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NOVEMBER 2023

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FEATURED ARTICLE

Miracles And The Hearing of Faith

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CONGREGATION OF CHURCHES

# The Purpose of "PARTNER MONTHLY" Digital Magazine

<u>magazine</u>, created to bring edification, empowerment and encouragement to its subscribers. Receive fresh perspectives on the scripture from the founder; Derick E Wilkes and from other authors and publishers of the gospel as the Lord leads.

Our objective at **CONGREGATION OF CHURCHES** is to help churches, ministries and ministers publish the gospel.

We can help with evangelistic training, theological training, website development, desktop publishing support, logo development, graphics, branding and more ... We have also founded an International CELL GROUP PARTNERSHIP ministry entitled (COC PARTNERS) which consist of Christians who are edified and empowered through our outreach resources.

In order to support our partnership community, we've developed:

- (1) <u>Live streamed services</u>, which meets two to three times per week in fellowship around the Word of God to be edified, empowered and encouraged.
- (2) Partner-Podcasts Online, (3) HealingLessons Online, (4) Christian InspirationPublications, (5) Occasional free gifts for our partners, and (6) Annual ministry conferences.

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## November 2023

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# **Good Day Partners**

## PARTNER LETTER

As citizens of God's kingdom, it is natural for you and I to operate from the realm that is **above and beyond this natural realm**. It's called the <u>supernatural realm</u>. The word supernatural is derived from a Greek root word "pneumatikós" meaning spiritual or supernatural.

According to Jesus; the supernatural miraculous realm is an invisible realm, which has an effect on the physical natural realm. In John chapter three, Jesus uses the wind as a metaphor in revealing the Holy Spirit. He describes the effect of the Kingdom of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit in the believer to the way, the wind moves and affects the natural. However, the opportunity, for the presence of the Kingdom of God in the person of the Holy Spirit, to dwell within mankind, follows being born again and you cannot be born again, without believing that God raised Jesus from the dead and then accepting Jesus as Lord and savior. Find out more via our broadcasts this week.

(Broadcasts)



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**Galatians 3:5** – <u>He</u> therefore that ministereth (Supplies) to you the Spirit, and <u>worketh miracles</u> among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by the <u>hearing of faith</u>?

The question which the Apostle Paul asks within this verse is rhetorical, and the answer is implied within the context of the verse. The answer to Paul's question is: **THE HEARING OF FAITH**.

The hearing of faith will connect us to the supply of God's Spirit which will enable us to flow with the realm of miracles. Listen to this verse from the book of Philippians chapter one and verse nineteen.

**Philippians 1:19** - For I know that this shall turn to my salvation through your prayer, and the **supply** of <u>the Spirit</u> of Jesus Christ,

What is meant by "SUPPLY of the Spirit? The initial supply of God's Spirit comes with the new birth experience, yet there is a measure or supply of God's Spirit which we can tap into subsequent to the new birth experience, enabling us to be effective in ministry.

This phrase "supply of the
Spirit" is akin the the phrase
used in Galatians chapter three
and verse five of our golden text:

**Galatians 3:5** - He therefore that **ministereth** (Supplies) to you the Spirit, ...

If we are going to tap into the supply of the Spirit and the flow of miracles, we must engage the process labeled as the "hearing of faith". The hearing of faith is what brought about God's initial supply; furthermore, the hearing of faith is necessary for the ongoing supply.

# What is the hearing of faith?

Listen to Romans chapter ten and verse seventeen:

**Romans 10:17** – So then, faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

The Greek root word, for "word" in verse seventeen, is "RHEMA".

The Rhema is the word spoken by God's Spirit to your spirit. When God speaks, you'll hear Him, if you have ears to hear. In order to hear God when He speaks, it requires being in fellowship with Him. When you're in fellowship with the Father it keeps you CURRENT with what He is SAYING.

The hearing of faith is only possible when you are ...

HEARING. However, If your attitude is: "I HEARD THAT ALREADY" then you will NOT hear faith when it comes", as you wouldn't be in HEARING mode.

Remember, according to the text, it's the **HEARING OF FAITH** that connects you to the supply of the Spirit and the working of miracles.

What are we looking to convey to you? The hearing of faith requires **hearing**.

Once you hear, you have the opportunity to have faith; yet you still must choose to believe what you heard.

Your corresponding action to what you heard and believed is called faith.

Faith is an act!

When you release your faith in what God has said or is saying, you'll tap into the power of God.

Here are some additional words and definitions you ought to have as it relates to our study.

Miracle – which is derived from two Greek root words – "DUNAMIS and SEMEION". The word DUNAMIS renders "power" and refers to works of a supernatural origin.

The word SEMEION renders SIGNS and serves as God's mark or indicator.



**Miracle** - Can also be defined as mighty manifestations of God's power or ... **Power that MAKES POSSIBLE**.

Now consider this; "ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE TO HIM THAT BELIEVES".

So then, faith connects us to the power that makes possible.

**Wonders** - Is derived from the Greek root word TERAS and refers to something that evokes astonishment or amazement in the beholder.

**Supernatural** – Is derived from the Greek root word PNEUMATIKOS, rendering spiritual or supernatural. The supernatural can be an all encompassing word for <u>signs</u>, <u>wonders</u> and <u>miracles</u>. The supernatural is the realm that is above and beyond the norm.

I like another word; "WORKS".

The word for "WORK" is also derived from a derivation of the Greek root word "dunamis" and is spelled "dynamin".

The word "work" refers to power in several places. Here's what we are looking to emphasize to you:

What many people label as a miracle, sign and wonder, is simply God at "WORK".

It's a manifestation of God at work.

Listen to how the book of Genesis refers to what God did in creation.

Genesis 2:1-3 - Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all the host of them. Vs 2 - And on the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. Vs 3 - And God blessed the seventh day, and sanctified it: because that in it he had rested from all his work which God created and made.

Again, from God's perspective, what natural men refer to as miracles, is simply ... "WORK".

Listen to Jesus' communication concerning the DOING of His father's WORK.

John 14:10 - Believest thou not that I am in the Father, and the Father in me? the WORDS that I speak unto you I speak not of myself: but the Father that dwelleth in me, he doeth the WORKS.

The word for WORKS in this verse, is pertaining to the power of God. Our responsibility is to simply speak His WORD in faith and allow Him to do the WORK.

Another scripture reference which illustrates this, is found in Mark chapter six and verse five.

**Mark 6:5** - And he could there do no mighty **work**, save that he laid his hands upon a few sick folk, and healed them.

Again, we can see how the word for <u>work</u> is referring to the power of God.

Another angle of insight, I'd like to share with you regarding the HEARING of FAITH, has to do with **SOUND**.

**Galatians 3:5** – He therefore that ministereth (Supplies) to you the Spirit, and worketh miracles among you, doeth he it by the works of the law, or by **the hearing of faith**?

Since there is a <u>hearing of faith</u>, that presupposes that faith ... has a <u>sound</u>.

In order to hear faith when it comes, we must know what we are listening for and where we are listening from. We are listening for RHEMA and we are listening with the ear of our spirit.

There is the sound of faith coming TO YOU and then there is the sound of faith which is to flow FROM YOU.

The sound of faith is to be heard **by you**, and then there is the sound of faith which is to be heard **by your** situation.

The mountains which opposes God's will in your life, need to hear the sound of faith coming **from** you. Any situation you find yourself dealing with ... needs to hear your faith. (Mark 11:23)

Your finances need to hear the sound of faith. Your body needs to hear the sound of faith. Your bills need to hear the sound of faith.

Your bills didn't go to church with you on Sunday; therefore, when you get home from Church, you'd need to preach the message to your bills, so that they could hear it. Your situations need to hear the sound of faith and not just you. Listen to what Jesus says about releasing faith to your situations:

Mark 11:23 - For verily <u>I say</u> unto you, That whosoever <u>shall say</u> unto <u>this mountain</u>, <u>Be</u> thou removed, and <u>be thou cast into the sea</u>; and shall not doubt in his heart, but <u>shall</u> <u>believe that those things which he saith</u> shall come to pass; <u>he shall have</u> <u>whatsoever he saith</u>.

## That's all for now!

Derick E Wilkes
Evangelist and Pastor
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1 Thessalonians 5:18 - In every thing give thanks: for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus concerning you.

Give thanks **IN** every thing and **NOT** <u>for</u> everything.

We don't thank God <u>for</u> sickness, We don't thank God <u>for</u> lack, We don't thank God <u>for</u> problems in the marriage.

<u>In</u> everything give thanks, but not <u>for</u> everything.

When we engage in the **GIVING** of **THANKS** in everything, on a consistent basis, it's because we are full.

To be full is to be filled to capacity. To be filled with something is also to be under its influence: It means to be permeated by an influence

Are you FULL of thanks?

Thanksgiving is being aware of who God is and what He has done and is doing.

Is your thanks full? Are you filled with thanks to capacity, so that, all lack of gratitude, and complaining is displaced?

Thanksgiving can bring wholeness into your life. Thanksgiving can also bring increase into your life.

Check out the following scriptural illustrations:

Jesus fed the multitude of thousands, and we can see how **thanksgiving** preceded the manifestation of the blessing upon the people.

Continues next page

**PG.11** 

Matthew 15:32 - Then Jesus called his disciples unto him, and said, I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way. Vs 33 And his disciples say unto him, Whence should we have so much bread in the wilderness, as to fill so great a multitude? Vs 34 - And Jesus saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? And they said, Seven, and a few little fishes. Vs 35 And he commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. Vs 36 - And he took the seven loaves and the fishes, and gave thanks, and brake them, and gave to his disciples, and the disciples to the multitude. Vs 37 - And they did all eat, and were filled: and they took up of the broken meat that was left seven baskets full. Vs 38 - And they that did eat were four thousand men, beside women and children.

Another illustration is found in Luke chapter seventeen, when ten Lepers were healed by the power of God and one of them turned back to give glory to God, to acknowledge Him, to give thanks and was made whole.

Luke 17:11 And it came to pass, as he went to Jerusalem, that he passed through the midst of Samaria and Galilee. Vs 12 And as he entered into a certain village, there met him ten men that were lepers, which stood afar off: Vs 13 And they lifted up their voices, and said, Jesus, Master, have mercy on us. Vs 14 And when he saw them, he said unto them, Go shew yourselves unto the priests. And it came to pass, that, as they went, they were cleansed.

Vs 15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God, Vs 16 And fell down on his face at his feet, giving him thanks: and he was a Samaritan. Vs 17 And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? Vs 18 There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. Vs 19 And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy faith hath made thee whole.

Although ten Lepers were cleansed, yet, only one returned to give thanks or glory to God and he received something greater than healing, he was made whole. That's different than just the healing.

To be made whole meant that nothing was missing or broken. This Leper was made complete.

When we are full of thanks, we will give thanks at every opportunity. Thanksgiving or thankfulness will bring increase, it will bring the blessing into manifestation.

As I was meditating on this season of thanksgiving; the following thought, came to me: **Thanks-giving** is something that you give.

I have a question for you; <u>Can you afford to give thanks</u>? You can, if you are full. The opposite of being FULL is to be EMPTY. Are you THANK-EMPTY? Or are you THANK-FULL? If you are THANK-FULL, then you'd abound with thanksgiving consistently.

Let's BE FULL in this THANKSGIVING, in this season. No, I'm not speaking of being full of food; I am speaking of being full of thanks. How do I get FULL of THANKS?

- Remember the goodness of the Lord.
- Acknowledge His faithfulness.
- Acknowledge His loving kindness.
- Believe to see the goodness of the Lord.
- Begin to give thanks by faith daily.

These things will help you to get FULL.



You might say: "Pastor, I don't always feel like giving thanks". Well you need to know that your feelings are outside of ... the faith zone. You can give-thanks by faith, independent of how you feel.

In speaking of the Leper, Jesus said that this man's faith made him whole. So then, the giving of thanks was an act of faith.

**Luke 17:17-19** - And Jesus answering said, Were there not ten cleansed? but where are the nine? Vs 18 - There are not found that returned to give glory to God, save this stranger. Vs 19 - And he said unto him, Arise, go thy way: thy **faith** hath made thee **whole**.

Also, listen to this reference from the book of Colossians:

**Colossians 2:6-7** - As ye have therefore received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk ye in him: Vs 7 Rooted and built up in him, and stablished in the **faith**, as ye have been taught, abounding therein with **thanksgiving**.

Faith has many companions, i.e. ... patience, joy, expectation, peace, your words, righteousness consciousness, and yet, there is another companion and that is thanksgiving.



Here's something else we need to know.

Thanks-giving has a <u>front side</u> and a <u>back</u> <u>side</u>. You could GIVE THANKS ... BEFORE you experience manifestations of the power of God and then you could also GIVE THANKS, AFTER you experience manifestations of the power of God.

To give thanks, after having your prayers answered is proper etiquette, it's courteous and it expresses an attitude of gratitude and there is a measure of faith also present, in that you are thanking God of whom you cannot see.

Furthermore, a greater measure of faith is present, when we give thanks for something that has **not** yet manifested.

When we thank God in advance for what has not yet been manifested ... we are essentially "calling things which be not as though they were". (Romans 4:17-21)

The following verse illustrates what I've just described.

**Philippians 4:6** - Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God.

According to this verse, we are to givethanks ahead of the granted request.

Notice how this request has thanksgiving with it on the front side. When following this attitude of thanksgiving, ... we then experience the fruit of that action.

Let's also read Philippians chapter four and verse seven:

**Philippians 4:7** - <u>And</u> (**THEN**) the peace of God ... (Emphasis added).

Philippians 4:7 - And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

We should engage both ... <u>BEFORE</u> and <u>AFTER</u> ... thanksgiving.

Front side thanksgiving and Backside thanksgiving.

Thanksgiving is an act of faith!

Like faith, thanksgiving pleases God.

Look at Psalm chapter sixty-nine.

**Psalm 69:30** – I will praise the name of God with a song, and will magnify him with **thanksgiving**. **Vs 31** – This also shall **please** the Lord better than an ox or bullock that hath horns and hoofs.

What does verse thirty-one reveal to us other than the fact that thanksgiving pleases God? We find within this verse that thanksgiving is a better sacrifice than the bull or ox.

A sacrifice is when you give up one thing for another thing that you deem greater. There are times when you might not feel like giving thanks. In those times, we should allow thanksgiving to be greater than our feelings.

## That's all for now!

Derick E Wilkes
Evangelist and Pastor
President and Founder

# **Congregation of Churches**





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The Apostle Paul in writing to His partners at Philippi, revealed that God would supply for their needs as they (his partners) were partakers of his work in ministry. The same grace that was available to Paul in the field as an Apostle would also be available to his partners although they were not engaged in ministry to the same degree.

Listen to Philippians 4:15

Philippians 4:15 - Now ye
Philippians know also, that in
the beginning of the gospel,
when I departed from
Macedonia, no church
communicated with me as
concerning giving and
receiving, but ye only.

Now listen to verse nineteen:

**Philippians 4:19** - But my God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus.

Why would the Apostle Paul say that <u>his</u> God would supply their needs?

Paul did <u>not</u> say; <u>MY God</u> shall supply <u>MY needs</u>, or <u>YOUR GOD</u> shall supply <u>YOUR needs</u>. Instead, he said; <u>MY</u> <u>GOD</u> shall supply <u>YOUR needs</u>.

The equation was my and your!

Did he and his partners serve different Gods? No, of course not!

He was simply sharing with them that THEY would be PARTAKERS of HIS grace. They would know the same benefit and reward he knew as an Apostle working directly in the field.

It, would be helpful for me to define what the word PARTAKE means.

PARTAKE means to SHARE FULLY!

PARTAKE is not the same as TAKE PART.

TAKE PART is to take part but not all whereas; PARTAKE is to share fully.

Listen to this reference from the book of Hebrews chapter two and verse fourteen.

**Hebrews 2:14** - Forasmuch then as the children are <u>partakers</u> of flesh and blood, he also himself likewise <u>took part</u> of the same; that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;

Jesus **took part** of flesh and blood. He took the flesh part of the first Adam, but not the blood.

Mankind however partook of both flesh and blood of the first Adam.

This word PARTAKE as seen in the book of Hebrews is the same word the Apostle Paul will use in Philippians chapter one and verse seven.

Listen to Philippians 1:7

**Philippians 1:7** - Even as it is meet for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel, ye all are **partakers** of my grace.

Again, who was Paul speaking to?

He was speaking to his partners in the gospel.

If you are a partner to a ministry, you should NOT only TAKE-PART, instead you should PARTAKE.

Partners PARTAKE of the same grace upon the ministry they are connected with.

By way of illustration; that would look like one Christian investing in the work of the kingdom financially and another going into the field or teaching and preaching the gospel. The one who sent is rewarded in the same way as the one who went into the field.

There is a precedent for this even in the old testament.

In 1 Samuel 30. David and his men pursued their enemy, the Amalekites. Some of David's men had become tired when they reached a certain brook called Besor. Two hundred (200) of his men were too exhausted to go on. David instructed the weary ones to remain behind and guard the supplies. Then he and the rest of the men went on across, found the Amalekites, and—by the power of God—defeated them.

They not only defeated the army and recovered all their own possessions, they took what belonged to the Amalekites as well. So when they came back across the Besor, they brought with them a great spoil! When the fighting men rejoined the 200 others, some of them didn't want to share the rewards of that war with those who had stayed behind.

"Because they went not with us, we will not give them aught of the spoil that we have recovered," they said.

It was at that moment that David, a man after God's own heart, officially established the principle of partnership.

**1 Sam. 30:23-25** - Ye shall not do so, my brethren, with that which the Lord hath given us...but as his part is that goeth down to the battle, so shall his part be that tarrieth by the stuff: they shall part alike. And it was so from that day forward, that he made it a statute and an ordinance for Israel unto this day.

# Concludes next page

You may not be on the front lines of the fivefold ministry. Yet, because of partnership with a minister who is doing the work of God, fighting alongside him or her through prayer or through giving, you'll receive an eternal reward for every person who is born again, and every believer who is strengthened or healed or delivered as a result of that minister's endeavors.

Become a partaker of God's grace through partnership.

## That's all for now!

# **Derick E Wilkes Evangelist and Pastor**

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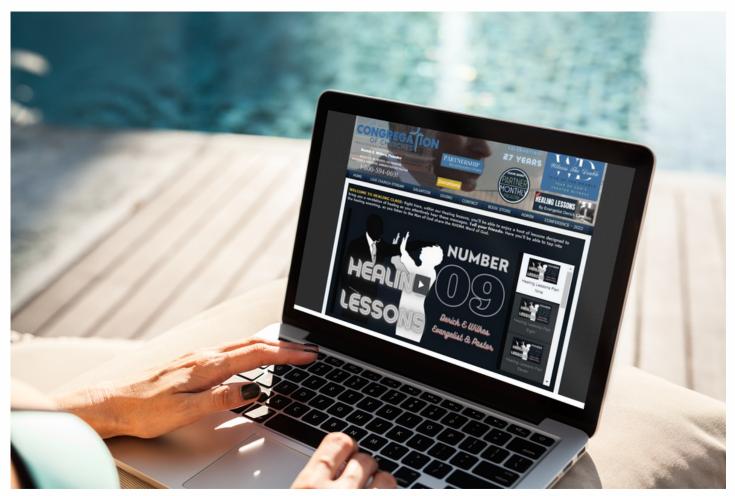


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