

Tremendous services today! I can't wait to complete this series next week!  
Love and blessings,

Pastor Heard

## **Part 13 – Feel the Passion!**

### **Texts:**

**Ecclesiastes 9:7 (The Message)** - "Seize life!"

**Hebrews 4:14-16 (KJV)** - "Seeing then that we have a great high priest, that is passed into the heavens, Jesus the Son of God, let us hold fast our profession. [15] For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities; but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin. [16] Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy, and find grace to help in time of need."

## **Part 10 – Incredible Keys to Incredible Breakthroughs!**

**(Part 9: Compassion – was taught last week by Andrew Heard)**

- A. When the Spirit of Almighty God abides within a believer, resources are provided that are not accessible to the average person.
  - 1. Think about it . . . the Creator of heaven and earth, . . . the One who spoke the worlds into existence, . . . lives within you and me!
  - 2. Unlike others, we are LIMITLESS because of the One who lives within. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us!

3. When you're ***in*** Christ, you are amped! . . . you are wired! . . . you are empowered! . . . you can do all things! Who would ever want to be *ordinary* again?
4. If you're ***in*** Christ, you can experience supernatural breakthroughs in every area. Since our relationship with Him is totally supernatural, why shouldn't we expect to see the miraculous?
5. After researching extraordinary breakthroughs of many Bible characters, I've observed that it was always their great passion that moved God. Consequently, He empowered them to experience incredible things that otherwise would never have happened.
6. We, too, can move God to grant us supernatural breakthroughs.

B. God **wants** you to succeed!

1. Everything that has ever been created either solved a problem or satisfied an existing need.
  - a. For instance, when someone grew weary of standing and couldn't find a stump or stone to sit on, the idea for a chair was conceived.
  - b. Automobiles and airplanes were created for transportation. Before that time, few people traveled more than 25 miles from their birthplace in an entire lifetime!
  - c. Computers were created to remedy the problem of storing and retrieving data information.
  - d. Believe it or not, mobile phones were meant to solve a communication problem—not for Facebook or selfies.
2. Similarly, God created you and me to remedy an existing need—our destiny. Before you were ever born, He determined what your destiny would be, just as He did for Jeremiah. Even before Christ came to earth, He had been designated as "the Lamb of God."

3. Furthermore, everything you will ever need to fulfill the destiny and purpose for which you were created was released into the heavenly realm the moment you were created.
    - a. He foresaw every resource, blessing, relationship, miracle or victory that you would ever require, and then released it into the heavenly realm.
    - b. The enemy constantly seeks to disrupt and prevent the fulfillment of your destiny by stealing the necessary resources God has already released for you. He wants to steal your family, your health, anointing, ministry or anything else that would help you accomplish what God intended for you to do.

C. It's very important to develop a life plan to help fulfill the purpose for which we were born.

1. A major error in the Western educational system is failing to teach our children at an early age to determine their destiny and build a life plan. In fact, our Western culture believes that building a life plan may be too difficult for a child. But the truth is, it's even more painful to reach adulthood and have no clue about why you were born!
2. In cultures such as the Far East, China, and Japan, children are taught about their destiny at an early age. This is why the U.S. lags behind other nations educationally. It's also why Chinese youth are so incredible in gymnastics; their training began at a very young age.
3. Jewish mothers perfectly understand this concept. They may introduce a 7 year-old boy as, "This is my son, the brain surgeon," or an 8 year-old girl, "And this is my daughter, the nuclear physicist!"
4. By failing to recognize our calling, decisions are sure to be made that will hinder us from reaching our destiny.
  - a. Be sure that your life plan moves you forward, rather than setting you back. Then make life decisions consistent with your plan.

- b. Obviously, some mid-course adjustments will have to be made along the way.

5. **Joke:** "The Accident"

There was this Hell's Angel riding down the road on his motorcycle last winter. Since his leather jacket had a broken zipper, he finally stopped the bike and thought to himself, "Man, I can't drive anymore with this cold air hitting my chest." So he decided to put his coat on backwards to block the cold air. As he continued the ride, he came to an unexpected bend in the road, lost control and wrecked his bike. It so happened, he landed right in front of Boudreaux's home.

When Boudreaux saw what happened, he called the State Police to report the accident. The trooper on the phone asked, "Is the guy showing any sign of life?"

"Well," Boudreaux explained, "he was until I turned his head around the right way!"

D. **Key No. 11** - Rizpah moved God because of EXTRAORDINARY INTERCESSION!

1. **2 Samuel 21:10 (NKJV)** - "Now Rizpah the daughter of Aiah took sackcloth and spread it for herself on the rock, from the beginning of harvest until the late rains poured on them from heaven. And she did not allow the birds of the air to rest on them by day nor the beasts of the field by night."
2. Before discussing this verse, allow me to establish a foundation for this important subject.

E. Among the twelve types of prayer recorded in scripture, there are two categories: devotional and strategic. I would classify "intercession" as a strategic prayer.

1. Here are the seven types of devotional prayers:
  - a. **Prayers of Thanksgiving:** We enter His gates with thanksgiving.

- b. **Laudatory Prayers:** We come into His courts with praise. (Note the progression here).
  - c. **Prayers of Contrition:** The natural consequence of drawing near to God is to see our own imperfections in comparison with His perfection. This leads us to pray for cleansing.
  - d. **Prayers of Petition:** This prayer is for "daily bread." Many fail to experience answers and give up praying altogether, simply because they skip over Prayers 1, 2, and 3 and go directly to their needs. Why would God answer a prayer offered in an arrogant manner when you haven't taken the time to thank Him for what He's already done?
  - e. **Dedicatory Prayers:** These prayers are an indication of spiritual maturity. We have begun to realize that God not only gives daily bread, but everything else we need. And if all our needs come **from** Him, they must actually belong **to** Him—not us! This helps us surrender ownership of "things" to Him, rather than believing our blessings are the result of being clever or working harder than anyone else.
  - f. **Prayers of Commitment:** The difference between dedicatory prayers (surrendering ownership of our 'things' to God) and prayers of commitment is that we have begun to recognize His ownership of our lives as well. True spiritual maturity acknowledges that I belong to Him. I am not my own; I've been bought with a price.
  - g. **Prayers of Intimacy:** This is where real worship begins!
2. These are the five types of strategic prayers:
  - a. **Prayers of Intercession:** We will return to this in a moment.
  - b. **Prayers of Agreement:** Where two or three agree in prayer, it shall be done!
  - c. **Declarative Prayers:** After interceding and entering into agreement, we now look beyond the physical realm, understanding

that reality is greater than what can be "seen." What does God say about my situation? If we can understand this concept, we can change the physical reality into what God has spoken. Declare God's Word rather than accepting what a situation appears to be. This is why scripture teaches the weak to say, "I am strong," and the blind to say, "I can see!" It's also why Peter could say to the sick, "In spite of your fever, by His stripes you WERE healed." By speaking God's Word and praying declarative prayers, your circumstances can manifest what God has already decreed!

- d. **Warfare Prayers:** This prayer can recover what the enemy is trying to destroy. God's promises can become a powerful force to conquer the kingdom of darkness and enable you to declare, "The blood of Jesus is against you. Your kingdom is coming down!"
- e. **Governmental Prayers:** These prayers have nothing to do with your favorite candidate or political party. It's about praying for the Kingdom of God to conquer and replace the kingdom of darkness.

F. Now, let's return to the story of Rizpah and her extraordinary intercession.

- 1. 'Intercede' means: to stand between for the purpose of protection, benefit, preservation or reconciliation. You can intercede between God and man, between men, or even between a person and the enemy.
- 2. In this case, Rizpah stood between her two boys and the beasts of the field and other creatures that would try to mutilate and desecrate the bodies of her dead sons.
- 3. Like millions of women throughout the centuries, Rizpah had been involved in the holocaust of war. Bereaved of her husband and children, now she was forced to battle loneliness and poverty.
- 4. Rizpah's empty heart and home were the result of Saul's arrogance, pride and self-will in the breaking of a treaty made many years previously between Joshua and the Gibeonites.

5. Although the idolatrous Gibeonites had deceived Joshua (see Joshua, chapter 9), he had made a treaty and oath sealed in the name of the Lord God Jehovah that Israel would never destroy the Gibeonites by the sword.
6. However, when Saul became king, he resorted to an ancient strategy of 'misdirection' to draw attention away from his personal failures. Saul blamed the Gibeonites and their idolatrous ways for God's favor to be withdrawn from Israel.
7. After convincing the people, Saul began attacking the Gibeonites as the villains. Treating them as heathen who had settled in a holy land, his goal was to annihilate them. But a short time later, Saul met his own death for failing to obey God.
8. When David became king and a famine spread over the land, he inquired of the Lord for His displeasure. The answer was to repair the dishonored covenant with the Gibeonites. When David approached their rulers, they sought judgment for Joshua's violated oath of protection. As compensation, the Gibeonites demanded that seven sons of Saul should be hanged "before the Lord" to atone for wrongs done to them.
9. David never prayed for God's direction to address this problem. Instead, innocent sons were required to suffer punishment for their father's sins.

G. Five of Saul's sons by Merab (whom Mical cared for after her sister's death) and two sons by Rizpah were hanged upon a hilltop for all to see.

1. Thus, vengeance was withdrawn from God's hands and seven innocent men were executed in the name of God by revengeful men.
2. Their cruel slaughter was not to appease divine wrath, but to satisfy human thirst for vengeance. One thing that history affirms is that innocent people often suffer for their rulers' sins.
3. For five months, Rizpah remained on that hilltop, sleeping on the ground and driving away birds and wild beasts to prevent the desecration of her sons' dead bodies. For FIVE MONTHS! That is intercession!

4. Finally, someone informed King David of what was happening. He was so moved by Rizpah's actions, men were immediately sent to retrieve her sons' bodies and give them a proper burial.

H. Through prayers of intercession, we can also move our King to act on our behalf!

1. Though King David was an ordinary, imperfect man, he was moved to action. How much more will our King of kings and Lord of lords respond when He sees His people intercede and refuse to allow the enemy to rob what God has given us!
2. We need intercessors today! Our world is in trouble. Our families are in trouble. Our economy is in trouble. Where are the intercessors who will move God?
3. Like Rispah, we must rise up and say to the enemy, "You can't have what God has given me! You can't have my children or my marriage! You can't have my health, my job, my business, or my blessing! You can't have my anointing, my ministry, or my destiny! Everything I have belongs to Him!"