

WORSHIP SERIES

EPHESIANS 1 & 2 - BRAZEN ALTAR AND LAVER

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Turn with me to the book of Ephesians. Last night we concluded with the 4 different Greek words for power. *Exousia* and *kratos* is the power of the Word. *Dunamis* and *ischus* is the power of your spirit. See *dunamis* and *exousia* is the outworking of the power. *Kratos* and *ischus* is the in working of power. *Dunamis* is the outworking of the power of the Spirit. *Ischus* is the in working of the power of the Spirit. *Exousia* is the out working of the Word. *Kratos* is the in working of the power of the Word in our lives to establish God's purpose in our lives. When *kratos* and *ischus* come together there is energizing. When *dunamis* and *exousia* come together there is also an energizing. So the inter mingling or relationship or the marriage of these powers is what we call the energizing or the "energes".

So we add another word this morning and it's the word "energes". It will be present in different forms. Some times it is in its verb form so it will be "energeo". Or some time it will be in a participle and it will be like "energema".

But today we are going to look at the energizing of God in our lives. And how these different workings of the power work in our lives. Unless the Holy Spirit energizes some thing into us nothing can come forth. What God does is that He works within us. And some of us are familiar with those scriptures that speak about God working within us. How God quickens all those various operations in our lives. And we can only work out what God works in us. If God has not worked into our life we have nothing to work out. God has to move in our lives before He moves through our life.

In the book Ephesians the word “*energes*” occurs several times when the intermingling and the flow of those very 4 forces of power work in the lives of the Christians as Paul described it. In Eph. 1:19-20 *And what is the immeasurable greatness of His power (dunamis) in us who believe, according to the working (energes) of His great might (ischus kratos).* It means according to the inner working of the Spirit and the Word into our life, the *ischus kratos* which He *energes* in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places.

So we see here that Paul is talking about how once upon a time God when He raised Jesus He caused the energizing of both *kratos* and *ischus* to raise Jesus Christ up. See Jesus died on the cross of Calvary and He was placed in a tomb for 3 days and 3 nights. And the *energes* of God came energizing Him in *kratos* and *ischus*. And God raised Him up high and sat Him at the right hand of God. So God raised Jesus up and it says in Ephesians 1 that Jesus sits at the throne at the right hand of Father God.

Somebody once asked God why is it that there are only 2 thrones when there are 3 Persons in the Godhead. There was a man in America whose ministry was just beginning to pick up and the Lord took him to heaven for a moment. His name is Jesse duPlantis. When he was in heaven he met with God. One of his first questions was, “Where is the Holy Spirit?” Then Jesus gave an answer that made him feel like a small boy. He said that the Holy Spirit is on earth. Then he replied, “Why didn’t I think of that before?” See sometimes we ask the dumbest question without realizing what the Bible has said. Jesus said the Holy Spirit has gone down to earth. He has sent the Holy Spirit.

Now I realize that there is still a link between the Holy Spirit and the Father God in a spiritual sense that we cannot quite picture. But the Bible did say in the gospel of John 14, 15 and 16 that He sends the Holy Spirit and He is now on this earth.

So there is God the Father; there is God the Son and Jesus is raised up to sit at the

right hand of God. The power that enabled Him to do this is *kratos* and *ischus* working together. That's why we want to unveil the secret of it.

If you analyze the book of Ephesians you will notice that the 6 chapters; chapter 1 and chapter 2 go together; chapter 3 and chapter 4 go together and chapter 5 and chapter 6 go together. They are linked up into little pairs. It is just like what we have described in the tabernacle of Moses. And we know that there was a brazen altar and the laver; then the candlestick and the table of showbread; the altar of incense and the Ark of the Covenant.

Then we know that there are 7 feasts in Israel. They are the feast of Unleavened Bread and the feast of Passover, the feast of First fruits and the feast of Pentecost. Then you have the feast of Trumpets; the Day of Atonement and the feast of Tabernacle. Seven feasts altogether are listed in the book of Leviticus chapter 23.

These 7 feasts are divided into 3 groups. Just like Moses tabernacle was divided into 3 parts. There is the outer court where you have the brazen altar and the laver. Then you have the holy place where you have 3 pieces of furniture, and that would be the candlestick, the altar of incense and the table of showbread. When you pass the second veil you have the Ark. The Ark resides in the holy of holies, the third place. So the tabernacle of Moses was divided into 3 distinct places.

The 7 feasts of Israel are also divided into 3 distinct groups. The first two feasts are grouped together because they occur in the same month. In Leviticus chapter 23 it tells us that on the first day of the month Hebrew month called the "Abid" which occurs about April or March in our English calendar. On the first day of the month they would take a lamb and set it apart. On the fourteenth day of the month they would slay that Passover lamb. Then they would celebrate the feast of Unleavened Bread for 7 days. So we realize that the first 2 feasts the feast of the Passover and the feast of unleavened bread are related. They are linked together. The feast of Unleavened Bread is related to the laver. The feast of Passover is related to the brazen altar.

The other feasts called the feast of First fruits and the feast of Pentecost are linked because both are linked by a time period. It says that when they have the first sheaves of grain growing, they would take them and bring them as a wave offering to the Lord. Then they will count 50 days and they will celebrate the feast of Pentecost.

The feast of First fruits is related to the table of showbread. The 12 loaves on the table of showbread represents Jesus Christ who is the first fruits of our redemption, the beginning in our life. Then we have the feast of Pentecost that is related to the candlestick, which represents the out-pouring of the Spirit. In Acts 2 it says when the day of Pentecost was fully come the Holy Spirit came forth. So we have the feast of First fruits and the feast of Pentecost. These 2 feasts are related together. That is the table of showbread and the candlestick.

The other 3 feasts are related together, the Day of Atonement, the feast of Trumpets and the feast of Tabernacle all occur in the same month. On the first day of the seventh month they will blow the trumpets. It is called the feast of Trumpets. Then on that special 10th day of the seventh month the high priest will enter the Holy of holies. It is called the most holy day. Then after that they will celebrate the feast of Tabernacle. So we notice that the 7 feasts are divided into 3 groupings.

Remember what we said last night that Ephesians chapter 1 to 6 is like the tabernacle of Moses. Since it is also linked to the feasts of Israel the relationship will be seen clearly.

We will see why chapter one of Ephesians is related to the brazen altar, and chapter 2 to the laver. Chapter 3 we have the table of showbread. Chapter 4 relates the candlestick. You notice in chapter 5 the first few verses he talks about sweet smelling aroma, the altar of incense. Then the Ark of the Covenant in chapter 6 which we are going to look at later.

This morning we are going to consider either the first 2 chapters if we have time we also cover chapter 3 and 4. But what we relate to you here is this just as brazen altar and the laver are related in one grouping. Just as the table of show bread and the candlestick are related in one grouping. Then the others are related in the third grouping so is the book of Ephesians. Chapter 1 and 2 are tied together. Chapter 3 and 4 are tied together. We'll look at chapter 5 and later.

In chapter 1:20 *Which He accomplished in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and made Him sit at His right hand in the heavenly places.* It says that 3 days and 3 nights later after His crucifixion God raised Him up; God energized Him and God seated Him at the right hand of God.

At first it was Jesus Christ who was crucified and God took Him and sat Him at the right hand of God. Notice that in chapter 2 Paul now speaks about us who were once dead in sin, about the believers, us the church, and God took us, saved us, cleansed us and He took us all the way up and sat us at the right hand of God. Can you see the relationship?

In chapter 1 it was Jesus who was taken and seated in the heavenly place. In chapter 2:4-5 *But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which He loved us, even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved) and raised us up with Him, and made us sit with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.*

Can you see the relationship? Chapter 1 it was the Lord Jesus Christ. Chapter 2 it was the church that God raised and sat us at the right hand of God.

Now in chapter 3 and 4 the relationship is also clear. Remember chapter 3 speaks about the table of showbread; chapter 4 the candlestick.

Chapter 3:16-19 *That according to the riches of His glory He may grant you to be strengthened (kratos) with might (dunamis) through His Spirit in the inner man, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith; that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have power to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ which surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.*

It says here in verse 17 that Christ may dwell in us. He is speaking about Christians. We know that Christ is in our hearts; we know that the day we were born again Christ Jesus came into us. But there is something in the spirit realm we need to understand. In other words Christ is in our hearts but Christ was at the right hand of God. He is talking about the fullness flowing through us. Don't try to picture and analyze it in natural terms. The spiritual world and natural world are similar in some sense and different in other sense. Some Christians will say how can Jesus be a little bit in us and then more in us. We can't fully understand. Just like we don't understand how can you have a measure of the Spirit and a double measure of the Spirit. These are areas we cannot really comprehend with our natural comparison. For we look in terms of natural dimension but the spirit realm is beyond that.

The church in Ephesians was already strong in God. They are already baptized in the Holy Spirit. Paul had a tremendous revival in Acts 19 and the church in Ephesus exploded. It was a strong church. Yet Paul was praying that Christ may dwell in their life. In other words Paul was praying for more energizing to take place. Paul was praying for a greater measure of that energizing of God to come into their life that Christ in all His fullness in all His power, in all His Godhead, the fullness of God may dwell inside them. So in chapter 3 we see Paul praying for Christ to be dwelling in fullness in us.

Ephesians chapter 4 is related to chapter 3 in the exact opposite way. Chapter 4:15 *Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into Him who is the head, into Christ.* Can you see the opposite in chapter 3 Christ grows in us but in chapter 4 we grow into Christ. Paul talks about the ministries of God. Paul speaks about the church the five-fold ministries and all the various ministries. He speaks about how as we speak the Word in love, as we began to be energized by God, as

we grow as a body of Christ, we now grow into Christ.

In chapter 3 Christ grows in fullness into us. In chapter 4 we grow into Christ's fullness. So we immediately see the relationship between chapter 1, 2, 3 and 4. Just as we see the relationship between the brazen altar and the laver and the relationship between the table of show bread and the candlestick. So chapter 1 and 2 has to do with the heavenly place. Chapter 3 and 4 has to do with the manifestation of Christ in our life.

Let me give a further outline here. See chapter 1 and chapter 2 are treated together. In chapter 1 and chapter 2 Paul speaks about the *ischus* and the *kratos* working into us and how the 2 need to link up in our life to bring us to be seated in the heavenly place.

In chapter 1 it speaks about that but we know in chapter 1 Jesus was seated at the right hand of God and later in chapter 2 we are seated at the right hand of God.

Then in chapter 3 and chapter 4 Paul speaks about the *exousia* and the *dunamis* growing out from us. You could say that chapter 1 the brazen altar was the growing forth of the *ischus* in our life. Chapter 1 is the revival of the *ischus*. Chapter 2 is the revival of the *kratos*. Chapter 3 is the revival of *exousia*. Chapter 4 is the revival of *dunamis*.

But we can't quite divide it that way because chapter 1 and 2 are so inter-mingled together. That when Paul talk about the move of about *kratos*. And chapter 3 and chapter 4 are so inter-married together. That when he speaks about the revival of *exousia* through being established in *kratos* and *ischus* he speaks about *dunamis* at the same time. The 2 are related.

Now that we know all these things as head knowledge that we are seated in the

heavenly place, how do we experientially partake of that blessing in that heavenly place?

There are 2 levels of energizing. There is a level of energizing that comes from *kratos* and *ischus* that is the energizing *into* us. There is another level of energizing that is energized *out through* us. So there is spiritual energy flowing all the time. Even though you may be taught that you are seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, yet experientially you don't have it because you have not experienced *kratos* and *ischus* energizing you on the inside. You know it as head knowledge but it has not become real on your inside. It's positionally yours, its promised to you. But yet the experience of it is not there. For you need *kratos* and *ischus* to start working and energizing on your inside for it to come forth.

When John the Baptist and even Jesus Christ Himself were growing, He has to learn to talk. He has to learn the language. He grew. Jesus started as a baby. He didn't come out from Mary's womb and immediately started His ministry.

One of the most important things we need to understand was how did the Word become real in His life. And how He was in prayer. We do know that Jesus Christ spent a lot of time in the Word. Because He was the Word made flesh. We do know that Jesus spent a lot of time in prayer too. Because in Hebrews chapter 5:7 we are told that *in the days of His flesh, when He had offered up prayers and supplications, - the days of His flesh* includes more than Gethsemane. This means throughout His days He must be praying and travailing in prayer.

But we need scriptures for that. What was the first energizing that took place in Jesus' and John the Baptist's life when they were little children? For some of us who are adults when we were born again and new in the things of God, although we look like an adult on the outside, our inside could still be a little baby that needs energizing.

So here in the gospel of Luke chapter 1 and here is where we could prove to you

from the scriptures that Jesus and John the Baptist need the inner working or energizing into their lives first before they could bring it out. I could imagine for 30 years there was the energizing into Him. No wonder when by the time He stepped forward at the age of about 30 His ministry just exploded. There was so much energy coming out from Him.

Lk. 1:80 *And the child grew and became strong in spirit and he was in the wilderness till the day of his manifestation to Israel.* The word *became strong* is the word *krataioo* is from the word *kratos*. So it says the child John the Baptist grew. He grew naturally but there was something else growing, his spirit was growing. It says his spirit became strong. There was *kratos* energy coming into his spirit. So there was an implantation of the Word into his life constantly. *Kratos* was working in his life but *exousia* was not working yet. Before *exousia* is *kratos*. Before *dunamis* is *ischus*. So even John the Baptist had to start at the level of *kratos*.

Some of us would love Acts 1:8 and say when the Holy Spirit has come upon us we shall receive power or *dunamis*. Yes indeed but there is a difference. If the *dunamis* comes in your life as a grace of God and you don't have *kratos* and *ischus* you could never keep it. It just last a while and then it's gone. And your character is not built or changed. So its some thing that is once there although your are tongue talking, bible carrying, hand laying, demon chasing, you don't have much power. *Dunamis* comes once in a while but its not constantly there. You don't walk in authority. You don't walk in the power of the Spirit all the time because you didn't establish yourself in *kratos*. So whatever you have its just a mercy of God that dropped on you. Watchman Nee calls this a *divine loan* from God.

I believe we can walk in the power of the Spirit 24 hours a day in the *exousia* and *dunamis*. Many of the miracles of Jesus Christ took place when He was out on the street and not in a convention. You could walk in authority and power. I mean when Jesus was having a nap there was a storm. And when the disciples were panicking because of the storm and the boat tossing and turning, they woke up Jesus and said, "Master don't you care that we perish?" Jesus got up didn't have time to say Father in heaven, didn't even have enough time to say His devotional prayer. He got up and He looked at the frightened disciples. He just got up and looked at the sea and said, "Peace, be still." And it was done.

There were many times in Jesus' life that the power was just flowing all the time. In John chapter 4 He was tired and thirsty. He just had a long journey. How do you like to function in the Holy Spirit after having traveled 20 hours and there you are sweating dirty and smelling. Even if you are smelly the Holy Spirit still can come. And there is the woman at the well waiting to be ministered. And you could operate the word of knowledge and say you have 5 husbands and the one whom you live with is not your husband. I mean operating in the word of knowledge after a long journey, Jesus walked in it, Elijah walked in it. And we are talking about how to walk in it.

Many Christians once in a while sit in the heavenly places. Jesus Christ sits at the right hand of God and He invites us to sit on His place. We are sitting there and looking at God the Father. Then we get off the throne and do all the worldly things and then go back and sit on the throne again. God the Father is wondering who is this guy getting on and off all the time. I invited them to sit down and there they are playing musical chairs. That's what a lot of Christians are doing. They are getting on and off the throne. They don't know how to walk in authority. They don't know how to flow in it 24 hours all the time.

So how do we move into that level? You start with *kratos* being established in you until you are so full of the Word like John chapter 1 verse 14 it says that Jesus was the Word made flesh. Until the Word is in our very spirit, the Word is in our mind, the Word is in our physical body, the Word becomes flesh to us. The Word is *kratos* and energized into us.

Jesus also started with *kratos*. In the gospel of Luke chapter 2:40 *And the child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon Him.* The word became strong is the *krataioo* which is the word *kratos*. So Jesus became *kratos* in His life. And He was just a little child. Of all the incidents about the early life of Jesus there is one that stands out clearly - He always was looking for the Word of God. The one incident recorded when how He was left behind in Jerusalem after His earthly parents went home, He was sitting with the teachers *both asking questions and*

answering them. He was a person hungry for the Word in His life. Kratos needs to work into our life. The energizing of God needs to take place within us.

Lets look over to Ephesians chapter one and we see here that it was the co-working of the marriage of *kratos* and *ischus* in His life in verse 19. *And what is the immeasurable greatness of His power (dunamis) in us who believe, according to the working (energes) of His great might (ischus kratos) which He accomplished (energes) in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and made Him sit at His right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come.*

And that is the same power that will quicken us in chapter 2:6 *And raised us up with Him, and made us sit with Him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus.* Now we know very clearly there is a scripture in chapter 1:19 and 2: 6 that tells us that is both *kratos* and *ischus* that worked in Jesus' life and sat Him at the right hand of God. Of course we can imply that will be true of us in Ephesians 2.

But to make it a stronger case I am going to give another scripture for that. Its found in the book of Colossians chapter 2:12 Colossians and Ephesians are the only 2 book where Paul primarily did a study on this 4 Greek words. Col.2:12 *And you were buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised with Him through faith in the working (energes) of God, who raised Him from the dead.* Now he tells you clearly that through faith in the working, through faith in the energizing of God we are able to sit here at the right hand of God. Now in chapter 1 and 2 the energizing does some thing to our inside; it changes us on our inside.

Just to warn us and prepare us Satan has a counterfeit. And he will try to put his wrong energizing away from God through deception. In chapter 2 we are warned about the working of Satan. Even though he has been defeated yet he still seek to work and deceive in chapter 2. Eph. 2:2 *In which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work (energes) in the sons of disobedience.*

See Satan is also trying to energize his people. Which is why many of the crimes and many of the evil that is happening in the world is not just human beings doing it. Human beings are responsible but they have a lot of help from Satan. How could we prove it? In the book of Revelation when Satan is locked up for 1000 years the bible says there was peace on earth. So he is quite responsible for a lot of those things. I don't mean he directly do it. Although some thing he may directly do it. But a lot times directly and indirectly he is behind it. Yet we cannot blame him because we are people with a choice. Human beings are given a free choice to choose God's power or to choose Satan's deception. Remember the book of Romans having been freed from sin we are now slaves of righteousness. We were once slaves in sin but now we are now slaves of righteousness. See we have a free will and with that free will we can choose to whom we yield. And to whom we yield that energy will come out. Many Christians struggle against sin. If they only know the secret, they would not have fallen into sin.

I once spoke with a Christians many months ago because he had a secret sin in his life he could not overcome. He was in bondage for 12 years. I told him that the moment he feels the onslaught get down on his knees and pray. What he doesn't know is that prayer brings *ischus* and it energizes you, just as *kratos* also energizes us. So I said the moment the temptation comes pray immediately, and don't delay in praying. What happen if you are in a supermarket? Just go round praying softly in tongues. "The people will think that I look silly." Don't they look silly in Acts 2 where they said they were drunk? No matter how many years you have been in that sin I can guarantee you if you will not delay even a split second in praying, the temptation would leave you.

Some times people fall in their personal life. Just like Peter walking on the water. It was alright at first but some thing got in the way and he started sinking. Peter didn't say, "My God I am going to wait until this is finished and then pray." It will be too late. As he was going down there wasn't enough time to say *gracious heavenly Father* because by the time he finished with *thy kingdom come* he would be drowning. All he had time for was to cry for help. He prayed instantly. He just cried out to God. Don't wait too long. Let me tell you a secret of your spiritual battle in your Christian walk and how to be an overcomer. The longer you wait to pray the more

the devil energizes the wrong energizing in you.

The devil also energizes a counterfeit form. Look at Eph. 2:2 *the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work (energes) in the sons of disobedience.* If you look over to the book of Rom 7:5 *While we were living in the flesh, our sinful passions, aroused by the law, were at work (energes) in our members to bear fruit for death.* A lot of people have no more energy to overcome Satan's temptation because they delayed too long. They have allowed the energy of the enemy to energize your spirit. Satan is a spirit and he also seeks to energize but he energizes the wrong thing into your spirit. His energizing arouses our flesh.

And every second is important. When you are flying up in the air in an airplane every split second is important. A miss is a mile up there. When you are traveling in the spirit world its important to understand the key of immediate union with God. That's the secret of a Christian life. Every time he hits you, you hit back. When the devil tries to energize the wrong thing you get the right energy by turning to God all the time. Whether it be in your prayer closet or out there in the supermarket, out there in the streets, or in your office, of course you got to learn how to creatively do it. You don't have to stand on your desk and start praying in tongues. I can do all things through Christ who strengthened me. You have to think of creative ways to do it. But we need to do it immediately. Any delay energizes the wrong thing. We are in the spiritual world that continuously flows in both godly and ungodly energy. So we need to allow the energy of God to flow in our life.

Now chapter 1 and 2 can be compared to the brazen altar and the laver. And the energizing of God does 2 things into us the inner working in our life. For comparison we had to look over at the book of Exodus and look at the brazen altar.

Exod. 38:1 onwards *He made the altar of burnt offering also of acacia wood; five cubits was its length, and five cubits its breadth; it was square, and three cubits was its height. He made horns for it on its four corners; its horns were of one piece with it, and he overlaid it with bronze. And he made all the utensils of the altar, the pots, the shovels, the basins, the forks, and the firepans; all its utensils he made of bronze.*

Do you notice that there are 5 instruments to be used with the brazen altar. No.1 the pots, No. 2 the shovels, No. 3 the basins, No. 4 the forks and No. 5 the fire pans. What are they for? The pans and the shovels are used to take up the ash from beneath the brazen altar. When the animal sacrifice is over ashes fall down to the central point of the brazen altar. And the priest would shovel up the ash. Every day there would be hundreds of animals; year after year there would be thousands. If they don't take out the ashes, the ashes would be too much. So they have to clean up the ashes with the shovel. You have the other 2 instruments the basin and the fork. The basin is to carry the blood. When the animal is burnt on the altar they usually cut it and they take the blood for sprinkling. The fork is used to climb on to the animal and hold it fast. The fire pans are to take the fire from the brazen altar to wherever it is necessary in the other parts of the tabernacle. The ashes speak about your old man. Your old man not is crucified, not shall be crucified, your old man has been crucified - past perfect tense. As far as God is concerned our old man has been crucified. That's the old sin nature. It is only ashes but my friends the ashes need to be removed out constantly.

The basin speaks about the power of the blood. As we walk with God you may have a sin of commission but you may have a sin of omission. Then you may not have a sin of deed but you may have a sin of thought. The bible say in I John 1:9 if we confess our sin to Him He is faithful and just to cleanse us from all our sins. We need the constant application of the blood in our minds in our mouth in our deeds and in our lack of obedience. The blood has to be applied. The fork speaks about being crucified all the time, self-denial, to deny the flesh and choose the Spirit. Paul says in Gal. 2:20 *I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live but Christ who lives in me.* We need to learn what it is to live a crucified life, to choose Jesus against our flesh, to deny ourselves.

The fire pans is the energy of the Holy Spirit coming into our body, like Rom. 8 say that the Spirit who dwell in you will give life to your mortal body.

You will notice a difference between Jesus and us when the baptism of the Spirit came upon His life. Two things were different. It was a picture of a dove coming on

Him. And No. 2 there was no record of Him speaking in tongues. For us in Acts 2 there is a picture of fire coming down. No. 2 there is evidence of speaking forth in tongues. Why the fire? If you read and study about fire, it is meant to burn up the sinful nature. Jesus didn't have a sin nature. We have a sin nature. We need the fire He didn't need it.

No. 2 Jesus didn't have an unrenewed mind. We have an unrenewed mind. Paul says if I pray in an unknown tongue my spirit pray but my understanding is unfruitful. The unrenewed doesn't understand. Jesus never had that problem. He never knew sin. And whenever He prays it just come right through His spirit. And there is nothing His mind could not understand. That's why we need the energizing of the Spirit in *kratos* and *ischus*. This is what it does to us. It keeps the old man dead. It shovels the ashes away from the old man. No. 2 it applies the power of the blood constantly to our life. No. 3 the energizing of God crucify our flesh. No. 4 it causes the fire and the life of the Spirit to come on our physical bodies. So our physical bodies come in line with God. That is what *kratos* and *ischus* will do inside us.

Sadhu Sundar Singh says this in his book that prayer is like breathing in the spirit world. Prayer is like breathing in the natural world. If you don't breathe you get suffocated. You get stale air. And a lot of Christians are breathing stale air. They lack prayer in their life. And if they keep at it they will die slowly and grow weak spiritually.

Now looking over at the laver. The laver contains water for cleansing. In the book of Exodus 38:8 *He made the laver of bronze and its base of bronze, from the mirrors of the ministering women who ministered at the door of the tent of meeting.* What is the laver used for? Lets look at some usage of the laver. In Leviticus 1:9 *But its entrails and its legs he shall wash with water. And the priest shall burn the whole on the altar, as a burnt offering, an offering by fire, a pleasing odor to the Lord.* Every time they want to sacrifice an animal they have to take the internal parts and wash it in the laver before they burn it.

And then for a strange reason God in a symbolic form to us today ask them to wash the legs of the animals before the animal is slaughtered. That tells us some thing. The Word of God needs to cleanse us on the inside and it keeps us cleansed on the outside. Because everyday you will do things that are against the Word. Jn. 15:3 Jesus said to His disciples my Word has made you clean. That's on the inside. Then every day we need the Word of God to cleanse us of the pollution of the thoughts and the influences of this world. We need the mind to be daily cleansed and renewed.

We see *kratos* working in our life. So we see *ischus* and we see *kratos* and what it does to us. And when those things are dealt with and when they are energized into our life, we are brought into a position to sit at the right hand of God. You can see how dangerous it is to sit at the right hand of God with sin next to Father God. His holiness will not permit sin and you are seated next to Him all He do is just wink His eye and you are nothing but a piece of charcoal. Sitting at the right hand of God is to be above the influence of Satan; the dominion of Satan; the power of Satan; above the influence of the world; above the gravitational pull of the flesh; is to be above all these things. You are free from the law of sin and death. No wonder some Christians when they pray in tongues much and read the Word they notice that they don't get into the flesh as much. But if they lack those things in their life the flesh starts coming out. We need the constant *kratos* and *ischus* changing our life.

Incidentally chapter 1 and 2 of Ephesians talk about the anointing within. Chapter 3 and 4 talk about the anointing upon. But we need to discover this working in our life. Why is it important? Lets look back over to the book of Ephesians 1:18 he says that I pray that the eyes of your understanding be enlightened. He prays that we may see, that we may know, that we may experience this same *kratos* that raised Jesus Christ, this same *ischus* that raised Jesus Christ from the dead.

And then now He can raise us up to sit us at the right hand of God. And in chapter 2 in verse 1 *And you He made alive, when you were dead through the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience. Among them we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of body and mind, and so we were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind.*

We were yielding to the wrong things and we enjoy the pleasures of sin. But when the energizing of God comes into your life, and *kratos* and *ischus* come into your life you hate sin and you love righteousness. As much as you have sin in the past now you love righteousness. When you did not know God it was easy to sin and fall and be attracted to vices and sinful habits. And God said He wants us to walk in holiness as easily as we once walked in sin. Some time we make it for Christians like it is so hard to walk in holiness. God wants to energize us until our inside are drawn to Him naturally, until the supernatural becomes natural for us. Until walking in righteousness and holiness is one of the easiest things that we have ever experienced in our Christian life. That's what *kratos* and *ischus* will do to our life.

Let me read to you some possible things that will happen in your life just to see the fullness of what God can do. Turn to I Cor. 12 and see how that word *energes* is used so that we can understand that the energizing of God comes from inside and it flows to the outside. It energizes us from the inside first before it energizes on the outside. In verse 6 *And there are varieties of working*. The word working is the word *energema*, which means all that the Holy Spirit do is the result of the energizing force that flows out from us. When we understand that *energes* relates to the working of *kratos* and *ischus* and *exousia* and *dunamis* we notice that unless God works in us God cannot work out of us. If somebody comes today and get healed by the Holy Spirit, the power didn't come just there. The power came long ago when the energy was working in my spirit. If a man of God prays for another and the power of God flows to their life its because the energy was already inside him working in him. And now he is a free channel for the energy to flow through his life into another.

The more we pay the price to allow the energizing of God through our life the easier *energema* comes forth. All the gifts of God are called operations of *energema*, the results of the energizing of God in our life. Verse 6 *but it is the same God who inspires them all in every one*. And look at what the working of miracles is called in verse 10 *To another the working (energema) of miracles*. The working of miracles is called the energizing of miracles. Once upon a time you read *energizing* as *working* but you didn't know how it comes. But today we learned how it came. *Energes*

comes from *kratos* and *ischus* that's how it energizes forth.

Verse 11 *All these are inspired (energes) by one and the same Spirit.* Verse 11 is important because all the gifts of the Spirit come from *energes*. So that if I were to prophesy it is because the *energes* of God have been flowing so much into me. All my flesh is crucified laid on the cross and ashes removed, fire of God burning in my bones and the entrails have been washed in the blood and washed in the word. So that as the energizing of God comes you could prophesy the Word of God. With the energizing of God you could have the word of knowledge. With the energizing of God you could have a word of wisdom. All the gifts of the Spirit are the result of *energes* flowing in your life.

There are different degrees of *energes*. There are 2 levels. One is where the level is working into you. The other is where its working out from you. For some people it has still had to go into them and that is why nothing is coming out. Some people ask why does it so long for the power of God to come out. Because God has to bring in all the drills. Some of them you have to drill very deep to extract it. And God has so many things to remove out of their life for the *energes* to start working.

Let me give you some more scriptures as we close. In Gal. 2 Paul is talking about his apostolic ministry. Why do some ministry run out of energy. They fail in the ministry of the Word and prayer. Peter says in Acts 6 that we will give ourselves to the ministry of the Word and prayer. In Galatians chapter 2 he says in verse 8 *For he who worked (energes) through Peter for the mission to the circumcised worked (energes) through me also for the Gentiles.* Notice the position. He says he energizes not with me, not from me, not through me, but energizes in me. God has to work the energy into our lives first. He energizes the ministry of apostleship in his life and then as he grew and grew one day it starts coming out from the apostle Paul's life.

Finally Ephesians 3 bear in mind that Philippians 4:13 where it says I can do all things through Christ who strengthened me. Eph. 3:20 *Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think.* God is able to do above all that you are asking and thinking. It doesn't mean that *energes* is

just for the five-fold ministry.

Energes is also for you out there in the working world. You can have the energy of God working in your life to be a professional in whatever area. *Energes* will cause you to operate the wisdom of God in your life. Joseph had a secular job. Daniel was a prophet but at the same time had a secular vocation. And they had the energy of God working in their life so that Daniel was 10 times wiser than all the other people. So that Joseph was wiser and stronger than all the others. And he prospered in every thing he set his hands on to. It is because of the energizing of God.

God is able to do above all that you ask or think. However it is limited to some thing. God is limited to how much you allow Him to energize on your inside. The greatness of your future is in proportion to the greatness of what God is doing now in seed form in your spirit. How much you allow it to grow to be nurtured to be stronger and your future is now in your spirit. If you pray and let *kratos* and *ischus* come on your inside, you will see your ministry expanding and growing. Jesus started with *kratos* and *ischus*. You and I have to start there.