September 9th, 2018 - Holy Spirit PowerPart 16

This is a topic that isn't talked about a lot regarding the Gift of Faith. As we study today, you'll come to a greater understanding of Supernatural Transportation in the Spirit of the saints of God. This is very biblical.

Let's start by reading **John 6:15-21** where Jesus walks on the sea. Jesus loved his disciples, he was going to lay down his life for them and for all of mankind, so he wanted to present himself to them again to reveal his supernatural power. It says the following; "Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone. Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea, got into the boat, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was already dark, and Jesus had not come to them. Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing. So when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near the boat; and they were afraid. But He said to them, "It is I; do not be afraid." Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going."

They say the Sea of Galilee is about 13 km or 8 miles wide, so this means that the disciples were just over half way across the sea. We've all heard about Jesus walking on water, and that in itself is quite a supernatural way of defying gravity which should have caused Jesus to sink. The disciples were afraid when they saw him defying the natural and walking in the supernatural, they were full of fear not faith, supposing him to be a ghost.

But in **verses 20-21** Jesus tells them; "It is I do not be afraid", Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and <u>immediately</u> the boat was at the land where they were going." You can also read this story in <u>Mark 6:47-52</u> and <u>John 6:16-21</u>. Each give their shortened or lengthened versions of what happened.

Before going any further, I must clarify that this supernatural transportation by the Holy Spirit is solely for God's purpose and plan and not done by the whim and will of any person. Remember, the gifts of the Holy Spirit are given as HE wills, not as people will. This is physically and tangibly being transported from one location to another location, not spiritual transportation. Also, it MUST be clear, that this is absolutely not astral projection or levitation or any other satanic doing.

When the supernatural is operating in Jesus through the power of the Holy Spirit, he is doing that which defies the natural. Question; do you give up your fears about the supernatural side of Jesus and willingly receive him into whatever boat you're floating when you're rowing so hard to get somewhere in life? Or do you continue struggling at the oars in your natural ability to make it through the storm? I'd rather be in a boat in the middle of a storm without oars with Jesus, than to be in one with oars without Jesus. The devil has done great damage to the faith of Christians by discrediting Jesus' supernatural power through the Holy Spirit to walk and live life supernaturally. Ironically though, many Christians find it easier to believe what they watch on TV or read in books with regards to the seeing the demonic supernatural in action than they will believe in the supernatural power of the Holy Spirit.

It wasn't until the disciples came out of natural fear and into supernatural faith by willingly receiving Jesus into their boat, that Jesus was then able to <u>transport</u> them and their boat <u>instantly</u> in the Spirit to the land where they were going to. The important note is that they willingly received Jesus.

Some of you are working so hard at keeping your boat afloat in the natural, be it a ministry, job, marriage or family. Here, Jesus is revealing to you the supernatural walk, that which defies the natural.

All you simply need to do is come out of natural fear into faith in the supernatural by willingly receiving Jesus into those areas of your life. It's only then that more supernatural can operate.

Can you imagine the disciple's conversations amongst themselves when they were <u>transported</u> from being out in the middle of the sea, to <u>immediately</u> being at the shoreline? You can see Jesus smiling to himself, knowing how he just rocked the boat they were floating in the natural, to being transported in the supernatural, by a simple act of faith on their part of willingly receiving him into their boat. **The key is resisting fear of the supernatural that Jesus operates in and welcoming him into your boat which is your life**.

What areas of your life do you need to come out of fear of the supernatural? It would be good to examine those areas and willingly receive Jesus into whatever boat you're floating today.

Let's read another great story in Acts 8:26-40 where Christ is preached to an Ethiopian. It says; "Now an angel of the Lord spoke to Philip, saying, "Arise and go toward the south along the road which goes down from Jerusalem to Gaza." This is desert. So he arose and went. And behold, a man of Ethiopia, a eunuch of great authority under Candace the queen of the Ethiopians, who had charge of all her treasury, and had come to Jerusalem to worship, was returning. And sitting in his chariot, he was reading Isaiah the prophet. Then the Spirit said to Philip, "Go near and overtake this chariot." So Philip ran to him, and heard him reading the prophet Isaiah, and said, "Do you understand what you are reading?" And he said, "How can I, unless someone guides me?" And he asked Philip to come up and sit with him. The place in the Scripture which he read was this: "He was led as a sheep to the slaughter; and as a lamb before its shearer is silent, so He opened not His mouth. In His humiliation His justice was taken away, and who will declare His generation? For His life is taken from the earth." So the eunuch answered Philip and said, "I ask you, of whom does the prophet say this, of himself or of some other man?" Then Philip opened his mouth, and beginning at this Scripture, preached Jesus to him. Now as they went down the road, they came to some water. And the eunuch said, "See, here is water. What hinders me from being baptized?" Then Philip said, "If you believe with all your heart, you may." And he answered and said, "I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God." So he commanded the chariot to stand still. And both Philip and the eunuch went down into the water, and he baptized him. Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. But Philip was found at Azotus. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea."

Philip was a tremendous evangelist that was preaching to thousands of people. His notoriety even reached the apostles in Jerusalem! Outside of the apostles, his ministry is the most talked about in soul winning, signs, wonders and miracles.

Philip from the start is obeying the command of an angel, a supernatural being, not knowing in the natural why he was going or what was going to take place, but simply obeyed and went. When he got there, he saw the Eunuch and the Lord gave him instruction to overtake his chariot.

Philip received supernatural direction from both the angel and the Holy Spirit which gave opportunity to minister to a high-ranking official, a man who was the treasurer of the Queen of Ethiopia.

As Philip walked by faith obeying supernatural direction, he was then used to minister salvation to the Eunuch by explaining to him the prophecy of Isaiah which he was reading but not understanding, and how they were fulfilled in Jesus.

We must remember that this was one soul that Philip was sent to in the midst of his huge ministry in Samaria where thousands were being saved, healed, delivered with all kinds of signs, wonders and miracles taking place. His obedience is something we too need to walk in. Ready to lay down everything at the Lords beckon call. Stop the business of life and ministry to be available for divine appointments that the Lord is setting up for you. He might not tell you all the details but you'll know it has to do with ministry.

Let's read this again, which shows the supernatural power of God; "Now when they came up out of the water, the <u>Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away</u>, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing. But <u>Philip was found at Azotus</u>. And passing through, he preached in all the cities till he came to Caesarea." The Ethiopian must have been stunned to not see Philip, but you can also imagine the people who may have seen Philip just show up in Azotus! Philip just kept on preaching, he didn't skip a beat!

When Philip obeyed the angel, he left a busy ministry of evangelism to go somewhere he wasn't planning to, to end up leading one soul to Christ and after baptizing him, the Lord supernaturally **transported** him right back into the busy ministry of an evangelist again. You can imagine the impact this had on the Eunuch, when this supernatural act occurs after baptism, and according to tradition, this Eunuch established the Christian Church in Ethiopia which is presently there today.

In the midst of your busy ministry life, it's important for you to obey the supernatural direction from the Lord which, in the natural may seem irrational, and like Jesus leave the 99 sheep and go after the one which is lost. As a result, you may experience his supernatural transportation to get you back to the 99 left behind. There could be one person who is searching for Jesus and doesn't understand what they're reading or listening to. That person, like the Eunuch, could be the person that Jesus wants to use in a might way in these last days.

Let's look at another person named Elijah, where it seems like <u>transportation in the Spirit</u> was just the norm for him. The background of the story is that there was a famine in the land that Elijah had prophesied about. It's so severe that Ahab and Obadiah are out looking for food for their herds when Obadiah meets up with Elijah and this conversation takes place.

It says in **1 Kings 18:7-12**; "Now as Obadiah was on his way, <u>suddenly</u> Elijah met him; and he recognized him, and fell on his face, and said, "Is that you, my lord Elijah?" And he answered him, "It is I. Go, tell your master, 'Elijah is here." So he said, "How have I sinned, that you are delivering your servant into the hand of Ahab, to kill me? As the Lord your God lives, there is no nation or kingdom where my master has not sent someone to hunt for you; and when they said, 'He is not here,' he took an oath from the kingdom or nation that they could not find you. And now you say, 'Go, tell your master, "Elijah is here"! And it shall come to pass, <u>as soon as I am gone from you, that the Spirit of the Lord will carry you to a place I do not know</u>; so when I go and tell Ahab, and he cannot find you, he will kill me. But I your servant have feared the Lord from my youth."

It seems like Elijah had previously been transported in the Spirit and it was known of or witnessed by Obadiah in the past, otherwise this would not have been said. Elijah had been hidden during the famine, no one could find him. It would seem that he kept on getting transported in the Spirit to different places.

2 Kings 2:1-18 is about Elijah's being transported to heaven at the end of his earthly life. You can read the full story. Elijah does not die but is taken to heaven in a chariot of fire, however the sons of the prophets referenced in the following scripture, show that Elijah had a past of being transported in the Spirit by God to another place and they will go look for him, not knowing that he was taken to heaven.

It says in **2 Kings 2:15-16**; "Now when the sons of the prophets who were from Jericho saw him, they said, "The spirit of Elijah rests on Elisha." And they came to meet him, and bowed to the ground before him. Then they said to him, "Look now, there are fifty strong men with your servants. Please let them go and search for your master, lest perhaps the <u>Spirit of the Lord has taken him up and cast him upon some mountain or into some valley.</u>" And he said, "You shall not send anyone."

Why would they have said that? It's because these men knew and had maybe seen this occurrence before. Elijah's previous supernatural transportations prepared him for him being taken away in a chariot of fire. Elijah did not experience death and we even read in Matthew 17:1-13, that he appeared with Moses to Jesus before Peter, James and John on the mount of transfiguration. Let's just read **verses 1-3**; "Now after six days Jesus took Peter, James, and John his brother, led them up on a high mountain by themselves; and He was transfigured before them. His face shone like the sun, and His clothes became as white as the light. And behold, Moses and Elijah appeared to them, talking with Him."

Supernatural transportation in the Spirit in the early church and now prepare us for the rapture of the Church some day where the believers will be supernaturally transported with Jesus to heaven before the 7 years of tribulation. That could be us if we don't die before his appearance.

Some of us may never have been transported in the Spirit, or known of anyone who has, but a day is coming when you will, dead or alive! Jesus is coming to get you, dead or alive if your born again! Let's read about it in 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the <u>dead</u> in Christ shall rise first: Then we which are <u>alive</u> and remain shall be <u>caught up together with them in the clouds</u>, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord."

Let's read in **Luke 17:34-37** these hopeful words of Jesus about being caught up with him supernaturally, getting transported from one realm to another in heaven; "I tell you, in that night there shall be two [men] in one bed; the one shall be taken, and the other shall be left. Two [women] shall be grinding together; the one shall be taken, and the other left. Two [men] shall be in the field; the one shall be taken, and the other left. And they answered and said unto him, Where, Lord? And he said unto them, Wheresoever the body [is], thither will the eagles be gathered together."

According to the Bible, those who are alive when Jesus returns in the 2nd coming, will be transported to be with him. In tying up this message there are a few key points.

- 1) Don't walk in fear regarding Jesus' supernatural display of power in transporting his children by the power of the Holy Spirit to accomplish his plan and purpose.
- 2) Let Jesus into your boat, your life, your heart, will and soul, to work the supernatural as he did with his disciples because of his love for you.
- 3) Don't lock yourself into only walking in the natural realm, but choose to believe in the supernatural today through the Gift of Faith.

Please read this short script by Bob Snook entitled, 'Delusion'.