

HOLY SPIRIT POWER

June 10th, 2018 - Holy Spirit Power

Part 9

We pray that you're being stirred in your spirit, seeking the Lord and asking the Holy Spirit for his gifts, to be filled with his power as we continue teaching about the nine gifts that he gives freely to us, his church. Today we'll get clearer understanding on the Word of Knowledge.

First though, let's start by reading from **Isaiah 55:1-12** which is an invitation to you to an abundant life in Christ Jesus. It says; *"Ho! Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you who have no money, come, buy and eat. Yes, come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. Why do you spend money for what is not bread, and your wages for what does not satisfy? Listen carefully to Me, and eat what is good, and let your soul delight itself in abundance. Incline your ear, and come to Me. Hear, and your soul shall live; and I will make an everlasting covenant with you—the sure mercies of David. Indeed I have given him as a witness to the people, a leader and commander for the people. Surely you shall call a nation you do not know, and nations who do not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, and the Holy One of Israel; for He has glorified you."* Seek the Lord while He may be found, call upon Him while He is near. Let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, and He will have mercy on him; and to our God, for He will abundantly pardon. *"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways, and My thoughts than your thoughts. "For as the rain comes down, and the snow from heaven, and do not return there, but water the earth, and make it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower and bread to the eater. So shall My word be that goes forth from My mouth it shall not return to Me void, but it shall accomplish what I please, and it shall prosper in the thing for which I sent it. "For you shall go out with joy, and be led out with peace; the mountains and the hills shall break forth into singing before you, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."*

This abundant life that is promised to us, goes beyond all that you've toiled for during the week, beyond the pleasure of the bed that you sleep in at night, or in the car you drive, the trade that you have or the great wealth in your bank account, it's beyond the success of your children, family or education. It's supernatural and goes way beyond the natural realm.

John 16:13 says; *"However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come."* This is a guarantee that when the Holy Spirit chooses to reveal knowledge to you – which is one of the nine gifts - it will be a supernatural fragment of divine knowledge to you, not natural knowledge.

If you look at this term, 'tell you things to come', it can almost sound like the worldly and demonic fortune teller or soothsayer. Remember, those who practice these things are copycats of those things that God had established which we see in operation in both the Old and New Testament. The devil, knowing that he could receive worship from it, immobilized psychic mediums through witchcraft. This has given people power and satan gains influence in their lives. But it's a false power, not the true source of holy power which is the Holy Spirit. You don't want an imposter or an imitator or a copy of the real thing speaking into your life – you want the Holy Spirit.

Hebrews 4:12 says; *"For the word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the division of soul and spirit, and of joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."*

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In the Old Testament, the Lord was telling Elisha the prophet what the king of Aram was speaking about in the privacy of his own bedroom – II Kings 6:12. This Word of Knowledge will reveal what you're doing in secret. This gift is placed in the body of Christ for its edification, not necessarily to make an expose of sin, although it may do that when needed, but is to edify, and as we studied last week – it's to be done in love.

So if a person who is gifted with the Word of Knowledge, receives a Word for someone in their church, it would probably be wise to take that person aside privately, share the word that the Holy Spirit has given, and then pray over and for that person, not exposing that person to the whole church. However, if it needs to be done publicly, then the Lord would reveal that also the person to whom he's given the Word to, to set an example of in the church. This gift, when in operation, can't be stopped. The Holy Spirit will just drop a Word into your heart about someone, and it may almost seem so off the cuff that you may miss it because your natural mind will argue with what has been shown to you. But the Holy Spirit will continue to nudge you to be obedient and share what he's given to you for that person or persons.

1 Corinthians 12:7-8 says; *“But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all: for to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, to another the word of knowledge through the same Spirit.”*

The gift of knowledge is given selectively to individuals chosen by the Holy Spirit to reveal a supernatural understanding of facts that they have not known by natural means. It doesn't come through town gossip or a family member who knew something and then told you. No, it's supernatural – not natural.

1 Corinthians 13:9 says; *“For we know in part and we prophesy in part.”* We don't know everything, that's why it's done in part. The Word of Knowledge is defined as a portion of divine knowledge. It's not only for exposing sin but could be a warning of things coming in the future.

The Word of Knowledge is not information we acquire thru studying books, including the Bible, however the operation of the gift should line up with the basic understanding of Bible doctrines, otherwise it will lead to the practice of divination and fortune telling involving satanic familiar spirits and not the Holy Spirit.

2 Timothy 2:15 says; *“Be diligent to present yourself approved to God, a worker who does not need to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth.”* The Gift of Knowledge is not to replace the study of the Holy Bible, but rather accompany it with knowledge for specific situations.

Again, the Apostle Paul says in **1 Corinthians 12:4-7**; *“There are diversities of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are differences of ministries, but the same Lord. And there are diversities of activities, but it is the same God who works all in all. But the manifestation of the Spirit is given to each one for the profit of all.”*

This gift can operate in its own distinct individual way or it can operate thru the other Gifts of the Spirit. An example in the Old Testament is in **1 Samuel 3:11-14** where the audible voice of God speaks to Samuel when he was a young boy. It says; *“Then the Lord said to Samuel: “Behold, I will do something in Israel at which both ears of everyone who hears it will tingle. In that day I will perform against Eli all that I have spoken concerning his house, from beginning to end. For I have told him that I will judge his house forever for the iniquity which he knows, because his sons made themselves vile, and he did not restrain them. And therefore I have sworn to the house of Eli that the iniquity of Eli's house shall not be atoned for by sacrifice or offering forever.”*

A Gift of Knowledge is used by Joseph to interpret a Pharaoh's dream as we read in **Genesis 41:25-36**; *“Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, “The dreams of Pharaoh are one; God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do: The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good heads are seven years; the dreams are one. And the seven thin and ugly cows which came up after them are seven years, and the seven empty heads blighted by*

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the east wind are seven years of famine. This is the thing which I have spoken to Pharaoh. God has shown Pharaoh what He is about to do. Indeed seven years of great plenty will come throughout all the land of Egypt; but after them seven years of famine will arise, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt; and the famine will deplete the land. So the plenty will not be known in the land because of the famine following, for it will be very severe. And the dream was repeated to Pharaoh twice because the thing is established by God, and God will shortly bring it to pass. "Now therefore, let Pharaoh select a discerning and wise man, and set him over the land of Egypt. Let Pharaoh do this, and let him appoint officers over the land, to collect one-fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt in the seven plentiful years. And let them gather all the food of those good years that are coming, and store up grain under the authority of Pharaoh, and let them keep food in the cities. Then that food shall be as a reserve for the land for the seven years of famine which shall be in the land of Egypt, that the land may not perish during the famine."

God will put you in places and positions in life where you have the knowledge to forewarn certain brothers and sisters in the body of Christ who have had dreams and to interpret them, to give them knowledge on how to circumvent certain tragedies – or whatever it may be – to change or prepare for it. This is a gift of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of Knowledge can operate thru prophecy and gifts of interpretation, but for the most part it is used in public setting for the edification of the Church and not only for the impartation of revelation. It's knowledge for the here and now in the church.

The Word of Knowledge can operate individually without these gifts. For example, while in prayer you can receive knowledge that did not come by natural means, and sure enough it is revealed to be true at some point in the natural.

1 Corinthians 12:27-28 says; *"Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually. And God has appointed these in the church: first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, administrations, varieties of tongues."* Here we see that the Gifts of the Spirit are implementing various regular ministry's in the church.

Jesus always knew what was in the heart of man. It says this in **John 2:23-25**; *"Now when He was in Jerusalem at the Passover, during the feast, many believed in His name when they saw the signs which He did. But Jesus did not commit Himself to them, because He knew all men, and had no need that anyone should testify of man, for He knew what was in man."*

Jesus had knowledge of Nathanael without having known him personally as it says in **John 1:47-48**; *"Jesus saw Nathanael coming toward Him, and said of him, "Behold, an Israelite indeed, in whom is no deceit! Nathanael said to Him, "How do You know me?" Jesus answered and said to him, "Before Philip called you, when you were under the fig tree, I saw you."* The Word of Knowledge was operating in Jesus.

Jesus knew Peter both as the Rock and as the unfaithful disciple as we read in **John 1:42**; *"And he brought him to Jesus. Now when Jesus looked at him, He said, "You are Simon the son of Jonah. You shall be called Cephas" (which is translated, A Stone)." And then in **Luke 22:34** Jesus says; *"Then He said, "I tell you, Peter, the rooster shall not crow this day before you will deny three times that you know Me."**

Whether it was with Mary Magdalene, or the Samaritan woman, or Nicodemus, or Judas Iscariot, or many other individuals he encountered in ministry, Jesus had knowledge of who they were in heart. The Word of Knowledge can and should be in operation all the time in church. No matter how much of a charade or cover-up people would try to do, the Holy Spirit knows what's going on in the heart of man. It doesn't matter if you're

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the pastor, worship leader, treasurer, usher or you're walking into church for the first time, the Holy Spirit sees the heart and nothing is overlooked by him, even if there is the appearance of religion or piety.

The Word of Knowledge is given to both Ananias and Saul as we read in **Acts 9:11-12**. It says; *“So the Lord said to him, “Arise and go to the street called Straight, and inquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight.”* Notice the clear direction of street names and individual's names. It was very specific.

Acts 10:5-6 it says; *“Now send men to Joppa, and send for Simon whose surname is Peter. He is lodging with Simon, a tanner, whose house is by the sea. He will tell you what you must do.”* Notice again how the Word of Knowledge is given to Cornelius using names and places as they didn't know each other.

In **Acts 16:6-10** we read about the Macedonian call; *“Now when they had gone through Phrygia and the region of Galatia, they were forbidden by the Holy Spirit to preach the word in Asia. After they had come to Mysia, they tried to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit did not permit them. So passing by Mysia, they came down to Troas. And a vision appeared to Paul in the night. A man of Macedonia stood and pleaded with him, saying, “Come over to Macedonia and help us.” Now after he had seen the vision, immediately we sought to go to Macedonia, concluding that the Lord had called us to preach the gospel to them.”*

Thru a Word of Knowledge and a Word of Wisdom Paul was forbidden to preach in Asia and was then directed somewhere else.

In **Acts 21:4-13** we read another story of the Word of Knowledge in operation. It says; *“And finding [disciples, we stayed there seven days. They told Paul through the Spirit not to go up to Jerusalem. When we had come to the end of those days, we departed and went on our way; and they all accompanied us, with wives and children, till we were out of the city. And we knelt down on the shore and prayed. When we had taken our leave of one another, we boarded the ship, and they returned home. And when we had finished our voyage from Tyre, we came to Ptolemais, greeted the brethren, and stayed with them one day. On the next day we who were Paul's companions departed and came to Caesarea, and entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him. Now this man had four virgin daughters who prophesied. And as we stayed many days, a certain prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. When he had come to us, he took Paul's belt, bound his own hands and feet, and said, “Thus says the Holy Spirit, ‘So shall the Jews at Jerusalem bind the man who owns this belt, and deliver him into the hands of the Gentiles.’ ” Now when we heard these things, both we and those from that place pleaded with him not to go up to Jerusalem. Then Paul answered, “What do you mean by weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be bound, but also to die at Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”*

Paul was informed thru a Word of Knowledge about what awaited him in Jerusalem, but he ignored the warning as we read in **Acts 27:9-12** and he set out on the ship. It says; *“Now when much time had been spent, and sailing was now dangerous because the Fast was already over, Paul advised them, saying, “Men, I perceive that this voyage will end with disaster and much loss, not only of the cargo and ship, but also our lives.” Nevertheless the centurion was more persuaded by the helmsman and the owner of the ship than by the things spoken by Paul. And because the harbor was not suitable to winter in, the majority advised to set sail from there also, if by any means they could reach Phoenix, a harbor of Crete opening toward the southwest and northwest, and winter there.”*

Paul gave a Word of Knowledge that was rejected in exchange for natural advise, which in turn ended in disaster just as he said. In **verses 21-25** it continues saying; *“But after long abstinence from food, then Paul*

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stood in the midst of them and said, “Men, you should have listened to me, and not have sailed from Crete and incurred this disaster and loss. And now I urge you to take heart, for there will be no loss of life among you, but only of the ship. For there stood by me this night an angel of the God to whom I belong and whom I serve, saying, ‘Do not be afraid, Paul; you must be brought before Caesar; and indeed God has granted you all those who sail with you.’ Therefore take heart, men, for I believe God that it will be just as it was told me. However, we must run aground on a certain island.”

Thru an angelic encounter, a Word of Knowledge was given to Paul and then he delivers word of encouragement. Has it happened to you as you look back on your life where you too got in the natural or logical or listened to advise that went against what God was saying? You resisted the supernatural and chose the natural and it ended up disastrous?

It's very obvious that the Gift of Knowledge is an active ongoing work of the Holy Spirit in the believer's life and we should be open to listen to the Holy Spirit when he gives us supernatural understanding of the past, present or future events that we could have not known about otherwise. As the body of Christ, we have to pay attention to this gift and its operation. Whether it is giving warnings about where someone is to go or not to go, what they're to do or not to do; or it can be an encouragement.

Many times, depression, fear, doubt and unbelief are a result of not getting the direction that you need, the encouraging words you need, or much needed affirmation. Be an instrument yielded to the Holy Spirit to operate in the Gift of Knowledge to bring affirmation, edification, encouragement and exhortation to those around you and in the church. When that person receives the Word of Knowledge, they start walking with their shoulders back and they can see clearly what God is wanting of them or encouraging them in.

Remember, the Word of Knowledge is not for your personal power or gain, but it's to be operated in love. It's **NOT** for power or notoriety which the soothsayer and psychics operate in.

The Holy Spirit brings goodness, abundance and enrichment in your life as we read at the beginning in Isaiah 55. True abundance is a supernatural spiritual walk in the Holy Spirit, stepping out in the Gifts that he's given to you.

Here is a short script by BobSnook.org entitled [Maturity](#) that we read.