



MULTIPLYING THE KINGDOM OF GOD

Study Notes by Thomas Hale

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NOTE: These notes are taken from a transcript of comments and quotes on the writings of E.W. Kenyon. Kenyon was an evangelist, pastor, founder of a Bible Institute, and author whose writings significantly impacted multiple Christian circles in the early to mid-20th century.

AN UNFOLDING TRAGEDY IN THE BODY OF CHRIST

God has already given you everything. The problem isn't that he's withholding. The problem is that you've been taught to beg for what's already yours. Until you understand the difference between asking and receiving, you'll spend your entire Christian life waiting for a breakthrough that's already been provided.

There's a tragedy unfolding in the body of Christ that most believers never recognize. They pray fervently. They fast diligently. They seek God with sincere hearts. Yet they live in poverty when provision has been promised. They struggle with sickness when healing has been purchased. They wrestle with defeat when victory has been secured. The issue isn't God's willingness to give. The problem is their understanding of how to receive. Most Christians have been trained in the art of petitioning, but never educated in the spiritual laws of receiving. They know how to ask, but they don't know how to take. They know how to beg, but they don't know how to claim. Receiving from God isn't about convincing him to move; it's about aligning with what he's already done. Understanding this will transform everything about how you pray, how you believe, and how you walk in victory.

Let's start by identifying the fundamental problem that the vast majority of Christians face. Most approach God like spiritual beggars standing outside the gates of heaven, hoping he'll toss them a blessing if they're pitiful enough, persistent enough, or worthy enough. They've turned prayer into a negotiation. They've reduced faith to wishful thinking and made receiving from God dependent on their performance rather than on his promise.

MOST IN THE CHURCH APPROACH GOD LIKE SPIRITUAL BEGGARS STANDING OUTSIDE THE GATES OF HEAVEN.

This isn't just a theological error; this is a lifestyle of spiritual defeat. Because when you don't understand how to receive, you end up in a perpetual cycle of asking for the same things over and over, never experiencing a lasting breakthrough, never walking in the authority that belongs to you, and never living in the fullness of what Christ purchased at Calvary. Here's the critical distinction that most Christians miss. There's a profound difference between petition and appropriation. A petition is asking God to do something. Appropriation is taking what he's already done. A petition keeps you in the posture of a beggar—appropriation positions you as an heir. A petition makes you dependent on circumstances. Appropriation makes you dependent on God's covenant with man. And until you shift from petition to appropriation you will never consistently walk in the promises of God.

THE QUESTION ISN'T WHETHER GOD WILL GIVE, THE QUESTION IS WHETHER YOU'LL RECEIVE IT.

The reason for this confusion is that most believers have never been taught about the completed work of Christ. They know Jesus died for their sins. They understand that he rose from the dead, but they don't grasp that when he said, "*It is finished*" on the cross, he meant precisely that. Everything you will ever need, healing, provision, peace, wisdom, deliverance, authority, was provided at that moment, not promised for the future, not contingent on your worthiness, but completed, purchased, and made available. **Second Peter 1:3** declares this truth with stunning clarity, "*According as His divine power hath given unto us all things that pertain unto life and godliness, through the knowledge of Him that hath called us to glory and virtue.*" Notice the tense, "*hath given*." It is past tense, already done, not will give if you're good enough, not might give if you pray hard enough, but "*hath given*." It's already yours. The question isn't whether God will give, the question is whether you'll receive it.

This is where most Christians stumble. They treat receiving like it's passive, like it's something that happens to you if you wait long enough. But biblical receiving is active. It's intentional. It's a deliberate act of faith that says, "What God has promised, I now take as

mine." E.W. Kenyon captured this perfectly when he wrote, "*Faith is acting in the face of contrary evidence. The senses declare, 'It cannot be,' but faith shouts above the turmoil, 'It is!'*" Most believers are trying to manufacture enough belief to convince God to act. But that's not faith, that's mental gymnastics. Genuine faith acts on what God has already said and treats it as a present reality, even when circumstances contradict. Let's dig into the mechanics of receiving, because this is where theology becomes practical.

YOU BELIEVE BEFORE EVIDENCE, NOT AFTER.

The **first principle** you must understand is that receiving requires agreement. You cannot receive from God while simultaneously doubting his Word. You cannot receive healing while agreeing with the symptoms. You cannot claim provision while rehearsing lack. Agreement isn't just mental assent; it's the alignment of your words, thoughts, and actions with what God has declared.

Look at how Jesus taught his disciples to pray in *Mark 11:24*. He said, "*Therefore I say unto you, what things soever ye desire when you pray, believe that ye receive them, and ye shall have them.*" Read that carefully, "*believe that ye receive them*," not believe that you will receive them. Not hope that maybe you'll receive them if it's God's will, but believe that you receive when you pray. Present tense, right now, in the moment of prayer, before manifestation, before circumstances change. You believe you receive, and then you shall have. This is the opposite of how most Christians pray. They pray, then they wait to see if God answers before they believe. But Jesus flipped that sequence. You believe first, not after evidence. You receive by faith before you receive by sight. And it's that act of receiving by faith that triggers manifestation.

RECEIVING REQUIRES CONFESSION.

In the natural realm, the **second principle** is that receiving requires confession. By confession, I mean the biblical definition of confession, which is "speaking the same thing (Greek *homologeo*, same word)" that God has spoken. *Romans 10:10* says, "*For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness, and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*" The

heart believes, and the mouth confesses. Both are required. You cannot receive what you won't confess. Your words are the bridge between spiritual reality and natural manifestation. This is why so many Christians never see breakthrough. They believe in their hearts, or at least they think they do, but their mouths contradict what they claim to believe. They'll say they trust God for healing, then spend the next hour describing their symptoms in detail. They will declare they believe God for provision, then immediately complain about bills. They'll claim victory, then speak defeat. And they wonder why nothing changes.

Your confession must align with your faith, or your faith will remain theoretical and never become experiential. **E.W. Kenyon** understood this dynamic that many have not reached. He wrote, *“What I confess, I possess, what I confess, I believe, and what I believe, I receive.”* This is biblical order. Your words are containers. They either carry life or death, faith or fear, agreement with God or agreement with the enemy. When you confess what God has said about you, you're creating agreement between heaven and earth, and that agreement is what opens the door for receiving.

HOW CAN YOU THANK GOD FOR SOMETHING YOU DON'T YET SEE?

The **third principle** is that receiving demands thanksgiving. Not thanksgiving after you see results, thanksgiving before manifestation. This is where most believers falter because it seems counterintuitive. How can you thank God for something you don't yet see? The key is to believe God's Word is more real than your circumstances. Look at the story of Lazarus in **John 11**. Jesus stood at the tomb of a man who had been dead for four days. The body was decomposing. The situation was hopeless by every natural measure. What did Jesus do before he called Lazarus forth, before there was any evidence of life? He prayed, *“Father, I thank Thee that Thou hast heard me.”* Not a thank you for hearing when Lazarus comes out, but a thank you that he was heard now. In this moment, before any change occurred, Jesus gave thanks for an answered prayer; before the answer was manifest. That's how receiving works.

Now here's where it gets deeply practical. Most Christians struggle with receiving because they're trying to receive from a position of unworthiness. They're convinced that they need to earn God's favor, perform well enough to deserve his blessing, or somehow prove themselves worthy of his promises. That mindset is a receiving killer because it shifts the focus from

Christ to you. The only way to receive from God consistently is to receive as a son or daughter, not as a stranger. *Hebrews 4:16* says, “*Let us therefore come boldly unto the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*” Boldly, not timidly, not apologetically, not with your head down, wondering if maybe God will show you mercy. But boldly, because you’re not coming as an outsider and hoping to be one of the chosen few. You’re coming as an heir claiming inheritance. This is covenant language. When you’re in covenant with God through Christ, everything that belongs to him belongs to you. Not because you earned it, not because you’re special, but because you’re in him and he’s in you, and His righteousness covers you completely. Your receiving isn’t based on your performance; it’s based on Christ’s finished work. And when you understand that, receiving becomes as simple as a child reaching out to take what their father has offered.

FAITH WITHOUT CORRESPONDING ACTION IS THEORETICAL.

The fourth principle is that receiving requires acting on what you believe. *James 2:17* says, “*Even so, faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone.*” Faith without corresponding action is theoretical. It’s a mental agreement that never produces results. When you act on what you believe, when you move in alignment with the promise before you see the evidence, that’s when faith becomes functional.

Think about the story in *Second Kings 5* where Naaman, the Syrian commander, came to Elijah for healing from leprosy. Elijah told him to go dip in the Jordan River seven times. Naaman was offended. That instruction seemed ridiculous. The Jordan was dirty. But when he humbled himself and obeyed, when he acted on the Word he had been given, his flesh came back like the flesh of a child. He received healing not when he heard the instruction, but when he acted on it. Here’s the application. If God’s Word promises healing, you act healed before you feel healed. If His Word promises provision, you act in faith regarding stewardship before your bank account changes. If His Word promises deliverance, you walk in freedom before every symptom disappears. You’re not pretending. You’re not in denial. You are aligning your actions with your confession, agreeing with God’s reality over natural circumstances, and giving your faith something to work with.

THE REVELATION THAT SHIFTS EVERYTHING.

Now we arrive at the turning point, the revelation that shifts everything. The reason most Christians don't know how to receive from God is that they've been taught to focus on the gift rather than the giver. They are fixated on the blessing instead of the blood. They want a gift, but they've never fully embraced their identity in the gift giver. Receiving isn't primarily about getting things from God; it is about recognizing what you already have in Christ. *Ephesians 1:3* says, "*Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath blessed us with all spiritual blessings in heavenly places in Christ.*" Not who will bless us one day, not who might bless us if we're worthy, but who has blessed us. It's already done. The blessing isn't coming. The blessing has come. His name is Jesus, and if you have him, you have everything.

This is the great paradigm shift. You're not trying to get God to give you something he's been withholding: you are learning to receive what he has already placed in Christ. Your healing isn't something God needs to send from heaven; it's already in Christ, and Christ is in you. Your provision isn't something you're waiting for God to release. It's already in Christ, and you are in Him. Your peace, your joy, your authority, your victory, all of it is already yours because you're united with the One who embodies all those things.

E.W. Kenyon articulated this with remarkable precision. He said, "*The reason we have not received more from God is because we have not recognized our rights and privileges in Christ. We've been living like beggars when we are really sons.*" That's it. That's the core issue. You've been taught to beg when you should be taught to claim. You've been trained to plead when you should be trained to possess. You've been conditioned to wait when you should be conditioned to walk.

THE MOST PRACTICAL RECEIVING KEY YOU WILL EVER HEAR.

Let me give you the most practical receiving key you will ever hear. Receiving from God is simply agreeing with what he's already said and acting like it's true before circumstances confirm it. That's it. No mystical formula, no complicated ritual. Just taking God at his Word and moving accordingly when his Word says by his stripes you were healed in *1 Peter 2:24*. You

agree with that, you thank him for it, you confess it, you act on it, and you refuse to let circumstances talk you out of what the Word has declared.

When his Word says, *“My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus”* in *Philippians 4:19*, you receive that as present reality. You thank him for it. You speak it! You plan with it in view, and you trust that what he's promised he will perform. Not because you've earned it, but because he cannot lie. And his Word cannot fail when his Word says, *“Greater is he that is in you than he that is in the world.”*

You were never meant to live as a spiritual beggar. You were never intended to spend your life wondering if maybe, possibly, perhaps God might decide to bless you if you grovel long enough. That's not the gospel. That's religious bondage. Receiving from God isn't about convincing him to move. He's already moved. It's not about earning his favor. You already have his favor through Christ. It's not about performing well enough to deserve his blessing. His blessing has nothing to do with your performance and everything to do with his promise.

STOP PLEADING WITH GOD TO DO WHAT HE'S ALREADY DONE.

Receiving is simply the act of taking what's been offered, believing what's been declared, and walking in alignment with what's been provided. Change your approach. Stop begging, start receiving. Stop pleading with God to do what He's already done. Start thanking Him for what He's already provided. Stop waiting for manifestation before you believe. Start believing so that manifestation can occur. Stop living beneath your covenant privileges. Start walking in the fullness of your inheritance as the son or daughter of the Most High God. You are not a beggar, you are an heir. You are not an outsider; you are a member of the household of faith. You are not trying to convince God to open heaven over your life; heaven is already open through the blood of Jesus Christ, and every spiritual blessing is accessible right now through faith.

The question isn't whether God will give. The question is whether you will receive. And that choice, that decision, that step of faith, it is yours to make. Once you begin receiving as a child of God rather than begging as an outsider, something remarkable happens. You start walking with an authority and confidence that most Christians never experience.