

Hey, everyone! Let's break through to another level!

MYESE!

Pastor Heard

Part 23: Elevate Your Life!

Texts:

Ephesians 2:6 (NIV)- *“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.”

Exodus 3:6 (NKJV) - “Moreover He said, “I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.” And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.”

Exodus 3:9-10 (NKJV) - “Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.” ...

Today, we shall speak on the 11th level of spiritual authority:

"Authority Over Dimensions!"

or

“How to Break Through to a Higher Level”

- A. This dimension of spiritual authority gives us power to command breakthroughs.
1. Many people feel trapped by a glass ceiling that will not allow them to rise any higher.
 2. Whether that ceiling is a troubled marriage, poor health, office politics that prevent a promotion, or the enemy's lie that they have peaked out, it just seems impossible to ever move any higher.
 3. However, ever so often someone will show up from that level where we *used* to be—and they *made* it! They had a **breakthrough!**
 4. God is all about elevation! Breakthroughs are very necessary, especially when we find ourselves trapped in a lower level than He intended for us.
- B. Every aspect of life has its own set of dimensions.
1. Warren Buffet, Bill Gates and Carlos Slim are at a much higher level of wealth than Donald Trump.
 2. LeBron James' level of talent is much higher than most NBA players.
 3. An aeronautical engineer in NASA's space program has attained a much higher level of expertise than the Wright brothers who launched their first powered flight back in 1903.
 4. Because of genetic research and other advances, medical science is certainly at a different level than when the polio vaccine was first discovered by Jonas Salk in 1952.
 5. What about the media and entertainment? Computer generated special effects have propelled movie franchises, such as "The Transformers" with Shia LeBouf or "Mission Impossible" with Tom Cruse, to a much higher level than Charlie Chaplin, Buster Keaton, and other silent film actors.
 6. To prove the different levels of mastery and productivity, within the same skill set you'll find numerous giftings and levels of ability.
 7. Every aspect of life—and literally everything we do—has different levels.
- C. God has always sought to elevate and advance people to higher levels.

1. In our text, God precisely went looking for Moses. As their leader, Moses himself had to be elevated before he could be commissioned to help Israel become a nation. The Promised Land could never be claimed as an inheritance while the Israelites thought of themselves as slaves.
2. This elevation process actually began in Genesis 12 when God promised to make Abraham into a great nation and to bless the nations of the world through him.
 - a. Abraham “broke through” to a level far above the others of his day. By so doing, his descendants were also privileged to enjoy the benefits of that higher level.
 - b. God wanted to elevate the nation even higher than what Abraham had experienced.
3. In their first meeting, Abraham was still a stranger in the land. Now it was time for God to reveal Himself as the God of his descendants and for the Promised Land to become their possession.
4. But there was much more! After entering the Promised Land, the plan was to help them discover an even higher dimension—beyond wealth, lands and possessions.
5. In that dimension, He could be revealed as “The Lord God Jehovah,” their **true** inheritance.

D. The God of Glory wanted a personal relationship with **all** of Israel and to become their personal treasure with limitless value.

1. This is why the tribe of Levi was forbidden to inherit property in the Promised Land. God would be their inheritance. This was meant to be a prophetic model of how God would become every citizen's treasure in the nation of Israel.
2. Because he was a worshipper, God revealed a beautiful concept through David. Though he was not of the tribe of Levi, David broke through to a

dimension the Israelites of his day—and even today—did not comprehend: “there remains a rest for the people of Israel.”

3. In **Psalm 16:5-6 (NKJV)**, David spoke these words: "O LORD, You are the portion of my inheritance and my cup; You maintain my lot. The lines have fallen to me in pleasant places; Yes, I have a good inheritance . . ."
4. God became David's inheritance! He found a treasure in knowing a God who far exceeds houses, possessions or lands.
5. Elisha also understood that the Kingdom is composed of different dimensions. After taking just one look at Elijah, he wanted a double portion of the anointing in which he operated!

E. There are definite advantages and benefits for attaining these “higher levels.” As they say, everything flows downhill . . . right?

1. **Joke:** “Let the Boss have the first say!”

A sales rep, an administrative clerk and their manager are all walking to lunch when they discover an antique oil lamp. They rub it—and a Genie appears in a puff of smoke. The Genie says, "I usually only grant three wishes, so I'll give each of you one wish each."

"Me first! . . . me first!" says the clerk. "I want to be in the Bahamas, driving a speedboat, without a care in the world."

Poof! And she's gone!

Astonished, the sales rep says, "Me next! . . . me next! I want to be in Hawaii, relaxing on the beach with my personal masseuse, an endless supply of Pina Coladas and the love of my life."

Poof! And he's gone!

"Okay, you're up next," the Genie says to the manager.

The manager replies, "I want those two back in the office after lunch."

Moral of the story: The boss should *always* have the FIRST say. It's better to call the shots from the top than to be at the bottom with someone else calling them for you!

2. Why is this true? Because whatever is spoken from a higher level of authority is always more forceful and impacting than from a lower one.
3. For example, when Warren Buffet speaks about investments and finances, he does so with a different authority than a bank teller—or even a bank president.
4. For the same reason, when God elevates one of His children, it benefits all of His Kingdom. The message of a person at a higher level has a far greater impact than from someone at the same or a lower level.

F. And trust me....there will always be higher levels! If that's true in the natural world, as demonstrated in computer generated special effects or genetic research, and if it was true in the Old Testament with Moses, David, Elisha and others, it would certainly be true today in the Kingdom of God!

1. This is a word for those who want and need another breakthrough, but you keep hitting the so-called "glass ceiling."
2. You not only desire a breakthrough, but you want what Apple began and Samsung is now doing with smartphones. They're advancing from "breakthrough to breakthrough!"
3. Could that be possible? Yes it could! I've shared before that the Greek word for "mansion" in John 14:2 means *rooms* or *a place to stay*.
 - a. **John 14:2 (NIV)** - "My Father's house has many rooms; if that were not so, would I have told you that I am going there to prepare a place for you?"
4. We must first understand that the Father's "house" refers to the Kingdom—not going to Heaven. It's about being *in Christ*.
 - a. In the Hebrew, the word "rooms" means *places to stay*, or it could mean *dimensions*.
 - b. When you are born again, you enter the Father's House or family and move to places of residence.

5. In fact, you can *tread water* the remainder of your spiritual journey if you so choose. You're not required to reach for new levels.
6. The same is true with the level of your finances or anointing. You can remain a 30-fold Christian the rest of your life. But if you are really determined, you can move from 30, to 60, to a 100-fold increase.

G The Kingdom is filled with various dimensions. In the Father's House, let's think of some of those **rooms**:

1. For example, the Bible speaks of going from "faith to faith."
 - a. **Romans 1:17a (NKJV)** - "For in it the righteousness of God is revealed from faith to faith."
2. Scripture also mentions going from "glory to glory."
 - a. **1 Corinthians 3:18 (NKJV)** - "But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord."
3. A believer can also progress to greater levels of anointing.
 - a. David was anointed on three different occasions, each time at a higher level.
 - b. In the church, I've observed different levels of anointing in worship, in leadership, in singing and even the ministry of the Word.
4. As mentioned, Jesus spoke of different levels of productivity and increase—some will produce 30-fold, some 60, and others 100-fold.
5. There are also levels of grace, of giving, and even sacrifice.

H. Each level can open a new world of possibilities, potential, and fulfillment. I believe various levels can also enable us to bring greater honor and pleasure to our Heavenly Father.

1. Just as we're pleased when our children grow, excel and achieve great things, so is our Heavenly Father joyful when we break through to higher levels of achievement, anointing and devotion.
2. Since He created us to excel, we can do all things—through Him!
 - a. **Ephesians 2:10 NKJV** - "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."
3. When we do well and become a better testimony of His greatness, it makes Him look good!
4. I do not want to remain at the same level the rest of my life, whether it's my anointing, my relationships, finances, worship, prayer life, business, leadership—or anything else. I want to keep breaking through to the next level!

I. For Israel to reach their next level, they had to go through three stages: captivity under Pharaoh, the wilderness, and the Promised Land.

1. Because the kingdom of darkness is hierarchal, every new level in the Kingdom of God also has its own **pharaoh** who tries to prevent us from being elevated to the next level.
2. So, you ask God to elevate you and He says, "Okay." But as you approach the top rung of the ladder, the first thing you see is a new pharaoh, just waiting to send you into bondage again. If you complain, "But God, I asked to be elevated to a new level," just expect Him to reply, "I did!"
3. Every pharaoh seeks to limit and hold you back; God's plan is to elevate you!
4. How do you overcome a pharaoh? You must deal with it by seeking a greater application of the Blood—which will involve a greater **surrender**.
5. Higher levels never demand *less* commitment—always **more!**
6. A lesser degree of devotion only causes you to become a slave to the next pharaoh.

7. Think of how many people have prayed to attain a higher level in their walk with God, their business or career. Then when it happens, they collapse under the bondage of the new pharaoh and are no longer the Christian they were before the promotion.

J. Each new level also has its own wilderness and Promised Land.

1. When you succeed in conquering the pharaoh at one level, you will then be transferred into the wilderness of that level.

a. Of course, you won't know what to do next. You've learned to operate at a lower level, but you'll desperately need God's help when you come to the next wilderness. You've never passed this way before!

b. To pass through the wilderness you will require a fresh anointing. The anointing from the old level won't work here.

2. How can you receive a new anointing? By receiving a fresh word from the Anointed One.

3. To move from the wilderness into the next Promised Land, you'll need a new encounter with His Glory.

a. A Promised Land cannot be conquered through human effort or ability. Supernatural intervention is the only way!

b. A new encounter with His Glory demands that you move to a new level in worship.

K Every new level always requires more of God—not less. It's time to rediscover who God is to you.

1. And at each new level, you must also rediscover who **you** are!

2. You cannot live in the next level as you have in the present one.

3. Saul failed to remain in the dimension of kingship because he never redefined who God was to him, nor did he change his own self-image. Consequently, he remained insecure and eventually lost his throne.

4. At each level of promotion, David succeeded in redefining who he was.
 - a. From a boy defending his flock from lions and bears, he grew to a young warrior defending God's flock from giants.
 - b. His transition from being a shepherd of sheep to a shepherd of wayward men in the wilderness was also successful.
 - c. Then from a shepherd of men, he advanced to shepherding a nation as the king of Judah.
 - d. And finally, he transitioned from shepherding a nation as Judah's king to shepherd an empire—as the king of Israel.
 5. Once you break free from the bondage of the pharaoh of poverty and you're driving a nice car and have money in the bank, you must come to know God as your Lord—just like you depended upon Him to get you from one week to the next.
 6. To stay at each succeeding level, you must change the way you think. If you continue thinking as you did before, like Saul, you will revert back to the old level.
 7. This is why a desperate drug addict can turn to God to overcome their addiction—and then revert to the same addiction. They must never perceive God merely as Someone to whom they cry for help when in trouble.
 8. If you're ever set free from an addiction, Christ must never become just a Deliverer, but your Friend and Lord. Love Him for who He is—not just what He did for you!
 9. If you ever know Him as the One who sustained you in the valley of bitter losses, you must then come to know Him as the One who fills you with joy on the mountaintop!
- L. These stages can occur for both individuals and nations. Every nation that gains independence from a foreign power or colonial force must go through this process.

1. For example, following the War of Independence from Great Britain, America had to go through this same process. Even though we won that war in 1783, we did not really define ourselves as a nation until after the Civil War in 1865.
2. We also had to move to another level in the years following World War II, especially during the days of JFK and Martin Luther King, Jr.
 - a. During those days, God began to impact all of Christendom. Revival broke out in literally every denomination!
3. We could have moved to yet another level three decades ago, but during the 80's and 90's, Americans seemed to lose their way. We failed to redefine our values and who we were supposed to be—but more importantly, who God was to us.
4. Some nations have fared very poorly following their independence from a colonial power or dictator, simply because they did not take the time to redefine themselves or discover who God was to them.
 - a. Look at what is happening right now in Egypt.
 - b. After independence, many East European, African, Asian and South American nations continue to be plagued by problems of poor governance and corruption. Though they are now free, they fail to redefine their values, who they are as a people, or detail their purpose as a nation.
 - c. Consequently, they are condemned to remain as they were until a strategy can be developed to resolve these questions.
 - d. We can't assume that trading one pharaoh for another is freedom. It isn't!
 - e. The thought may be abhorrent to Americans, but I've actually heard many African people—and quite a few of their leaders—state that their countries would be better off if they had continued to be ruled by colonialists!

M. The Promised Land is basically the fulfillment of your dream. It is a place of blessing and safety, peace and happiness.

1. This is where you become content and satisfied.
2. Sadly, do you know what is sure to happen? One day you will realize that this level is as far as you can go.
3. You have peaked out and are now hungry for something more. What was once your Promised Land has now become a glass ceiling that limits your progress.
4. It will happen in your ministry, career, business, marriage—and even your relationship with God!
 - a. At the beginning of your career, you imagined that making a certain salary or being promoted to a certain level would make life wonderful. And it was, when you first achieved it. But now, it no longer satisfies.
 - b. That's when you begin to realize there is another level past the one you've attained—and it's time to reach higher.

N. Tell your pharaoh that God says, "You've got to let My child go!" It's time for me to tackle my next level.