

# GROWING IN GOD

PODCAST



## GIG95 Pentecost And The World Of Spirit

This podcast today is about the Feast of Pentecost. We are just days away from the celebration of Pentecost, and I want to talk about some of the things I feel the Lord is speaking for us now today about this Pentecost. If we want an introductory teaching about Pentecost, there is episode 39, which gives an elementary teaching and beginning for Pentecost that you can go back and listen to prior to going on with this. So we are talking about the Feast of Pentecost. It is termed Shavuot in the Hebrew, which means weeks. It is also called the Feast of Weeks, and as we are more familiar with the term, it is called the Feast of Pentecost. Now we understand, in Christian circles and Christian teaching, that the Feast of Pentecost is the birth of the Church, out of the book of Acts; and we see the beginnings of the Feast of Pentecost found in Leviticus, the twenty-third chapter, starting at verse 15. So I will read that, and give a little bit of an introduction to it. But again, this is not to be an introductory podcast. What I want to get to is what I feel the Lord is showing for us today that we want to have faith to believe and receive from Him during this time of Pentecost.

Starting at verses 15-16, it says, "You shall also count for yourselves from the day after the sabbath, from the day when you brought in the sheaf of the wave offering; there shall be seven complete sabbaths. You shall count fifty days to the day after the seventh sabbath; then you shall present a new grain offering to the Lord." So this is how we come to the terminology about Pentecost. Shavuot means weeks, and the Feast of Weeks is talking about these seven Sabbaths; and Pentecost is talking about, of course, the fifty days. All of this leads up to the fact that when you have most of the Jewish feasts, they are designated by a specific day during a specific month of the calendar; not so with Pentecost. With Pentecost, we begin counting from the waving of the sheaf of the first fruits back at Passover; then we count these fifty days, which in Hebrew terminology is the Counting of the Omer; and then you arrive at the time of Pentecost. This is how we find the day to celebrate. It will not be found on a calendar – well, of course, today in modern terminology, it will be on the calendar. But it is not derived from the calendar itself, it is derived from this counting that takes place.

When we get to the Day of Pentecost, and we see in verse 20, "The priest shall then wave them," speaking about these loaves that are made, "shall wave them with the bread of the first fruits for a wave offering with two lambs before the Lord; they are to be holy to the Lord for the priest." There are all these offerings that take place of the animals, but there is the making of these two loaves of bread that are to be made out of fine flour. We know that, again, on Passover there was the waving of the sheaf of the first fruits, which means the head of the grain. That was the raw grain. Now we get to Pentecost, and that grain has been ground into fine flour, and loaves are made with it. So the loaves and these offerings are waved before the Lord as part of this celebration.

Verse 21: "On this same day you shall make a proclamation as well; you are to have a holy convocation. You shall do no laborious work. It is to be a perpetual statute in all your dwelling places throughout your generations." This was a permanent feast that was to be celebrated. When we get to the New Testament Scriptures, in the book of Acts, chapter two, we find a fulfillment of the Day of Pentecost. We begin reading at verses 1-4: "When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.

And suddenly there came from heaven a noise like a violent rushing wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire distributing themselves, and they rested on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit was giving them utterance.” Now you can go on in chapter two and read more about this Day of Pentecost. I want to just recognize that they were celebrating Pentecost; and on this day, the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the one hundred and twenty that had been gathered in the upper room in prayer from the time of the ascension of Christ into heaven. From this prayer was this experience of the Holy Spirit being poured out upon them. So this is where we get the connection between the outpouring of the Holy Spirit and the Day of Pentecost. It was not something contrived, it was something that actually transpired while they were celebrating this Day of Pentecost. The Holy Spirit was poured out; therefore, we see the connection, after it happens, between the Holy Spirit and Pentecost.

We see in the Scriptures, in the Hebrew Scriptures back at Joel chapter two, starting at verse 28, that there was a prophecy about this outpouring and outpourings of the Holy Spirit. Starting at verses 28-31, “It will come about after this that I will pour out My Spirit on all mankind; and your sons and daughters will prophesy, your old men will dream dreams, your young men will see visions. Even on the male and female servants I will pour out My Spirit in those days. I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth, blood, fire and columns of smoke. The sun will be turned into darkness and the moon into blood before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes.” Here we have this prophecy from Joel which, again, connects this outpouring of the Holy Spirit to end time events. This is why we see that people are waiting or anticipating that something will happen, even far and beyond what transpired on the Day of Pentecost in the book of Acts, with an outpouring of the Holy Spirit – because Joel is obviously talking about the time of the coming of the Lord. And so, that is connected with this great outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon all mankind; and we are anticipating, and we are waiting for that to transpire.

If you listen to Christian radio or podcasts, you will hear many times people referring to an anticipation for great outpourings of the Spirit as we move forward into the latter days. One of the things that we find, and it is extremely important to me, about this time of the outpouring of the Spirit in the last days, is that we see during this period a restoration of Israel and the Jewish people into a new focus of God's moving with them and through them for the times of the end. One such prophecy is in Isaiah 44. Starting at verses 2-6, it says, “Thus says the Lord who made you and formed you from the womb, who will help you, “Do not fear, O Jacob My servant; and you Jeshurun” – which is a terminology for Jerusalem – “whom I have chosen. For I will pour out water on the thirsty land and streams on the dry ground; I will pour out My Spirit on your offspring and My blessing on your descendants; and they will spring up among the grass like poplars by streams of water.” This one will say, “I am the Lord's”; and that one will call on the name of Jacob; and another will write on his hand, “Belonging to the Lord,” and will name Israel's name with honor. Thus says the Lord, the King of Israel and his Redeemer, the Lord of hosts: “I am the first and I am the last, and there is no God besides Me.”” Here is one of these prophecies that points to the fact that during the days of the end, there is going to be an outpouring of God's Spirit on the children of Israel. They are going to be brought into the land, they are going to be blessed, they are going to spring forth; but His Spirit is on them, and they turn to Him in a new way and begin to seek Him.

We have another prophecy in Ezekiel, chapter 39, and I will begin at verse 28: “Then they will know that I am the Lord their God because I made them go into exile among the nations, and then gathered them again to their own land; and I will leave none of them there any longer.” Now we are actually watching these prophecies being fulfilled before our very eyes. This has been going on now for a period of about

seventy years in the return to Israel and the establishment of the state of Israel. So here are prophecies right before our eyes being fulfilled. Going on to verse 29, it says, “I will not hide My face from them any longer, for I will have poured out My Spirit on the house of Israel,” declares the Lord God.” And I would encourage you to go to Ezekiel 39 and read much more of this prophecy. I am reading very little parts of it, but it is tremendous about how God restores Israel to the land, and how He pours out His Spirit, and how they seek Him and find Him, and how He brings them out of the nations that they were sent to in discipline.

In Zechariah 12, starting at verses 9-10, it says, “And in that day I will set about to destroy all the nations that come against Jerusalem. I will pour out on the house of David and on the inhabitants of Jerusalem, the Spirit of grace and of supplication, so that they will look on Me whom they have pierced; and they will mourn for Him, as one mourns for an only son, and they will weep bitterly over Him like the bitter weeping over a firstborn.” So we see again this tremendous time of restoration and blessing and outpouring of God's Spirit upon the house of David; and whereas they have suffered under years of correction and God's dealing with them, using other nations to be a discipline to them, we see that God now reverses all of that. They are brought out from the nations, and God's judgment now turns to those nations, because those nations did not just look to be a correction to Israel; they went beyond God's purposes and attempted to destroy Israel and the Jewish people. And we will see this all playing out in these last days. We do see it; we have seen it; it manifests itself in antisemitism, in pogroms, in many persecutions against the Jewish people. The nations went beyond the very idea that God had, to use them as a correction, and now He comes and brings judgment upon nations for their treatment of Israel. But for Israel, He pours out His Spirit for the Jewish people. He pours out of His Spirit upon them. He gives them a spirit of grace, of supplication, they cry out to Him. Many wonderful things begin to happen during these end days, connected to the reality of the Feast of Pentecost and the outpouring of the Holy Spirit that comes during that time.

This is one of the things that we should be looking for in this Pentecost: we should look for a time of blessing upon Israel, a time like Joel spoke of, where He pours out His Spirit – not only on Israel and the Jewish people, but on all flesh – and things begin to move through His anointing to culminate the prophecies that He has brought about the time of the end. What we need to look for in this time is our immersion into the world of spirit. It is significant to me – and this is part of what the Lord is speaking to me about for us during this time of Pentecost – that there needs to be a greater immersion into the world of spirit, and the realm of spirit, so that we, as the Body of Christ, are able to move in the things of the Spirit. It is one thing just to say, “Oh, there is an outpouring of the Spirit.” It is another thing to recognize that that outpouring of the Spirit, and the gifts that come with it, come with a purpose of us being able, as the children of God, the sons of God, the Body of Christ, to move in the realm of spirit and to function in this realm of spirit. So there must be an understanding of it.

I want to read out of John 3, starting at verses 3-5. This is Jesus talking to Nicodemus. “Jesus answered and said to him, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God.’ Nicodemus said to Him, ‘How can a man be born when he is old? He cannot enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born, can he?’ Jesus answered, ‘Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God.’” We know right now, the Kingdom of God, where Christ is seated at the Father's right hand, is a spiritual Kingdom. What is being established, before the earthly Kingdom at His return, is a spiritual Kingdom. We recognize this because Christ, when He ascended into heaven, became invisible; as God is living in a realm of spirit, in a world of spirit, and is invisible to us by the natural eye, so now is Christ. It is this reason that Christ left for us the Holy Spirit

when He departed, because we need to learn and know how to live and relate in the spirit world. He said to the disciples, "Where I am, there you may be also." Where is He? He is in a world of spirit; and we, as believers, need to understand and be adept at moving into a world of spirit. When He is speaking here with Nicodemus, He says to him, "You must be born again." Now I know that is a terminology that is used quite readily within Christian circles to say, "Are you born again?" And it just mainly refers to being saved. That is fine; if you want to use that terminology to say you are saved, you are born again in Christ, wonderful. But I think we need to also recognize that here, as He is speaking with Nicodemus, He is referring to something more than just being saved or experiencing an initial salvation in Christ. He is talking literally about a new birth into this world of spirit, whereby we are able to function. So Jesus answers in verse 5 and says, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit he cannot enter into the kingdom of God." Before that, He was saying that you cannot see the Kingdom of God unless you are born again. I think both of these are really saying the same thing. Jesus is saying to us, we do not see, right now, the Kingdom of God; and I think that really applies to most believers in the body of Christ. People do not see the Kingdom of God. They do not see what is going on surrounding God, and the throne, and Christ at His right hand; these things are basically invisible. And unless, like Yeshua is teaching to Nicodemus, unless you are born again into something new, you are not going to see, and you are not going to be able to enter into this Kingdom of God.

At Christ's return, we know that He returns to the earth and He establishes His Kingdom in a physical way, on the throne of David, and He rules over the nations. That is going to be very visible to the human eye. It says about His return that every eye will see Him. So that is not going to be invisible. It is not going to be a spiritual thing. It is going to be very, very natural. Until that happens, what we as believers are dealing with, and trying to be immersed in and living in, is a spiritual Kingdom. And we need to be able to be where He is, which is in the world of spirit, in the realm of spirit, at the right hand of God. He is telling Nicodemus, "You must be born again in order to experience that. And you must be born of water and born of the Spirit." So we do not just receive the Holy Spirit on the Day of Pentecost, we look to be born of the Spirit. I don't want the Spirit just surrounding me or even filling me. I want to be born into the realm of spirit, into the Holy Spirit, to live where He lives. This is why Christ said, "He will teach you all things." He is going to teach us those things which we do not see or relate to on a natural plane. And we need all of this desperately as we come to the time and the days and seasons of the end, because what is playing itself out is far more being initiated by the world of spirit than it is by the natural world. So if we are incapable of moving in the Spirit, if we are not born into the Spirit, we are not going to be very effective in our prayers; and sometimes we are going to be misled, because we cannot discern the Spirit of truth, the Holy Spirit, from error or deception, and we are going to have to be able to do that. So, as He is talking about here, we must be born again.

The Holy Spirit, then, when He was given on the Day of Pentecost, came as Christ promised He would. In John 14, verses 15-17, He said, "If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it does not see Him or know Him, but you know Him because He abides with you and will be in you." We see this relationship that Christ is pointing to that we must develop with the Spirit of truth. Again, it seems to us on a human standpoint, that Christ should have left us something that was far more relatable on the natural level. That is what we wish we had. But because His Kingdom is established in the realm of spirit, He wants us there with Him; and so He gives us not some natural help, or helper, but He instead gives us the Spirit of truth. And we are to receive Him;

He is to dwell, abide with us, and to be in us; and He is to teach us what we need to know, enabling us to flow in this spiritual Kingdom that exists around us today.

In John 7:38-39, it says, ““He who believes in Me, as the Scripture said, “From his innermost being will flow rivers of living water.”” But this He spoke of the Spirit, whom those who believed in Him were to receive; for the Spirit was not yet given, because Jesus was not yet glorified.” See, as long as we had Christ here, Yeshua here, on a natural level, with us and with His disciples, it was not necessary – He was already filled; the Spirit descended on Him and remained upon Him, and functioned with Him and within Him. And so, you had the Spirit housed in human flesh and living among us, teaching, directing, guiding; but once He left, that was no longer the case. Therefore, He said, the Spirit would come after He was glorified; and when It did, out of our innermost being were to flow rivers of living water. So the moving of the Holy Spirit from within us is the empowering of the believer to be a witness and to move as the arms and legs of Christ in this generation.

In John 14:25-27, it says, ““These things I have spoken to you while abiding with you. But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name, He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I said to you. Peace I leave with you; My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Do not let your heart be troubled, nor let it be fearful.”” We are not to be fearful or troubled. We are to learn to move in this Helper, the Holy Spirit, that has been provided by the Father at Yeshua's request. And this is what I am looking for during this time of Pentecost, this Pentecost. I want to see the Spirit not just poured out upon us; I want to be born again. I want Him to teach us and lead us into all truth. I want Him to show us how to live and breathe and move in the world of spirit, as Yeshua Himself was able to move. He did nothing but what He saw the Father do. How did He do that? With the eyes of the Spirit. You know, He said nothing but what He heard the Father say, and He heard that through the Spirit. And these are the things that we need in this day and age in order to be His disciples.

I will read one more Scripture out of John 16:12-15: ““I have many more things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of Mine and will disclose it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said that He takes of Mine and will disclose it to you.”” All that Christ has for us, all that Yeshua has to give and impart to us, will be given to us through this means of the Holy Spirit. And so we believe for this to happen in a greater way. If you already have the baptism of the Holy Spirit and some gifts, let's believe for more. Let's contend for greater things, ears to hear the Word, His voice, as we have never heard it before. These are the sons of God – what? those who are led by the Spirit. How are we led by the Spirit? We hear the voice, we see Him in His moving, just as Christ did. And so this is how we are to move.

When the Spirit comes and is given, we know that He brings gifts and imparts gifts to the believers. We find that in First Corinthians 12. And again, I am just going to read a very little bit of it, you can read more on your own. Starting at verses 4-11 of chapter 12, First Corinthians, ““Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit. And there are varieties of ministries, and the same Lord. There are varieties of effects, but the same God who works all things in all persons. But to each one is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good. For to one is given the word of wisdom through the Spirit, and to another the word of knowledge according to the same Spirit; to another faith by the same Spirit, and to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, and to another the effecting of miracles, and to another prophecy, and to another the distinguishing of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, and to

another the interpretation of tongues. But one and the same Spirit works all these things, distributing to each one individually just as He wills.”

Now this is not going to be a teaching on the gifts of the Spirit. But I know many people get confused and feel like, “Well, you get one gift of the Holy Spirit.” That is not, I believe, how this works. I think He distributes individually to each person as He wills, and I think His will is that we all be filled with the Holy Spirit and with the gifts that He has for us – whatever it be, whether it is effecting of miracles, whether it is prophecy, healing, all of those I think are available to every believer who receives and is filled with this outpouring of the Holy Spirit, or this indwelling of the Holy Spirit. Those things are available, and many times we focus on those types of gifts; but I also want us to recognize the fact that in this is the ability to prophesy. There is also the distinguishing or the discerning of spirits, various kinds of tongues and interpretation of tongues. There is the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, all of these things. And I think these become very important in the day that we live in, because these really began to show us what is transpiring around us.

When we talk about healings and miracles, or, you know, this type of impartation, we are talking about ministering out. But when we begin to think about the idea of the word of knowledge, for instance, it is something where we are being shown by the Spirit what we need to know. And maybe that is about a person, in order that we might minister to them. But it may be also about what is going on in the world, what is going on with individuals, with groups, with nations. This can apply to many, many areas, and I think these are some of the areas that we need. We need the word of wisdom. That is, again, something that comes to us, that shows us the wisdom of the Lord in circumstances and situations that we find ourselves in. So there are several of these gifts that I feel like very much apply for us and are requirements of living in these last days, because lies and deception are going to play such a huge role in everything that transpires during this time of the end. And so, I want us to realize that we need these gifts. We need them to function in us, and for us, and through us, so that we are able, then, when we prophesy, to prophesy those things that should happen.

Paul, we know, moved a great deal in the Holy Spirit. He says in First Corinthians 2, verses 8-13, “The wisdom which none of the rulers of this age had understood; for if they had understood it they would not have crucified the Lord of glory; but just as it is written, ‘Things which eye has not seen and ear has not heard, and which have not entered the heart of man, all that God has prepared for those who love Him.’ For to us God revealed them through the Spirit; for the Spirit searches all things, even the depths of God. For who among men knows the thoughts of a man except the spirit of the man which is in him? Even so the thoughts of God no one knows except the Spirit of God. Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the Spirit who is from God, so that we may know the things freely given to us by God, which things we also speak, not in words taught by human wisdom, but in those taught by the Spirit, combining spiritual thoughts with spiritual words.” Verses 14-16: “But a natural man does not accept the things of the Spirit of God, for they are foolishness to him; and he cannot understand them, because they are spiritually appraised. But he who is spiritual appraises all things, yet he himself is appraised by no one. For who has known the mind of the Lord, that he will instruct Him? But we have the mind of Christ.” When you look at Paul's ministry, you recognize, and I encourage you – go back over this, because I know I am reading through some of these points very quickly; but Paul moved by the Spirit. He heard in the Spirit that which God had for us. And he is saying that the natural man does not accept the things that are given by the Spirit of God. We do not want to be in that category. We, as the body of Christ, cannot be in a place where we do not accept or understand what is going on around us, because they are so motivated or so spiritually initiated. If we do not have the wisdom or the

discernment to see and know by the Spirit what is transpiring, we are going to find ourselves being deceived; we are going to find ourselves being confused; and we are going to be sitting there like a natural man, in natural understanding, and we are not going to be effective in our ministry. We need the things of the Spirit working within us.

In Romans 8:25-27, Paul says, "But if we hope for what we do not see, with perseverance we wait eagerly for it. In the same way the Spirit also helps our weakness; for we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit Himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words; and He who searches the hearts knows what the mind of the Spirit is, because He intercedes for the saints according to the will of God." This is an important point, because Paul is saying, "Look, we do not know how to pray as we ought to pray. Unless we discern and know and understand by the Spirit and from the Spirit, we do not know how to pray." And Paul here is encouraging that we pray by the Spirit, which means to be praying in tongues; be praying in a spiritual, heavenly language, as some call it. But we need to pray by the Spirit. We need also to worship by the Spirit. We need the things of the Spirit in order to function, even in our prayer life. And we should be given in our prayer life to appropriate these things from God, as quickly as we can, entering into these days that we are facing.

I just entreat you to reach into the Holy Spirit. We are entering times of the end, and I believe the closer that we get, the more we get into end time events, the more we are going to find that they are spiritually initiated and spiritually caused, that there is a spiritual root to what is happening and motivating people. I am going to give you a few Scriptures to go through and read, where you are going to find spirits that are motivating and initiating the events of the world that are transpiring. Judges 9:23 talks about an evil spirit that came from God to Abimelech, and it motivated the relationship that he had with the men of Shechem. So we see world events transpiring, and these are important events. In First Samuel 18:10, we see that after the Spirit of God departed from Saul, an evil spirit came; and with that evil spirit, he sought to kill David. When we read about David, we recognize that Saul pursued him endlessly, until his death, trying to kill David. Now think about what satan was trying to accomplish in killing David, when the whole idea of the Kingdom of God in Christ's return is based upon Yeshua coming to the throne of David that was promised. And here we see the evil spirit or spirits that are come upon Saul driving him to kill David, so that that kingdom cannot be established and cannot happen.

We also see in First Kings 22, starting at verses 19-22, there is a prophet named Micaiah; and he prophesied and tells this interesting story about God needing some spirit to go and change the course of what was transpiring with Ahab. A spirit appears before the Lord and says, "I'll go down and take care of it for You, Lord." He says, "How are you going to do that?" And he says, "Well, I will be a deceiving spirit in the mouth of his prophets." So we see, in this instance in the Hebrew Scriptures, where we have deceiving spirits in the mouth of the prophets that are deceiving people like Ahab, kings, to do certain things or believe certain things; and through those deceiving spirits, the course of history is changed. That is a pretty heavy thing, but I think it is what we are going to experience; and really, we are already experiencing these types of events in the world around us. The natural world is far more motivated by the spirit world than most people can really believe. But as believers in Christ, we should not only believe it, we should understand how it works and we should have the discerning of spirits. We should have the spirit of wisdom and knowledge. We should have the ability to prophesy over these things. Because, we know as we get into the end times, it will be greater and greater.

Another Scripture, in Second Kings 6:15, we see that Elisha was being surrounded by the army, and his servant was very disturbed: "Oh my God, we are outnumbered! We are going to be destroyed here!"

Elisha prays, "Lord, open his eyes that he sees," and his eyes were open to see in the Spirit what was going on; and he saw that they were surrounded by angelic forces that were way more than the forces that were against them. So we see it on a positive level; and many times I think we need this, we need to see the positive forces of God. He is the Lord of hosts, and there are, you know, myriads and myriads of angelic forces that are surrounding Him and surrounding us, ready to engage in this world and in the things which will transpire in this world; and especially as we get closer and nearer to the days of His return.

Another Scripture that would be really important for you to read through is Second Thessalonians, starting at chapter 2, verse 1. It talks so much about the influence of the demonic realm that will come into the last days. Let me start at verses 7-8: "For the mystery of lawlessness is already at work; only he who now restrains will do so until he is taken out of the way. Then that lawless one will be revealed whom the Lord will slay with the breath of His mouth and will bring to an end by the appearance of His coming." So we see this battle ends at the appearing of the Lord. Verse 9-12: "That is, the one whose coming is in accord with the activity of Satan, with all power and signs and false wonders, and with all deception of wickedness for those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth so as to be saved. For this reason God will send upon them a deluding influence so that they will believe what is false, in order that they all may be judged."

I pray this sends chills down your spine and you just recognize, we need to understand. We need to be able to discern the truth by the Spirit of truth, the Holy Spirit, that is given to us. We cannot be susceptible to this deluding influence that will come upon the world so that they will believe that which is false. Most of what is going to happen and transpire in the conflicts of the end time are based on this very reality, that people are moved by deluding influences, by spiritual forces, that are driving what is taking place in the earth, and they are believing what is false. We must know the truth. And if we do, the truth will set us free from the delusions and the lies that are motivating mankind during the days of the end.

I believe we should contend, during this time of Pentecost, for a new outpouring of His Spirit upon us – a refreshing of this, a new level of it to come upon us. In Matthew 16:16-17, Simon Peter answers Yeshua, "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Jesus said to him, "Blessed are you, Simon Barjona, because flesh and blood did not reveal this to you, but My Father who is in heaven." Now, when you read before this, you see people are just in confusion about who Yeshua is. Is He the Christ? Is He not the Christ? Is He a false prophet? Is He one of the prophets? Who is He? They don't know, but Simon Peter comes out with this: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." And Yeshua says to him, "Hey, flesh and blood did not reveal this to you." This was something that the Father in heaven told him. This is how we need to move. In verse 18, He said, "I also say to you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build My church; and the gates of Hades will not overpower it." Upon what rock? Upon the rock of Holy Spirit revelation knowledge and understanding that showed him what was transpiring around him. And so, Peter got it right, by the Holy Spirit. And Yeshua jumps on this and says, "Look, you are simply Peter; but on this rock of revelation, I am going to build My church, and the gates of Hades will not overpower it and overcome it, because it is going to have the empowerment of the Holy Spirit." In verse 19, He says, "I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven; and whatever you bind on earth shall have been bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth shall have been loosed in heaven." We need to move in this as His Church. If we are His Church, we need to move in these keys of the Kingdom. We need to have the understanding, the word of wisdom, the word of knowledge, the discerning of spirits. We need to have that prophetic flow that is able to bind on earth that which is



bound in heaven, and to move in these things, being free in ourselves from the deception that comes to all the world.

All right, in closing this down, I want you just to remember a couple of points. We must believe God for the outpouring of the Holy Spirit upon us and within us in this generation. In First Corinthians 14:1, he says, "Pursue love, yet desire earnestly these spiritual gifts." We should be earnestly desiring and seeking this outpouring upon us. I encourage you to enter into your prayer closet and contend with God to grant you spiritual eyes to see what is happening around you. Christ did not judge by what His eyes saw or His ears heard, according to the Scriptures. And we, if we are going to be the sons of God in this generation, have to be the same way. We cannot be moved by what is transpiring in the natural. We must be able to see if there are spirit influences and factors behind that.

Lastly, I would say, pray that the Father gives to the Church the keys to His Kingdom, and the ability and the authority to bind and to loose on earth, as it is in heaven.

Amen.