

Becoming a Portal of Obedience, p2

Spoken by Pastor Anthony Higginson at The Dream Centre, Manchester,
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Genesis 28:10-22 *Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran. 11 When he reached a certain place, he stopped for the night because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones there, he put it under his head and lay down to sleep. 12 He had a dream in which he saw a stairway 13 resting on the earth, with its top reaching to heaven, and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. 13 There above it stood the LORD, and he said: "I am the LORD, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac. I will give you and your descendants the land on which you are lying. 14 Your descendants will be like the dust of the earth, and you will spread out to the west and to the east, to the north and to the south. All peoples on earth will be blessed through you and your offspring. 15 I am with you and will watch over you wherever you go, and I will bring you back to this land. I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you. 16 When Jacob awoke from his sleep, he thought, "Surely the LORD is in this place, and I was not aware of it." 17 He was afraid and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven." 18 Early the next morning Jacob took the stone he had placed under his head and set it up as a pillar and poured oil on top of it. 19 He called that place Bethel, though the city used to be called Luz. 20 Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear 21 so that I return safely to my father's house, then the LORD will be my God 22 and this stone that I have set up as a pillar will be God's house, and of all that you give me I will give you a tenth*

Intro

Jacob shows us the power and importance of being a portal or gateway that heaven can pass through, touching the earth. Last week, we looked at how Mary became the gateway that heaven could pass through and by which the earth could receive a saviour.

- 1. There was no way Jacob could encounter heaven unless heaven first opened up the gateway to him.**

When people do not know God, heaven has to supernaturally open to them and this is happening more than you think in our city. People are secretly having God encounters made available to them.

You and I are not the only ones praying in this city. Hindus are praying; Buddhist, Mormons and Muslims and God is revealing Himself to these people. Never think God only speaks to you Christians. God has to cut through people's religion to bring them to Himself like He did with the apostle Paul.

Fatimah, a lady who once attended here, spoke of how, (as a Muslim in Iran), she had angelic encounters and how she was taken into heaven, seeing Jesus as the Truth and no-one had spoken to her of Christianity. She went to heaven as a Muslim came back down a believer - Go figure that out.

2. When the portal opens up to you, God must speak with His own mouth

Genesis 28: 13 *I am the Lord, the God of your father Abraham and the God of Isaac; the land on which you are standing on I will give it to you and your descendants.*

- ✚ Imagine the portal over your life opening up and in one conversation God announces Himself. **Who is He is to you personally?**
 - ✚ He knows geographically where you are in proportion to your destiny, so if you are in Africa, God sees you there but also sees you here in Manchester. God speaks from where you are, to where you will go and be.
 - ✚ He has purposed your children to inherit that which he is speaking to you about.
- **Whatever God has said to you he will fulfill for not any of God's word will fall to the ground. This is why God's word must come to you when the portal opens.**
 - **Whenever God speaks He must then find a channel so His word spoken from His mouth can become fulfilled.**

2Chronicles 6:1 *Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he would dwell in a dark cloud; 2, I have built a magnificent temple for you, a place for you to dwell forever. 3 While the whole assembly of Israel was standing there, the king turned around and blessed them. 4 Then he said: "Praise be to the LORD, the God of Israel, who with his hands has fulfilled what he promised with his mouth to my father David. For he said, 5 'Since the day I brought my people out of Egypt, I have not chosen a city in any tribe of Israel to have a temple built for my Name to be there, nor have I chosen anyone to be the leader over my people Israel. 6 But now I have chosen Jerusalem for my Name to be there, and I have chosen David to rule my people Israel.' 7 "My father David had it in his heart to build a temple for the Name of the LORD, the God of Israel. 8 But the LORD said to my father David, 'Because it was in your heart to build a temple for my Name, you did well to have this in your heart*

- **When you become the portal of obedience and you embrace the word, you become highly favoured, bringing protection and provision to your house.**

Genesis 28:20 *Then Jacob made a vow, saying, "If God will be with me and will watch over me on this journey I am taking and will give me food to eat and clothes to wear so that I return safely to my father's house, then the LORD will be my God when you chose you become the highly favored one with protection and provision and progress comes to your life. I said last week if you are to become the portal of obedience the word must come to you.*

2 Chronicles 6:6 *But now I have chosen Jerusalem for my Name to be there, and I have chosen David to rule my people Israel. **What God chooses, He protects.***

- **The Lord does not speak anything that He does not have power to bring about.**

You must ask yourself has God (as we have taught you how to open the portal over your own life) spoken specifically to you?

If God hasn't spoken to you and all you have is a thought or a good idea, then the devil will also come to you to test you like he did to Eve. Without God's word, you will be shaken and no doubt fall. If you have the word, faith will come and all things become possible to them that believe.

Peter understood that when God speaks you obey

Luke 5:2-6 *he saw at the water's edge two boats, left there by the fishermen, who were washing their nets. 3 He got into one of the boats, the one belonging to Simon, and asked him to put out a little from shore. Then he sat down and taught the people from the boat. 4 When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, "Put out into deep water, and let down 25 the nets for a catch. 5 Simon answered, "Master, we've worked hard all night and haven't caught anything. But because you say so, I will let down the nets. 6 When they had done so, they caught such a large number of fish that their nets began to break*

Paul understood you entrust that which has been spoken to you

2 Timothy 1:12 *That is why I am suffering as I am. Yet I am not ashamed, because I know whom I have believed, and am convinced that he is able to guard what I have entrusted to him for that day*

Psalms 20:7-8 *Some trust in chariots and some in horses, but we trust in the name of the LORD our God. They are brought to their knees and fall, but we rise up and stand firm*

- **When the proceeding word comes, God has power to do with His own hands that which He has spoken.**
- 1 Politicians speak but have little power to do or act. We let them talk and talk but they have no power to do.
 - 2 Church committees sit and discuss but have no power to change themselves, the people or the environment.
 - 3 FIFA (the world's football governing committee) sits and discusses goal line technology but still they have no power to make it happen after years of discussing it.

- **If the proceeding word is to become fulfilled, the man who believes must become that vehicle necessary for fulfillment**

Titus became a portal through which God could refresh others.

2Corinthians 7:5 *For when we came into Macedonia, this body of ours had no rest, but we were harassed at every turn—conflicts on the outside, fears within. 6 But God, who comforts the downcast, comforted us by the coming of Titus*

With one man God can make things happen such as...

- 1 With Abraham God created a nation.
- 2 With one Moses Israel was led out of Egypt.
- 3 With one man Joseph was able to bring governance to Egypt.
- 4 With one man Paul reached Asia.
- 5 With one man, Titus, God could reach Crete.
- 6 With one man Tony, Jimmy or Sarah, God can reach the nations.

- **To become a portal of obedience, a place must be chosen in order to bring God's word to fulfillment.**

If you are from Droylsden or say Manchester, then this is the place of God's choosing. God needs a physical place in which He can work despite God being spiritual, for He works in physical places. If the man is born in Openshaw, like I was and listens to God's word, then the work will start in Openshaw.

An Illustration of my point as one born in Openshaw: Though born in a house rather than in a hospital, many years later I pioneered a church and I preached on the very spot that I was born. Now this is destiny, my friend.

If you are the one working in your company, then any kind of revival will work there for GOD must first find a man in a place and though that place is insignificant, the man in the place makes that a significant place.

Illustrate Droylsden: The place is nothing until God finds a man and from that man becoming a portal, the place is changed from being **insignificant** to becoming **significant**. *The people make the place important; if nothing happens there then the place is unimportant. Nazareth needed Jesus in order to make Nazareth significant.* God isn't respective of many places although He did choose Jerusalem, but until God finds His man then and only then does it become a significant hotspot.

Zion is special for God is there and it is the place of His dwelling.

Zechariah 8:1-9 Again the word of the LORD Almighty came to me. ² This is what the LORD Almighty says: "I am very jealous for Zion; I am burning with jealousy for her".

Where two or three are gathered there I am in the midst. The issue here is wherever two or three are gathered.

- **If we are to become a portal of obedience then we must build Him a place in which we can keep His name, presence, people and power on the earth**

We need a whole house to keep His glory down here on the earth. 2 Chronicles 6:7

2Chronicles 5:13 The trumpeters and singers joined in unison, as with one voice, to give praise and thanks to the LORD. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals and other instruments, they raised their voices in praise to the LORD and sang: "He is good; his love endures forever. Then the temple of the LORD was filled with a cloud, ¹⁴ and the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the LORD filled the temple of God. **2Chronicles 6:1** Then Solomon said, "The LORD has said that he would dwell in a dark cloud; ² I have built a magnificent temple for you, a place for you to dwell forever

Conclusion

The glory of God came upon a tabernacle of Moses. The glory of God came upon the temple of Solomon. It never came upon an individual person, but now, as we build God a house, the bible teaches us that God will fill the whole house with His glory putting His name on the house, in a place which means His authority. God putting His people, power, presence and glory together in one place.

1. **God has spoke with His mouth**
2. **God is fulfilling it with His hands**
3. **He needs a man for the fulfillment**
4. **He needs a place for the fulfillment**
5. **He needs a house that will keep all the resources for the fulfillment**
6. **2 Chronicles 6:9-10** God needs a son who can bring continuity to that which He has begun.

God doesn't want to do it just once but again and again. Miracles happen because someone discovered the pattern in which to continue that which God started. We must continue on in the pattern of making and advancing the kingdom. If we stop preaching and sharing our faith then people will stop getting saved, transformed and upgraded but if we continue then we raise an army of believers.