

Hey everyone,

Keep expecting those breakthroughs and always remember: in Christ, we are more than mere men and women!

Love and blessings,

Pastor Heard

## **Part 9: 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 5 - How to Have a Breakthrough in 2014!**

- A. The last couple of weeks I've taught about extraordinary keys that bring extraordinary breakthroughs.
  - 1. The reason for this teaching is to help us move beyond the human limitations that we all possess into the realm of supernatural empowerment by an all-powerful God.
    - a.. **Ephesians 3:20-21 (NKJV)** - "Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to

the power that works in us, to Him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen.”

2. God does not want us to live with the same limitations others must live with. In Christ, our lives are meant to be limitless!
  - a. **1 Corinthians 3:3 (NKJV)** - “Are you not carnal and behaving like mere men?”
  - b. Only in Christ can each of us reach our full potential!
  - c. **John 10:10 (NKJV)** - “The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”
3. We must understand that God always thinks strategically. Rather than wishing or hoping for something, He develops a plan to claim it.
4. To help us become all we were meant to be, God's strategy is for the Holy Spirit to continually work in our lives and empower us.
5. If you really want something, develop a strategy to obtain it.
6. **Joke:** Speaking of strategies . . .

A single young man was seated beside a beautiful woman on an airplane. From all appearances, she was everything he had ever wanted in a woman. Glancing at her hand, he noticed she wasn't wearing a wedding ring, so he struck up a conversation. His first question was, “What kind of man do you like?”

Her reply was that she liked Native American men because they were so noble and strong. But she also liked Jewish men because they were so business-minded and successful. However, she was quite fond of good ole country boys because they were so down to earth and honest.

Then she asked him a question. "My name is Janice. What's your name?" With a big smile, he replied, "My name is Chief Sitting Bull Goldstein, but my friends all call me Bubba."

7. Our discussion today is about strategies used by various people in the Bible that persuaded God to grant them an extraordinary breakthrough.

8. The key for David's breakthrough from being a mere shepherd boy to a king was his **extraordinary spiritual hunger**. In return, God did some extraordinary things for David!
9. Abraham's key was quite different. He moved God to act extraordinarily by offering an **extraordinary sacrifice**.

B. Key No. 3 - Hannah moved God with her **extraordinary prayer!**

1. **1 Samuel 1:10 (NKJV)** - "And she was in bitterness of soul, and prayed to the LORD and wept in anguish."
2. Prayer moves God! In fact, when prayer is offered from the "Secret Place," it could be the most powerful thing we will ever do!
3. How unfortunate it is that so many of God's people either fail to pray—or they offer prayers without first entering His Presence through worship.
4. Prayers that are coupled with fasting can have an even greater impact.
  - a. **Matthew 17:21 (NKJV)** - "However, this kind does not go out except by prayer and fasting."
5. I love the story told by the rabbis of two businessmen who prayed daily. Though very busy, one learned that he felt so much better after praying, he was at peace with life and the world around him. Each day, he looked forward to prayer and couldn't wait to seek God at the appointed time. The other man was also extremely busy, but he purposely kept his daily commitment to seek God. Yet, he was often interrupted by a constantly ringing phone and distracting thoughts of how he could better spend his time. But as I said, he faithfully kept his commitment to pray every day even though it seemed he hadn't accomplished much.  
So, the rabbis ask, which man was most pleasing to God? Was it the man who loved to pray and looked forward to it each day? Or was it the man who was always busy, frustrated, and feeling that his prayers had not done much good?

The rabbis say that the second man pleased God most. The first prayed for the personal satisfaction and benefits he received, but the second man prayed, not for personal benefit, but to please God!

6. Hannah prayed until she "prayed through!" You can also pray until you "pray through" about something. That means that you know,...that you know,...that you know,...that you have touched God!
7. Hannah prayed until she felt a breakthrough and that God had heard her prayer. When Elijah prayed, his breakthrough caused fire to fall from Heaven. Daniel prayed until his breakthrough defeated the enemy. Jesus prayed until His breakthrough summoned ministering angels to strengthen and empower Him. The disciples prayed until the Holy Spirit came!
  - a. **Hosea 10:12b (NKJV)** - "For it is time to seek the LORD, Till He comes and rains righteousness on you."
8. Sometimes you have to clear your calendar, turn off the TV, put away your mobile phone—and just pray until you touch Heaven!

C. Key No. 4: Paul and Silas moved God with their ***extraordinary worship!***

1. **Acts 16:25 (NKJV)** - "But at midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them."
2. King Jehoshaphat moved God with the same extraordinary worship!
  - a. **2 Chronicles 20:22 (NKJV)** - "Now when they began to sing and to praise, the LORD set ambushes against the people of Ammon, Moab, and Mount Seir, who had come against Judah; and they were defeated."
  - b. Both of these stories reveal how God is especially moved by worship that is offered when we least desire to or have no motivation to give it!

3. The type worship I'm referring to is not praise. I'm talking about that dimension **beyond** praise when merely entering into His Presence ignites true worship!
4. As taught previously, the three dimensions of worship can be seen in the structure of the Tabernacle. The Tabernacle provides an excellent illustration of fallen man's approach to God: the Outer Court, Inner Court and the Most Holy Place. David, Moses and others referred to the third dimension as the "Secret Place."
5. An indirect reference to these three dimensions of worship can also be found in the Psalms:
  - a. **Psalm 100:4 (NKJV)** – "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, And into His courts with praise. Be thankful to Him, and bless His name."
  - b. We enter the "gates" (Outer Court) with words of thanksgiving, which turns our attention toward God.
  - c. From there, we enter His "courts," (Inner Court – Holy Place) with praise. This is where we sing, clap, or even bow before Him.
  - d. Finally, we approach the Most Holy Place by being "thankful unto Him and blessing His name." Our most intimate moments of worship are in the Most Holy Place or "Secret Place."
6. God is most blessed when we are most caught up in His Presence. Remember, His purpose for creating us was to show us His love and allow us the privilege of abiding in His Presence.
7. Jesus made that clear in **John 4:24 (NKJV)** - "God is Spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth."
  - a. The Greek word for worship is proskynéo (pros-koo-neh'-o), which means: to kiss, like a dog licking his master's hand.
  - b. The verb describes what happens when a little dog hears his master enter the door at the end of a long day. The little fellow

gets all excited and begins running back and forth and then licks his master's hand. This is a great illustration of true worship!

8. Many people believe the words "worship" and "praise" are synonyms. They aren't. Worship isn't singing, clapping, kneeling, bowing, or any other demonstration. Those actions express our praise. Worship comes from the heart when we encounter God in His glory and majesty!
9. Extraordinary worship moves God extraordinarily! When you lovingly embrace and refuse to let Him go, you have reached that place. Such devoted worship moves God to act on your behalf.
10. Notice the hidden meaning in the 91<sup>st</sup> Psalm.
  - a. **Psalm 91:7 (NKJV)** - "A thousand falling at your side and ten thousand at your right hand but it will not come near you."
  - b. This is the result of worshipping in the Secret Place.
11. ***Extraordinary worship moves God to do extraordinary things!***