

Wow!! What amazing services! You guys be blessed and know I love you!

MYESE

## **Part 18: Elevate Your Life!**

### **Texts:**

**Ephesians 2:6 (NIV)** - *“and God raised us up with Christ and seated us with him in the heavenly realms in Christ Jesus.”*

**Luke 9:1 (NIV)** - “When Jesus had called the Twelve together, he gave them power and authority to drive out all demons and to cure diseases.”

**Psalms 78:18-25 (NIV)** - “They willfully put God to the test by demanding the food they craved. [19] They spoke against God; they said, “Can God really spread a table in the wilderness? [20] True, he struck the rock, and water gushed out, streams flowed abundantly, but can he also give us bread? Can he supply meat for his people?” [21] When the Lord heard them, he was furious; his fire broke out against Jacob, and his wrath rose against Israel, [22] for they did not believe in God or trust in his deliverance. [23] Yet he gave a command to the skies above and opened the doors of the heavens; [24] he rained down manna for the people to eat, he gave them the grain of heaven. [25] Human beings ate the bread of angels; he sent them all the food they could eat.”

**Psalms 37:18-26 (NIV)** - “The blameless spend their days under the Lord’s care, and their inheritance will endure forever. [19] In times of disaster they will not wither; in days of famine they will enjoy plenty. [20] But the wicked will perish: Though the Lord’s enemies are like the flowers of the field, they will be consumed, they will go up in smoke. [21] The wicked borrow and do not repay, but the righteous give generously; [22] those the Lord blesses will inherit the land, but those he curses will be destroyed. [23] The Lord makes firm the steps

of the one who delights in him; [24] though he may stumble, he will not fall, for the Lord upholds him with his hand. [25] I was young and now I am old, yet I have never seen the righteous forsaken or their children begging bread. [26] They are always generous and lend freely; their children will be a blessing."

We have been speaking about the "Twelve Dimensions of Spiritual Authority." Today, we shall continue with Level 6:

## **"Taking Supernatural Authority over Supernatural Resources"**

- A. People are continually looking for new ways to accumulate more money.
  1. **Joke:** Did you hear about the guy who sent this letter:  
Money can buy a house—but not a home;  
Money can buy a bed—but not sleep;  
Money can buy a clock—but not time;  
Money can buy a book—but not knowledge;  
Money can buy medicine—but not health;  
Money can buy sex—but not love;  
So, you see, money isn't everything. And it often causes pain and suffering. I tell you this because I am your friend, and as your friend, I want to take away your pain and suffering. So send me all your money and I will suffer for you!
  2. Have you heard about "Preachers of L.A.," the reality show coming in the fall of 2013 that features Bishop Noel Jones, Bishop Ron Gibson, Bishop Clarence McClendon and three other wealthy Los Angeles pastors? It's all about their lavish lifestyles, their extramarital affairs and children born out of wedlock.

3. While I must distance myself from such terrible abuses, I must still proclaim the truth that God truly does want His people to have financial blessings!
4. Jesus constantly demonstrated incredible, supernatural authority over resources in a totally supernatural way.
  - a. Abraham and his descendants were also given supernatural authority over supernatural resources.
  - b. The Prophet Elijah instructed a widow woman to prepare him a cake with the last of her meal and oil. If she would obey, the prophet stated that the barrel of meal would never be empty nor would the bottle of oil be depleted for the remainder of the famine. Her act of generosity and obedience brought her to a level of supernatural authority over supernatural resources that no one else in Israel experienced.
  - c. Obed-Edom and his family were given supernatural authority over supernatural resources when the Ark of the Covenant was brought into their home.
  - d. Because King Solomon was given supernatural authority over supernatural resources, the 40 years he reigned over Israel produced an era of great prosperity.
  - e. Queen Esther was given supernatural authority over supernatural resources that elevated all her Hebrew people in the kingdom of Persia and Media.
  - f. Ezra and Nehemiah were given supernatural authority over supernatural resources to rebuild Jerusalem and its walls.
5. Still today, God wants to bless His people with supernatural authority over supernatural resources—even while the world around us is experiencing famine, recession, and layoffs.

B. Our text concerning the children of Israel clearly speaks of both supernatural resources and supernatural authority over those resources.

1. Think for a moment about this supernatural provision: for 40 years, a river of water flowed from a rock to sustain more than a million people and their cattle in one of the most hostile deserts on earth!
2. Moses operated with a tremendous supernatural authority.
  - a. The two occasions mentioned in scripture about water flowing from a rock occurred shortly after Israel left Egypt and toward the end of their journey. It was on the second occasion that much attention was given to this rock.
  - b. I don't believe water would have gushed forth from this rock had someone randomly decided to strike it. The water was clearly a supernatural resource produced by Moses' supernatural authority.
  - c. On the first occasion, Moses was instructed to **strike** the rock. When he did, water gushed forth. But on the second occasion, he was told to only **speak** to the rock. Because he was so angry with these rebellious people, he struck the rock as before.
  - d. This episode is actually a very beautiful form of typology, or symbolism. When Christ, who represented the Rock, was struck for mankind, living waters of salvation and restoration were released.
  - e. **1 Corinthians 10:1-4 (NKJV)** - "Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ."
  - f. All we are required to do is simply follow the instructions given to Moses. If we "speak" to the Rock, living water will be released that will restore all that the enemy has stolen from us.

- g. I've often wondered if Moses' disobedience of "breaking" the typology of scripture could have caused Christ to suffer additional, unnecessary wounds.
- h. The Rock also speaks of the hard times, impossible circumstances, difficulties, and challenging situations we will certainly encounter. Again, if we will simply **speak** to the Rock, supernatural resources will be released!

C. As mentioned before, God gives authority over resources in relationship to our particular assignment.

1. Likewise, our assignment is always intended to extend the Kingdom of God. Our ultimate purpose in life is to bring Him glory. Since this is why we were created, He will surely provide the necessary resources at the proper time!
2. However, if a person desires authority over resources to put on a "swag," their motive is for the wrong reason.
3. **Joke:** The \$80,000 Funeral

A woman's husband dies, leaving her with a balance of \$80,000. After all expenses are paid to the funeral home and cemetery, she complains to her closest friend that she has absolutely no money.

The friend says, "How can that be? A few days before he died, you told me he had left you \$80,000. How could you be broke?"

The widow answered, "Well, the funeral cost me \$8,500. And of course, I had to make the obligatory donation to the church, the organist, singers, and all, which was \$1,000. And I spent another \$1,500 for the wake, food and drinks, you know. The rest went for the memorial stone."

The friend asked, "You paid \$69,000 for a memorial stone? My stars, how big was it?"

The widow replied, "Five carats."

4. **James 4:3 (NKJV)** - "You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures."
5. God has the right to supernaturally bless us as He chooses, because He—not men—owns the world's resources. By definition, the truth is that everything He does is "supernatural."
6. If men owned the earth's resources, they would have the right to do as they please with what is their own. They could determine who will be blessed and who will not. But people do not have that right.
7. **Psalms 24:1 (KJV)** - "The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof!"
8. **Haggai 2:8 (NIV)** - "The silver is mine and the gold is mine," declares the Lord Almighty."
9. If God wants to bless you, an employer has no right to bypass you for a promotion or a raise!
  - a. Your business has no right to prevent you from growing or being successful.
  - b. If the Lord is your Shepherd and the world's resources belong to Him, He can direct them to go wherever He wishes, just like the fish that was instructed to retrieve a gold coin from the bottom of a lake.
10. **Deuteronomy 8:18 (NKJV)** - "You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is He who gives you power to get wealth, that He may establish His covenant which He swore to your fathers, as it is this day."