

MOVE OF GOD SERIES

HOW TO FLOW IN THE MOVE OF GOD?

We are going to share on the positive side first on how to flow when God manifests Himself and what causes the manifestation of God. We will share from the Word of God. Let us look first in the Bible in Acts 5. There are 4 points that we would like to share on. Every time when there is a manifestation of God, there will always be different reactions from the humans' soul as well as from traditions.

Acts 5:11-13, So great fear came upon all the church and upon all who heard these things. And through the hands of the apostles many signs and wonder were done among the people. And they were all with one accord in Solomon's Porch. Yet none of the rest dared join them, but the people esteemed them highly.

Replace Fear with Faith

No. 1, we need to replace fear with faith. Whenever there is a manifestation, the natural reaction is fear. People are afraid; people wonder whether this is the enemy, the devil or is this God or is this in the flesh? Moreover, we need to be able to handle some of these things with faith, with wisdom, with love and with the absence of fear. Fear will stop a person from experiencing what God wants them to experience. That is why every time when an angel of God appears, one of the first things that happen is that the angel says, 'Fear not!' Even if a real angel were to appear right now in our midst and wave his hand at you, some of you would suddenly be filled with fear. It is a natural response to the supernatural world and supernatural manifestation. In the early days of the charismatic revival when people

spoke in tongues and tongues were new, those who were not Pentecostal when they hear tongues it can send a chill down their spines. They could feel a holy awe and fear coming upon their lives and their mind would either interpret it as from God or from the enemy. So there is a natural fear that will always be there that we must learn to overcome when we confront the supernatural.

Let us look at Acts 2 when the Spirit of God poured out on all flesh and what I want to read are verses that reflect the impact it had on the surrounding people. Acts 2: 6-7, *And when this sound occurred, the multitude came together and were confused because everyone heard them speak in his own language.* Now there is no guarantee that when the manifestation of the Spirit comes the people will not be confused. Therefore, it will not be right to say that when God moves nobody will be confused. Confusion is removed not by a manifestation but is removed by teaching the Word. When you have a manifestation without teaching, confusion will still come in. Now you cannot argue and say that because of the confusion the manifestation is not of God. That will not be a right argument. It is the same way where some people use the old argument - if it is of God, it will not divide. Jesus has come to unite people. However, at the same time Jesus has come to divide the things of the enemy from the things of God. He says He came with the sword and that He came to bring division even within the family. He came to divide those who stand for Him and those who stand against Him.

When Paul, the greatest apostle of the church age, was put on trial for leading the great move of God, one of the remarks made about him was that he was a man who has caused division among the Jews throughout the whole world. Let us look at the Book of Acts and see some of the things that were mentioned about the apostle Paul when he was on trial by people who were against Paul and against the move of God. Look at Acts 24: 5 *For we have found this man a plague, (they were calling Paul a plague, a disease) a creator of dissension among all the Jews throughout the world and a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes.* These are certainly not complimentary statements about the apostle Paul. There was a summary of the response of the world to the move of God in the Book of Acts.

So, do not expect when God moves today the whole world will cheer you up for that. There will be a division between those who are for God and those who are

against God. There is no such thing that everyone in the world will speak well of you. There is no such thing that everyone in the traditional churches will speak well of you. Jesus says if all men speak well of you, you are a false prophet. At the same time, it does not mean when you do what is right and you do what is of God that everyone will be against you. There will always be those who are hungry, who are thirsty, who are sincere, who are open to God and they line up with what God is doing. I bring this statement to make a point that when God moves, there is no guarantee that there will be no confusion. There is no guarantee that people will not be afraid. When God manifest these are the human responses. That is why God says, "Fear not," through His angels every time He manifest. We have to replace fear with faith. The teachings of the Word of God can only eliminate confusion and fear. That was the weakness of the Charismatic Revival in the early days, but not any more now. Today there are so many good teachings on Charismatic theology but that was lacking in the early days. Now in this move that God brings do not neglect the Word. Do not put the manifestation above the Word. The Word is still necessary to bring a move of God to His full provision that God wants it.

Now the question is how do we get into the manifestation of God? We come with an open heart and with an open mind and your only test is like Paul says in the Book of I Thess. 5 that applies to prophesy and apply to all manifestation. It says here in verse 18-21, *In everything give thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the spirit, do not despise prophecy.* Now here is the two words *quench* and *despise*. Remember when you approach any move of God in any prayer meeting, do not quench and do not despise. To quench is to go against it. To despise is to write it off and to treat it lightly. Quench speaks about sin. Despise speaks about pride. So, make sure those things do not hinder you. Then verse 21 is for all of us. *Test all things and hold fast to what is good.* You can be assured that when God moves, there is always a counterfeit. May God give us the wisdom to discern in order not to quench the Spirit yet at the same time not to be deceived by the enemy.

Therefore, the first thing to do is to remove your fear and replace it with faith. How can I have faith? Rom. 10: 17, *Faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God.* The first check in your life is, it in line with the Word of God? Does it flow with the Word of God? If it is in line with the Word of God, then fine. Now being drunk in the Spirit and laughter you can find in the Bible. However, there are some other

things you cannot find in the scripture, like barking like a dog or getting so drunk that you unbutton and strip yourself. That is not from God. That is the weakness of flesh being exposed in the spiritual atmosphere.

Now I explain how it happen, why it happen. We need to have wisdom. We need to be opened yet at the same time we must understand what is of God. Let me remind you again that the most important thing is to stay true to Jesus. We love Jesus, we love God above the manifestation. You thank God for the manifestation but you love Jesus. You keep your love for Jesus. You keep your love for the Word of God. Otherwise, you will not last 5 years in this move of God. Keep your eyes on where your eyes should be. If you look for a manifestation, the devil can counterfeit. You look for Jesus and there is no counterfeit. A line must not be crossed. Just like there is dancing in the Spirit. It is fine. Do any style you want but there are rules. You could be dancing in the Spirit and start kicking other people's chairs. Of course, we have to stop you. Let us not lose our Christian common sense when it comes to the move of God.

May I remind you that among the greatest that God used in the Charismatic Movement was Katherine Kuhlman. There was no recorded incident of her speaking in other tongues but she herself was open to it and she permitted it in the meeting. When the whole Charismatic Movement was at its prime, she had a whole group of Pentecostal pastors behind her and then when she says, "Holy Spirit is here," everyone became quiet. The Pentecostal pastors were so used to the noisy churches where they came from that they began to speak in tongues. To some people when the Presence of God comes, they began to speak in tongues and get louder and louder. Their loud tongues-speaking can bring in the Presence of God. For some it is the opposite. Some of these Pentecostal pastors were beginning to get louder and louder and Katherine Khulman say, 'Shh...h.... h....' she quietened down these Pentecostal pastors from all the big churches. She learned how to move in the Spirit and get even more results than most of them.

Let me remind you again. When God moves the manifestation is a side effect. Do not missed out what God is doing and at the same time do not quench the Spirit, do not despise prophecy. We are going to give some ground rules on what God is doing and how we need to flow. As I have said, first of all we need to replace fear

with faith. If you come to a meeting fearful and you tell yourself, you are not going to do this, you are not going to be opened to this, God will not work. You just stopped yourself from being blessed by God. You just cut yourself off. You just quenched the Holy Spirit and you say, "I will have nothing of that!" Immediately you have cut yourself off. Maybe you do it because you fear losing face in front of people but there are some sorts of fear that will prevent you from being blessed by God when God wants to manifest. As for me, God wants to manifest. Go ahead, praise the Lord.

The first law is the law of faith that replaces fear in order to get into the move of God. As long as you are afraid about holy laughter and weeping in the sight of God and getting drunk, that fear will prevent you from experiencing it. So, remove that fear. Replace it with faith.

Law of Contagious Experience

Secondly, there is a law called the law of the contagious. In any move of God, all it takes is one person to contact the manifestation and the manifestation becomes a shared experience. All it takes is for one person to start laughing. Some will go *hee-haw, hee-haw*. We have to pray for them whether this is a new holy donkey. We do not mind being holy donkeys for God but we do not want to be a donkey. All it takes is one person to catch the experience and many others will catch it too. All it takes is just one person to cry and everyone will cry. I am sharing with you from the anointing of God. Jesus appeared to me in 1986 and taught me about the anointing of God and that is how the anointing of God flow. When the anointing of God starts touching one person and begin to have a manifestation, the others will be opened to it and have the same manifestation. Experiences are not taught. Experiences are caught and that encourages you. It can be a positive thing. If you are not able to laugh all the time I mean all the time, you go to church and for the first 20 years, your face is as long as a horse. After 10 years, you loosen up but you still need your smile being dealt with and when you look at people laughing, you said, "What kind of sickness is this?" Moreover, you are just not open to it. It is very easy, you say, 'God I want it.' Then you sit next to a person who has this holy laughter in the next meeting. It is important for us to understand that experiences

are caught.

Now that applies to all other things. It also applies to, let us say vision, all it takes in a meeting is one person who has seen a vision. When one person sees a vision, many others will start seeing visions. When the person who sees the vision shares about that vision, everybody else will open up to it and start catching the vision. If one person sees angels, other people will start seeing angels. It becomes an angel's meeting. Who knows a new revival of seeing angels? Remember the law of contagious. It is caught, more than taught. That also gives you a safety valve. If you do not feel comfortable with the manifestation, you do not want it. Just do not hang around. It gives you a safety valve.

Some manifestations are based on our soul quality. When there is an anointing to dance, not everybody will dance the same way even though it is the same anointing. This is just like none of our tongues are the same. When the same Holy Spirit moves we all may dance in the Spirit. We really feel like dancing in the Spirit but we end up dancing in different styles. Why, because our personalities are different! God works differently through us. He is touching us differently. Some of us may be healed by some way. Maybe for some of us we have been like a mouse all the time. I mean we have been oppressed from the time we were born. We are always neglected and oppressed. When we graduate, we work under a dominating boss. We experienced such oppression until our very voice is quivering and then, we need some sort of touch in our life to change us. We need the Holy Spirit to fill us. When the Holy Spirit comes into your life, 25 years of quivering voice is released at one go. So there are different responses to the manifestations of the Spirit.

Remember, experience can be caught. For example, if you have an anointing upon your life and when you associate with different people, the same gifting will start operating through some of these people. It is a law of association. In this teaching, I put it as a law of contagious experience and we need to understand that law is working all the time. It can be working positively or negatively. Nevertheless, when something is going on and you need to be touched, you need to have the experience, hang around that group. Hang around people with that experience, it will rub off you. If in your life, you want to experience the word of knowledge frequently or discerning of spirits or a vision in God, hang around people who do.

It will rub on you. This is the law of contagious experiences and that law is operating all the time. On the positive side if you do not have that experience and you know that experience is good for you, hang around with people with that kind of experience. Join them; be next to them in the prayer meeting.

Right Place

Thirdly, to receive a move of God and experiences of God, sometimes, we need to go to a right place. There are sometimes experiences that are common to certain places. If you look at I King 19, in the life of Elijah when he was down and discouraged, God sent him to Mount Horeb. If you recall, Mount Horeb is when Moses was down and discouraged and when Moses began to meet the Lord and has an encounter with the Lord. That place speaks a lot about experiencing God. It is just like in Jerusalem, there is a sickness called the Messianic sickness because Jerusalem is a city of Messiahs, a religious place. Some tourists who go there end up thinking that they are the Messiah, and go around proclaiming themselves as such. A few of them have been locked up in the mental asylum. It happens frequently in Jerusalem. They have even identified it as a sickness. The atmosphere is such that everyone is looking for the Messiah. Sometimes they lock 3 or 4 people up in the same asylum and each think that he is the Messiah but it only happens to them when they enter Jerusalem. It is a kind of atmosphere over the place. Sometimes there is a place. It is just like if some of you take a trip to Israel and if you were to walk through the shore of Galilee. Who knows, you may be moved to tears while another person may not. It depends on your background, your experience as you visualize and see all the experiences of Jesus and you relate to that. So there is something about certain places. Sometimes a place becomes synonymous with an experience. Toronto has become synonymous with the experience of holy laughter and people go from all over the world looking for that experience. So what happens? When you exercise faith for something, you get it. The journey and that place bring them to a position to receive an experience. It is not only happening in Toronto. God is doing it all over the world.

Back in the early 1980s when God's presence was very strongly felt, and the Spirit was moving, there were already the manifestation of holy laughter and these things

were new. The only difference was that the Western world has the power of the media, so most of us assume that these kinds of manifestations originated from the West. Now here is where the danger is: when you publicize an experience, everyone starts counterfeiting. When you identify and label a problem, then people could begin to identify it. It may be there or it may not be there but that is what can happen.

We need to take note of point three. Sometimes we need to go to the right place to get the right experience. That is why we will not be having problem if anyone of you feel that you need to go all the way to Cho Yonggi's church in Seoul or to go all the way to Tulsa, Oklahoma to Kenneth Hagin's campmeeting. No problem. To each his own to get that experience. I have to share that so that we will take a very balanced position. You do not take a position where you do not have to go anywhere. The Holy Spirit is here. You can go anywhere to get an experience. Just remember you need to base everything on the Word of God. It also answers to those who say that you do not need to go anywhere to get the experience. You could get an experience in your own closet but if God told you to go to some place to get an experience, then go. God told Elijah to go to the mountain. Why should God tell him to go to the mountain? He was under the tree complaining. In I Kings 19, he was complaining to God, Jezebel was after him, and he thought nobody was left. God sent an angel and fed him. For 40 days and 40 nights, he traveled all the way to Horeb. Why could God not speak to him under the broom tree? He could, but God did not want to. God wants him to experience all the travel. When he reached the mountain, there were the 4 manifestations of God, the fire, the earthquake, and the wind and then in the end a still small voice. So sometimes, we have to be in the right place to get the experience and God has ways of bringing us to the right place, the right group, and the right fellowship to get the experience.

The Right Time

Fourthly, the right time. There is timing for all experiences. It must not be hastened. I believe if someone is born again, immediately he can receive the baptism in the Spirit. However, sometimes, for some people, they need to get things sorted out first before they are ready to be baptized in the Holy Spirit and we say no problem. Just yield to God. We cannot make it a must and say that before you leave today

because you accepted Christ, you must say something in tongues. That would become artificial. We know that the average gestation period of a human being is 9 months but there are many variations. There is a variation of 7 months to 1 year. Moreover, it is not right for us to say, it must be exactly that. It is important for us to understand that there is an average time. However, for some people it may take longer to reach certain point of revelation experience than other people and to each one of us there is a rightness of time. It must not be induced. It must be natural for each one of them that they come to a point of their life experience where they require that. That is why in our church we worship, we dance, we sing, we jump but we do not make them compulsory. You see, it becomes wrong when you make it compulsory. Any experience and manifestation becomes wrong even when it is right if you make it compulsory.

Neither does it mean that when you have a manifestation, you are more spiritual than other persons. It does not mean that. I can show you people who fall under the power who are yielded to God. People like Daniel when the angel appeared to him; the Presence of God was so strong that he fell in the power forward. He fell before God. I can show you in John 18 when the people and Judas and all the temple soldiers came for Jesus and they asked for Jesus. Jesus said, "Who do you seek?" They said, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said, 'I am He.' They all fell under the power but they did not change. They fell under the power. John 18: 5-6, *They answered Him, "Jesus of Nazareth." Jesus said to them, "I am He." And Judas, who betrayed Him, also stood with them. Now when He said to them, "I am He," they drew back and fell to the ground.* It was the Presence of God. Jesus was just in Gethsemane. The Presence of God was so strong in His life. All He said was, "I am He," and they fell under the power. They were not converted. They were not spiritual people. When they got up, they still wanted to arrest Jesus. When they got up, they still wanted to put Jesus and carry out all they intended to do to Jesus.

However, there are positive results like we see Daniel. For Daniel the Presence of God was so strong, Daniel fell under the power. Moreover, when we read the Book of Acts 9, *When the great light came upon Saul, Saul fell from his donkey.* So there are good incidents. Paul when he got up he was converted. Therefore, the experience itself does not prove anything. We are so natural. We keep looking with our physical eyes. We forget that the important spiritual experience comes from within. It is what goes on within.

Sometimes we see no manifestation but the healings and conversions are awesome. It is just like demonology and the deliverance. One decade ago, a group was so extreme that when they cast out demons, they must have the manifestation. That is not true. Demons can come out without much manifestation either. See it is when you begin to make a rule that everybody must follow, that's when a truth can become an error. You apply Old Testament laws to New Testament blessings, then it becomes wrong. Therefore, we can worship in the Spirit, we can laugh in the Spirit, no problem but when you start imposing restrictions, then that is also wrong. That is the other extreme. The other extreme is to exclude all kinds of diversity and you only allow a certain type of experiences. That is being very narrow. You cannot do this; you cannot do that - you are quenching the Holy Spirit. That is wrong and it is always important to just be open and in every move of God, let us be mature.

The Methodist church is now nearly 200 years old. John Wesley who was the leader of the revival never forced everyone to get the same experience. Let me remind you that even George Fox the founder of the Quaker Movement did not force everyone to have the same experience. The Quaker meetings in fact, were very quiet. Nobody did anything unless they felt that they had the leading of the Spirit and enlightenment. Neither did they make it a compulsory experience. Let us be mature. Let us not backtrack to those old days just because people are insecure or just because people are trying to prove the point that they have it. What are we trying to prove? You already got Him. You have Jesus. You have tasted of the Presence of God. You have entered the holiest of all. You have vast experiences. The experiences will continue to grow in God but it is those who are immature, you are trying to prove something: *I am one up if I got this experience that you do not have. My church has this experience, which your church do not. We are in the move. You are not in the move.* They are not matured. They will not last 3-5 years I can assure you. The key is to handle the things of God with maturity based on the Word of God. So the 4th principle is right timing. There is a right time for all things.

Now would not it be foolish if we make all the meetings the same? Christian common sense tells us that every meeting is different. There is no problem about moving in the Spirit. Some of you have traveled with me to the conventions. We

move in the Spirit. We worked the working of miracles by the gifting of God, etc. but we do not make all meetings like that. There are different meetings for different purposes. If all meetings are that kind of meeting, will we be mature? No. We need diversity of different types of meeting to cater for us. Sometimes, let us say, Wednesday Bible study, we also have a follow-up. There are different meetings for different purposes. Friday overnight meeting is for different purpose. Everyone come, travail, pressed through into the things of God, and pray individually. Saturday is a corporate intercession. We are led into different purposes on different days. On Wednesdays, we do not have long worship. On Wednesday, it is just to teach the Word. Why do we want to teach the Word? Why do we not do other things? Sunday is worship. Each meeting is different. It is wrong to try to make all meetings the same. If they are not the same, you say you do not have the Holy Spirit. Immaturity, childishness!! The church is nearly 2000 years old - let us not backtrack. Let us learn to be open to the things of God. Let God move and let all things happen at the same time. Some want to weep. It is fine as long as it is God touching them.

Now let me point to the dangers that are involved in any move of God and prove to you why not all manifestations and the anointing of God moves are of God. See when the anointing of God moves, demons get frightened and they start manifesting too. How we minister by the anointing of God and how we minister when we are praying by faith are two different things.

Fleshly Manifestations

Let us not do injustice to the Holy Spirit! You always ask this question, "What would Jesus do?" I can assure you will not find Jesus barking like a dog. Imagine you are coming to the throne of grace, you came before Jesus, you have prayed through, you have fasted 39 days. This is your 40th day. You came to Jesus. You finally in your spirit entered into the Most Holy Place and you have a vision of Jesus, sitting on the right hand of God before you. You said, "O Jesus, how I love you." Jesus looks you in the eyes and He says, "Woof."

Now, in the Book of I Sam., as Saul was pursuing David. In I Sam.19: 20-24, *Then Saul sent messengers to take David. And when they saw the group of prophets prophesying, and Samuel standing as leader over them, the Spirit of God came upon the messengers of Saul and they also prophesied. And when Saul was told, he sent other messengers, and they prophesied likewise. Then Saul sent messengers again the third time and they prophesied also. Then he also went to Ramah, and came to the great well that is in Sechu. So he asked and said, "Where are Samuel and David?" And someone said, "Indeed they are in Ramah. So he went there to Naioth in Ramah. Then the Spirit of God was upon him also, and he went on and prophesied until he came to Naioth in Ramah. And he also stripped off his clothes and prophesied before Samuel in like manner, and lay down naked all that day and all that night. Therefore they say, "Is Saul among the prophets?"*

It was the Spirit of God but what he did was in the flesh. So how can you have it? The flesh is mixing with the Spirit. He had that kind of ability before it came upon him in his early days when he was all right. In I Sam., when he was first anointed in 1 Samuel 10:10-11, *When he came to there to the hill, there was a group of prophets to meet him; then the Spirit of God came upon him and he prophesied among them. And it happened, when all who knew him formerly saw that he indeed prophesied among the prophets, that the people said to one another, "What is this that has come upon the son of Kish? Is Saul also among the prophets?"*

Now again those soldiers he sent to catch David, they were not prophets but they came into the atmosphere of people prophesying. I do not know what it was like but I could imagine some of them were playing the timbre and harp when the soldiers came looking for David. They were not enrolled in the school of prophets. They were those with swords in their hands looking for David. When they came, they heard the prophets prophesying and they too began to prophesy. Again, the law of contagious experience and then they go into a place where people gather and the anointing soaks into the place. The Presence of God was still very strong in that place but what Saul did was not right. The Spirit was right. The experience was right. Even the prophecy was of God but what he did was in the flesh. That is just an example to show that when the Spirit of God moves it does not mean that all the experiences can be of God. However, not all manifestation needs to be of God because all of us have different soul needs.

Dancing in the Spirit

In the same way, it goes for dancing in the Spirit. We do draw the line when it comes to dancing in the Spirit. Whether you dance gracefully like a ballerina or not, our rule here in the church is as long as you do not knock anybody down and it does not resemble any idol worship, we allow you to carry on dancing in the Spirit. By this, we are not saying that everything is 100% of the Spirit. Now let us be very analytical, when we say that something is in the Spirit, we do not mean that there is no human effort involved. When we speak in tongues, there is some human effort involved. Paul says, "I pray within my spirit," there is some human effort involved. I had to release my tongues. God does not possess me and make me to say something. Now when I dance in the Spirit, of course, I have to cooperate with what I sense. The Spirit is flowing so there is still a part that is me. The difference is for those in the flesh it began to release more of the flesh than the cooperation of the Spirit. A person who has been brought up in an idol worshipping cult or witchcraft or religious paganism may start dancing in a pagan way resembling some idol-worshipping religion. Of course, we are going to have some of our ushers to carry you out. You can still be in your lotus position if you want but we will carry you and put you in one room. Nobody is going to scold you; we just carry you and put you there. That is the grace we would allow but there is a line that you do not cross. When it becomes what we discern to be false religious worship or it resembles the worship in other religion then we got to draw a line. So there is still a line that is flowing in the Spirit.

It is the same with the manifestation of God, you must not cross a line. There is liberty but that liberty is within the boundary of the Word of God. It does not mean that all manifestations are of God. I heard people make statement like that which I myself dare not make. Sometimes in our conventions, the anointing of God is so strong. There are demons coming out of people. These are three or four other people trying to minister to demon-manifested persons. The only time I stop people is that when I am ministering, I do not want anybody else ministering unless I instruct them to minister and flow along because they may be using different methods from me. It is more of a clash of methods than anything else. Normally I let it go because I know under the anointing, the demons will struggle a while and then come out by themselves. Where it becomes disturbing, I will personally take charge, take authority over the demon and cast the demon out before everybody. But that

happens only when that is a demonic manifestation. I am not saying that all manifestations are of the devil. Some of them are just from the soul. People's soul, people's character and people needed inner healing for they got hurt in their life. Moreover, when you got hurt in your life and there is something in your life, do you know even in the natural, it shows out in the way you walk and talk? And we are not even talking about the anointing of God. If you got an inferiority complex, it comes out in the way you look. Therefore, under the anointing of the Holy Spirit, the manifestation will come out faster. Whatever is on your inside becomes reflected like a mirror in your manifestation. It is still the Spirit of God. It can be the enemy it can be the flesh. There is no guarantee that under the anointing of God that everything is of God - that is a wrong statement to make. We have the example of king Saul manifesting the spirit of exhibitionism and possibly the spirit of lust, a wrong thing that is not of God under the anointing of the Spirit.

Drunkenness in the Spirit

At the same time to be positive, when the people were drunk in the Spirit, the unbelievers said that these people are full of new wine in Acts 2:13. Obviously, when someone is drunk in the Spirit they cannot walk straight. That is within boundary. For me I call it half slain. You know you could be slain in the Spirit. What happens when you are half slain? You want to fall but could not fall. That is what it is like, there are different degrees of the anointing of God but then the manifestation is the side effect of the physical body contacting the power of God. Neither can you take it as proof of the power of God. Can you understand that? A side effect is a side effect. Why do people have to fall under the power is because there is a short circuit that takes place in the body when the power of God flow. Some people do not fall under the power at all. Yet, they can do God's will and be anointed of God. The dangers are when you make one experience a must for all. As much as we all have different thumbprint, we will continually experience the Presence of God differently. There will be similarity but let us be opened to differences. So there is a positive side to it but even drunkenness in the Spirit has a certain limit. If you get so drunk in the Spirit and you start pushing everybody, and if you were a man and you sit on the lap of a girl, then the pastor says, "Praise God, everything is of God," but the girl does not think so. You look at all those people who get so drunk in the Spirit. They get ushers to help those people. Why do they not say, "It is the Spirit of God. No need to help, the Spirit will do it." No

there is still a boundary of Christian common sense that we do not cross.

I need to point this out in case we get some queer manifestation and we do not shut them down. In the early days of the Charismatic revival, there were a lot of strange things happening and there are a lot of queer manifestations. Then one pastor wanted to stop those things and the Lord told him this, "Do not remove the chaff until it is time to remove the chaff." Do you know what is the chaff? The chaff is the part of the wheat of the rice grain that protects the rice until it is ripe for harvest. The chaff is important. Without the chaff, insects will eat the rice before it is ripen. The chaff is the hard part that is called the husk. The husk of the rice protects the rice. Until you are ready to eat the rice, you remove the husk and then you shake it off. You separate the husk from the rice. Then you have the pure rice. The husk or the chaff is important in its early stages so sometimes peculiarity is important to the move in the developing stages. The rice is not developing yet. Whatever God was doing in their life, had not come to fullness yet. Do not remove the chaff until it is proper time. Then let God remove it or let the minister of God remove or someone who is in spiritual authority do it. You do not just go and do it just because it looks different from yours. Because when you remove the chaff, you may end up killing the wheat. Do not remove the chaff until it is proper time. That is an important principle to observe as we look into the things of God.

Prophetic Gestures

Now we go to Acts 11; this person who is a unique prophet, his name is Agabus. It says here in verse 28, *Then one of them, named Agabus, stood up and showed by the Spirit that there was going to be a great famine throughout all the world, which also happened in days of Claudius Caesar.* Now the word here is *showed*. In the Old King James, the word is *signified* by the Spirit, which means that the prophecy could have been delivered by non-verbal means. We know that there is a character of Agabus later on in the book of Acts 21 he came and prophesied about Paul being in prison by taking Paul's belt and tying himself and then saying this means to whom this girdle belongs shall the same thing happen to him. So he was quite a dramatic prophet. He prophesies through drama. The Bible does speak about unique gifts and ability, to each one the diversity of the Spirit of God. When the Spirit of God manifest in different ministries, there may be peculiar manifestation in each

person's ministry and even individuals respond differently. We need to be open to what I call peculiarities of different anointing of ministers that will bring about different results.

Trembling

I met an elderly Indian woman. She has a very powerful ministry of prophesy, one of the most powerful I have ever seen. She operates in visions all the time. Whenever she enters deep in the Spirit, both her hands shake. It is almost like she goes into a trance, except that she is of God. She glorifies Jesus and she prophesies in the Name of Jesus and is all in line with the Word of God. I think Westerners may look at that and think that person is in cultic trance or something. Asians have gone into that kind of experience especially in India. People who have fasted and gone very deep in the Lord, they really go right deep in the Spirit. We know that it has happened to Daniel too. When the Presence of God came, he described the trembling of his hands in the Book of Daniel 10:9-10, *Yet I heard the sound of His words; and while I heard the sound of His word I was in deep sleep on my face, with my face to the ground.* Therefore, he was under the power. Verse 10, *Suddenly a hand touched me, which made me tremble on my knees and on the palms of my hands.* See his knees were trembling and his hands were trembling. Therefore, Daniel was literally shaking under the power. So there can be peculiar responses and Daniel was a very wise man, one of the greatest intellects of that time, ten times wiser than all the wise men in that land. There is such a thing as a peculiar manifestation and peculiar anointing. I also found that different types of anointing produce different types of manifestation. Sometimes when in the intercessory meeting you may have more groaning and crying than laughter. See what God bring is more a refreshing and a kind of filling His people with unspeakable joy that causes laughter. But we do not stick to one anointing. There are diversities of anointing and different anointing produce different manifestation. We need to open ourselves to that.

Now as we conclude with all these understand and know how to move into God and yet not to be extreme but to be open to Him all the time. I encourage you to be part of what God is doing and just open yourself to God. Anything can happen and it is good and we should keep it going. Just let God move. We do not know what is

going to happen and we just let God move whatever He wants to do. We want an open heart to God. At the same time, there is certain line that you do not cross of Christian decency and within certain boundary. That you can do with clothes on. If for you, the Spirit of God is so strong that you have to prophesy without any clothes, then we will probably have to find a room and lock you in. What do we look for? No. 1 is the Presence of God. You can have all the manifestation you want. Imitate all the manifestation you want but if the Presence of God is not here it ends there. A manifestation can be counterfeited. It can be emotionally created. It can be acted out. So, remember that. It is important not just to see the manifestation. We are not people who go by sight. We are people who go by the Spirit.

The Presence of God

Now manifestation is fine. The thing behind it is what is causing the manifestation, not the manifestation itself. Go for that. Let the Presence touch you, fill you and envelop you. Let it saturate you. Is that the Presence of God? It can also be very thick even in a healing service. The healing anointing is so thick. You feel you could reach out and cut a piece out and is a different anointing. It is the same Presence but a different anointing. Do you realize you can have different meeting but the same Presence because it is God showing Himself? God said, "I will manifest Myself." Jesus said, "I will manifest Myself to those who love Me." So I think that you cannot escape the Presence of God. Oh, let the Presence of God flow. It does not matter if you did not laugh, you did not cry but you will just soak in the Presence of God. Just worship softly even though the one on your right or left is laughing, the one behind is crying and another one is jumping up and down but not disturbing anybody. Moreover, you are just enjoying the Presence. Fine, the moral of the story is that the Presence touches everybody. That is what we want - that everybody sense God. Everybody have a greater passion for God and everybody love Jesus even more and everyone wants to serve God more and everyone want to yield more to God. That is what we want. The purpose of everything is that we all will have our hearts filled with God. Love Him that is no. 1, the Presence of God.

I have been to places where it is just a put on. I do not sense the anointing of the Presence of God. I have been to meeting where there is not much of anointing and the preacher is shouting until he got sore throat but there is not much anointing.

There is but a little bit. At some other meetings, sometime I found there is a soft-spoken preacher and there is such power that flows. It is the Presence of God. You cannot replace the Presence of God. Neither can the Presence of God and the Presence of the Holy Spirit be artificially produced. It is more that something that comes and we just yield to it but it must have the Presence of God. That is No. 1.

The Word of God

No.2 we must give the Word first place. If you build your life around a manifestation, you will not last until Jesus comes. The Word of God still comes in first place. Many of the errors in Christendom over 2000 years and over the past decades have been because people with the right experience did not have the right scriptures to interpret it wrongly. We have a lot of wrong theology being taught by people who are actually been touched by God. It is because the Word is not being understood fully. Therefore, it is important for us to keep the Word first place. With all that experiences, we still need the Word of God. We still need to test all things by the Word of God. We do not build our doctrine on experiences. Why do we have a whole group of people in the early Charismatic move? One of the greatest false teachings I was combating and preaching against was people who were teaching that God sends sicknesses to people. They were anointed ministers who could pray for the sick and get some result and yet teach that sometimes God send you a sickness to teach you something. That is a theological error. They cannot prove it with chapter and verse from the scriptures. They could quote some incidences but it is out of context and interpreted wrongly. Now 20 years down the line we could look back and some of those people because they believe that they got sick and they have died. However, it still proves a point that the Word of God comes first place. Whatever manifestation, whatever things God done, you do not replace your theology with anything outside the Word of God. Unless you have chapter and verse, you would not last. We are here for a long haul. We are not here to last 3 - 4 years and then disappear. We are here until Jesus comes. We will have increasingly different experiences from now until Jesus comes and we need to build it around the Word of God that is No. 2.

Local Church

No.3 just because you got a move of God and the Bible touches you does not mean you do not need a church. It does not mean you flow from one place to another. Unless you are committed to a group of people and you could grow with them and work with them, there will be a vacuum in your life that is never developed. In a sense, we do not really choose our church. God chooses our church for us. This is why for me it is no problem. Where people come in and find this is their home church, it is fine. If people come in and say, "I was blessed but I have to go back to my own church now," it is also fine. You know why? If God did not mean them to be here, by my keeping them here would mean that I am keeping them out of God's will. If you love God, you love people. You want them to find God's will but understand you never remove your commitment from a local body and local church because only as you relate in a local church can you develop character. You can receive gifts by being a church hopper. You can be touched and refreshed by different moves of God and be in the frontline and always be in everything that God does. You are in the front seat but 10 years will pass down the road and your character is not developed. Character development comes by working with other imperfect people as imperfect as you and learning how to love one another and work together in spite of imperfection. That is why only the local body can help us. It is so easy not to be committed to any group and every time people hurt a bit, you say, "I am not going there anymore." In the end, you are the loser. By the time Jesus comes there are a lot of sharp edges that are not polished yet but as you relate closely, they hurt you, you hurt them but you still love one another and you put your arm around one another you say, 'Praise God!' We may have hurt one another and we may have misunderstood each other but thank God, we have learned to love one another. In spite of differences, I think you have gained something. This is something that money cannot buy. You have grown in love. Even in the natural realm by relating closely to your own blood brothers and sisters, you learn to overcome certain things. No.3 we need a local fellowship. We need a body of people whom we can relate closely. If you do not have friends to tell you that you are wrong, it is every dangerous. If all your friends are 'Yes' people who are not honest enough to tell you when you go wrong, I think you are in a very dangerous position. I always tell people, "If you disagree, just tell me but do not hide anything." I may disagree with you but we can still be friends. That kind of friendship is valuable because there are checks and balances on one another. We need a local body to relate to. Revival comes, revival goes, but the church of Jesus Christ and the local church are here to stay. That is why when the move of God is rejected by denominations, what happens? A new church starts. See the church will

always stay.

Seek the Purpose

No.4 there is always a purpose behind every move in every manifestation. It has to do with a manifestation of a truth or a revelation that God is bringing to the attention of the body of Christ that it has neglected. The Charismatic movement brought the church's attention to the gifts of the Holy Spirit. The Word of Faith movement brought the church's attention to the integrity of God's Word. Every move is calling our attention to something. Let us not miss what God is calling us to. Into each different realm and each move tap on what God is actually doing. Not just a manifestation but let God bring you into the revelation that He is bringing forth.