

Fasting is the only key that breaks the realm of the spirit where we confront impossible situations. You have done everything but you have not fasted - do it and you will find an enormous difference in the spiritual impact on your spiritual war. And the victories you experienced will testify for themselves the practical benefits of fasting.

FASTING SERIES

FASTING FOR REVELATION

Revelation

This morning we are going to talk about how fasting brings forth revelation. Let's define revelation before we go into it. Revelation is a word you will hear described over and over again in the New Testament. Paul talks about the spirit of wisdom and revelation in Ephesians 1. He talks about how Jesus Christ had given him a revelation in Galatians chapter one. And in II Corinthians 12, he talks about how he has been to the third heavens and he had received visions and revelations. And Jesus told Peter in Matthew 16 about how flesh and blood has not revealed to him but the Spirit of His Father. So, we see that the word *revelation* is used all the time in the bible. It would do us well to understand what revelation means and implies in the bible. Basically, all Christianity is God revealing Himself. No one can understand God unless God

reveals Himself. All your understanding of God thus far and in the future will always be because God reveals Himself more to you. It is the only faith, I won't call it religion, I call the only faith where God comes down and reveals Himself to us. All the other religions are men's attempts and struggles to reach God and understand God. There is a difference between the revelation of God and men's logical analysis and conclusion of God. There is a great difference. If I reveal something to you, your guesswork would have stopped. But if I don't reveal something to you, you will be guessing and some of your conclusions may be wrong. In the same way, many times people come to wrong conclusion just by studying from the outside. They try to understand God. It is not that way. The bible is the Word of God written by men who are moved by the Holy Spirit. And you need to have the same Spirit to unveil this Word to you. You can study for years but if you don't ask God to reveal Himself to you through His Word all your years of study won't gather much and in fact you may even end up with some wrong conclusions and deductions from the Word. But if you pray and sincerely seek God with faith and with all your heart and ask God to reveal Himself, He would. You pray a prayer that God would reveal Himself, in one day you can understand more than ten years of study.

Kenneth Hagin prayed Ephesians 1: 17-18 and 3:14-21 for nearly six months. Everyday when he had the time he used to go into the pulpit, open his bible to Ephesians chapter one and everyday he would pray, "God give me the spirit of wisdom and revelation that the eyes of my understanding may be

enlightened. That I may know the hope of your glory, that I may know the riches of your inheritance in Christ Jesus in the saints. That I may know the exceeding greatness of your power towards me who believe. The same power wherewith you have raised Jesus Christ from the dead and set Him on high far above all principalities and power, might and dominion and over every name that is named. O God reveal all these things to me." He prayed it for six whole months. And when he did it one day the Holy Spirit came to him and said, "I am going to bring you into visions and revelations." And he made this statement in his thin little book called "Prayer Secrets" that in the next few months he learned more than he has ever learned in all his years of ministry. That's how powerful revelation is. Revelations initiated by God and received by men are powerful. Men do not initiate revelation. God initiates it. Men's part is only to receive.

However here is where we come in. There are certain prerequisites, certain conditions that we must be in before we can receive, before we can hear what God is speaking and revealing onto us. We must position ourselves to receive the revelation. One of those keys is fasting. Before we go into that, let me give you the biblical grounding on revelation and its importance. *Matthew 16:13 When Jesus came into the region of Caesarea Philippi. He asked His disciples saying, "Who do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?"*

I like the New King James Version English. It is a good English translation of the original Hebrew and Greek. After studying

the Word of God for one year, analyzing the version for one whole year in the Greek and the Hebrew, I would say that the NKJV is the best version. For some parts, you will still need footnotes but it is generally one of the best.

Who do men say that I the Son of man am? Some said John the Baptist, some Elijah others one of the prophets. That is what the people outside say. Jesus turns to His disciples and He said who do you say that I am. He confronted His disciples. They knew what others were saying about Him. But now He says, "What do you say about Me?" It's more important what you yourself consider and have a revelation of Christ than what other people have in order for your life to be changed. The public opinion at that time was that Jesus was John the Baptist, Jeremiah or one of the prophets. Jesus is asking His small group of disciples that used to follow Him all over the place. "The public says all of these things but who do you say that I am?"

Here is the marvelous fact. Peter spoke up first. He says, "You are the Christ the Son of the living God." That is what Peter declared about Jesus. Then the next statement Jesus made is important. He tells us where Peter got his revelation. Verse 17 *Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah, for flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father who is in heaven.* Flesh and blood cannot produce revelation. Human effort cannot produce revelation. That is why after the second or third generation of a move of the Spirit, the whole movement becomes a monument. The flow of God becomes a history. It is because the third

generation must personally receive the revelation of God for themselves from God and not from flesh and blood. It is vitally important for us to see here, *flesh and blood has not revealed this to you*. We must see what brings revelation and what does not bring revelation. Flesh and blood does not bring revelation, and flesh and blood includes all human effort and human intellect. And so, the level of your educational attainment does not limit you to receive revelation from God. If we all need PhD. to understand Christ, even the apostles would not qualify. Somebody once said PhD. means permanent head damage. What we want to emphasize is that intellectual power, educational level, vocabulary, knowledge, does not limit us to receive revelation from God. Some of the most beautiful revelations that have flown forth into the body of Christ have come from humble men and women who had spent a lot of time in the presence of God. So, revelation does not come from flesh and blood. It comes from the Spirit of God.

Jesus pronounced a blessing upon him and then the next statement is important. Verse 18 *And I also say to you that you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it*. What is happening here? It must be very powerful. Jesus talks about building His church now. The church He builds will be the church that receives Him at His second coming. So, what He is saying here is vitally important. He says, "You are Peter and on this rock, I will build my church. And the powers of death shall not prevail against it."

Now you can have three conclusions from that one statement Matt.16: 18. No. 1, if you read it in the English version and read it just on the surface you may think that Peter is the rock. And on this rock, Jesus builds the church. If you read on the surface, it looks as if Jesus was calling Peter a rock, "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church." It looks as if Peter is the rock. But you have a problem because Peter died, so what happens now? If Peter was the rock on whom Jesus built the church, when Peter died the church must have died along with him. That would be an untenable premise. What are we going to do if he is the rock?

The second interpretation you can have is that the rock is Jesus. On this rock He builds the church. You can cross reference to other verses where it talks about Jesus being the rock. He is the rock of my salvation. But there is something more. What we want to do is add to that revelation.

The third thing that some people say is that, that rock is the rock of faith. Faith is not mentioned in the context. You can talk about faith being a rock from other scriptures. So, the Catholic says that the rock is Peter and the Protestant says the rock is either Jesus or faith.

What does the context say? Lets look very carefully at Matt. 16:18 *And I also say to you that you are Peter, (Petros a Greek word) and on this rock (petra) I will build my church. You are*

Petros and on this *petra* I will build my church. That brings out something. Do you know that sometimes Jesus' words were recorded in the Greek and there is a play on the Greek words? Just like the gospel of John 21 Jesus asked Peter, "Do you love Me," three times? In the Greek He used different Greek words. In the English, we have only one word for love. In the first instance, Jesus asked, "Do you *agape* Me?" Then Peter replied and said, "I *phileo* You." Then Jesus asks a second time, "Do you *agape* Me?" Peter said the second time, "Yes Lord I *phileo* You." Then the third time Jesus came down to the level and said, "Do you *phileo* Me?" Then Peter said, "Yes I *phileo* You." He came down to his level.

See there are different Greek words for love. There is the Greek word *eros*, which talks about sexual love. Then there is the word *storge*, which talks about family love or affection. Then there is the word *phileo*, which talks about friendship love. And then *agape*, which talks about God's kind of love. So, Jesus was using one of those Greek words but Peter was replying with a different Greek word. However, in the English translation you only read it as *love*.

So here in this same incident there is also a play on the Greek word by the writer Matthew. This is what is being done. All Greek words have a masculine tense, a feminine tense or a neutral tense. Like for example the word *things* usually end in Greek as *tauta*, which is a neutral plural for *houtos* or "this", and church will be *ecclesia*, which will be under the feminine

tense. In the English, we have a form of it. Like sometimes, we refer a big ship as a "she" or a country as a "she". Sometimes they refer a typhoon as a "she". So, in the English we have a usage where we use this feminine gender to refer to what we actually call natural neutral objects. So, in the Greek there are always masculine and feminine.

Here we have Jesus using the Greek, as recorded by Matthew. He said, "You are *Petros*," which is a masculine word; "and on this *petra*," *petra* is a feminine word. If you read it in the Greek New Testament, you cannot get confused that Jesus is not referring to Peter. Otherwise, you are trying to make Peter feminine. You are *petros* and on this *petra*. If you refer the rock to Peter, you are making Peter feminine. So, Jesus is referring to a feminine object. Something that is feminine in the context of the chapter.

The second thing for you to note is Jesus said upon this rock. If I say, "The man," you won't know which man. If I say, "This man," I am pointing to one particular man. If I say, "The child," which child am I referring to? If I say, "This child," I am referring to a particular child. Here we have Jesus Christ saying this *petra* this rock. That means somewhere in that few verses He mentioned an object, which He is now referring to. And if you read upwards and you read downwards you would find that there is only one Greek object that is feminine that qualifies as the object that He is talking about and that is in verse 17 *And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh*

and blood has not revealed this (the word *this* is in italics). The word "this" is not in the Greek original but the English translation inserted "this" to point you to that word *revealed*. That is why if you don't read the Greek you can read the English you can understand it too. Flesh and blood has not revealed this. What was it that Peter received? A revelation about Jesus. And Jesus turns around and said, "Upon this rock." You can conclude that the rock is the revelation about Jesus Christ. Now when we use the word revelation don't get frightened and think that it is some spooky or ethereal revelation. We are not talking about a revelation that is outside the Word of God. We are talking about something that is in line with the Word that the bible talks about that we need the light of God, the revelation of God. So, the church is built on the revelation of Jesus Christ. And it was a part of that revelation that Peter received on that day. He did not grasp the whole of it fully. But he received a revelation.

Turn to Ephesians 2 we are laying a foundation. Eph. 2:20 *Having been built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ Himself being the chief cornerstone.* Notice Jesus was not the only foundation; Jesus was the chief of the foundation. But the apostles and prophets were the part of the foundation. The apostles and prophets are the foundation with Jesus Christ being the chief cornerstone. Question: why are the apostles and the prophets the foundation? The question is answered in Ephesians 3:5 *Which in other ages was not made known to the sons of men, as it has now been revealed by the Spirit to His holy apostles and prophets.* And in the verse before that verse 4, he is

talking about the mystery of Christ, which is the knowledge of Christ, which is the revelation of Christ. So, you have here in the bible where it tells you very clearly that the church is built on revelation.

You analyze church history and you will find that wherever a church has lost the revelation the church has ceased to be the church that goes against the gates of Hades. In the dark ages where the church lost the revelation, it was no more the church that conquer. It was no more the triumphant church. It was a religious ceremonial church and not the mighty church that Jesus came to build. But later on, men were raised up who began to have revelation. Martin Luther received the revelation of justification by faith. The church starts awakening and marching on. Then John Wesley came and received the revelation of sanctification. The church marched on in greater power. Then when the church received the revelation of the power from on high in the baptism in the Spirit the church marched on even mightier. The church is built upon revelation. And we are not going to stop there. Revelation has not ceased to stop its flow until Jesus comes again. He is going to keep on revealing until the whole church grows up in the fullness and the stature of Jesus Christ. Ephesians 4:11-14 until the whole church is perfected made into the image of Jesus Christ.

II Corinthians 4: 6 says, For it is God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus

Christ. From glory to glory, He is changing us. As we look into His glory, we are changed in His glory. So the more Jesus reveals Himself to the church the more you see of Jesus the more you are transformed to be like Him. And in the day just before the angels sound the final trumpet of God, the final revelation of the Lord Jesus Christ is going to be unfolded to the church. And we are going to see Jesus in all His fullness. And when we see we will become what we see. As you behold the glory of God, you are transformed into the same image and glory. And then the church is transformed. The angels are going to blow the trumpet and God is going to say, "Come home, My spotless bride, come home My perfected church." This spotless bride and perfected church is built on revelation. That is what the revelation of Jesus Christ is about.

The Fight for Revelation

The whole fight in the spiritual world is the fight of revelation. Satan seeks to steal the revelation from your life. Satan seeks to destroy the people of God by stealing the word of revelation. See it's the revealed Word that has power. The moment Peter looked into Jesus' eyes and said, "You are the Christ the Son of the living God, Jesus told him, "I give to you the keys of the kingdom of heaven." See revelations are keys to the kingdom of heaven. Every problem you have is a problem of revelation. If you have the revelation of how to do it, it's no more a problem. If you are in the ministry, and you go into radio or T.V. ministry but do not know how to organize and set it up, what do you

have? You have a problem of a lack of revelation. When you have a revelation, it is no more a problem. You know how to do it. If you are in the business world and you don't know how to do it, then you have a lack of revelation. But when revelation comes to you, it is no more a problem. Your problems basically stem from a lack of revelation.

Revelation uplifts you. Revelation will set you into a place where Christ wants you to be. And Satan is afraid of revelation being channeled into the people of God. He will keep the church in bondage if he could. If revelation ever floods upon the church, he is defeated. So, the moment Peter had a revelation that Jesus is the Christ the Son of the living God, Satan comes in and tries to hinder his life. Two times the gospel records how Satan comes against Peter. One was when Peter tried to stop Jesus from going to the cross in Matt. 16: 22, *Then Peter took Him aside and began to rebuke Him, saying, "Far be it from You, Lord; this shall not happen to You!"* He even rebuked Jesus. He got big headed after he received the revelation. Do you know if you receive revelation and you do not know how to apply it, you become big headed? What happened was the devil came in and planted his subtle but devilish thoughts into Peter's mind. Unfortunately, Peter didn't know where those thoughts were coming from and yielded to them and blurted them out without thinking or discernment. Jesus was not fooled; He knew the source and origin of those words. Jesus rebuked him, *"Get behind me, Satan. You are an offense to Me, for you are not mindful of the things of God, but the things of men."* (Matthew 16: 23) Why did Satan come in immediately? It is

because he is afraid that the revelation will get effective in Peter's life.

The other time Satan came against Peter was when Jesus told Peter that Satan desired to sift him as wheat. Luke 22: 31-32, *And the Lord said, "Simon, Simon! Indeed, Satan has asked for you, that he may sift you as wheat. But I have prayed for you, that your faith should not fail; and when you have returned to Me, strengthen your brethren."* There were some legal grounds in Peter's life that gave Satan the right to petition God to sift his life as wheat. Given the impulsive nature of Peter, he may have at different times yielded to Satan's thoughts and suggestions and spoke them out, like the time he took the Lord Jesus aside and tried to stop Him from going to Jerusalem to suffer at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes. Satan kept a record of Peter's infractions and after accumulated enough evidence, he petitioned God for the right to sift him as wheat. Evidently, that right was granted, and Satan was on hand to press him and intimidate him with thoughts of fear and trepidation at that critical moment when the servant girl and others said that he was with Jesus (Luke 22: 56-60). He buckled under that onslaught of the enemy, yielded to those thoughts and denied Jesus Christ. Peter was indeed sifted about like wheat. However, because of Jesus' intercession that Peter's faith should not fail in that crisis, Peter was able to pick himself up. This was critical because though he was shaken, his faith was there to enable him to come back to God in repentance and believe God for his forgiveness. We see a different Peter after the day of Pentecost. He became fearless and courageous, even

in the face of threats, intimidations, beatings, and imprisonment. He had indeed returned to Jesus, and was indeed strengthening his brethren by his preaching and steadfastness. Simon (which means *reed* in Greek) has become Peter (which means *rock* in Greek).

Many Christians are not aware as to why they are being afflicted by mental torments, demonic oppression, twists of circumstances that disfavor them, financial ruins and collapses, family breakups even accidents and seemingly “bad luck”. It is not “bad luck” but one of the reasons is they had accumulated a number of transgressions and violations to give Satan enough legal grounds to petition God to afflict the Christian and even to make a demand for his life or shorten his life. Since God builds His throne on righteousness and justice, and in the presence of numerous dignitaries in heaven who expect God to be just and righteous, God will have to grant permission to Satan since he has valid legal grounds. Many Christians are unwittingly giving the rope to Satan to hang them with, so to speak, by the accumulation of their sins and iniquities.

Daniel's Fast for Revelation

Lets look in the book of Daniel and see the link now. Dan. 8:27 *I, Daniel, fainted and was sick for days.* The bible used the word sick but actually, he was not sick. He was weak for days. Actually, the power of God was so strong he was slain under the power of God and was weak for some time. That is why

sometimes you have a strong dose of the power of God and it can last for some time. Don't be surprised at that; it is not sickness its just your body reacting to the power of God. *Afterwards I arose and went about the king's business. I was astonished by the vision, but no one understood it.* See he received something that no one understood, he himself didn't understand. So, he continued seeking God and praying. Dan. 10:1-2 *In the third year of Cyrus king of Persia a message was revealed to Daniel, whose name was called Belteshazzar. The message was true, but the appointed time was long; and he understood the message, and had understanding of the vision.* He didn't understand it fully that is why in the next verse in verse 2 *In those days I, Daniel was mourning three full weeks.* Here Daniel had received some parts of the revelation of God and he did not understand the rest. You know what you should do when you don't understand something in God? Ask God, seek after God, fast and pray. Don't just keep asking men. Men may sometimes give you their opinion, which can be accurate, or partially accurate and erroneous, or completely erroneous. You can confer and counsel with men but in the long run it is what you sense to be the revelation of God in line with the written Word for you.

So Daniel sought God and here is where fasting comes in. You see Daniel went on a partial fast in verse 2 and 3 *In those days I, Daniel, was mourning three full weeks. I ate no pleasant food, no meat or wine came into my mouth, nor did I anoint myself at all, till three whole weeks were fulfilled.* Now we have mentioned the importance of revelation and the fact that the church is

founded on revelation. If we stop there, and conclude our message and go home, you will still not know how to receive revelation. We need to know how to receive the revelation. You see the importance of coming to God and seeking for His light and revelation. Remember if revelation is the initiative of God and not the initiative of men, we have to humble ourselves and bow down before our Almighty God in worship and adoration. You cannot push Him. You cannot demand it of Him. You can just worship Him, wait upon Him, seek Him, and pray that He may reveal Himself more to you. As He deems you ready, He will reveal Himself more.

Two-fold Aspect of Fasting: Preparing and Receiving

That's the part that we are talking about. How we need to continue to learn to draw revelation from God. If you have a problem in your family life, your purpose of fasting is to draw onto the revelation from God. Revelation will set you free. There are two parts to a fast. The first part is when you want to pray and commit the whole thing to God. At the same time, you also want to tune your spiritual ears and eyes to God in order to hear what God has to say regarding your particular problem or situation. So, the first part is from us bringing ourselves to God. The second part is from God bringing Himself and unveiling Himself to us. Get ready for that as you seek and fast. When you are ready and prepared, God unfolds Himself more. And the reason why we have to share this is sometimes when people enter on a fast they enter in and they got the first part done but

they haven't got the second part done. And before God could unfold Himself, we have gone on to other things. We were not on hand to wait for His revelations and sometimes He really takes His time. Don't ask me why. He takes His time to reveal Himself to us as if His revelations are so powerful and precious. That is why we must reach a certain level before He unfolds Himself to us. It seems His revelations are like jewels. He has to prepare us and that revelation is so precious and so holy that we have to be dressed correctly in the spiritual sense, having the right attitude, in the spirit of meekness, in the spirit of praise, in the spirit of adoration and worship. Then He finally takes His jewel of revelation and He puts it onto our hands. And from that day onwards something is different about your life. You receive an intuition, you receive a revelation, and you receive an impartation into your life. You receive all this through the discipline of fasting and praying.

Daniel entered on a 21 days fast. It was not a full fast. It's a partial fast. A partial fast can be as powerful as total fast. The fast is not so much as earned merit with God as it prepares you to meet God. Understand it that way, that in a fast you are not earning merit with God. The only thing that God sees today is the blood of Jesus, the works of Jesus, the righteousness of Jesus, which is free gift. But your fast places you in a position of readiness and receptivity. Just like for example we can be worshiping here and praising God. And if you heart and mind is on something, your mouth can be singing all those words but you could not enter into the spirit of praise and worship and adoration. What is happening? Sometimes the spirit of praise

and adoration is here in this church. Something is blocking the spirit of worship from flowing, and it is not because the Spirit of God is not being poured out. It is because on your part you have not cast all your cares on Him and just praise and worship Him and let go. But when you choose to do that something happens to you. The Spirit of God of praise and worship that is present can begin to work into your life. Sometimes people are brought up in a way that made them very self-conscious. So, every time when the spirit of praise comes they want to dance but the self-consciousness is there. But if they were all alone in their living room, they would do it. They will have a real hallelujah time with the Lord, dancing all around the sofa and singing. But when they come to church, their self-consciousness restricts them. What is happening? It's a barrier of our past. So where is the hindrance? The hindrance is within us not from God's side. But the day we let it go and we just take off, then the spirit of worship is being unfolded and flowing into our lives.

Now in the same way when we are fasting and seeking God in prayer, God wants to reveal Himself. He loves to reveal Himself, but He needs a preparation from our side before the unfolding takes place. And here Daniel began to seek God to restrain and discipline his body until his body is subdued through a partial fast not a total fast for 21 days. Lets look at the end results in Dan. 10:4 *Now on the twenty-fourth day of the month, as I was by the side of the great river, that is the Tigris.* Daniel must have taken a walk. When he was fasting, he was there by the river seeking God in solitude and waiting on God. He has completed 21 days on waiting on God. I don't know why God takes His

time sometimes. I don't know why sometimes it takes a certain point before God begin to minister and reveal unfold Himself. But He is a person. We relate to Him as a person. We relate to God in a love relationship and we come before God seeking Him and loving Him. Then God chooses to unveil Himself to us. So, Daniel was there. The bible tells us he was by the side of the great river. As he was looking at the river he looked up, he saw a vision. Verse 5 *I lifted my eyes and looked and behold, a certain man clothed in linen, whose waist was girded with gold of Uphaz! His body was like beryl, his face like the appearance of lightning, his eyes like torches of fire, his arms and feet like burnished bonze in color, and the sound of his words like the voice of a multitude.* He broke into the realm of God. There is a realm where you can seek after God. And if you are faithful, you break into the realm of God where God relates to you and unfold Himself. See Daniel simply had to get to this realm. But through fasting and prayer, he managed to get into that realm.

Let look at Daniel 8:15 *Then it happened, when I, Daniel, had seen the vision and was seeking the meaning, that suddenly there stood before me one having the appearance of a man. And I heard a man's voice between the banks of the Ulai who called, and said, "Gabriel, make this man understand the vision."* So, Daniel had a vision earlier and his whole body reacted to that vision. And in verse 27 he fainted, that is being slain under the Spirit.

I have instructed all our musicians. I am going to instruct each one of you too that the next time when we worship God in the

Spirit, we are not going to let go just after a few minutes. We are going to go in for a long time. You may sense waves upon waves of the moves of the Spirit but we are going to enter into a deeper realm. In the average Charismatic church, as they worship God they sing beautiful songs with their understanding but their singing in the Spirit is quite short. Just when the people are going to enter into something, the worship leader says, "Now lets sing, 'We are together again.'" They missed out a lot of what the Spirit had in store for them. We are going to enter a realm where we are going to enter in the Spirit, sing in the Spirit, and worship in the Spirit for a long, long time. Now we want to move deeper and before we launch off into worshipping in the Spirit, we need to really praise God with all our hearts and worship God with all our hearts. You cannot just enter that way. You need a preparation. I believe this, one of the ways of revival that God is bringing is a way of worship. You will find in the last two years there are more worship than have even been before in the whole world. It looks as if Jesus is coming back. And He is now calling forth worship from His people. And this worship that He is calling forth is the worship of the Father in Spirit and in truth. Now we have developed worshipping in truth. We want to move into a special realm of high praises now and worship in the Spirit as much as we worship in our understanding. We are not to give just a routine time. But we will take our time to get into that realm of the Spirit. I believe a day is coming where all the people of God are going to worship in the Spirit and the power of God is just going to move in; the awesome presence of God is going to sweep over the congregation. And when we all meet there in our spirits, our bodies will just be slain and our worship service

will continue up there in the Spirit in the heavenly realm. And from time to time churches have gone into the Spirit worshiping as a group but not long enough to enter that realm. It needs a certain time to break into that realm. So please get ready. So the next time we get into the realm of the Spirit take your wings, put on over-drive, put on your flying machines and take off into that realm of the Spirit. We don't know what is going to happen there. We all may be having such a opening of the floodgates of heaven upon us and we don't know what to expect. It costs our bodies something.

Dan. 8:27 *Daniel fainted and was sick for days.* Days after he got up from the power of God, he just fell. Some of you sisters here when the power of God comes on you every time you get up, *boom*, you fall back again. Every time you step into the church, you sing halleluiah, *boom*, you are down on the carpet. Some churches call it carpet-time. You got up again you sing, "This is the day", *boom*, you are floored again. You didn't get much chance to sing. It's all right. The power of God will wear off after some time and your body will acclimatize to it.

But here I want you to see the difference between Daniel here in chapter 8 and Daniel in chapter 10. See what fasting does to him. Dan. 8:27 says he fainted and felt weak. Which part felt weak, his soul or his body? Every time when people fall under the power, sometimes they are just knocked off, but sometimes they are just restrained by the power of God. They could be mentally and consciously alert but they just could not get up.

There are different levels. But the most important thing for us to note is here that his body was the part of him that was reacting to the power. Now God does not intend for him to feel weak for a few days. I don't think God purposely did that to him. But his natural body was reacting to the power of God.

Now turn to chapter 10 there was an even greater vision and revelation. He saw very clearly the angel that was talking to him and this time in verse 8 -9 *Therefore I was left alone when I saw this great vision.* Now where was he? He was at the riverside. He was not in a worship service. He was at the riverside, he lifted up his eyes and he saw the vision. Then in verse 7 *And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision, for the men who were with me did not see the vision; but a great terror fell upon them.* What happened? There was a greater power. Not only Daniel saw the power of God and the vision of the glory of God and the glory of His angel, the people next to him did not see but also they fell. Sometimes when certain things are taking place in the Spirit, others can feel the overflow upon their lives though each one senses it differently. Sometimes people feel a kind of trembling come upon them. It is just a kind of presence that came in. But this is stronger still. The presence of God was so awesome that a fear of God descended on them. They know something supernatural was taking place and all the people in verse 7 ran and hid themselves. This happened at the river.

Verse 8 Therefore I was left alone when I saw this great vision, and no strength remained in me; for my vigor was turned to

frailty in me, and I retained no strength. What happened? He was slain under the power again at the riverside. *Yet, I heard the sound of his words; and while I heard the sound of his words, I was in a deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground.* He fell forward under the power of God. It's the power of God that we are talking about here. Now the point for us to see is how did Daniel reach that point? It took him preparation in fasting and praying. When you receive a spiritual blessing or impartation whether through a man of God or through your prayer life, there is a measure that is received. The measure that you received depends on three factors. It depends on the measure of the giver, the receptivity of the recipient in receiving and the manifestation at that level. Let me put it in a different term. The measure we receive each time depends on the anointing upon of an individual, or if it's direct from God, on God's anointing. Secondly, the ability to receive that anointing. We need an ability to receive also. That's why the bible tells us to be teachable. Thirdly, on the amount of the manifestation manifested at that point.

Let me give some illustration. Let us say that Ramasamy is a prophet. He is called to the ministry of God. And God has anointed Ramasamy with an anointing of 10 volts. So Ramasamy carries 10 volts of anointing. One day Ramasamy found Ramamuthu. Ramamuthu has a stronger anointing. So, Ramasamy follows Ramamuthu around like Elisha follows Elijah. So, one day Ramamuthu goes off and then Ramasamy asks for a double portion. So, God granted it to him and so he goes off. So, Ramasamy now has 20 volts. Now that is his

maximum output. Remember all electrical appliances have their own maximum output. Even though you have maximum output, you don't use it all the time.

Then there comes someone who needs ministry. His name is Tan Ah Kow. So, Tan Ah Kow comes to Ramasamy. Tan Ah Kow has a need. Tan Ah Kow is a busy person and he believes in what the Lord is doing and just came and asked for prayer. So, Ramasamy lays his hand and 3 volts shot out from him and entered Tan Ah Kow. Then he got blessed and he went home. So what was transmitted? Ramasamy has a potential of 20 volts. Tan Ah Kow received 3 volts. At time the next meeting comes, the worship goes on, the worship was strong, the receptivity was strong, and the manifestation could reach 10 volts. That means those who are open can receive 10 volts although Ramasamy can release 20 volts. See it depends on the manifestation of the Spirit. Like last Wednesday's meeting, if it's not the will of God to manifest a certain anointing I cannot do it. You cannot just turn it on like a push button. We have to determine what is the will and purpose of God for each meeting. Sometimes you don't go into the hospital and when you pray you expect people to be slain just like they are slain in the church. If you are praying for someone on a train, God may not necessarily slay them and then let them lie flat out on the floor of the train. So remember God has His divine will; the Spirit manifest as He wills. Ramasamy has 20 volts and the worship has increased so that the potential anointing that can be released to the people is 10 volts. The meeting is wired for 10 volts now. Tan Ah Kow still comes but he didn't quite prepare

himself for hands to be laid on him. He still receives 3 volts. Why because for the flow to happen three things must happen. The maximum output is 20 volts. The worship by the congregation and the preparations done beforehand in prayer by the minister prepared the wiring to release 10 volts of power and anointing. Then the receptivity is people like Tan Ah Kow, and he didn't quite prepare himself so he did not receive the full manifestation that he could have.

I want you to know this is where fasting comes in. Whenever you are praying to receive an anointing from another person you have to prepare yourself. The general congregation has a role to produce the wiring too by making time available to worship the Lord in adoration and centering on Christ. Sometimes it takes time to put all the wiring in place in praise and worship to allow God to move. Now by this time, Tan Ah Kow is taught how to fast and pray. So, the first day Tan Ah Kow goes and he fasted and prayed. By lunchtime, there were a lot of rumbling noises from his stomach. He has never fasted before and by lunchtime, he is staggering with difficulty. So he struggles on but he says, "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me." At 4 o'clock in the afternoon, he has a splitting headache. And he feels all kinds of dizziness. He says I am going to make it. His dinner is at 7 p.m. but by 6 pm he was at the table. But he made it to 7 pm and then broke his fast. The next day he fasted again. This time he went to the table at 6.30 pm. Then the next he made it again. This time at 7 p.m., he was not at the table. After the third day, he comes again. Ramasamy was still having his meetings. This time Tan Ah Kow comes and

the worship was good that day. People were just moving in the Spirit. They were just worshiping God so much that God was pleased. You see the anointing the man carries and the receptivity of the person is still governed by one more factor: the will of God. As long as people turn their eyes on the man, the anointing of God will not manifest so strong. As long as people turn their eyes on themselves, the anointing will not manifest so strong. But when the people of God forget about themselves, absorb and lose themselves in the presence of the Almighty in worship and praise, God is pleased. Suddenly the wiring system is now 15 volts.

Here comes Tan Ah Kow - remember he was fasting for 3 days on one meal a day. Tan Ah Kow has prepared himself. Ramasamy also has prepared himself. If Ramasamy did not prepare himself, he may be called to a 20 volts anointing but at the meetings he may all the time manifest 10 volts, below his optimum level. But Ramasamy also has been doing some fasting and preparation. He fasted for 3 days without food and water. So, Ramasamy is now yielding himself. So, the amount of anointing that flows through to others is determined a lot by fasting. The amount of anointing you receive is also determined by your fasting. The amount of anointing manifested depends also on the people generally worshiping God. Here we have Ramasamy, he has fasted 3 days, now he comes, and he is ready to manifest all 20 volts. So he comes in from his 3 days fast; he says hello to the usher, the usher goes *boom*, he is down on the floor. Then he comes to the meeting and the praise and worship was good. The worship leader got everybody's hearts, minds

and ears all tuned to the Lord. And the anointing just rises up from 15 volts to 20 volts. And Tan Ah Kow here he comes all ready. So, at the 20 volts time suddenly a revelation came on Ramasamy. Ramasamy calls Tan Ah Kow up And Tan Ah Kow quickly stands up. He was prepared, Ramasamy was prepared and the anointing was 20 volts, and Tan Ah Kow was blown 20 feet away. That is why sometimes the anointing can move in a certain way that you have to just quickly tap on it. If you are slow, it goes off. See how fasting is related to our receptivity here of the anointing of God and the revelation of God.

Fasting relates directly to the revelation and the anointing of God in our lives. Fasting and prayer is a pre-requisite. Lets establish this in the Word of God. Dan. 10: 9 he fell into a deep sleep on his face and verse 10 *A hand touched me which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands.* Then angel Gabriel talks about how he has been fighting against the prince of Persia for 21 days. And Michael the Archangel came to his aid. And Gabriel says in verse 12 *Do not fear, Daniel, for from the first day that you set your heart to understand, and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come because of your words.* Now here the angel Gabriel told him he has come to bring forth a revelation. See revelations are the gifts of God to us. Can you imagine for 21 days up there in the heavenlies there was tremendous warfare just over revelation? All for the sake of some revelations to be brought to Daniel, there was a great fight up there. Gabriel was about to bring a revelation to Daniel and the prince of Persia blocked him. See how important revelation is. I would guarantee you the

devil would do all his best to stop revelation coming into your life. You have to fast sometimes to get revelation. You have to prepare your heart to seek the revelation of God. You have to put yourself in a position to receive revelation. Sometimes it can come to you during the fast and sometimes it can come to you towards the end of the fast. Or it even continues after the fast. But the fast was the tap to turn on the start of the flow of revelation.

Fasting is related directly to the drawing on the revelation of God and subsequently the drawing in of the anointing of God into our lives. Look at Dan. 10:17-18 *For how can this servant of my lord talk with you, my Lord? As for me, no strength remains in me now, nor is any breath left in me.* Then again, the one having the likeness of a man touched me and strengthened me. You know what Daniel received? He received some special strength that enabled him to stand in that amount glory. He received it because of that special fast he went through.

Lets see the conclusion of that matter in verse 19-21 *And he said, "O man greatly beloved, fear not! Peace be to you, be strong, yes, be strong!* What did Daniel receive? He received strength during his fast. He was weak for days. But this time there was a touch on his life when the angel touched him and transmitted strength into him. A supernatural strength increased at that point in Daniel's life. An anointing was imparted to him to function in. Do you know when Daniel was touched it increase the voltage of the anointing that he walked in? He received revelation that

called him to be a prophet to the nation. Up till today, his prophecy is not fulfilled yet. And the anointing and the level he received caused him to move higher in the upper echelon of ministry. All these things happened because of his fasting. Promotion cometh not from the east or from the west but it comes from the Lord of hosts. You move from one level of ministry to another level of ministry and you will find the key is fasting and praying.

See Paul could write what he wrote in the New Testament because he received revelations. Now lets turn very quickly and let's look at the life of the apostle Paul in Acts 9:9. The first time when God met him in Acts 9 you would find that it was mentioned here in chapter 9:9 he was three days without sight and neither ate nor drank. Paul's ministry was birthed out of fasting and praying. The first 3 days of his conversion were spent without food and without water. Then you see something takes place in his life. God dealt with Ananias, send Ananias to him and Paul got back his sight. Later on, he began to move and go deeper into the things of God. Then Paul's next move is in Acts 13:1-2 *Now in the church that was at Antioch there were certain prophets and teachers; Barnabas, Simeon who was called Niger, Lucius of Cyrene, Manaen who had been brought up with Herod the tetrarch, and Saul. As they ministered to the Lord and fasted. When they fasted together, God called Paul and Barnabas apart and this was the birth of the great missionary journeys where the entire known world came to know Christ. But it was birthed in fasting and praying. What did fasting and praying produce? Look at what it produces: it says, the Holy*

Spirit says. What did they receive? They received revelation. The Holy Spirit revelation says now is the time to go forth. And then they went forth and they were blessed. But it was birthed out of revelation. Jesus' ministry was birthed out of fasting and praying. The first 40 days of His ministry was spent in the wilderness without food, without water. He fasted, He prayed, and He had to fight temptation. So fasting and praying are important pre-requisites to receiving revelation and anointing.

Now you turn to Acts 14:23 *So when they had appointed elders in every church and prayed with fasting. See before they lay hands and transmit the anointing of God after they fasted and prayed. They sought the Lord in fasting and praying. Then the Lord reveals to them. If you were to prepare your heart and life, you would realize that fasting is an important key tied up to the anointing and the revelation of God.*

Lets look at Matt. 10:1 *And when He had called His twelve disciples to Him, He gave them power over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal all kinds of sickness and all kinds of disease. Jesus gave them an anointing. Then in Matt. 17 When the disciples could not cast the demon out in verse 21 Jesus said *However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting.* So, that is why it's important. Our weapons are not flesh and blood. And your weapon of fasting and praying is one of the most powerful weapons that Satan is afraid of. If the church of God would fast and pray Satan's kingdom would be shaken. Look at what happened when one man fasted and prayed. The*

prince of Persia was shaken up. Michael the Archangel came and shook him up. Now when the whole church prays and fast and we are going to see the power of God released in a greater and a higher measure. But we have to pay the price to draw the revelations, to draw the anointing of God. That is what fasting does and it would continue all through history. Jesus Christ tells us in the gospel that when the bridegroom is taken they shall fast. It is not possible today in these last days to come against the things that the enemy has put against the church of God without paying the price of fasting and praying. We have to seek God in fasting and praying. You have to start somewhere. You have to train yourself and your body. And when your bodies are trained, your bodies become receptacle to the power of God in your life. You would begin to be more acclimatized to more and more the power of God in your life. Your body begins to live in the amount of glory and the anointing of God more and more. Remember in Moses' own life when he came down with the glory of God it was after a supernatural fast of 40 days and 40 nights. It seems that it is an important key that is neglected that we need to revive it. Every area in your life where a problem confronts you, go on a fast and pray to seek God's revelation.