God requires us to move into the realm where we know not what else to do. It is not just heavy prayer. It's the area where only your tears can reach. It doesn't affect us until we feel the pain in our souls. Do you know that weightlifters lift weights until they feel pain? Because its only when they feel that pain do they know that they have pushed their muscles to the limit and then they force their muscles to go on. The motto of most weightlifters is no pain no gain.

In the same way when we are talking about the spiritual realm. There is a dimension where you could just be comfortable. Then there is a dimension where you know you got to push forth. Then there is another dimension where you know you have to cry. I mean it is that dimension where we call do or die. And that is the dimension that affects you the most emotionally. That is the dimension where you could move into the depths of prayer.

Paul told the Galatians in Gal. 4:19 *I travail again for you until Christ be formed in you.* Jesus cried, Paul cried and notice the word again in Gal. 4:19 which means that his entire ministry was based on travail. In Paul life look at II Cor. 2:4 *I wrote you out of much affliction and anguish of heart and with many tears.* I want you to see him not only an apostle of faith but also an apostle of tears. Acts 20:31 *Therefore be alert, remembering that for three years I did not cease night or day to admonish every one with tears.* He pleaded with them to walk with God. The aspect of tears in the ministry must not be missed out. Where there are no tears there is no revival. II Tim. 1:4 *As I remember your tears, I long night and day to see you, that I may be filled with joy.* Only the one who value tears values seeing it in another. Paul's ministry was a ministry of many tears.

I believe that as long as the world and the church is not perfected there will be a requirement for people to weep and sow in tears for God. Not just heavy cries or groaning. If the cries inside do not touch your eyes, then it has not reached the point where God says I have seen your tears. Now there is a dimension where we need faith.

We are saying that we must do everything that we know, we understand, and examine every scripture possible. And having done all we move into that realm God will be there. A lot of people try to move into this realm prematurely but they haven't all that they can and all that they should. So moving into that realm is like laziness. They do not want to study. They do not want to examine what the word of God says. When they want something they are just like a crybaby. That's not the dimension God wants us to move into. When we have done everything that we know how, and we reached a point where we know that, that's it. God will require you to stretch into tears. When you touched that realm God Himself will manifest.

Just like the story of William Branham who reached a point in his life and ministry where he could not stand the weight of ministry that he felt in his spirit. Until one day he took a jug of water and told his wife as he goes into the wood, "You may not see me again." And he went into the wood and said, "Unless I find out from God what is this thing I am not coming back." And when he came back he was a different man. We must reach that point of desperation, that point of hunger. People are not hungry enough for God. When God says I have seen your tears, then He moves and does things for us to enter into.

5. LEVELS OF SPIRITUAL EXPERIENCES

Lets read from the book of II Cor. 12:1-4 *I must boast; there I nothing to be gained by it but I will go on to visions and revelations of the Lord. I know a man in Christ who fourteen years ago was caught up to the third heaven - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows. And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise - whether in the body or out of he body I do not know, God knows - and he heard things that cannot be told, which man may not utter.*

Paul is of course referring to himself because in verse 7 he wrote *unless I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of revelations.* So we know that he is speaking about himself in the third person and of the abundance of the revelations that has come into his life. And he made use of a phrase that says that he heard things that were inexpressible. The spirit world is a realm that doesn't operate on logic as is the case in our natural world. The spirit is a realm where our natural logic breaks down.

Lets give you an example, a brother was sharing with me about a vision he had and how he saw a tree growing. As the tree grew the branches of the tree spread across many borders. Then the tree produced fruit and the fruits drop down. Then the tree produces other trees and then spread their branches. How could we conceive a tree whose branches are greater than the roots? It is not something that is possible in the natural. But in the spirit world there is vision of such a tree.

Other cases like for example you see in the spirit world which is in the bible a spirit appear then he sort of go through a wall. Or they do something that our natural mind says it cannot be. Or things like scrolls flying about in the sky. Other examples like in the book of Zech.5:5 *Then the angel who talked with me came forward and said to me, "Lift up your eyes, and see what this is that goes forth."* He looks and there is a basket flying about. Where can we get such a thing as a flying basket? Then in verse 9 he raised his eyes and looked and there were 2 women coming with the wind in their wings. And their wings were like the wings of a stork and not like an angel. And they lifted up the basket between earth and heaven. Now here is there such a thing. Up to Zechariah's time all the manifestation of winged creatures are men. I mean the angels appear like men. But here it says these 2 ladies flying about and their wings looking like storks. This is a spiritual realm where things are in symbols.

It is just like some you have dreams. And in your dreams you see very odd things. Like for example perhaps in your dream you were walking and you look down on your toes and instead of having 5 toes you have 7 toes. So how do you explain this kind of dreams? And how in your dream after you entered a place the whole thing melted and turned into something else. So we realized that it is not in the realm of logic at all. Not in the sense of our natural logic that governs this world. There is of course a high principle involved and God is still a God of order. But we cannot experience that spirit realm and try to understand it with our natural mind. There is a barrier that prevents our natural mind from understanding logically things that are in the spirit world. So you might as well give up and don't try. All you have to do is to ask God for understanding at each time. No matter how intelligent you can be there is a certain limit that you could try with a rational mind to understand the spirit world. But yet you reach a point where you think you understand every thing suddenly you see something else in the spirit that just boggles your whole theology.

Its in that realm where Paul refers to when he says I Cor. 2:14 *The unspiritual man does not receive the gifts of the Spirit of God, for they are folly to him, And he is not able to understand them because they re spiritually discerned.* You could replace the word *folly* with the word *illogical*. However that doesn't mean that we just open our heart and mind to every vision and dream. Satan can appear too as an angel of light. So we

realize that there is still a check. The check is in the Word. Every vision must line up with the word. But we know that this bible was not written in a logical order. The baptism in the Spirit is still argued in charismatic circles as to whether tongues are the evidence of it or not. Both groups are trying to use scriptures. Why doesn't Paul just say in the baptism in the Spirit these are the signs that follow? Why do we need preachers today to read the bible and tell you in logical point? Why don't the bible put it all in logical order - its impossible. Which is why when Jesus taught, Jesus doesn't necessary teach in point form logical order. When He teaches He used parables, stories and drama. Because there is no other way He could convey some of the truths. And within that drama we can find a few thousand of logical applications.

If a person is not strong in the written Word and they move into the spirit world a lot, they tend to be very irrational people. As you relate to them in natural life, you find that in natural life they are very naive to the extent of being innocent and foolish. But when it comes to the spirit realm they can be very sharp and discerning in the spirit world. But they fail in their primary affairs in the natural world. So there is a certain need of balance for us.

I met many Christians ordinary believers some of them faithful housewives, some of them just holding a regular job in the secular world and they are the most spiritual people I have ever met who spend a lot of time in prayer. Yet many others think they are queer, oddball and who doesn't think straight, but thinks in circles. I know if not for the Word of God I would be among these people. The experiences in the spirit realm boggle your mind, change some of your ways and your personality and the way you do things. Sometimes you could be so occupied and terrified by what you see in the spirit world that you look like a ghost. Or you walk about in your life like in a trance. And people wonder what's wrong with you.

Tonight we are going to talk about degrees of depth in the spirit world. We talk about entering the spirit world. We talk about experiencing the spirit world. But what we want to speak about tonight is there are different degrees of experiencing the spirit world. You could be sitting there comfortable in your chair and just pray in tongues. And you would be experiencing the spirit world. There are different degrees that we experience the spirit world. Sometimes some people experience the spirit world with different kind of experiences. Sometimes these experiences raise doubts in the minds of many logical thinking, rational, intellectual Christians.

Someone may say that after he had this particular vision he slept for 4 days. Then the logical Christian would say, "It couldn't be from the Lord. If it is of God it should edify, comfort and exhort. If you met the Lord you should have been stronger." He himself has no experience of seeing a vision but he could judge some one who has. Or another Christian may see this thing in the spirit world and he is frightened. Then the next day he meets with his logical friend. He says, "It can't be from the Lord since a vision shouldn't terrify you and put fear in your life." True, but there are so many types of fear. What kind of fear we are talking about? Is it the awesome reverence fear of God? Is it the other kind of error that comes from the enemy? So it has to be qualified.

Or another person may share with a logical Christian about a great vision that troubled him. Then this logical Christian says, "Couldn't be. Any vision must not give you any trouble. A vision that is of God will always give you love, peace, joy longsuffering etc. " But they he himself has never receive any vision. If such persons ever have one they may not only be terrified but they may leave the room with a new hairstyle.

Let me just point to some scriptures. The spirit world is such that if you enter into it, you could straight away know whether it is of God or not of God. Why must Joshua come to the angel and said, Sir, are you for us or against us. If it is so obvious why must he ask that fellow?

Josh. 5:13-15 When Joshua was by Jericho, he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, a man stood before him with his drawn sword in his hand; and Joshua went to him and said to him, "Are you for us, or for our adversaries?" And he said, "No, but as commander of the army of the Lord I have now come." And as Joshua fell on his face to the earth, and worshipped him, and said to him, "What does my Lord bid his servant?" And the commander of the Lord's army said to Joshua, "Put off your shoes from your feet; for the

place where you stand is holy." Joshua did so.

When Joshua was in Jericho he saw this man standing. I guess he must have 6 feet tall or 7 feet tall. He comes to this person and said, "Are you for us or against us?" If this vision comes from God you would know. You don't have to ask that fellow. But Joshua didn't know whether if it is of God or not. And the angel answered, "I am the commander of the Lord's army." That's when Joshua realized it was of God.

The spirit world is not a world that reveals itself to you automatically. There has to be some sort of effort that comes on our part and there are different degrees. I have sought with my heart to understand why is it that when some people experience the spirit world they get physically exhausted which is quite possible. I have experienced that too. That after some visions and revelations and after that all you felt is that you just want to have a good rest. It just exhausts and drains all your energy and strength away. Some of you may not have seen visions and revelations but perhaps you pray long hours. Then after the prayer it really was hard work you left that prayer closet exhausted. Its just like you have worked at the quarry cutting stones. And you came out exhausted and you eat a big fat meal. But yet at other times when you pray you left feeling of God like. So you are wondering why are your experiences so varied. Why sometimes this way. Why sometimes that way.

Tonight we want to explain that to you. It applies to the prayer realm. It applies to visions, revelations, sometimes you could even have a dream and you woke up from that from that dream refreshed. You feel peace flowing like a river, love bubbling like a fountain. But at other times you have a dream and you wake up and you feel like not going anywhere. Why is there such a degree of impact? And why is there such a diverse experience in the spirit world? The degree and the depth of your encounter of the spirit world determines the side effect or no side effect on your physical body, or your mind, or your spirit.

It depends sometimes upon the type of revelation that you received. It sometimes also depends upon the encounter that you have. For example when you see an angel and the angel just disappear. That is experiencing the spirit realm. But that is experiencing the spirit realm in the lowest kind. I am not talking about the 3 types of vision. We are talking about degrees and not types. We are not talking about varieties of experiences. But we are talking about depth. Perhaps you see the angel and then the angel gives you something to take. And you take something from the angel you eat it or you hold it. That moves you into a deeper realm of experience. You have sort of taken something from the spirit world. Not just seeing the spirit world. Or perhaps you could move into a deeper realm where you see that same angel and this time you were compelled to walk to the angel. Then the angel grabbed you by the shoulders and lifted you up into the spirit world. And you are not sure whether in spirit or in body you were lifted up. That definitely is a different encounter. See we are not just talking about experiences in the spirit world. We are talking about degrees, depths of experience. Whether you saw an angel, you took something from the angel or the angel carried you. Then the angel still can be silent. Or perhaps the angel carried you and conversed with you. Then in that vision you are feeling weak and the angel puts his hand on you and blesses you with supernatural strength.

Now we see here the 5 different levels that Jacob experienced with angels.

The first experience that Jacob has is in the book of Genesis 28. Just to show the degree or the depths of experience in the spirit world.

Gen. 28:10-12 Jacob left Beersheba, and went toward Haran. And he came to a certain place, and stayed there that night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place to sleep. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven; and behold, the angels of God were ascending and descending on it.

He saw that famous story called Jacob's ladder. He didn't fully know what it means. But God manifested in the first person and say I am the God of Abraham etc. and told him about the covenant. And

when Jacob woke up he called that place Bethel and made a vow to God. That was his first encounter in the spirit world. All he did was made a covenant with God.

About 20 years later he had another encounter with God. He actually had 2 encounters but one followed the other: one at the end of 14 years working for Laban and the other at the end of the 20 years.

In Gen. 31:11-12 *Then the angel of God said to me in the dream. Jacob, and I said "Here I am" and the said, "Lift up your eyes and see, all the goats that leap upon the flock are striped, spotted and mottled; for I have seen all that Laban is doing to you."*

Why do we put it as 2 incidences? In chapter 30 verse 40 to 41 after he has worked for 14 years he had a revelation to put the striped things or branches before the sheep. And we infer that an angel must have taught him. And that may be the same angel that now speaks to him at the end of 20 years.

Now it was time for him to leave Laban. And that was why this vision occurred that we classify as one section in itself. The angel appearing in a dream in chapter 31 and saying you must now leave this place. Now his encounter with the angel is a different type of manifestation and a different depth. The angel now speaks to him and gives him physical instructions. How he must now leave that place.

And as he continued with his walk with God in Gen. 32:1 *Jacob went on his way and the angels of God met him.* Not much was recorded as to what took place in that encounter. But this is his third recorded encounter with the angels. Now as he was walking he met these group of angels. You could see that he is having a different spiritual experience. But soon after he met the angels something was stirring in his life. It seems that now he wants a closer encounter with God. And that closer encounter is initiated by him not just by the angels. Didn't the bible say draw nigh to God and he will draw nigh to you. It didn't say God draw nigh to you and then you will draw nigh to God. There is a part that has to be initiated from our side.

This is why we are teaching the Word in this matter. It is possible to be trained in the spirit world when you are having a spiritual dream from the Lord. You can have a control in the depth of your spirit in whatever type of spiritual encounter. Some people not having this knowledge, when they start moving into the spirit world fear grips them and they cease the whole vision. How many people have experienced that? I heard many who have shared with me how when they were praying sometimes they feel that they are caught up and they are just about to move into the realm. But half way through they got fearful. The moment they got fearful they would drop down, not physically but spiritually. They felt themselves getting back into the natural. Does it mean that even when we are experiencing the spirit world we have a degree of controlling its depth, yes we have. How much we enter into the spirit world is still in the jurisdiction of our free will and our openness to the encounter that we have. If we open ourselves more there seems to be a greater depth of experience. If we withhold we experience the same thing but at a lower level of depth.

So after Jacob had these 3 recorded encounters with the angels, he must have become quite familiar with angels. One night as he was walking about or praying he saw this angel. When he saw this angel he grabbed this angel. When Jesus appear in the resurrection to those ladies they were about to hug him. Jesus said don't touch me yet. See Jesus has not yet ascended. And Jesus had an unofficial ascension and an official ascension. The unofficial one was when he was just resurrected and he was to present possibly the conclusion of His entire life and ministry. Then he appeared again in Acts 1 and he officially ascended in a cloud. Before his unofficial or private ascension before He went up, nothing was allowed to touch Him. After He has finished that, He says, "Touch me." So we realize that in the spirit world there are degrees of encounter.

Here in chapter 32 when Jacob saw this angel in verse 24 it says that night he wrestled with the angel. Why did he wrestle? He wanted a deeper encounter. It says in verse 26 when the angel said, "Let me go." He said, "I will not let you go until you bless me." You know why he held on to that angel? He says I want a blessing. Now the angel could have finished him off with just his little finger and Jacob would have died.

But the angel was not permitted to use his supernatural power at that time. You could see he was so powerful because all he did was just touch Jacob's leg and that fellow became lame. This is definitely a very deep encounter. The angel blessed him. I wonder how many people experience the spirit world and before they left they said, "Bless me."

Its just like if you encountered a Moses-generation man of God who was about to go home. You could just say, "Your ministry has been wonderful; we just want to say thank you. God bless you" and you walk off. Or you just could say, "Could you please bless me before you go off." It was a same encounter with a man of God but there are different degrees to that encounter. A lot of people have met men or women of God who were about to go home to the Lord and just said, "Thank you. God bless you." But there are others who came and said, "Before you go can you bless me?" But there are others still like Elisha who knew Elijah is going to go, all the other sons of prophets said, "Elijah is going to go home." But Elisha was different; he said, "I didn't want to let him go until he bless me." Elijah told him, "Stay here." Elisha said, "No." For the first time his servant was not obedient. They crossed over 4 places and each time Elijah said, "Stay here." "Don't want." "Stay here." "Don't want." In the end Elijah asked, "What do you want?" Elisha replied, "I want a double dose of your blessing."

Now that is on the human level, the natural level with physical vessels. In the spirit world there are also degrees of encounter. I mean when it is time for Kenneth Hagin to go home, of the thousands of people who work close to him not everybody will be able to draw his anointing. Not everybody has the same encounter with him. Not everybody wants the same blessings. But of the thousands of students who heard him speak perhaps only a few will dare to venture further and draw a deeper anointing through his ministry.

So it is the same in the spirit world. It is whether when we are having that encounter of spiritual experience, are we willing to open ourselves and go deeper like Jacob?

The fifth level does not mention the angels and the blessing is not through Jacob's life. It says there in Genesis 35:5 *And as they journeyed, a terror from God fell upon the cities that were round about them, so that they did not pursue the sons of Jacob.* There was a certain presence that was with them. It was the angelic presence because they had the blessings of the angel. The terror of God was all over the place. That's just to show us how the degree of an angelic encounter was in this man's life. We can show the same with any other man of God in the bible.

We now go over to the book of Daniel and show the different side effects caused by different degrees of encounter. Daniel starts recording his visions in the second half of his book. Dan. 7:15 *As for me, Daniel, my spirit within me was anxious and the visions of my head alarmed me.* Now Daniel had a sort of dream and a vision by the night in chapter 7 verse 1 and 2. After he had the dream or vision of the night. And while he was inside that dream he was conscious and he was troubled by it. It says in verse 15 he was even grieved and the word *grief* is the word *khera* and is used only once in the Hebrew. Its not the ordinary word for sorrow. Its like something not complete unless you do something else. The spirit world is very strange, very illogical.

When Hagin was talking about a vision that he had of Jesus and he was ministering. Then something made him look to the right. When he looked there was Jesus. Or sometimes it is one of these other people. They said while they were praying something made them look up when they looked they saw something. What is that something? The spirit world is very strange; there is something on your inside like what I call an intuition. You know you are supposed to do something. Just like Moses when he saw that burning bush. Something in him says I want to see that. His mind may interpret it as curiosity but his spirit felt like compelled. Something draws him to that burning bush. And when he came near God manifested.

So we realize here that the word *khera* is special. It's a sort of a grief like something is incomplete. When people feel sorrow it is because something has been cut in their life. Perhaps it is their character that has been cut. Perhaps it is their plans that have been cut. Or perhaps their relationship has been cut. Something has been cut, and they feel incomplete unless God completes the picture. That's why if you

experience a genuine sorrow commit it to God because Jesus bore your sorrow. He makes you complete.

But here is a special *khera*, which is not talking about natural sorrow. But something in the spirit world where you know and you experience it that unless you do something it is not complete. The dream and the vision has actually been completed. Its just like you are having a dream and somebody wake you up half way. Or perhaps right at the end of a parable in a dream, the interpretation was about to come for that same dream and then suddenly somebody woke you up - it is just frustrating. Or perhaps you are in deep prayer. When I am in deep prayer I just refuse to answer any call because I may be just getting something halfway. Which is why we all need to respect another person praying in the spirit world. Don't go around and disturb people who are praying. That guy may be having a vision and interrupting them will cause them grief.

Sometimes when the dream is incomplete by the mercy of God you go back to sleep part 2 continues. But sometimes part 2 never comes. And you just feel that incompleteness. But Daniel felt it and that something drew him to come to this angel he saw in the vision and said, "Could you explain it to me?" And only through that explanation was that grief removed. But the other thing that happened was the word *troubled*. Now that word *troubled* is from the Hebrew *behow*. *Behow* is translated 2 times as *terror*. So it's a sense of being terrified. But its not the normal word for terror. The normal word conveys a negative kind of terror. Here is a kind of being terrified because of the greatness or monstrosity of that vision.

Look at verse 3 *four great monsters*; I replace the word *beasts* with *monsters*. Wouldn't you be terrified in the spiritual way? I mean you saw these 4 great fellows. Then you saw this great big lion. Then another creature comes like a big bear in front of you. I wonder half way some of you may say, "*Satan get thee behind me.*" The awesome monstrosity in that vision was terrifying to Daniel. Definitely the logical mind ran out of the door.

Lets have some other kind of examples in Gen. 15:12 *As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram, and lo, a dread and great darkness fell upon him.* Look at that there was an experience of horror. Now where is Mr. Logical? Mr. Logical says that when you experience a vision you will experience love like an ocean, joy like a fountain, peace like a river. Where did they all go? They are only talking about one type of experience. There are many depths. There is a certain level that you move into where the vision doesn't identify just like Joshua seeing the angel. I am sure in the natural you would say who is this guy? Not all vision is clear-cut. We have to go deeper into it. But there is an inner witness that tells you it's of God. But yet the vision can be so powerful that is not your spirit that fear but your natural man that experience that awesomeness and you feel your logical mind running out the door. And you are wondering how to explain this fact here.

In chapter 7: 15 Daniel says the vision of his head troubled him. In other words mentally Daniel was still troubled. Now after the end of the whole vision in chapter 7:28 *Here is the end of the matter. As for me, Daniel, my thoughts greatly alarmed me, and my color changed; but I keep the matter in my mind.* The word *countenance* was talking about his facial expression. Daniel's countenance was changed and he was only at the first level. Of course we want all of you to leave the overnight prayer with a smile on your face, love in your heart and you are going out with a *Praise the Lord* and you are ready for work today under normal circumstances. That's the problem we only want normal circumstances. There is realm there that you may receive something so great that reached beyond just the daily activity of God in your life. Sometimes you don't experience this depth because you have a preset mind. Mr. Logical rules and reigns. Every vision of God must leave me with a smile on my face. Some visions leave you with an open mouth.

Sometimes you get interrupted in a vision and you get a half vision. It would be just like seeing a nice Christian movie and when it reached just about the climax the electric power went off. Most of us adults are not so affected but little children are. I could imagine my little children watching some of these gospel view shows and when it come to the exciting part the power went off. Some Sunday School teachers use. The story of the Gospel Kid. Tells the children the story how they go to a dangerous situation. And as they enter a place with all the snakes around him, there was this 5 feet long cobra which raises its head right in front of him. Then the movie ending says, "To be continued in the next story." Then for the whole week the children would be thinking what will happen to the Gospel Kid.

If it is an important vision, an awesome vision that gets cut off halfway, it may leave us with a different type of countenance. For Daniel because his logical mind could not understand it his countenance was altered. It so troubled him yet we all know that the vision was of God. I want to break the limit that you set in your mind tonight. We all think that we have understood God - you don't know God yet. He is loving no doubt but when you meet Him there is an aspect of God that really puts that grip in your heart at times. You don't know God yet; it is awesome. That's the realm we are talking about. The spirit world is not a realm you could put in a box and say I now understand everything. It will always bring you new things until you only walk with God from glory to glory.

Well Daniel was progressing now into a deeper level. Dan. 8:2-3 *And I saw in the vision; and when I saw, I was in Susa the capital which is in the province of Elam; and I saw in the vision, and I was at the river Ulai. I raised my eye saw and behold, a ram standing on the bank of the river. It had two horns and both horns were high, but one was higher than the other, and the higher one came up last.*

This time Daniel was in his own working place. When he saw all these visions he managed to converse with the people in the vision and in verse 15 *When I, Daniel, had seen the vision, I sought to understand it; and behold; there stood before me one having the appearance of a man.*

This time it says that Daniel logical mind wants to seek the meaning. He was given some meaning in verse 27. He had a different experience from his first vision. His first vision left him with a different face and a troubled mind. His second vision left him fainted and was sick for days. When the doctor checked on Daniel and asked him what's wrong, he replies, "I just saw a vision." If Mr. Logical were there Mr. Logical would say, "Cannot be. How can? Visions can't make people sick." So don't be surprise when some people just the touch the power of God, not even seen a vision and they fall sick. Then we judge this kind of thing with our logical without realizing the spirit world is so powerful that even all its side effects have not been classified.

Take off those limits in the spirit realm. Don't approach the spirit realm with your rulebook. The spirit world is not in your control. You are only one of the creatures there. It is just like you as one person trying to control the whole world. You could influence human beings to a certain extend but you cannot influence all. There is a certain limit of influence since each one has a free will. The spirit world is like that. You experience different side effect depending on your depths. So don't be afraid when your physical body starts giving way. Don't be afraid if your mind gives way.

Within one vision there were 5 depths. Daniel is now growing deeper and deeper into the spirit world. Which is why you could walk so much in the spirit world. And I can understand how Enoch walked with God and was not; he just disappeared. You could walk in the spirit world to a great degree. Sundar Singh walked with God so much and he use to go to this jungle to pray. And he had such a closeness with God that as he was praying this biographer watched from afar and didn't want to disturb him. And he saw this big tiger that coming towards Sundar Singh. Sundar Singh was just meditating. When the tiger came near he just stretched out his hand and patted him. This fellow was horrified and said, "What kind of man is this? Tarzan?" I like to open your mind to break all those limits.

And there are still certain limits that I know its there but we have to walk closer with God. Like when we go out walking or praying sometimes mosquitoes would come around and I said, "Lord I am sure that when You were on this earth mosquitoes won't disturb You." I don't think when Jesus was praying all these mosquitoes would start biting Him and He had to slap His face or hands all the time. I can't see Jesus Christ of Nazareth doing that. I believe there is realm you could move in until all of the earthly things and physical things harmonize with you. You are at one with the Creator of the universe and all creation bows to the Creator within you. There is a level you could walk until every step of your life is a supernatural coincidence with human beings.

When we talk about the realm of freedom from sickness and disease and divine help, some Christian would ask, "Then how would you die?" They don't realize that you could die or go home without sickness. They have to think of them dying of some sickness or some cancer or something. No, all you have to do is let your spirit leave your body. There is a realm John G. Lake talks about that where even the germs obey and the wrong germs die. There is a powerful realm where all of nature harmonizes in the spirit world.

Here is Daniel in one vision he had 5 different encounters. His first encounter as he was praying he saw this angel. Now for the first time he had a clearer picture of the angel. Do you know sometimes you could see Jesus but not clearly? Sometimes you could see Jesus and certain parts of Jesus. I heard of someone who shared a vision of how he saw Jesus. He said I just saw Jesus legs. There are different degrees and so here finally he saw this angel and he described it in Dan. 10:6. For the first time he saw the details, his body was like barrel, his face was like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like bronze in color and the sound of his voice like the voice of a multitude. For the first time he had this clearer encounter. Its just like sometimes you see people from a distance. Then one day you come close and shake hands with them. You say I didn't know that this guy had this birthmark on the left hand. So here Daniel sees the glory of the angel. Then in verse 7 *There were people with me but they didn't see but a great terror fell on them.* Look at the side effect. This is a very deep vision. Not only he but the others around him now got affected. Although they didn't see but they felt a terror come upon their life. And these other people didn't know what to do. For them they were only having the first encounter. And all of them fled to hide themselves.

Is it possible when there is a real vision people hide himself or herself? Yes. Even in the book of Revelation when the Lord Himself comes people are crying for the mountains and the hills to cover them because they are in darkness and in sin.

Then verse 8-10 *So I was left alone and I saw this great vision, and no strength was left in me; my radiant appearance was fearfully changed, and I retained no strength. Then I heard the sound of his words; I fell on my face in a deep sleep with my face to the ground.* Did you see the word great there its deeper than the normal vision. It is still an open vision. We are not talking about the type of vision. In all the visions that Daniel had it was either a close or open vision. The type of vision was similar throughout chapter 7, 8, 10. but the depth was different. That is what we are talking about tonight. Verse 8 he experience the same thing he experienced before, no strength remain in me, my vigor was turned to filthy like everything inside him turned to water. When he heard the sound of his words he fell under the power.

There are some people who try to use all these scriptures and say if people fall under the power they must go forward and not backward. They don't know scientific laws. The center of gravity will pull you in the direction whichever is the easiest angle and takes the least energy. Which explain why when some people are ministered they fall backwards. It has nothing to do with the spiritual principle. It has to do with the law of science. Like a person cutting a tree down and by the inclination of the tree they know which direction the tree will fall. So don't make a great spiritual truth out of something that is actually nothing. So you cannot judge the spirituality of the experience or the genuineness of the experience by which direction a person fall. You can't say, "Forward is of God, and backwards is of the devil."

This is Daniel's first encounter and it affected his physical body. Then in verse 10 *And behold, a hand touched me and set me trembling on my hands and knees.* When the hand touched him Daniel trembled like an electric current going through him. And the angel spoke to him.

Then look at his third experience, first he fainted, second he trembled, third in verse 15 *When he had spoken to me according to these words. I turned my face toward the ground and was dumb.* Do you notice that some of the people experienced this like Zechariah in Luke 1 and Paul in Acts 9 instead of his tongue his eyes were affected. It is not natural blindness. It's the spiritual realm is so great that the physical body is almost transformed. The spiritual realm is a powerful realm. It's a realm of thunder and lightning. It's a realm of high energy.

In verse 16 this time there was a hand that touched him on the lips. Do you know he received something new that day? Do you notice that in Isaiah 6 it says woe to me for a man of unclean lips and I live among people of unclean lips. A coal of fire came and touched his lips. That day there was a special anointing on his lips. Something changed about his physical lips. Do you know why Elisha's bones still contain the power of the anointing? Because that was where the anointing resided in his life. It was within his very bones. Which explain why when he has to channel the anointing he has to put his whole body on the child who was dead. For Moses it was the rod.

So his lips were touched and he was able to open his mouth again. But in verse 17 he says *I still don't have enough strength nor is there breath in me*. He was so deep in the experience that he could hardly breathe. Very few people have been up to that level. Now you know why Enoch was taken. When he reached that realm his whole physical body transformed. He found he was no more breathing in the natural. He was breathing in the spiritual. And that was when the third encounter took place.

Then in verse 18 *the one having the likeness of man touched me and strengthened me*. How many times have he been touched now? 3 times and each time it was different. The first touch made him tremble. The second touch opened his mouth. The third touch gave him strength. Not all spiritual encounters are the same.

I want to impress upon your spirit tonight to realize that there are different depths of experiences. Don't use your logical mind and say a touch is a touch. They are not in the spirit world. One spade is not the same as the other spade in the spirit world. The spiritual world is not like this logical world that we live in. There are different touches in the spirit world.

But the third touch which is the fourth encounter was different. When the third touch came the strength came into him. Then verse 19 which is the fifth encounter. The angel blessed him. The angel personally pronounced a blessing, which of course we know, was pronounced by God. Verse 19. O man greatly beloved fear not; peace be to you, be strong. And Daniel became superman. Verse 18 when he touched him the strength came. Verse 19 when he spoke a greater strength came. How many times has he been strengthened in this one vision, many times. But verse 19 was powerful. He said *let my Lord speak you have now strengthened me*. He is now ready to receive all the revelations that God wants to give him.

So we are talking about the depths of experience in the spirit world. And each time you receive an encounter it drains you at that level. Don't stop there every time if you are drained if you ask God to strengthen you for the next step He can strengthen you. We all have different strength physically and different strength spiritually. And our physical body is capable of different strength dependent on the level of your spiritual strength. We all have different endurance capacity in the spirit world. This explains why we all have different capacity to pray in long hours. But when you reached the limit of your endurance, or you have a spiritual encounter that exhausted all your endurance so far, get new strength from Him for the next one to prepare you for the level or revelation encounter that He wants you to have. Like Daniel asked to be strengthened and he was strengthened. Before he never asked to be strengthened. He didn't learn that secret until chapter 10.

It is just like when you exercise. Weightlifters don't just lift up. It is not just the weight that you carry. It's the amount of time that also determines it. They don't just carry until they feel tired. They carry until they feel a slight ache on their muscles. It is one of the principles. They carry let's say 10 kilos. When tired they go to 9. Tired they go to 8. They want to exhaust every fiber of their muscles. When they do that and its totally exhausted and they exercise their capacity to expand and grow. When you reach the limit of your natural strength through exercise or physical activity, your body began to put it back the strength. It doesn't just put just put back the strength. It puts back more. Which is why if you exercise regularly over the months and the years, you put on muscles. You put on strength physically. When you run 5 kilometers everyday for 1 year, you find that 5 km is nothing. You can now run 7 km. Your heart adapts to the work and increases the capacity.

In the same manner unless you reached your limits of your spiritual endurance, you will not reach the next point. Sometimes your physical body limits your spiritual limit. Which is why when Jesus told His disciples to pray they could not. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. But they were not willing to allow their spirit to push their physical body to the limit of spiritual activity. So they never experience greater things. There is a great depth if you will push it. Which is why many people have pushed themselves to that area. And every time they come to an end, they get new strength, new spiritual muscles to go higher until the day they walk with God with absolutely one spirit, soul and body with the God of the universe.

6. SPIRITUAL ENCOUNTERS

The spirit world is highly populated. Just as in this natural world you see a lot of people in the cities, the spirit world is also very highly populated. Can you imagine one third of the angels fell and some of them became what you consider wicked spirits in the high places? Then what about those disembodied spirits that came about in Noah's time as the result of the flood. The whole earth was populated in Noah's time before the flood. The half-breed race that was produced through the angels mixing with human flesh died and were disembodied. There are so many of them here on this planet. Then not counting the other two thirds of angels that remained faithful, plus all the Old Testament saints and the New Testament saints for the past 2000 odd years till this day. The spirit world is highly populated. Think about every one who was born into this world having a guardian angel. Plus all the other types of angels, and you can imagine how crowded things are in the spirit world. We should not surprise when we say there is a hosts of angels surrounding us. It is not just an occasional one angel here, or one angel there. Those who are in the natural world don't understand that the spiritual world is crowded. In fact if there are 5 billion people in this world, there are more than that number of spirit beings right now. Out there in the spirit world, spirit beings are constantly moving to and flow on this earth. We cannot describe all the spirit beings.

We want to talk about the good spirits the angelic beings. Tonight we are talking about spiritual encounters and how to live in that realm of the spirit. In fact it is always there but it is how much we experience it or are aware of it. If you are someone given to visions you reach a point where you can classify them. Of course if those who have not seen as much as a vision or the things of the spirit world, they will think all spirit beings are the same. It would just like someone who has not traveled outside their country and they think that everyone is just the same.

The story is told about the first white missionary who went to Africa. The white man goes there and the natives there said that he was some creature from outer space. What the black African didn't know in the early missionary days was there was more to come. A missionary told me how he went to a village part of Malaysia where very seldom they see a white man. When he went there the whole village came out to look at him. What the villagers didn't realize is that there are many more of his kind elsewhere.

So it's the same way that those who have no experience in the spirit world, when they see something they say they are angels. They don't realize that there are so many types of angels. We cannot even say that we have realized all the different types of angels. And in no way are we are going to say that these are the only classifications. There may be many other types.

As you go deeper into the realm of the spirit, you begin to see something else in the spirit. You see the world of the spirit is not the world you fully understand. In this life we can only understand a small portion of the spirit world. And sometimes the smartest of us think that we have all our theology in order. Then you see something else in the spirit and your theology has to be reorganized. You thought you have placed everything together until you began to see something in the spirit.

You began to see angels that do not have wings. And not only that they don't dress in angels' clothing. They dress in humans' clothing. And not only that, some of them look like are from different races. You ask, "Are there Chinese angels, Indian angels?" So your mind begins to be boggled. And you are wondering how to explain this phenomenon. At your level it would suffice to know whether the angel was the

devil or from God.

I have come across other books and I find that others have experienced it too. Like Roland Buck in his other book by his daughter *The Man Who Talk With Angels*. And he talked about how one angel from Africa came. And he looked like an African.

If you ask a normal Christian how many types of angel he thinks there are. He might say, "There are Worship angels, Warring angels and Ministering angels. Do you know there are more than those? I want to talk about those that come to this earth.

Worship Angels

There is a particular group of angels that are called the worship angels. They look different and many of them have wings. Quite like the Seraphim and the Cherubim who are always around God's throne and remember they have 6 wings. And they constantly sing onto God. And there are types of worship angel that constantly sing onto God. They always sing a new song onto God. They are always teaching new songs. It is these angels that teach people new songs. And this group of angels spends all their time worshiping. They don't anything else; they don't go off to fight God's battles. That is the work of other different angels. These worship angels don't really come and bring your needs. All they do is worship God. And they bring an atmosphere of praise and worship wherever they go. And they teach us new songs in God. They are called the worship angels.

Messenger Angels

Then there are messenger angels. Gabriel heads them. They are like the dispatch boys of God. All they do is to bring the message. Then they appear to human beings then they disappear again. Apparently all these angels seem to demonstrate that they have certain wings.

Ministering Angels

They are the different group of angels. They are the called ministering angels. Ministering angels have a special ability to come in disguise. They look almost like a human being. In fact they could come right in and sit in the church as a human being. We could even have welcomed them at the door and said goodbye to them after the service. Think about it this way. If I in the natural want to come in disguise lets say to India. What would I, a Chinese, have to do? Perhaps I may have to apply something on my skin to make it as dark as an Indian's skin. Only then I would really be in disguise. If I were to just dress up as an Indian and go out on the streets of India, of course they would see through my disguise.

These angels do not really have any races. There is no race in the spirit world. But you can be assured they are very good at disguising. They are God's special spies. And the ministering angels are those who are able to provide for our needs. And it is these angels that the book of Heb.13:2 *Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares*. This is a different group of angels altogether.

In Percy Colette's tape series on *I Went To Heaven*, he was just about to take off to heaven with his guardian angel, he said that his guardian angel was as excited as he was to go to heaven. His guardian angel also has not been to heaven for quite sometime. He has been guarding Percy Colette for nearly 70 odd years. And it seems that when the guardian angel went there the guardian angel said there were a lot of changes in heaven.

The guardian angels may look like you. In fact sometimes they could exactly look like you.

In the book of Acts 12 when Peter was released from prison, he went knocking on the door of the house where they were having a prayer meeting. When the servant girl came out and saw Peter, she could not believe that it was Peter at first. Finally she went back and told the people that Peter was standing outside the door. The people answered her in Acts 12 that it was his angel. In other words they believed in guardian angels. And they thought that his guardian angel had come. The people thought that she saw his angel which may look like him. But don't take that too theologically and say all our guardian angel look like us. It doesn't mean that if you wear glasses your guarding angel also wear glasses.

They have the ability to appear in human form. In the spirit there is no races. But the same ministering angle can appear as an Indian, as a Chinese or as any race. That's the only way they can be in disguise. It is the ministering angels that have that ability. They are unique in a sense of their closeness and their affinity to the human race. That's a group by themselves.

Warring Angels

The other group of angels is known as warring angels. Michael the Archangel is the head among them. And he has a group of other angels under him, all fierce and war like angels but yet with a holy countenance. These are the angels that fight the forces of darkness.

You see when God shows you this sort of thing He doesn't give you the theology for that. The theology comes through the Spirit of truth. But when you are seeing in the spirit world, when you are having a vision, you are not trying to theologize; you are just looking. These warring angels look very fierce. Not fierce in an evil way but powerful and frightening. Frightening in a sense that you know that this is not the same group as the ministering angel whom you could say play with. This is a group of angels that you don't even dare to touch. It puts an awesome fear in your life and I have seen them only a few times. They appear huge and big. Not like a human being at all. The ministering angles are like human beings. But these warring angels are tremendous by themselves.

The warring angels seem to have special work to do as a result of the prayer of God's saints. Like Michael the Archangel was assigned to Daniel's aid because Daniel prayed.

You see one of them appear in the book of Revelation chapter 10. And his coming was so awesome that John specially noted that this is a different angel altogether. Possibly this group of angels may be classified among the warring angels.

Rev. 10:1-6 *Then I saw another mighty angel coming down from heaven, wrapped in a cloud, (Its not just because he was close to the presence of God because Gabriel also was close to the presence of God. Gabriel says he stands in the presence of God. To get a message and be a dispatch angel, he would have to hear from God directly. But the countenance is different he says) with a rainbow over his head, and his face was like the sun, and his legs like pillars of fire. He had a little scroll open in his hand. And he set his right foot on the sea, and his left foot on the land, (Can you imagine how big he was, however he was not the Lord; he was an angel,) and he cried out with a loud voice, like a lion roaring; when he called out, the seven thunders had sounded. And when the seven thunders had sounded, I was about to write, but I heard a voice from heaven saying, "Seal up what the seven thunders have said, and do not write it down." and the angel whom I saw standing on sea and land lifted up his right hand to heaven and swore by Him who lives for ever and ever.*

Apparently this is a totally different manifestation of the angel different from the others. Who was this angel? I believe this angel is that group that we call angels of destruction, angels who execute God's wrath and judgment. They may be classified among the warring angels, may be only because there is not enough scriptures for me to put them together. So I will put them categorically in a section by themselves.

Now this is the same type of angel, there may be a number of them, this is the same angel who was

there in the book of Exodus when all the Israelites were spared and the first born of the Egyptians died. Some people couldn't understand who that was. They thought it was the devil that brought destruction through the 10 plagues. When God told the Israelites to kill a lamb and put the blood on the doorpost so that when the Angel of death passes by they would be spared. Some people think that it was the devil. It was not the devil; it was God Almighty. God and the devil are never partners. Our theology has to be systematic straight and logical. That's what theology is the understanding of God and His manifestation. How can God and the devil be in partnership? It was the angel sent by God. You can call him the angel of death. Although he is different from Satan but he is an angel of destruction who executes God's wrath. In fact if any Israelites did not have the blood they would also be struck dead by the same angel.

In the book of Psalms chapter 78, look at the description here in verse 49. It's the Psalms about the Exodus. And the book of Psalms 78 is talking about the 10 plagues that have occurred. And all the destruction that has occurred to Egypt in verses 43-46. He talks about how the plagues have occurred and the destruction was made in Egypt. Now in verse 49 he says *He cast on them (now the them was referring to Egypt) the fierceness of his anger, wrath, indignation and trouble by sending angels of destruction.* Now if you have an old King James it says by *sending evil angels.* Did you see that? However the word *evil* is different from the word *destruction.* The Hebrew word is actually not the word *evil.* Destruction is different. Here God is not talking about an evil angel with an evil malicious attitude and motive. But He is talking about an angel of destruction or as the Hebrew word also means judgment. He sends an angel of judgment, an angel with the ability to destroy.

That is the same angel that God sent among the Syrian camp. And one such angel can wipe out the entire Syrian army. Don't play around with those angels. They are frightening in a human sense. If you walk with God and you fellowship with God there is nothing to be frightened about the awesome work that they perform. This is why sometimes I tend to see them as warring angels. But yet they seem special in their function.

In the book of II Sam. 24 when David sinned it was not the devil who came and destroyed him although the devil tempted him to sin to number Israel. But it was an angel of God who brought the punishment. Not one of the fallen angels but one of the upright angels appointed by God who is under the command of God.

II Sam. 24:16 *And when the angel stretched forth his hand towards Jerusalem to destroy it, the Lord repented of the evil, and said to the angel who was working destruction among the people. "It is enough; now stay your hand."* Now that cannot be an evil angel. That cannot be a demon. That was a special angel who was under the command of God. We are told here in verse 17 *Then David spoke to the Lord when he saw that angel who was smiting the people.* The angel came and when the angel strike the people they die. The people who were struck down did not see the angel. Which is why I say these angels of death are not ministering angels.

Those who are not experienced in the spirit world think angels are just angels. They don't realize there are many types of angels. And you have to have a certain respect for different types of angels. What we do with the ministering angels is that I go close to my ministering angel. I understand his voice. When you are close to someone you recognize their voice. And that angel has a different voice from the other angels. You become so sharp in the spirit you could differentiate it. As I was lying down resting today one of those who was quite familiar came and whisper to me and said tonight you shall talk to them about this and he gave me 3 points. That is why we say that when you live in the spirit world you are in a different world altogether. Although we don't open our mouth and talk much about these things, it doesn't mean we are strangers to the spirit world. But those who are strangers to the spirit world would blare their mouth. They don't realize that those who are in the spirit see some things that they don't. And they don't realize how dangerous to meddle with the spirit world. If you don't understand the law of gravity you will still die if you jump off a cliff. A law whether natural or spiritual is no respecter of person. We have to respect those laws God made in the spirit world.

In I Chron. 21 is a repeat but with some details given to us. I Chron. 21:15 *And God sent the angel to*

Jerusalem to destroy it; Now this is one of those angels I am talking about. They had the power to destroy. And if they just touch you with their sword you will die instantly. Verse 18 *Then the angel of the Lord commanded Gad to say to David that David should go up and rear an altar to the Lord on the threshing floor of Ornan.* Verse 20 *Now Ornan was threshing wheat; he turned and saw the angel, and his four sons who were with him hid themselves.* Isn't Ornan a marvelous guy? He is minding his own business threshing wheat. He heard about the destruction that has happened. He is threshing wheat with his 4 sons with him. His 4 sons looked and say there is a big angel and all of them hid behind the bushes. Ornan looked and just kept on threshing. David also saw the angel and they had an offering to God. And the angel was instructed to put back his sword.

Some of you think that that is Old Testament. Angels' work never changes. It is men who have different dispensations, not angels. When God divided His angels into various work it was for His whole eternity. In Acts 12:21-23 *On an appointed day Herod put on his royal robes, took his seat upon the throne, and made an oration to them. And the people shouted, "The voice of god, and not of man!" Immediately an angel of the Lord smote him.* That is an angel of God not of the devil. What kind of angel was that? It was an angel of destruction that Psalms 78:49 talks about.

Look at Psalms 35 and see that David understood these kind of angels. When you have been in the spirit world long enough, you understand these angels and what their work is. Which is why we always encourage people who know the Word to move into worship. A lot of people who are talented in music and who know how to compose song don't go into composing worship songs because they lack the word and theological content. All their songs would be just *Praise you, praise you.* But when David composes songs he has theological content. The sad thing is that those who are theologically heavy tend not to be singers. So we need a balance in that. The only way is to encourage those who are already singers to get deep in the word. You can never sing beyond what you have received in revelation or in understanding from God. You can never sing or describe things beyond your spiritual experience. You may take somebody else's song and sing it. That somebody else's song will bring you into the height of experience. Now you know why worship is important. When you have a song that comes from somebody's experience that you yourself have not experience yet. But as you keep singing it and try to understand the fullness of it, you may enter into that experience yourself.

But what we want is a new song onto the Lord. The new song we sing is limited by your spiritual experience. The deeper you are in your spiritual experience the higher you go. When we introduce a song on *Jesus Savior, Jesus lover, Everlasting Father Mighty God is He,* I receive a note from a sister that said why not all you personalize it. Like *Jesus Savior* is addressing Him personally. Then we reached a place where *Mighty God is He.* I mean that was exactly what I heard sung. They don't understand in the spirit realm that God is so big that He is sometimes referred to in the third person. When we look at the Psalms sometimes it moves from the first person to the third person, third person to the first person. It moves about.

If what the sister say is true then you know what will happen. Because the contention is that we must sing to God and not about God. That is one line of reasoning. If that is so every song we sing should be *You, You are Lord.* Think about how dull our worship will be. Our songs have only a limited expression. The wordings are important but the heart is also important. If you have a problem with addressing *You* and *He,* read Psalms and you understand that David had no problem. When you reached a certain depth in the spirit, you sometimes need to encourage yourself to keep on going. When you reached a point of singing *Mighty God is He* you are telling yourself *He is mighty come lets do it again.* It is like a refrain in that song. *Jesus Savior, You reign supreme, Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God is He.* You began to refer back and then go back to Him. There is a reciprocal thing in every song. You can never sing or compose and get a song beyond your spiritual experience. In the natural is also true. You can never get into a song or tune beyond your musical training or talent.

Do you know that Kenneth Hagin could not carry a tune? He even went for voice training and his teacher gave up on him. A mighty man of God he got one area he couldn't do. But in his latter days he moved into poetry. He got word content the only thing he couldn't do is to put a tune into it.

Ps. 35:5 *Let them be like chaff before the wind, with the angel of the Lord driving them on!* Don't you simply use that prayer. Perhaps what David is singing for was from his position as a king. If you were a ruler of a nation and you are in contact and intimate with God. And you know all these nations are rising against you. You may be calling on angels too. None of us are in his position. You are just a small little soldier in Christ and then you have some problem with your neighbor or your boss and say *angel of God pursue them*. Father God will say, "He prayed what he knows not." Some Christian when they learn a truth the slight opportunity they have, they would apply it wrongly. So here is this David and he says, "*Let the angels of the Lord chase them.*" Verse 6 *Let their way be dark and slippery, with the angel of the Lord pursuing them!*

That is very fierce of David. He is man after God's heart. He says let the angels pursue them. You could not believe that he is such a temperamental guy. That's David the mighty man of war. You see David with the shepherd's heart; you also see David the mighty man of war. What we are talking about is there is a group of angels who are awesome and carry a tremendous force of judgment. I know when I see one of them that there is going to be destruction somewhere.

Departed Saints

Besides this group of angels there is a realm that we want to conclude by talking about how to move into that realm. I have met in the spirit world a lot of departed saints. I know what the book of Deuteronomy says how we should not seek contact in a sense of a medium trying to contact someone who has died. I want you to know I have no desire to do it. But it is just that in a vision you may meet people like Kathryn Khulman or any other departed saints. I met Watchman Nee and John Sung in the spirit.

When I was in my third year in the ministry, I was on a 3-day fast and I saw a vision of 2 mountains and a valley and a huge tall building. And the tall building was not quite completed but only the structure was completed with huge tall pillars and you need to fill up all the walls. And high on that building was a few people. I recognize 2 but I didn't recognize the others but they were all Asians. And I recognize that one of them was Watchman Nee and one of them was John Sung. I was standing on the valley some distance from the building and they were waving to me. I understood part of the vision but I understood the whole vision only about 10 years later. What was happening was that I know that John Sung and Watchman Nee had a special call in God. What was happening is that I was being called to complete the work that they started. That was my destiny. Which is why if you read my books carefully sometimes you see an element of Watchman Nee in my analysis. Sometimes you see an element of John Sung there. It is not that I have received their anointing; it is just that I have to complete the work that they had begun.

Once in the early days of my ministry Watchman Nee came to me in a dream. And in that dream I submitted some papers to him for marking and he was like my teacher. And he passed it back and I looked back and said, "My God, so many red marks." Today of course I could analyze his teaching. And I realize that Watchman Nee's teachings never cross that line of the baptism in the Spirit. Most of his books are very good. But there are some that are not very clear. Especially on the soul and the spirit area in the *Latent Power Of The Soul* that can confuse people. The gist of that book is to destroy and get rid of the soul. The correct teaching is to build up the soul and strengthened the soul up. That is the confusing part. But I am talking about the early days.

Kathryn Khulman was another one whom I have met. When these things happen I am concerned about the scriptural basis of it. I do not want to receive any vision or any encounter or any manifestation without a scriptural basis. So I began to ask God about it. Then God began to show me some other things and I realize that there were some in the spirit world who were working as angels but who don't seem to be angels. They seem to be the departed saints who were serving God. And there was a sister who came to me and said she saw a group of these angels of different size. She saw some angels that look like children. So I could not explain it. Spiritual experiences are like this. You experienced it first and your mind still doesn't understand. So you keep it in your drawer and you don't want to share it until you understand it. After many years later the Lord began to speak some things to me and showed me that some of those saints who have died also sometimes serve as angels. And sometimes some of the children in paradise are allowed trips to this earth. I mean heaven is active. You don't just go to heaven and float on a cloud. Put it this way we have kindergartens for the children. School children sometimes have tours, accompanied by their teachers, to places of interest for learning. Likewise, occasionally the children in heaven under escort of angels are

allowed to come down to this earth for excursion and learning. And that was what actually happened. There were times when the departed spirits are allowed to visit this earth.

In Rev. 17:1 *Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me. Verse 3 And he carried me away in the Spirit. Verse 7 The angel said "Why marvel? I will tell you the mystery of the woman. Then he saw other things in chapter 18. Then in chapter 19:9-10 And the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb." And he said to me, "These are true words of God." Then I fell down at his feet to worship him, but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brethren who hold the testimony of Jesus. Worship God." For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy.*

The translation says I am one of you one of the Blood bought saints who were close to God serving God as an angel. The word angel just means messenger. Why does God choose a Blood bought saint? Did you notice that this same angel could explain to John the mystery of the harlot? Did you notice that in the book of Peter? It tells us in I Pt. 1: 12 *It was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in the things which have now been announced to you by those who preached the good news to you through the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, thing in which angels long to look.*

Now there are angels that are pure angels. They were never human beings at all. But there are human beings that serve as angels and they are different. Because angels can never understand what we felt when we sing *Amazing Grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me*. Not a single one of the angels can fully understand the impact of a born again spirit singing *Amazing Grace how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me*. Gabriel and Michael may understand to a certain extend. But they have never experienced what sin was like. And they have never experienced the grace of redemption. Now neither were we be able to sing the song that the 144,000 sang who went through the tribulation and who confronted the anti Christ. It is because we did not experience what they experienced.

The bible says in Rev. 14:3 *And they sing a new song before the throne and before the four living creatures and before the elders. No one could learn that song except the hundred and forty four thousand.* We described the song of the Lamb in this series earlier about the note of victory in all of us. So we also recognize that we as living in this dispensation as pre-tribulation days will never understand in fullness what Jews especially the hundred and forty four thousand go through and face in their life and are able to sing a song that we cannot sing. In the same way angels could accept the fact that they cannot sing some songs that we can sing, because they have not experienced sin and redemption. They may have other songs that we may not be able to sing. So each creation of God is different and unique.

But here I Peter tells us there are some things the angels cannot understand like the mind of a redeemed saint can. And it was a redeemed saint who could explain to John the apostle what some of the mysteries were. Because the mysteries have to do with those things by the grace of God that only man was allowed to deal with. And so for such matters sometimes God predestined a human spirit who was redeemed and has walked with God to function in the place of those angelic beings. Many of those angels who explained a lot of the mysteries of redemption are actually departed spirits.

But if it were Michael or Gabriel who understand dispensation, they can explain dispensation to man like Gabriel explained it to Daniel. But then there are other things that belong to man but doesn't belong to angels. God has to send a departed saint as an angelic being to counsel and teach a prophet. Now Sadhu Sundar Singh also said something like that. Let me just read from his book *The Spirit World*. It says:

Here I asked one of the angels. I asked them can you tell me by what names you are known as. One of the angels replied each of us have been given a new name which none knows except the Lord and the one who have received it. All of us here have served the Lord in different lands, in different ages. And here is no need that any should know what our names are. Nor is there any necessity that we should tell our former earthly names.

Some of the angels who appear to people who do not have wings are actually departed saints who have been serving God for sometime. And many times those angels who were very close explaining a lot of things to a human being are departed spirits. They may have been apostles, pastors, teachers, evangelists or prophets but now they are angels. You know why some of them have to be called home early because God has other work for them. Remember this the spirit world exist whether you believe it or not. Your belief or disbelief theologically doesn't change the spirit world, doesn't change God. It only affects the one who doesn't accept and limit their own thinking and their own life from the greater blessings of God.

And it says here *nor is there any necessity that we should tell our former earthly names*. It might be interesting to know them but what could be the use. *Then we do not want people to know our names lest they should imagine us great and give honor to us instead of to the Lord. Who has so loved us that He has lifted us up out of our fallen state and has brought us to our eternal home. Where we would forever sing praises to His loving fellowship. And this is the object that He created us.*

Sadhu Sundar Singh walked so closed with God I believe he was one of those who was actually caught up. And Sadhu Sundar Singh in one of his books said he asked one of the saints, "Are there any other saints who were translated?" They said, "Yes there are many." We think we only got Enoch and Elijah and Moses who went ahead of time. I mean the Western world have not even heard of Sadhu Sundar Singh. I thank God that the nation of India had at least produced a saint and may every nation produce more.

There were others like John Fletcher who lived in the time of John Wesley. When John Fletcher died John Wesley said the world has lost one of the holiest men on earth. It is said that when he went into a city and left, the people were crying and said, "In our life time we can only see one angel of a man and now you are going away." I want to encourage you because we are teaching in a closed group. This kind of teaching we cannot teach outside. I want you to know that it is possible to live like an angel on this earth. Perhaps you have been so long in the secular world, so long in the natural world, so long living with half-baked Christians who claimed to be normal Christians. When what is normal is actually divine nature. And what we are talking about that people called Christianity at university level, is actually Christianity at normal level. That God wants to raise up a group of Christians who stop at nothing and understand that they could walk like God, walk like Jesus on this earth. They will be able to overcome every work thrown against them. It is a walk that doesn't just include a walk of power, a walk of love but it is also a walk of suffering. The world will always persecute those who are like God. Darkness never likes light. And you may have to go through much suffering and misunderstanding to reach that realm until you are highly purified. So there is a realm that we can ascend to, that we could relate.

The spirit world is full of spirit beings. They may be invisible to your natural eyes but they are there. And they try to communicate to us as well. Although we should not worship angels and be side tracked and our focus is on Jesus, but understand that there is a whole realm out there. It doesn't mean that when we all get to heaven then I don't pay attention to you and say we all must concentrate on God. So we never talk to each other in heaven because Jesus is the most important thing. Some are so intellectually argumentative they look like they are great intellectual giants. But their arguments are childish as far as argument is concerned. No doubt we worship Jesus but in heaven there will be time to visit one another. There will be time to fellowship. There is the higher truth that wherever you go you cannot run from the presence of God. Its just like the fishes in the sea wherever they are they feel the water. Wherever you are you will know and sense the presence of God.

There is a realm that I want to conclude so that you will be opened to the spirit world. See in the spirit world in relating to angels and spiritual encounters, which tonight you may encounter. There is a whole host of them around here. Some of them may be affecting your thoughts and your desires while you are praying.

This is another statement that our friend Sundar Singh said. He may not have understood the Word of Faith message but the other things he has. He said: *Our relatives and dear ones and at times the saints as well often come from the unseen world to help and protect us but the angels always do. Yet they have*

never been allowed to make themselves visible to us.

Do you know that for an angel to actually appear to you they need permission from the Father? They may be around you, they may be helping you but do you know that they are not allowed to appear. They have never been allowed to appear to us except for a few times of very special needs. Although they may be invisible but we like to train you to be sensitive to them so that you know them. We want Christians to be developed and opened to the spirit world. But you notice that in my teaching I emphasize on renewal of the mind and our intellectual development and training in God. Without the other part we will be so far out of the world that nobody can relate to us.

He continues and says, *a few times they are allowed to appear.* Don't be discouraged if tonight you pray all night and your eyes keep looking around, looking for vision but never see them. They are not allowed to appear unless you got special needs. But whether they appear or not they are always around. And you can actually hear them. Like before coming here an angel did appear to me and he just spoke to me. He said tonight you tell them these 3 things. You tell them about different types of angelic beings. Then you will tell them about the departed spirits. And thirdly you will tell them about their thought life and how important it is.

The Thought Life

Then he says *unrecognized by us they influence us towards holy thoughts and incline us toward God and towards good conduct. And God's Spirit dwelling in our hearts completes the work for the perfecting of our spiritual life which they have been unable to accomplished.* You notice that 3 things I mentioned here. They influence towards holy thought, incline towards God and towards good conduct. And then God's Spirit completes the work which they are unable to do.

Even Kenneth Hagin himself make mention of this but in just one sentence. I don't know why he didn't go deeper. Perhaps in America it is highly unacceptable. He said just as the demons influences us in bad thoughts, angels have an influence on us in good thought. We know that good thought can also come from the Holy Spirit. He said that there are spirit beings also influence us in good thought.

So there are 2 witnesses here: Sadhu Sundar Singh and Kenneth Hagin. So there is something that you all may have felt. Although they are invisible right now to many of you, some of you are thinking how then do I relate to the spirit world and move into that realm. Be conscious of the various degrees of thoughts. Some people think there are only 2 types of thought: good thoughts and bad thoughts. They don't know there are many degrees and levels of thought. Each of your thought has a specific gravity. Specific gravity of any object in water defines of what level the object floats in the water. You let more water in the chamber and the submarine sink. So the specific gravity can go down and go up. We all swim and float but we all float at different levels.

And there are different levels of our thought even tonight if you pray and function. Our desires have different gravity or different weights if you want to put it. Sometimes they are light sometimes they are heavy. The lighter thought can go up the heavy thought cannot go up. Our desires also got different levels. Now you understand what I mean by torture. Sometimes when you talk to people all their desires are all heavy. And you feel the heaviness around them. You feel the pressure of the natural around them. Because all their thought and desires are heavy. They are earthbound.

Then there are different degrees of heights they ascend to. When you meet someone who always talks about the Lord you know that is the level they always live in. The spirit world is concerned about a person's motive, which is why sometimes people don't understand my actions or my inactions in something. And love is the prime motive waiting force and not just judgment or decision-making. In the natural world you are just a decision maker. But when you move into the spirit realm your nature changed. You operate in love and not just in wisdom. Wisdom without love is destructive. Because of that love and compassion and the sense of the spirit you could not act or do something you know would be destructive to another person.

Let me give some examples of some of these thoughts. Here is a book *My Glimpse Of Eternity*. The author actually died and went to heaven. She was desperately praying for healing but never got healed. While she was on the hospital bed having a sort of cleansing operation, God was dealing with her life. Three times she felt the presence. The first time the presence came she knew it was the Lord but she never saw the Lord. The third time she saw the Lord. The third time she went into heaven. But the first 2 times she felt like many of you felt. Just like tonight when I speak some of you felt something different. It is because I am talking about the things of the Lord. I am talking about my experience of the Lord. It's a different atmosphere we have. Something that is timeless even if I take the whole night to talk about that you know that there is something that if you hear carefully and open your spirit it will change your life. See many of you felt a presence and you may receive some thoughts and impressions but no visible manifestation. That was what she had the first time. The second time the presence came into the hospital bed. She saw nothing she heard nothing but her mind was drawn to certain thoughts. The third time she died and she went into the outer part of heaven. This gives you the understanding of why some people cannot be healed. When I pray for someone, I sense not only the spirit I sense the vibrations that come from the person's life. Sometimes there are conflicts in a person's life and you got to speak some words to the person until their soul and their spirit and their physical body are in harmony. Then you could pray for them and the power just goes straight to them. But if for some reasons that divine harmony cannot come, then they could only partially receive and not fully.

In the second time the presence came this was what she said took place. While she was lying on the bed she says: *I woke up in a panic. My hospital bedroom was dark. Only a dim light flittered through the slightly ajar door. Desperately I reached out for the warm presence that had comforted me during bad moments in recent days. Lord help me. Lord will I ever get well? Please take away my pain. At once the throbbing in my head eased slightly. My panic subsided and I was not alone. The Comforter had returned. Then gently but firmly I felt Him probing my life. What did you learn today from your husband? That question was there in my life. And I am sure I didn't ask it myself. My husband's pathetic effort to cook a meal showed how much he needed me. That's what he wants, isn't it Betty? To have your family totally dependent on you. Again this thought has come from the outside. This thought came from the presence it was the Lord probing her life. When John her husband and Brenda her daughter are so dependant on you Betty. Betty will never ask herself such thoughts. This was the Comforter himself. By now I was wide-awake. These thoughts deeply disturb me. Was I blocking my husband and daughter from God?*

The reason I had to read this book is this. It is very hard to describe some of the things of the spirit I am talking about the different types of thought. And you will understand what I say that the natural man torture the spirit man, because they are not sensitive to this finest area of thought.

I sort of desired to turn away from this painful revelation about myself. But there were no condemnation in the presence only loving concern. Then it seems that the two of us were seated side by side. In front of a screen on which is a series of sins of my life was flashed on the screen. Scene one my parents, younger brothers and I were driving our old car to church on a hot summer day. The car has no air-conditioning. Yet I angrily shouted at my brother that the windows must be kept shut or my hairdo will be ruined.

Scene two: a kitchen scene after my marriage to John. At 5.30 a.m. I am baking biscuits when John sleepily appears asking why the early rising. I want your mother to know that you have a wife who gets up early every morning to fix your breakfast.

Do you know all these things in the natural will not affect the natural man? This is the degree I am talking about. These are the things the Lord brought before her.

Scene three, in a local departmental store I spent hours trying to find a matching mother-daughter outfit for Brenda.

This is something that many people call window-shopping. A lot of these things that become

acceptable become sin. But out there sin is only the breaking of the 10 commandments. But when you get so close with God a flirting thought like that becomes sin.

I explain that intensity of my search. It gives my daughter a sense of security to dress like her mother.

Now you understand what I mean when the Lord comes to you, no body that really have met the Lord or met an angel of God will ever be proud again. And no body that really has met the Lord will come out without more love. Which I why a lot of those so-called prophets, people who claim to know a lot of things but they have their pride and they operate in the flesh, they haven't really met Him. When you meet Him you will be like Job. And you will say I am just but dust and ashes. All you want to do is to repent.

Scene four, late at night in our bedroom I give the room a romantic aura by lighting some candles. Next comes a spray of perfume. John my husband watches me from the bed with mixed emotion. Just one time I like you to forget the trappings come into my arms and say that all you really want is me.

This kind of scene flashed before her.

Scene five John and I are talking one evening in our home. He has met a young husband and wife who had such marital problem. Their infidelity was well known about town. They were looking for help says John. And I like to have them for dinner and then take them to our church afterwards. I tell John that the neighbors might think its strange if we identify with people of low reputation. That it would be best for them to go to church directly and have my father minister to their needs. (Her father is a pastor incidentally.)

Five scenes flashed before her. Scenes that the world treats as common daily events. Now you know how uncommon the daily events are to one accustomed to the spirit world.

Now all of these scenes on the surface might seem typical of family life. Yet as each one flashed before me I was gently made aware of truth about myself. The first scene showed my determination to protect my hairdo in the car at the expense of others. I mean the others were sweating away. I say why not wind up the whole car window. My determination to protect my hairdo was not only self-centeredness. It was beginning of a pattern to get my own way and that God said was wrong. See in life we never get our own way.

The second scene my early rising to take biscuits was not to show John how much I love him. But to impress others what a good wife I was. I want your mother to know.

Third scene the search in the departmental store for the matching garment. *My great search to find a matching mother-daughter outfit.* And she told the sales clerk so that her daughter can have security in a mummy like her.

Fourth scene, the romantic trappings. The candles and perfume act was not to make it easier for me to give myself more completely to my husband. It was a bit of fantasy on my part to make our physical relationship seem better than it was. And to give me study material to impress others with a romantic quality of our marriage.

The sixth scene, my turn down of the adulteress couple was the most devastating scene of all. Seeing my self righteousness and pride made me want to want to put my head under the pillow in shame.

How this act must have grieved the Spirit of God. Tears float down my cheek. Forgive me Lord forgive me.

I want you to know and I say with heavy heart 99% of people I talked to are like that. They don't understand the realm that you can move into. Once you have seen Jesus and you have tasted the things of the spirit you are different. When people treat you the same and they don't regard that the spiritual quality of the relationship they can have with you is as torture.

And at the end of the encounter with the Lord, the Lord changed her life and relationships. She made this statement at the end of the book. *Why had I not been able to accept people as they were rather than always wanting to change them? Why could I not live fully and joyously in the present moment? Now I know I had to die in order to live. A lot of people do not know the cross; they do not know what the true spiritual life is like.*

I close with Matt. 5. You know the book of Matt. 5 and 6 that Jesus is concerned about our higher thoughts. And that will tell you why some people don't see the spirit world. Matt. 5:8 *Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.* No doubt the things of this natural life can be painful and needed. Sometimes when I talk in fellowship and I find somebody who is so concerned for their natural life 99% of the time I feel a sort of pity for him or her. No doubt God is concerned about your daily bread.

When the 2 brothers came to Jesus and the one who was deprived of the inheritance says Master tell my brother to share my inheritance with me. Jesus rebuked him and said beware of covetousness. Which is why people think they can move you with riches and wealth. They don't understand once you get into the spirit it is a small thing. There are other things that you look for in people's life.

Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. If you are pure in heart you can't stand impurity. If you are pure in heart and pure in thought I guarantee you from time to time by the permission of the Almighty Father you will see the spirit world. The only reason you are not seeing the spirit world is the gravity of the law of sin and death. Your thoughts are like the instrument of a telephone line by which the vision can come to you. So if it do not attach up there, there is no flow to you. If it is always down here you will live and die with only a faint impression of the spirit world.

7. THE HUMAN SPIRIT

How many of you here have seen your spirit man? Let me ask another question. How many of you have an out of body experience. Knowing what the spirit is like and experiencing what the spirit man looks like sometimes takes what I call an out of body experience. And in this series we are teaching more on the experiential side of the spiritual world than on the theological side. We want to touch on things that from time to time you may experience and you wonder how to handle it. We will teach how to grow with the experiences that you are having and how to understand what you have been experiencing.

Out of Body Experiences

The first time I ever saw my spirit man was many years back when I was very new in the ministry. I remembered as I was lying down sleeping - it must have been in the middle of the night or early morning - I was in a state of between being awake and being asleep. I was fully aware of what is going on around me. But yet it was like a dream like state. I was conscious of what was happening, unlike in a dream where the consciousness is not that strong.

Suddenly I saw around me thousands and thousands of demons. They were so many that all I could see were their faces. In the dream or vision or experience whatever you call it, I felt that I was in a little room and I had to move out of that room. And I found myself coming out of my body and I could consciously feel

that my body was still lying there. And a part of me got up which at that time I didn't know was my spirit man. And as I was walking towards a certain direction out of that room, I could feel the spiritual pressure. I did not experience any of the demons touching me. But all I felt was that spiritual pressure. The spiritual pressure was so intense that I felt that it was very difficult to walk. As I was going about 10 to 15 feet away from my body, in that weak state I felt myself suddenly being pulled back into my body. And I got up. Then I realized that I had experienced my spirit man.

I had finished 3 years of theological training and I was in the ministry but my spirit man was so weak. I was desperate to deal with that deficiency in my life. I was desperate enough to say, "God here I am in the ministry. I better find the solution to get more energy in my spirit." This was when God began to teach me the principle of meditation and confession. And I began to build up my spirit. Subsequently about a year later I had a vision of my spirit and it was able to fly. And I know that was good.

Recently I had another out of body experience. My spirit man came out of my body and this time it was for about 45 minutes. I spend time praying and fellowshiping with the Lord from about 3 a.m. to 6 a.m. At about 6.15 am on a Sunday, I wanted to take a little rest before going to church. We leave the house normally at about 7.30 am. Knowing that I had been exerting my physical body since I had been praying that long, I just wanted to rest just lying down and take 40 winks. And within a few seconds my spirit left my body. I was not seeking for it for all I wanted was to just let my body rest a while.

My spirit went and visited different people. A lot of people do not know that their spirits sometimes leave their body while they are asleep. I saw the spirits of my children and I also went and prayed for them. When I went and prayed for them I put something like a white substance on them to wear. Then for some reasons I saw the spirits of two of my sisters. Their spirits were in a room upstairs in my house. All through those 45 minutes I knew my body was still lying there. So I knew it was not a dream. Then I approached one of them. It was as if their spirits were there to be blessed and prayed for. One of my sisters was kneeling down in a state of prayer. And as I approached her to pray for her, her spirit looked up. Now her spirit looks exactly like her.

As I approached her she looked up and asked me, "Why are you shining?" Then I realized that I was shining. It was when she said that, that I notice myself, otherwise I didn't notice it. Then I notice there was light coming out from every part of me. I was wearing a certain type of clothes, but somehow it was not a robe. It was like a loose kind of pants and there were also shoes. Then there was a fitting garment. The whole garment was very loose and there were no buttons and the whole garment was shining. In the spirit realm in my spirit I felt the energy flowing through. It was like liquid fire going through you all the time.

In another incident I saw my spirit was when I went to minister to one of the church members. I was no more in my house. I saw my spirit man putting my hand out as if to receive something, then putting my right hand into that person's spirit in the abdominal area. I saw my spirit hand actually enter that person's spirit. Then my spirit began to lift upwards and as my spirit lifted upwards I saw my spirit man taking a whole bundle of black substance out. Looks like my spirit man was ministering some sort of healing to that person.

When I got back into my body, it was like my spirit was quite far away and then suddenly I heard a sound. It was 7 a.m. and my alarm clock was ringing. In that state I suddenly realized I must get back. I could feel my spirit man going into my body. I was conscious for 45 minutes in what the spirit man was doing. When my spirit man stepped into my body I did not for one second lose consciousness. It was not a dream. I was fully conscious. At that time I wanted my physical body to be recharged and strengthened. This body of ours needs constant care and treatment and recharging in order to do what we want to do in the spirit realm. Even Jesus Christ in the garden of Gethsemane prayed and prayed till His body sweated blood. And the bible says in the gospel of Luke that the angel came and strengthened Him and then He prayed some more. And I could feel the energizing force of the spirit man. Then for the next 29 minutes I was just sitting down in a state of ecstasy enjoying the experience. I wanted to make my physical body yield to that which was within me. And as I consciously yielded I could feel the energy flowing into my body. Then my body started to shake. And every time I am conscious of that my body starts to shake. It seems as if our physical body can only take that much of spiritual power. We cannot take it all at once. We got to take it a bit at a time.

Trickle-Charging The Human Spirit

Sometimes God try to charge our body at the maximum possible. Even those who have never been slain in the power do experience a trickle charge. Sometimes those who have been slain in the power have reached a point where they have full charge. In case some of you think that you are peculiar or strange because you have never been slain in the power while others were slain easily, let me explain. I was in that way myself in the early days of my ministry. In fact for about 10 years I never really knew what being slain in the Spirit was like. I have seen other people slain in the Spirit when I pray but I never knew what it was like. And at the back of my mind I was always asking, "Why, Lord?" Then it dawned on me that you don't have to be slain to receive the blessing of God; God can trickle-charge you until you are slowly charged up. Part of it also depends on your co-operation in your yielding to God.

Let me talk about trickle charge. Even those who had not been slain under the power have times in their prayer or when others are praying for them or in their own private worship when they feel their body move or shake. Whether it is in a slow motion they feel their body moving or hands wanting to shake and they slowly take control again. Or whether their legs want to shake or the head wants to shake or some part of their being wants to shake. Even though I have never been slain in my early days but sometimes during prayer my hands felt like shaking. Sometimes during prayer I could feel my body involuntarily wanting to move in a certain manner. The strange thing about it was that it was up to me whether to let go or not. It was me and yet not me - I never fully understood that. Then I began to realize that when our spirit man is trickle-charging our physical body there is a vibration taking place. Sometimes it is so great that you feel it in your natural body.

Do you know that all over the world whether they are American or African or Asian that when they pray deep in the spirit and in tongues a lot of people sway although some don't? Who taught them that? Who taught people to pray that way? Now those who pray short hours don't enter into that. But when you enter long hours of prayer all these are happening. And you enter a prayer meeting where Koreans are praying they would be on their knees and their bodies would go up and down - who taught them that? Why must their bodies go up and down? A skeptical professor of theology could easily come and say that it is not necessary to pray that manner. All you have to do is to just look up to God and say, "Gracious Heavenly Father." I know that I don't have to move that much when I pray as long as I mean it with my heart. He could say it is not necessary and the people know that it is not necessary. But why does it still happen? I have been in prayer meetings with Americans, and with Australians and both of them also pray that way. So it is not cultural; it is international. Where did it come from?

Vibrations of the Spirit

This is part of the matter of what I believe. I believe that sometimes when you enter into the strength of prayer there is a strength that comes from the spirit man of each one and there is a wave of the Spirit. And everyone just sense that awesome vibration in their body like a wave going through them so they move in that manner. What is that? That is spiritual music. Music is a vibration of sound waves in harmony. The bible say *let all that have breath praise the Lord*. How do you expect all that have breath to praise the Lord? Through vibrations. Atoms are moving and oscillating all the time. When spiritual energy contacts the natural world there is a certain vibrations.

I know that the occult uses such a term. Occult healers use terms like *I sense the vibrations*. What they are saying is a fact in the spirit realm. Except that they don't know the truth that there are 2 spirit realms: one evil and one good. How does the spirit of cancer work? Cancer can be caused by exposure to certain types of radiation. Consuming preservatives that break down body cells can also cause cancer. Those are natural causes. We know that cancer can also be caused from deep within a person's soul. There is something within the soul that somehow affects the mutation in their physical body. An evil spirit can also cause cancer. I mean deafness may be caused by accident. But there is deafness that can be caused by a deaf and dumb spirit. Now we are only talking about the evil spirits causing the diseases.

How does the spirit of cancer work? This is what I believe. They will attach themselves to a physical

body and cause their own perverted and dark life and vibrations to come into that person. Now when a person is suffering from cancer that is caused by a spirit of cancer, the doctors can look at the cancer and see it but cannot see the spirit. I mean the evil spirit is intangible. How can a spirit being cause something in the natural? I believe what the cancerous spirit does is to attach itself to the physical body; usually right at the part where the cancer is. Then it causes the natural cells to vibrate according to its synchrony or vibrations.

Remember Satan is now out of tune; demons are out of tune. But out of tune doesn't mean they don't have vibrations. The earth is out of tune; Paul says the earth is groaning. But what the evil spirit does is channel this disharmonic vibration into a person's body. And slowly the cells that are vibrating in harmony in health and life gets perverted and slowly twisted and begins to respond to the wrong song. The song of the devil starts mutating and cancer results in a tangible form.

Try to understand what happens in the spiritual realm. There are vibrations that come from God. Remember we touched on the song of the Lamb, the song that is in every one's heart and in every one's body and soul. There is a song in our soul. When that song dies you die. When that song grieves you become grieved. That song in our life and that vibration that is in harmony with God in our life vibrate into other peoples' lives as we contact them and drive out the disharmony out of their lives.

I received a note from a man in one of my meetings. When I went back to the hotel room and read that note, he says that he was having this pain in his jaw and toothache and yet he came to the meeting. When he came to the meeting he was just claiming God's Word and fighting it off. In that note he made a very strange statement. He says the moment I stepped up at the platform and looked at the congregation every pain in him just disappeared. And I was not even praying for healing. How did that happen? It is because of the vibrations that flow from our spirit man. We all need to understand that the state of our spirit man determines the state of our soul. If your soul is down and discouraged, it is because your spirit man is not functioning properly. Either it lacks food or air. Food is the Word and air is prayer and worship with God. Our soul man can be so occupied with worldly affairs that we neglect the spirit man.

Holy Spirit Working Through Our Human Spirit

Rom. 1:9 *For God is my witness, whom I serve with my spirit in the gospel of His Son, that without ceasing I mention you always in my prayers.* Paul says that I serve God with my spirit. Understand that every time the Holy Spirit moves He needs your spirit to work through. Why is it that now that the Holy Spirit has come to the planet earth? The Holy Spirit is so powerful and awesome that every disease and sickness cannot stand in His presence. We know that was true in Jesus' life. Why is it that He cannot flow through in such a manner like Jesus' time where every sickness was healed? He lacks a strong spirit to flow through. He lacks a strong human spirit. And the vast majority of people's spirits are every weak compared to Jesus'. The reason why the Holy Spirit could flow through Jesus' life in full measure is because the human spirit of Jesus was perfect and strong. Jesus' spirit when He was born as a child had to be nurtured in the same way like all of us. For 30 years He was developing the strength of the spirit man. Don't underestimate the time you spend privately with God to develop your spirit man. How much God can work through your life is directly proportional to the strength of your spirit man. No matter how powerful the Holy Spirit is, no matter how powerful the call and the gifts that God wants to put in your life, it is directly limited to the strength of your spirit man.

That is a very dangerous truth to some for this reason. You can be called by God to be an apostle, prophet, evangelist, pastor, teacher, but if you neglect to make your spirit strong, you will live your entire life and ministry in half measures. You would never quite function in the fullness that God wants you to function in. It is a dangerous thing to neglect our spirit man. Because by doing so we instantly limit God in our life. He is limited to the strength of our spirit man.

In the gospel of Luke it tells us that Jesus and as well as John the Baptist. John is a man like us. But Jesus Himself had to grow just like us. Lk.2:40 *And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom and the favor of God was upon Him.* Jesus had to strengthen His spirit for 30 years getting ready for the Holy Spirit to work through His spirit. Paul says in Rom. 1:9 *I serve God with my spirit.* It is through our human

spirit that the Holy Spirit manifests and people don't realize it. When you sing the song *Come Holy Spirit I Need You* perhaps 10 people are gathered there when you sing that song. Five of them their spirit men is weak and are only 0.5 volt each. Of the other five, three of them are slightly better than the others having 2 volts each. One of them spend more time with God and he has 5 volts and another one spend plenty of time has 10 volts. So here all of them are praying and singing *Come Holy Spirit I Need You*. And the Holy Spirit has billions of volts and here He comes to them. Even though He has billions volts, He could only manifest to 10 volts. No wonder He is disappointed many times. But sometimes the 10 volts guy was not fully ready so he may open himself to 9 volts of the Holy Spirit's power. The Holy Spirit is limited to the development of our spirit man.

And our spirit man is sensitive fragile just like our physical body. Although the spirit laws can overcome natural laws in our physical body, yet those are exceptional cases. We don't push our bodies too far or we pay a price. Learn to keep the Sabbaths, learn to eat properly, learn the value of physical exercise in order to keep our physical body in good health. I was talking to one of our elders John in spite of his age he still goes for a run. When I was in his house he showed me all his gym equipment that he made himself. Then I said those who have never exercised physically don't know how good it feels. Because they are so used to be at their energy level. Always at their 9 to 5 jobs, and when they come home, they look at the papers. They never know the vibrancy of health because they have never sweated, never exercised. But once you have done it you know the difference. Then you know what you had before was not really full health that you thought. Being in full is not just that you are not sick. There are a lot of people who are not sick but they are not healthy either. They are not full of energy in life.

And it is the same way with our spirit. Our spirit man needs to be nurtured just like Jesus Christ has to nurture that spirit man. And our spirit man can grow until the spirit man equals Holy Spirit. Was there such a person? Yes, Elijah. Elijah started like all of us, a man of light passion. But he never ended that way. He ended so strong in the spirit that looking over at II Kings chapter 2 when Elisha who was his disciple asked for the power, he did not ask for the Holy Spirit. He asked for his spirit. Look and see whether he is asking for the Holy Spirit or his spirit.

In II Kg. 2:9 *I pray you, let me inherit a double share of your spirit.* Then in verse 15 *now when the sons of the prophets who were at Jericho saw him over against them, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests of Elisha."* Why *your spirit* and why not God's Spirit? Is it because of a lack of teaching? Elijah spirit has developed to the extend that it was a very perfected vessel for the Holy Spirit. His spirit became like the Holy Spirit. A perfect channel having his spirit was like having the Holy Spirit. Understand that because of his level that without prayer and without calling on God for an anointing, all he had to do was say *if I am a man of God like fire come down.* What kind of man is this who can talk like that? It is because his spirit has become so like the Holy Spirit that they are almost indistinguishable. That having his spirit was like having the Holy Spirit. No wonder he did not see death. His spirit was so transformed that God says come home and he was taken to heaven and his physical body was placed in a sort of suspended state of animation. And for thousands of years he had existed in heaven in that glorified state, waiting to come down one day when the anti Christ shows up. And we know when the anti Christ show up, he will be one of the two witnesses. The other one is theologians are still trying to find out who. All scholars agree that Elijah is going to come back. When he comes back according to Revelations 12 he is going to be killed. So we know one thing that the physical body he has is still in his mortal form. Such is the power of the human spirit that it can sustain the physical body. Elijah's spirit was the perfect channel of the Holy Spirit. You find it mentioned again on the Transfiguration on the Mount where he appeared to Jesus.

Enemies of the Human Spirit

Lets turn to the book of Prov. 15:13 We find something interesting here. That there are some things that we can allow and we can do that can destroy or break our own spirit. Our spirit is subject to the choice of our will. Just like we all know that our physical body needs food to be sustained. Yet we know some people like in Somalia today don't have food to eat and many thousands of innocent children died of malnutrition. But we also know that people may also die of hunger strike. They choose not to eat. Some of them die for a social cause. Some of them die out of natural causes. Some voluntarily starve themselves to death. Their will chooses.

In the natural when the body is hungry all the desires for food come right to your consciousness. And you want to reach out for food. But it is amazing to see that the human will has the ability to suppress all natural desires. How much more should we see that the human will can suppress all spiritual development. Prov. 15:13 *A glad heart makes a cheerful countenance, but by sorrow of heart the spirit is broken.* Do you know that a person spirit can be broken if sorrow creeps in. Here is something we need to realize. Sorrow and pain belong to this earth. In heaven there is no tears, no pain and no sorrow. Here is another truth linked to it. The closer you walk with God the less sorrow you have. Sorrow cannot exist in the presence of God. Sorrow is foreign to God. It never belongs to heaven and its not allowed in heaven. But just by permitting sorrow to enter our heart our spirit is broken. The moment your spirit is broken every other things can happen. Discouragement can come; lack of strength can come into your life for you have allowed your spirit to be broken. We share this tonight to show how fragile the human spirit is and yet how strong and powerful it can be. We need to guard our spirit.

In Proverbs 17:22 *A cheerful heart is a good medicine, but a downcast spirit dries up the bones.* Inside the bones is where the marrow is. And it is within the bone marrow that the red blood cells are formed. The red blood cells are the life form of our biological body. Without them our bodies dies. For blood is where the life is. The condition of our very spirit will affect our physical body. If it is broken the sickness starts entering your physical body and the soul. But the amazing thing here is that he gives you a choice. Do you notice it says *a merry heart?*

Proverbs 18:14 *A man's spirit will endure sickness; but a broken spirit who can bear?* As long as your spirit lives, your soul lives and your body lives, it is possible to walk on this planet earth without sickness and when it is time to go home we don't have to be sick and weak and die. We just go home in a healthy state of our body. How can we do it? We can do it by bringing our physical body to the perfect harmony of our spirit body and making our spirit body in its full health and strength.

There is a key word that keeps coming out here. It came in chapter 15 and 17 and that is the word *heart*. A merry heart. What is the heart? How do we control the heart? Before we answer that question just turn to a few more scriptures. Ps. 32:2 *Blessed is the man to whom the Lord imputes no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.* The word *deceit* refers to the mouth speaking forth. When our spirit is fully in control and in a good state, our mouth is fully controlled.

Ps. 77:3 *I think of God, and I moan; I meditate, and my spirit faints.* We discovered in the book of Proverbs that the enemy of the human spirit is sorrow. Which is why it is good to rejoice in the Lord. It is good to worship God with joy. You could come to a congregation and if there is something affecting the congregation and you are trying to lead worship, guess what? There is no life. But where the congregation is filled with joy how easy to worship the Lord.

The first enemy of the human spirit is sorrow. The second enemy of the human spirit is complaining. Do you know that in heaven there is no Complaints Department? Complaints Department is located in a section in hell. There is one department in heaven that is quite popular and that department is located next to the gate of heaven is called Thanksgiving. Complaining is the enemy of your human spirit. Understand what our enemies are. Which is why it is important to learn to give thanks.

Being in the ministry puts you in a special position. You can't help but give a listening ear to every complaint. Being a leader also means you become a Complaints department receiver. Sometimes people use you as a rubbish dump. They take all their rubbish and they think you are the Complaints department. Which is why a lot of leaders end up bitter, hurt, long faces, sober without joy, religious without spirit. Every single one of them starts off sincerely and joyful. After 10 years of serving God they are hard. What happened to them? They entered the kingdom of God so joyful. You know why, they served too long in the Complaints department. The worse job in the super market is to be in the Complaints department. You are there and every body is angry at the company but they throw their anger at you. They throw their malfunctioning pot at your face and you have to just smile at them. I don't know whether most of them die early. But it is now a fact that the highest suicide death rate of professional is the psychiatrics. While they are putting people on the couch, the couch people are putting them into the coffin. They hear so many problems.

If you are in the Complaints department and you are hearing complaints after complaints and you don't have God to go to, it's very hard to continue to live. Complaining is an enemy of the human spirit, because complaining is the opposite of thanksgiving.

Ps. 78:8 *And that they should not be like their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation, a generation whose heart was not steadfast, whose spirit was not faithful to God.* That is a revelation. We have thought that the problem with the Old Testament Israelites was because of a lot of things that they did. But the root was because they did not yield to the spirit within them. And the spirit within them was not steady. Sometimes broken, and some times all right and then broken again.

When the 12 spies came back 10 of them complained. Do you know the first reaction to the 10 spies? Its enemy No. 2. Nu.13:31 *We are not able to go up against the people for they are stronger than we.* Chapter 14: 1 *Then all the congregation raised a loud cry; and the people wept that night. And all the people of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron; the whole congregation said to them, (now this is complaining,) "Would that we had died in the land of Egypt! Or would that we had died in this wilderness! Why does the Lord bring us into this land, to fall by the sword. Our wives and our little ones will become a prey; would it not be better for us to go back to Egypt?"* Their spirits were broken. Because you complain your spirit is overwhelmed. And it cannot come forth.

We have just given you secrets of being conscious of your human spirit. The moment you are conscious of your human spirit is the same moment you are conscious of God. Because the spirit man is conscious of God. The soul man is conscious of you. The physical man is conscious of the things around you. So every time when you want to be conscious of your spirit man just give God thanks. "Thank you for this wonderful day. Thank you for what you have done for me." Are you someone who keeps saying thank you to God all the time? "Thank you O God for all your blessings. Thank you O God for life. Thank you O God for food to eat. Thank you for shelter above us. Thank you for health. Thank you we got all our senses and all our organs functioning properly." And your spirit man comes alive.

Senses of the Human Spirit

When the spirit man comes alive there are something that begins to happen. In the book of Acts 19:21 *Now after these events Paul resolved in the Spirit to pass through Macedonia and Achaia and go to Jerusalem, saying, "After I have been there, I must also see Rome."* Let me describe what it was like the few seconds before my spirit left my body. I had spent about nearly 3 hours with God. As I was lying down on the couch and trying to get some physical rest, I closed my eyes I could feel myself almost entering into a dream. Then it was like I felt a demonic pressure. Almost like my first vision. But this time I never see them. I could feel the spirit of heaviness. I made a mental decision. I purposed in my spirit. See the spirit man is subject to your will. And I purposed in my spirit that I am going to concentrate on the presence of God and just lie down. I am conscious of the fact that in the presence of God the enemy cannot stand. Now there are times God may lead you to take authority. But during this time I just wanted a rest and I couldn't be bothered with demons. And I want the presence that I had when I was spending time with God to overwhelm the enemy. And I just sort of couldn't care less whether the demons wanted to come near or didn't want to come near. Makes no difference to me. I felt my spirit man coming out of my body. It was like somebody strong coming out. Suddenly every demon ran off. This is interesting my spirit man could deal with demons. Our physical body couldn't contact the demons but our spirit man can. There is something in our will that is able to purpose to move into the spirit realm. Purpose to concentrate on the presence of God. And our spirit can arise and affect the things around us. And every time there is a presence of God there is a side effect on the physical body that we need to flow with. I have noticed this, if people don't have trickle charge and never yield to trickle charge they can never be charged at all. You asks, "Why does God not force His way? If God forces His way your batteries will explode. When your spirit man is still in your body and you are yielding to the spirit world, your body sort of begins to move.

Let turn to Ezek. 36:26-27 *A new heart I will give you, and a new spirit I will put within you; and I will take out of your flesh the heart of stone and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to observe my ordinance.* Everybody knows that there are 2 s there. One is a small s and the other is the big S. God says I will put a new spirit in you and I will put my Spirit in you. one is our human spirit that is reborn and one is the Holy Spirit. But there are not 2 things that

are new there, there are 3. What is the other new? A new heart. I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit.

What is that new heart? You see the heart consists of 4 areas. The heart consists of your will, your emotion, your intellect and your conscience. Three of them are in your soul and 1 in your spirit. What is He saying here? And this is what a lot of people are not yielding to. God says I give you a new spirit; I give you a new heart. What is the heart? Some people say the heart is the spirit. But you find that is not true all the time. The heart consists of 4 avenues of our experience. If you take the concordance and study every word where the word *heart* occur, many times it is mentioned the *heart chooses, the heart wills*. So you know that there is one aspect of the heart, it chooses. Then it talks about the *heart feeling*, feeling things, feeling emotions, grief, sorrow, and joy. So you know that emotions are involved in the heart. Then other places say as a *man think in the heart*. So you find the heart thinks. Then there is another aspect of the heart that we call the intellect. Then you have the conscience. Now 3 of them are actually found in your soul.

What God is also saying is this: *I give you a new soul, a new spirit and I will put my Spirit in you*. You say I didn't know that I have got a new soul that needs to be developed. What did the bible say about renewing your mind? Look at Genesis and see what the soul is and how it comes about. Gen. 2:7 *Then the Lord God formed man of dust from the ground, so there is his physical body, his physical was perfect but its dead, there is no life, God formed it by His Word. Now God is going to do something. God is going to breathe His Spirit into them. So as God breathed into him. As the spirit contacted the physical realm and the 2 touched. And man became. The Hebrew word is a living soul. How did the soul come about? The soul comes about when the spirit contacted the physical.*

Now look at the new birth. What is the new birth? Did God breathe into our life again? God took this physical body that has biological life but its dead spiritually and breathed His life into it on the day we accepted Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. Ezek. 36:26-27 three things, new heart, new spirit and my Spirit. And he gives an emphasis in verse 26 on the heart saying *I will take the heart of stone and put a heart of flesh in you*. He obviously separated the heart and the human spirit although they are linked together.

So we have one scripture from Gen.2 and one scripture from Ezek. 36 then we have a scripture from the book of Romans. Rom. 8:5-6 *For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the thing of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace*. Notice there are now suddenly 2 minds in you. The only possible way to be double minded is to have 2 minds. We got an old mind of the flesh and a new mind of the Spirit. And we are to choose. Suddenly with the presence of the Spirit it is easy to choose. The will becomes strong. We got a new heart. Our heart cannot respond. Now it can. Last time you were not conscious of sin. Suddenly now you are very sensitive. What has happened? You got a new heart. It has more powerful sensation and feelings, more powerful ability in thinking and more powerful ability in the will. And the difference is that we must learn to yield to that, to subject ourselves to the new influence of the Spirit in our life. And that is why when Jesus was walking on this earth, everything He did He did it through His spirit man. He knew things by His spirit man because He is perfected.

In the gospel of Luke 2 He prophesied that many hearts will be pierced and He will discern the thoughts and the intents of people heart. Lk. 2:34-35 but we want to actually look at is the gospel of Mk. 2, in Lk. 22 and in many others passages of Luke. It is far more often in Luke that any gospel where you will always find this statement, *Jesus knew their thought, Jesus perceived their thought*. How did Jesus know? Mk.2 tells us how in verse 8 *And immediately Jesus, perceiving in His spirit*. His spirit has a supernatural ability to perceive. Every thing He does was through His spirit. When He worked a work of healing it was Jesus Christ's spirit that travail. And every thing that was worked was worked through His spirit.

We need to know the 2 enemies of our human spirit. We need to know what has happened in our human spirit and what we actually have. We have within us a new mind which is a part of the new heart. New emotions to feel for God. Do you notice the day you were born again there arose emotions that you never have before? Good emotions for God. They are in the realm of the spirit but yet they affect your natural man. You feel emotional about worshiping God. You cry all the time. You feel emotional about seeing someone in

need. You feel emotional about the suffering of mankind. Your emotion is now more sensitive than before. There is some thing happening on our inside. Many Christians know they got a new spirit but they didn't know they got a new heart. But the scriptures tell us that a day will come when God will write the laws in their mind and in their heart.

Although it may look like a prophecy for heaven you look at Heb. 8 and 10 where the prophecies are repeated twice. That in that day I will write my laws in their heart and in their mind. And if you research what that *day* mean. That day refers to the day of the covenant. Heb. 8:10 *This is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord; I will put my laws into their minds, and write them on their hearts, and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.* Verse 12-13 *For I will be merciful toward their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more. In speaking of a new covenant He treats the first as obsolete. And what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.* In other words *after those days* refer to those days after the old covenant is finished and a new begin.

But we have always put this scripture for heaven. Why do we do such things like that? Why do people say that one day in heaven we all will be healed? Don't you realize that these are scriptures for us today? In Heb. 10 it is repeated again. Verse 16 - 17 is what we are talking about. He says in verse 14 *For a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.* Has perfected, past perfect tense. Verse 15 *And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying.* He is talking about now. In case it doesn't satisfy some I Cor. 2:16 says *But we have the mind of Christ.* The strange thing about the bible is unless we have knowledge we cannot receive. Unless we believe that it is there we cannot experience it. Unless we are told that its there we cannot experience it.

Paul asked in Acts 19 to the Ephesians have you received the Holy Spirit. They said we have not even heard of it. How can you receive what you have not heard? Now you heard this today do you have a new heart? Do you have a new mind? Do you have a new spirit? And you have the Holy Spirit. Inside you resides some thing more powerful than you can imagine. The human spirit that is beginning to affect your soul and it's an aspect of the soul that is rising like never before. God is writing His laws right now He wants to perfect our soul. The only thing reserved until Jesus comes is the new body. But until then and in this life He wants to perfect our soul. It's in this life He wants our soul to conform perfectly to Him. And that's the soul we are talking about that can purpose, that can think the way Jesus think. And we can rise into such height of our awareness, consciousness and achievement that He wants us to rise to.

8. TRAVELLING IN THE SPIRIT REALM

We are going to teach tonight on traveling in the spirit realm. We need to be able to sense the different heights that our spirits are at. You will notice that when you worship God or sing onto God that there is a lifting effect on the spirit. Sometimes when we are thinking about other things there is a sinking effect on the spirit. So we need to be able to sense it in our spirit in order to know what we are going to talk about. Tonight we close with the final topic on traveling in the spirit in this series of experiences in the spirit realm.

Traveling Through The Spirit of the Lord

Lets look at Acts 8 we have Philip faithfully preaching the gospel wherever he went in Samaria. Now God send him to preach the gospel to the Ethiopian eunuch. And he had successfully preached the gospel. The eunuch made a decision for the Lord Jesus Christ. And he was baptizing the eunuch in Acts 8:38-40 *And he commanded the chariot to stop, and they both went down into the water, Philip and the eunuch, and he baptized him. And when they had came out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught up Philip; and the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing. But Philip was found at Azotus, and passing on he preached the gospel to all the towns till he came to Caesarea.*

So we have Philip preaching the gospel and suddenly he was caught up. The Greek word for the word *caught up* comes from the word *harpazo*, which means to be snatched. So we know that it is a very sudden: possibly at the speed of light and as fast as a twinkling of an eye. We know there could be different speed of traveling in the spirit world. When Jesus Christ was lifted up to the heaven and ascended on high in the book of Acts 1 He possibly was going up in slow motion. Jesus was going up in a cloud of glory and they

could see Him going up. The word *going up* is a different word and He seems to be going up gradually blessing them as He went until He was no more. They were still looking up at the cloud at the very spot where He had disappeared when an angel next to them began to talk to them. So we realize that there are different speed that God can cause the physical body to travel in the spirit world.

We want to look at traveling in the spirit. There is a certain form of traveling where it is possible for God to physically transport a person. We know that Enoch walked with God and he was no more. He was transported up into the heaven. It was the same with Elijah. There was a whirlwind and there were horses of fire, and a chariot of fire that he got onto and off he went up to the heaven above. He never saw death at all. There are different forms of transportation in the spirit. In Acts 8 it is the Spirit of God who caught Philip and brought him up.

Traveling By Chariots of Fire

In II Kings chapter 2 we are told that it was more or less a chariot, which God has, send to him.

II Kg.2: 11 *And as they still went on and talk, behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated them. And Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.* So there was a chariot appearing with horses of fire. Of course everything is by the Holy Spirit but especially here it was a spiritual horse and chariot that took Elijah to the heaven above. There are many heavenly forms of transportation.

Traveling By The Hand of God

A third one that is mentioned in the bible is in the book of Ezekiel and this is by the hand of God. Ezek. 8:1-3 *In the sixth year, in the sixth month, on the fifth day of the month, as I sat in my house, with the elders of Judah sitting before me, the hand of the Lord God fell there upon me. Then I beheld, and lo, a form that had the appearance of a man; below what appeared to be his loins it was fire, and above his loins it was like the appearance of brightness like gleaming bronze. He put forth the form of a hand, and took me by a lock of my head; and the Spirit lifted me up between earth and heaven, and brought me in visions of God to Jerusalem, to the entrance of the gateway of the inner court that faces north, where was the seat of the image of jealousy, which provoke to jealousy.*

So here is the hand of the Lord that took him. That is the third form of transportation. How do we know that it's not just his spirit and it's his physical body? Verse 7 and 8 *And he brought me to the door of the court, (he is now in Jerusalem) and when I looked, behold, there was a hole in the wall. Then he said to me, "Son of man, dig in the wall" and when I dug in the wall, lo, there was a door.* That was a physical wall. So he has to be there physically. If he was in the spirit he could have gone into the wall. But here because it was Ezekiel's physical body that was transported into Jerusalem, he was asked to dig into the wall and found there was a door. This is the third means that was recorded in the bible.

Traveling by The Devil

Now the devil also has an imitation of this. Remember the temptation of the Lord Jesus Christ in the book of Matthew chapter 4. It was not the Holy Spirit who carried Jesus to the pinnacle of the temple and on the mountain. It was the devil himself. Matt. 4:5 *Then the devil took him.* So the devil carried Jesus. Some people think that the temptation of Jesus Christ is just all in His mind. All the time He was physically in the wilderness. But if that was so it wouldn't have been a temptation. There would be no actual temptation to throw Himself down from the pinnacle of the temple. It was an actual temptation telling Him to throw Himself down from the pinnacle of the temple. I do not know whether the people saw Him or not. I mean the temple was a very busy place.

When Ezekiel went through the wall why didn't the people see him? There is a possibility in the spirit realm of closing a person's eye so that he cannot see even if the person is physically there. In other words there is such a thing as an invisible man. It is possible for God to hold a person's eye and prevent him from seeing some thing in the natural. So possibly when Jesus Christ was up there while the temptation was

taking place nobody saw Him. But He was actually physically there. It was the same way with Ezekiel. From the way I read that story it looks like as if nobody saw Ezekiel there. But yet he was physically there. We know that God can put His hand over people's eye. Something like Luke 24 as the 2 disciples were on their way to Emmaus and were walking along the road. Jesus came but the bible says that something was covering their eyes and it prevented them from recognizing Jesus. If He had the power to prevent people from recognizing Him, He has the power to prevent people from seeing Him on the pinnacle of the Temple. I believe it was a real temptation because He was told to throw Himself down. And if He did it He would have destroyed His physical body. It was a real temptation and not something imaginary. It was the devil that took Him to the pinnacle of the temple. But Jesus did not fear at all.

Matt. 4:8 *Again, the devil took Him to a very high mountain, and showed Him all the kingdoms of the world and the glory of them.* So this time the devil took Him to a mountain. He was physically transported. There is a satanic form of levitation. It is done by demons that specialize in that kind of trick. So there is a demonic manifestation.

Having a Deep Relationship with the Lord

There is a genuine spiritual manifestation of traveling in the spirit and there is a purpose. There is such a thing as defying the law of gravity through the spirit world. The spiritual laws are higher than the natural laws. Therefore Jesus can defy the law of gravity. When Jesus was walking on the water, He was defying the law of gravity. So we have considered some scriptures here on the physical body traveling. It is possible and the thing to know is how to reach that stage. As I study the bible here every one of those who were physically transported had some sort of relationship with God that was beyond normal. In other words they walked quite deeply with God. A person like Philip was in perfect obedience to God and he was doing God's perfect will.

The question is, is it possible to demand it and ask for it? From the scriptures I do not think so. If that were so He would have constantly transported Philip by that method. But apparently there are signs that He expected Philip to walk. And so Philip walked to the crossroads. There is no such thing as asking God, "Lord, If I fast for 40 days and 40 nights, will you take me to Timbuktu?" We cannot tell God what to do about this realm. Its up to God to decide whether He wants to transport people in the spirit realm. The reason is transportation in the spirit is not a promise. If it's a promise its different. Healing is a promise you could claim. Salvation is a promise you could claim. But walking on water or traveling in the spirit is not a promise. You could not claim it. It is only a recorded incident to show the possibility of it happening. But for it to happen it has to be God's divine *rhema* and will for our life for it to happen.

Yet at the same time if it is God's will it will not just automatically take place. There seems to be a certain depth of relationship that these people has reached before they reach that realm of possibility. There are certain things that belong to a different realm of experience. Unless you walk into that realm you will never experience it. For example, none of us have experienced what it is like to have weightlessness. But those astronauts who have gone beyond the pull of gravity, they go into free fall. They experienced weightlessness. But you have to reach that realm up there. Certain experiences belong to certain realm. But in the spirit realm certain experiences become more possible when you reached a certain depth of relationship with God.

Elijah reached a certain depth of relationship with God. The disciples or followers of Elijah were accustomed to Elijah's supernatural experiences. If he disappears they say, "Well no surprise." They are used to Elijah's disappearing and appearing. So that when he was taken away in II Kings chapter 2 and Elisha was anointed and appointed to replace him, the sons of the prophets came and said that may be the Spirit of God left him on some mountain. Why did they make a statement like that? Think about the general Obadiah who was the general of Ahab who met Elijah. Elijah said to him, "Go and call your master Ahab and tell him Elijah is here." And Obadiah was afraid and said, "If I go you will disappear." Elijah was famous for disappearing and appearing. He reached a certain depth of relationship with God so that, that form of transportation is available should it be God's will for him. In other words if we do not have a certain depth of relationship with God traveling in the spirit is not possible, nor even considered by God.

Ezekiel was some one who was so yielded to God. Think about someone who was willing to sleep on one side and not move for months just because God told him to. Think about this guy who shaved his head and throw his hair all over the place just because God said it. Think about this guy who was told to use cow dung to cook his food and eat it. And he did it just because God says so. There has to be a certain realm of relationship with God. That doesn't mean that some of you cook using cow dung. It is very rare for this kind of thing to happen in the New Testament. What we are bringing forth here is that there must be strength of yieldedness in the spirit before traveling and transportation in the spirit is possible. And it seems for it to take place, it takes place from the spirit of a man.

We are spirit beings, we have a soul and we live in a body. It is our spirit that gives life to our physical body. The spirit of a man sustains him. The spirit of a man is the candle of the Lord. The leading comes from the spirit of man. The moment the spirit leaves our body, even though our body may be in physically perfect health we will still drop down and die. It is our spirit that sustains our body. The fact is that our spirit not only can sustain our body, our spirit can also carry out body. I believe when Jesus was walking on water His spirit was in such control over His physical body that His spirit could lift His body up. In the spirit realm the law of gravity does not bind your spirit. Your spirit can travel at a speed of thought that is faster than the speed of light. And it can go to any place that God wants you in a twinkling of an eye. It's our physical body that is bound.

The question is can our spirit carry our physical body? The answer is yes. When the spirit of man reaches a certain level there is a possibility provided it is God's will. This is where we show not only transportation in the physical realm. But we see that even before the spirit begins to transport the physical body if in accordance with God's will, the spirit of man is also able to travel by itself. That is what I call traveling in the spirit realm. Which is why we entitled the message *Transportation in the Spirit Realm* that will mean physical transportation, but traveling in the spirit realm can mean just the spirit traveling or traveling with the physical body. Paul seems to be acquainted with this traveling in the spirit or his spirit going to certain places. For some people it happens in their dreams or in their sub-conscious state or when they are slain in the Spirit or deep in the Spirit in a trance. For others it could happen even in their conscious state. That's an experience that we want to talk about.

Lets look at II Kings 5. The background of this story is that there was a Syrian general called Naaman. He was sent by the king of Syria to be healed. And he found out that there was a prophet called Elisha. And he got healed in the end after dipping himself 7 times in the river Jordan. Now that he was healed he was on his way back. He offered money and all kinds of reward to Elisha. Elisha says no thank you. But Gehazi who was Elisha's servant at that time thought that his master was being stupid and foolish for not accepting it. Not realizing that Elisha was in the spirit and he was carnal-minded, he ran after Naaman. And he told a lie and said that some people have come and they needed something. Naaman gave him lots of gifts. Gehazi took the gifts and hid them. And then as he came innocently back, Elisha asks, "Where did you come from?"

II Kg. 5:25-26 *He went in and stood before his master, and Elisha said to him, "Where have you been, Gehazi?" And he said, "Your servant went nowhere." But he said to him, "Did I not go with you in spirit when the man turned from his chariot to meet you? Was it a time to receive money and garments, olive orchards and vineyards, sheep and oxen, menservants and maidservants? And the judgment came on his life. Elisha said "Did not my heart go with you?"* Now he is not talking about his physical heart. He is talking about something deeper in him that could travel and move. He used the word *go with you*. And he saw everything. There is a realm where the spirit of man can travel. Elisha was conscious all the time.

Paul's Experience

Now here is another person called Paul the apostle. Tonight when we go into prayer your spirit doesn't necessarily has to stay in your body. Now our spirit has to be connected to our physical body. But it doesn't have to stay in our physical body while we are praying. When some people say my spirit is willing but my flesh is weak, most of the time, it is because the flesh clouds their spirit.

Col. 2:5 *For though I am absent in body.* He wrote this epistle about the same time he wrote the book of Ephesians. And Paul as he wrote it was possibly in Jerusalem and he was in jail for that 1 or 2 year period. He went back to Jerusalem after the end of his third missionary journey. He hasn't gone to Rome yet. He is somewhere between Acts 20-23 and all in those regions. During that period he wrote Ephesians and Colossians. There he was in the area of Jerusalem. And Colossae was a great distance away. Paul says *though I am absent in the flesh I am with you in spirit.* He says my spirit has visited you. My spirit has been with you. And he says *rejoicing to see your good order.* (In other words Paul's spirit knows what is happening there) *and in the steadfastness of your faith in Christ.* He knew their condition even though there was no physical way he had contacted them. His spirit could see. His spirit could travel. His spirit was with them. That's a powerful statement. Paul is acquainted with the spirit traveling, wherever God wills in his prayer.

Lets look over at I Cor. 5:3-4 Here they have to make a decision regarding someone was living in sin. And Paul says in I Cor. 5:3-4 *For though absent in body I am present in spirit, and as if present I have already pronounced judgment in the name of the Lord Jesus on the man who has done such a thing. When you are assembled, and my spirit is present.* Here he was in Ephesus writing the book of Corinthians. And he is telling them that when you all are gathering together to judge I will be there too. My spirit will be there with you. You could take it likely that he just means that his blessings are with them and then you miss the whole revelation. If he means blessing he could have said blessings. My blessings are with you, my approval is with you. But he says my spirit is with you in the same sense as Col. 2:5 where he could see, he could feel, he could understand. There are very few people that reached that level. But I bring it before you to take note that there is this level. If we don't know that there is that level, we will never try to hit that level.

One of the most interesting books that I have read is by Sadhu Sundar Singh about the Maharishi. Maharishi is supposed to be 300 years old. There is a lot of speculations whether it was just a hallucination of Sadhu Sundar Singh. Or whether he exists. I believe he really existed. Sundar Singh stumbled upon him on one of his trips. And the Maharishi told him many things. A lot of people wanted to find out who is Maharishi. After much debate and time has passed there were 4 people who said they wanted to follow him to see the Maharishi. As they went along and climbed up and down the ravine, one by one they gave up. Finally Sadhu Sundar Singh alone reached the Maharishi. The Maharishi asked, "Where are the others?" And he named the 4 people who followed him. There is this lone hermit on a mountain with no radio communication and television. Yet he knows what is going on in the world. There was no news he could have got in the natural. He has gone into the spirit and traveled.

There is a satanic form or it its call astral traveling. But it is more soul traveling with their spiritually dead spirit. That's the occult form. And the thing that we Christians must recognize is that everything that the devil has that is occult is an imitation. The devil could not create something new. We need to understand that when he has an imitation we need to ask ourselves where is the genuine. Did you know that the occult people know what astral traveling is? I was reading one science article. Science without God is terrible. Here is this scientist who could not understand how this occult person knew the chemical composition of some of the planets. And he described what the planets were like. And this guy says he had gone there to see and came back. He is a demon worshipper who was yielded to the demonic power and traveled in that realm. And they acquired knowledge that way by traveling in that realm.

And here Christianity has no comparison. I would think that is because people don't look at the bible carefully. There is a genuine realm where you could enter it. The only difference is that we have to be closely linked to the Holy Spirit for it to happen. In the spirit realm as we move more in the Holy Spirit and yield more, our human spirit is not subject to the physical body like we are used to. Our human spirit is capable of doing a lot of things and going a lot of places. If you really move deep into that realm your spirit could actually go to a place, visit a place, look at it and come back. It may take place on a conscious level in your prayer or in the sub-conscious level in a dream for those who could not reach it in the conscious level. That is why sometimes when you go to a place that is your first time there you feel a familiarity with it. Something tells you that you have been there before. But you don't know how you have been there before. It is because your spirit and soul have somehow experienced it. Of course the occult teaching is that it is due to reincarnation, which is false. Heb. 9:27 tells us that it is appointed for every man to die once and after that comes the judgment. He didn't say die 7 times. There is no reincarnation and even the people who are raised from the dead have the same life.

Now Paul says he could be in the spirit in certain places.

II Cor. 12:3 *And I know that this man was caught up into Paradise - whether in the body or out of the body I do not know, God knows.* There was a time when he was so deep in the spirit that he was taken into heaven. He was not sure whether he was taken physically or he was taken spiritually. Recently I heard a man called Jesse Duplantis. He has been preaching for some years. His ministry was not that well known until Kenneth Copland promoted his ministry and he became well known in America. He has gone to heaven and he says that he felt that he went there bodily. How did he know? There were times when he felt a bit weak and God gave him something to strengthen him. So he may have gone there bodily. But here Paul's experience was he didn't know whether it was bodily or just spiritually. There is a traveling in the spirit to heaven, to places, as he went to Colossae, as he went to Corinthian. There is a traveling in the spirit that we need to be aware of.

In the book of Rev. 4:2 *At once I was in the Spirit, and lo, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne!* Now here he is very clear for him for he was in the spirit. His physical body was still on the island of Patmos where he was in prison.

As we consider all these scriptures, the question comes back to us is are there laws that work in this realm and what are they like? I am sure you know Eph. 2 where we are seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Many people do not realize that although their spirit is here in the inner most part of their being, but their spirit is capable of ascending to the heights of the heavenly places and yet leaving our physical body down here. It is almost impossible to understand it in the natural. But our spirits can be up there.

There was a time when I was in the seminary, I didn't know much about the things of the spirit yet. But we have a great love for the Lord. We have a devotional time every Sunday evening for those who stayed in the dormitory. So it was my turn and I remember as I closed my eyes and was leading the prayer. For a moment I felt that I was on the ceiling looking down. I had a floating sensation and I felt quite nice. But when I opened my eyes I was back down there. I didn't understand what it was but later on when I came out of the seminary, I had several dreams trying to go somewhere. It seems something was preventing my spirit from going to where I want to go. Then after the one year of meditation on the word it was easy.

There were many times where I find myself traveling in the spirit just willing myself there and there I was. There was a time when I was spending some times with God and then I sort of either half dose off and then suddenly I found my spirit traveling. I felt some pressure against my spirit coming out. It was a demonic pressure. But I spent time with God and meditated on God's word and I had completely no fear. I could consciously experience my will. I willed and I chose to let my spirit man come and challenge that fellow. The fellow means the evil presence that I felt. As my spirit started coming out I found that it was bright and shiny like a sun. And it had a certain type of garment. Then as it came out I felt every demon running. Then my spirit went to minister to several people. As my spirit traveled my conscious mind was with my spirit. And I felt every thing and was conscious of every thing. I felt my spirit traveling and laid hand on a few people. Then in one of those cases my spirit man put its hand into somebody's body and took out a substance like bringing a healing to them.

I couldn't fully understand the full interpretation but I realize that it was real. After that my spirit was still doing something when of all things the alarm went. The moment the alarm went my spirit shot back into my body like lightning. The thing is that I did not transpire from the state of sleep into the state of being awake. That same consciousness that was there was still the same. It was a very strange peculiar experience. I realized that God allowed me to consciously with my mind and feelings feel what possibly is taking place all the time.

There have been other times when I have been caught up in the spirit area and God has shown things. There have been times when while I am here, suddenly I found myself in another country. Now there are a few things that happen in traveling in the spirit. No. 1 it can be in different planes in the spirit. Different plane means it can go to the lowest plane in hell. Or it can go to the highest plane in the third heaven.

Secondly it can be in different places geographically on the earth and even other planets.. You do not travel in the spirit at the speed of light. You travel in the spirit at the speed of thought, which is faster than the speed of light. The physical body is not able to travel more than speed of light. But the spirit man and the soul man, which are connected, are able to break that barrier and travel.

Do you know that there is no instrument that can measure speeds faster than the speed of light? Measuring instruments depend on electrical signals or light signals for them to actually work and detect something. So you could have actually in essence arrived before the light arrive. For example, if I travel faster than the speed of sound what happens? I arrive first and then afterwards you hear the sound. You always see the lightning first then you hear the thunder. But actually the lightning and the thunder occur at the same time. Because light travel faster than sound, you see the light before you hear its sound. If I travel faster than the speed of sound, I will just come in and you don't hear any sound of me coming in. But after sometime you hear the sound of me coming in. Now what happens if I travel faster than the speed of light? That means that I will arrive but you can't see me yet until my image arrives. I realized why is there a limit to traveling at the speed of light is because of observation and not in essence. Lets say if I travel faster than the speed of light. My substance arrive then after that you see my image. But because your instrument can only detect my image, and you can never detect whatever that arrive before the image, we say that there are different realms.

Traveling Through Time

The third and most interesting is you travel through time zones. Your spirit has a peculiar quality of being able to pass through time zone. Where you could be caught and brought into the past and visualize and see something taking place in the past. I believe that is how the early part of the bible is written. Moses wrote Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy. Because modern scholars could not conceived the idea that Moses could write about things happening before he was born, they say that he got it from oral tradition. In other words they made him a historian and not a writer direct from revelation. But I believe while Moses was on the mount for 40 days and 40 nights supernaturally (which physically you can't go that long without food and water) God showed him all the scenes of Genesis and everything that happened even before he was born. And he was just writing it down. Everything we have is by revelation.

Is there any other example? Yes. Paul talked about the Holy Communion in I Cor. 11. He talked of it in the first person. Although he has never been there, Paul has traveled in the spirit and he says *I received from the Lord Jesus. On the night when He was betrayed..* Paul spoke everything exactly as if he has been there. If I have a chance to do the painting of the Lord's Supper. I would paint all the 12 disciples with Jesus and do some sort of spiritual image of Paul looking from one side. Because Paul was there. He saw it and said *I deliver it to you now what I received from the Lord.* So Paul's spirit had traveled through time and gone into the past to see Jesus on the night He was betrayed and he got back.

The third interesting realm of traveling in the spirit is that time makes no difference. You could go into the past and you could go into the future. My spirit has gone into the future so far ahead that for one example I saw myself somewhere in mid air beholding a huge building that was white in color. I seemed to be involved in that thing possibly either ministering there or building that thing. At that time the Lord also give me in that spirit realm the exchange rate of Malaysian Ringgit to that country's currency. I am not even sure whether that building really exists today. But at the moment the exchange rate of that country is not at that level at all. Possibly it will be so some time in the future. How far in the future we do not know. So we can travel in the spirit to the future or to the past. It makes no difference in that realm.

But as I said as we know what traveling in the spirit minus the body we began to understand what traveling in the spirit plus the body is like. It's the spirit that lifts up your body. And the closest experiential side of it is that our spirit can sense which level we are. There is what I call heaviness in your spirit. And when your spirit is heavy it is because the things on the physical realm are pressing your spirit down. Do you know that your spirit could be imprisoned by your own soul? Your spirit could be in prison to your physical body. Your spirit has a funny sense. Those who are dead in the spirit don't even feel anything. But when you have become spiritually conscious or alive, you sense like being closed up. You could not aspire to great things in the spirit. And you feel like you are in prison to the animal like passions and nature of your physical body. And you always found it easier to yield to that area than to the higher things of the spirit.

Spirit of Heaviness

That is why the bible has a word for it. In Isa. 61:3 *To grant to those who mourn in Zion to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.* Some bible puts it as a spirit of heaviness. Now what kind of heaviness is he talking about? He is not talking about a physical heaviness. He is talking about something in the spirit that is pressing on your spirit being. That's a spirit of heaviness. When sometimes you have a heaviness in your spirit. We know what heaviness is like in the physical body. Like for example you don't have enough rest, enough nutrition and your physical body is not up to its optimum health. There is a certain drag that you feel physically. You don't walk with that kind of health. Have you seen someone very sick walking? They don't walk with the bounce. They can't because they have all kind of aches in their body. Or someone with a heavy soul, all the cares and anxieties are on their life. Even their face is heavy. We call that long face. The gravitational pull upon their face had distended their faces. So their soul begins to cause a heaviness on them.

And people whose souls are depressed are never creative. Creativity has always come from a sort of lightness and joy even in the natural. It is said that many great things came out from trials because people found the spirit to seek out. Creativity has never flow out of the soul that is pressed down. And there is that realm of spiritual heaviness that is there. How is that heaviness caused? The Hebrew word heaviness here is the word *kehar* which actually means weakness. Spirit of weakness. The spirit is willing but the flesh is weak. But what happens if the spirit is weak and the flesh is weak? Finished. So there is a spiritual weakness that prevents a person from ascending up.

Sorrow and Anxiety

Then in Proverbs 12:25 *Anxiety in a man's heart weighs him down but a good word makes him glad.* Remember how important the word heart is. In II Kg. 5 Elisha said to Gehazi *my heart went with you.* I am trying to describe what that spirit man experience when it is at the area where he is capable of traveling. There are times when he is incapable of traveling. For example if your car is idling, the engine is on then it is all ready. When you reached a traffic light and it turns red, you don't shut down our car, pull up the hand brake, and just sit there and wait for it to turn green. You keep your car engine on. And if the car is not moving forward any more you don't have to put your hand brakes on. Your foot is on the paddle waiting for it to turn green. You are in a position of readiness to go. But if you have turned off the engine, pulled your hand brake. Got out of the car. Closed the door. And waited at the side of the road for the traffic light to turn green. You will find a whole lot of people horning you. When it turns green you quickly open the door. Got in insert the key and start your engine a few times. When you got it all ready, put on first gear and just as you are about to go it turns red. So you may not go anywhere because you may be stuck for the rest of your life behind the traffic light. And you literally are in sin because you are in the red light district.

Now there is a time when our spirit man is not ready is when the spirit is heavy. The engine is off for traveling. And whatever you do you have to find means of turning the ignition on and keeping the spirit man in that readiness. You got to watch out for heaviness. There are 2 forms of heaviness. One form of heaviness comes out of a spirit of weakness, as in Isa. 61. The other that comes out is Prov. 12:25 the word *anxiety* here has been translated in the Old King James as *heaviness*. And he said heaviness in the heart. If Elisha heart was heavy he would not have been able to see Gehazi. There has to be a certain lightness to be in the place of position to travel.

Now here the Hebrew word for anxiety or heaviness is a different Hebrew word *Diyara* it means sorrow, worry. These things pull you down. Now with that background we know why Jesus says do not worry. Because when you worry you cannot see the things of the spirit anymore. Your eyes become blind. You are like a bat without its radar. So Jesus says do not worry. When you worry for your food, clothing and shelter it worse off for you. For you need to see ahead to know where your provision is. When you worry you actually set yourself back twice. So we have here that the heart of a man can be pressed down. So this second type of heaviness is caused by anxiety, worry and sorrow.

The opposite of it is gladness of heart, lightness of heart. When the heart feels light its easier to

perceive and be ready to go forth in the spirit. We have to guard ourselves against these two. If you come to a prayer meeting and you are weighed down, you could not pray through. So these are the 2 *thou shall not's*. Two things we have to prevent from coming into our spirits.

Sometimes when you mix with the wrong people and they are all fleshly minded and carnal, there is a grief, which will be the second type of heaviness that creeps on you. And after that you walk away you wonder where is your faith you couldn't find it. Because you have been pressed down. Faith can only exist when your spirit is free to fellowship with God. So many times people's power lines to God has been cut down. They have too many power failures. What happen if there are too many power failures in town? The businesses can't do anything. So a lot of people can't do much in the spirit because their spirit keeps getting cut off from God. You are still saved but you loose your fellowship. You don't loose your relationship but you loose your fellowship. Why don't you loose your relationship because the Spirit of God dwells in you. But somehow something has muddle up that free link that you have with God.

Be In The Spirit

Now the other thing which is the positive side that will keep our spirit high and free in God. No. 1 Rev. 1:10 *I was in the Spirit on the Lord's day, and I heard behind me a loud voice like a trumpet.* Notice the word *I was in the Spirit*. We have to learn how to be in the Spirit. So point No. 1 learn how to be in the Spirit. Sometimes we got to do some things in the natural like our duties and responsibilities etc. Now there are some things you could do it in the flesh while in the Spirit. You could drive your car and while you are driving you could set your mind and everything on automatic gear. And you could pray in tongues. So in a sense you are still in the spirit while driving the car. But there are some natural tasks that are impossible. Lets say you are a maths teacher. And you are doing a very hard calculation. You mind is concentrating on that thing. And you find that it's a bit more difficult to be in the spirit while doing those jobs. So what do you do? You just cover yourself in a prayer and say, "Lord help me in all these areas. I got to finish all these responsibilities." After you finished all those things in the natural then you give thanks to God. So that is the most you can do. But during the time you are doing that you are in the natural; you are in the flesh. Or perhaps you are supposed to do something with your mouth and with your mind. And you got observe the situation and say something in the natural, in your job, whatever it was. So it takes your mouth and your mind away. And you can't even pray in tongues because you are using your mouth for some other things. You got to come down in the natural to finish those responsibilities and your job. But you cover yourself because before you enter that area you say, "Lord thank you for your help in these areas." So you cover yourself but in it you cannot be both. So in the same way we got to learn the skill of being in the spirit. Part of it involve Col. 3:16 and Eph. 5:18-19 *But be filled with the Spirit, addressing one another in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.* Notice what he says making melody in you heart. I could call it a lightness in your heart. There is a lightness like a floating feeling on your inside. And your spirit has ascended on high. It would be so easy to move into any place that God wants you.

God's Will

Point No. 2 is you can only go where the car of the Holy Spirit wants you to go. In other words your spirit rides on the Holy Spirit and in the spirit. It is not like the demonic realm of occult travel where they try to will themselves in that sense. Although your will, will be intact, you will be conscious of it. But it is only possible when the Lord allows it. Don't try to sit in one corner somewhere and be like a modern hermit. You try to concentrate on your spirit going somewhere. You may open yourself to the wrong demonic power. It may not be the Holy Spirit come and carry you. Point No. 2 is important. It can only happen when it is God's will. Don't try to force yourself by pure concentration. What I can only say is this: hang loose with God. In other words you are not trying to concentrate to go here and there. Let God be the prime mover and takes you where He wants you. And if He doesn't take you anywhere at least there is one place you can always be: the heavenly place. Don't try to travel through time zones. Don't think in your heart, "I am going to concentrate on traveling to the Garden of Eden." No, God will not permit you to. The devil may take you to different garden.

Rev. 4 :1-2 *After this I looked and lo, in heaven an open door!* Now he is about to travel. He is already in the Spirit, he got a vision in the Spirit and this is what happens. *And the first voice, which I had heard, speaking to me like a trumpet, said "Come up hither, and I will show you what must take place after this." At once I was in the Spirit,* It took God's command come up here or go there or go through a time zone.

Allow your spirit to be led by the Spirit. And don't try to lead the Holy Spirit and say Holy Spirit, "Come here, follow me." No, He is holding you. You would not know as much as Him. He knows our purpose. That is why point No. 2 is important we have to allow the Holy Spirit to lead us.

Suddenness

The third point about this traveling in the spirit is its suddenness. You notice in Rev. 4:2 it says immediately I was in the Spirit. And the same with Acts 8 Philip was snatched and there was a suddenness of that happening. Same with II Kg. 2 and suddenly there were horses of fire and chariot of fire before them. The third is that there will be quickness, swiftness and a suddenness when it takes place in the spirit world. When God caught Ezekiel by the hair and took him, no one knows the exact speed that he traveled. I am speaking about the occurrence of it happening. It takes place suddenly. In other words it is not a reward for something. It is not because you fasted 40 days and 40 nights. It is not because of anything that you have done. Although there is a certain level where your engine must be on, yet when it actually occurs it will just happen. I know some people who have half experience. Half experience means you are about to enter the spirit realm and you feel yourself being taken up. But because of fear and anxiety in your heart, you are dropped down like hot cakes. Then you try to get it again you couldn't. Your mind is trying to get an experience and not trying to get a relationship with God. But if all you will be concerned of is just God and His presence, when it happens it will be sudden. There will be a suddenness at any time, any place He chooses.

Liberty

The fact that the apostle Paul seems to have some control over it brings us to the fourth point Col. 2:5 and I Cor. 5 that as you develop spiritually there is a certain realm that you move into where God gives you a certain liberty that is not there in point 1,2,3. Or a certain ability to know some things by your spirit movement like Paul saying *when my spirit will be with you*. It looks like Paul was initiating the thing. Its just like when you are 9 years old and you don't have a driving license. So anywhere you want to go somebody has to take you. But as you grow you sit for your driving test and when you passed the driving test, you are given a license to drive. But if your license is a local license you can't drive in foreign countries. You got to apply for an international license and then legally you would be able to drive overseas.

So there is an area and depth you enter into where God allows you a limitation within your sphere of moving about in the spirit realm. I believe that many intercessors are given that gift. And many of those who grow deep in God get into that realm. Sometimes as I was praying for a person I find myself going to visit that person. Which is what I believe Col. 2:5 takes place while Paul was praying for the Colossians. That his spirit must have gone to visit them and seeing everything as they are. So that can take place within his sphere. But Paul would not be able to do it for another church that he has not planted. So tonight you are ready to travel as His will and as your spiritual development is. Just be opened to this realm of the Spirit of God.

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