

# The Great Deception

*How To Keep From Falling Away in the Last Days  
(Part 9)*

By Pastor Grant Williams



The New Testament writers were responding to the question asked by the church... "Is this the Tribulation"? Did we miss the Rapture. The reason why the question was asked is they were told of the Rapture and the 7 year Tribulation & how terrible the Tribulation period would be by the Old Testament Prophets.

But, in the midst of the difficult times they were facing at the hands of the Roman Empire they realized just how little they knew and/or had faith in what God's Word told them regarding the signs.

Just like when Jesus revealed Himself to the disciples after the resurrection, God's Word said many doubted it was Him even though He said He would rise again.

Today, at the Time of the End, prior to the Rapture of the church we are in the midst of difficult times, spiritually difficult times as well as in the natural. But, many in the Church are now realizing just how little they know and/or have faith in what God's Word not only says about the signs of His return but what sin is. The Bible foretold that many pastors, preachers and teachers would lead many astray or deceive & dupe many in the church about sin, judgment, righteousness and "things" to come.

Paul, in addressing the church in Hebrews instructed the Church in response to the question, what must we do to be ready for this End Times, said great faith would be needed. He then reminded them of the Old Testament and what happened when they lived by faith.

Remember what James said regarding faith, the definition from God's Word regarding what accompanies the sign of faith...

**James 2:26 AMPC**

*26 For as the human body apart from the spirit is lifeless, **so faith apart from [its] works of obedience is also dead.***

**James 2:26 KJV**

*26 For as the body without the spirit is dead, so faith without works is dead also.*

Faith is not just what you believe, but acting on that belief in obedience to God's Word or commands to prove you have faith or believe and trust God. Without the act of obedience in building the Ark and then getting on, Noah would have died.

**Hebrews 11:1-40 AMPC**

**1 Now faith is the assurance (the confirmation, the title deed) of the things [we] hope for, being the proof of things [we] do not see and the conviction of their reality [faith perceiving as real fact what is not revealed to the senses].**

**Hebrews 11:1 KJV**

11 Now faith is the substance of **things** hoped for, the evidence of **things** not seen.

“Things” defined: God’s Word, Promises in God’s Word, Words that have already been spoken by God.

**2 For by [faith—trust and holy fervor born of faith] the men of old had divine testimony borne to them and obtained a good report.**

3 By faith we understand that the worlds [during the successive ages] were framed (fashioned, put in order, and equipped for their intended purpose) by the word of God, so that what we see was not made out of things which are visible.

4 [Prompted, actuated] by faith Abel brought God a better and more acceptable sacrifice than Cain, because of which it was testified of him that he was righteous [that he was upright and in right standing with God], and God bore witness by accepting and acknowledging his gifts. And though he died, yet [through the incident] he is still speaking.

5 Because of faith Enoch was caught up and transferred to heaven, so that he did not have a glimpse of death; and he was not found, because God had translated him. For even before he was taken to heaven, he received testimony [still on record] that he had pleased and been satisfactory to God.

**6 But without faith it is impossible to please and be satisfactory to Him.** For whoever would come near to God must [necessarily] believe that God exists and that He is the rewarder of those who earnestly and diligently seek Him [out].

**7 [Prompted] by faith Noah, being forewarned by God concerning events of which as yet there was no visible sign,** took heed and diligently and reverently **constructed and prepared an ark for the deliverance of his own family.** By this [his faith which relied on God] he passed judgment and sentence on the world's unbelief and became an heir and possessor of righteousness (that relation of being right into which God puts the person who has faith).

**8 [Urged on] by faith Abraham, when he was called, obeyed and went forth** to a place which he was destined to receive as an inheritance; and he went, although he did not know or trouble his mind about where he was to go.

**9 [Prompted] by faith** he dwelt as a temporary resident in the land which was designated in the promise [of God, though he was like a stranger] in a strange country, living in tents with Isaac and Jacob, fellow heirs with him of the same promise.

**10** For he was [waiting expectantly and confidently] looking forward to the city which has fixed and firm foundations, whose Architect and Builder is God.

**11 Because of faith also Sarah** herself received physical power to conceive a child, even when she was long past the age for it, because she considered [God] Who had given her the promise to be reliable and trustworthy and true to His word.

12 So from one man, though he was physically as good as dead, there have sprung descendants whose number is as the stars of heaven and as countless as the innumerable sands on the seashore.

13 These people all died controlled and sustained by their faith, but not having received the tangible fulfillment of [God's] promises, only having seen it and greeted it from a great distance by faith, and all the while acknowledging and confessing that they were strangers and temporary residents and exiles upon the earth.

14 Now those people who talk as they did show plainly that they are in search of a fatherland (their own country).

15 If they had been thinking with [homesick] remembrance of that country from which they were emigrants, they would have found constant opportunity to return to it.

16 But the truth is that they were yearning for and aspiring to a better and more desirable country, that is, a heavenly [one]. For that reason God is not ashamed to be called their God [even to be surnamed their God—the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob], for He has prepared a city for them.

17 **By faith Abraham, when he was put to the test [while the testing of his faith was still in progress], had already brought Isaac for an offering;** he who had gladly received and welcomed [God's] promises was ready to sacrifice his only son,

18 Of whom it was said, Through Isaac shall your descendants be reckoned.

19 **For he reasoned that God was able to raise [him] up even from among the dead.** Indeed in the sense that Isaac was figuratively dead [potentially sacrificed], he did [actually] receive him back from the dead.

20 *[With eyes of] faith Isaac, looking far into the future, invoked blessings upon Jacob and Esau.*

21 *[Prompted] by faith Jacob, when he was dying, blessed each of Joseph's sons and bowed in prayer over the top of his staff.*

22 *[Actuated] by faith Joseph, when nearing the end of his life, referred to [the promise of God for] the departure of the Israelites out of Egypt and gave instructions concerning the burial of his own bones.*

23 *[Prompted] by faith Moses, after his birth, was kept concealed for three months by his parents, because they saw how comely the child was; and they were not overawed and terrified by the king's decree.*

24 *[Aroused] by faith Moses, when he had grown to maturity and become great, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter,*

25 *Because he preferred to share the oppression [suffer the hardships] and bear the shame of the people of God rather than to have the fleeting enjoyment of a sinful life.*

26 *He considered the contempt and abuse and shame [borne for] the Christ (the Messiah Who was to come) to be greater wealth than all the treasures of Egypt, for he looked forward and away to the reward (recompense).*

27 *[Motivated] by faith he left Egypt behind him, being unawed and undismayed by the wrath of the king; for he never flinched but held staunchly to his purpose and endured steadfastly as one who gazed on Him Who is invisible.*

28 *By faith (simple trust and confidence in God) he instituted and carried out the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood [on the doorposts],*

so that the destroyer of the firstborn (the angel) might not touch those [of the children of Israel].

29 [Urged on] **by faith the people crossed the Red Sea** as [though] on dry land, **but when the Egyptians tried to do the same thing they were swallowed up [by the sea].**

30 **Because of faith the walls of Jericho fell** down **after** they had been encompassed for seven days [by the Israelites].

31 [Prompted] **by faith Rahab** the prostitute was not destroyed along with those who refused to believe and obey, **because she had received the spies in peace** [without enmity].

32 And what shall I say further? For time would fail me to tell of Gideon, Barak, Samson, Jephthah, of David and Samuel and the prophets,

33 Who by [the help of] faith subdued kingdoms, administered justice, obtained promised blessings, closed the mouths of lions,

34 Extinguished the power of raging fire, escaped the devourings of the sword, out of frailty and weakness won strength and became stalwart, even mighty and resistless in battle, routing alien hosts.

35 [Some] women received again their dead by a resurrection. Others were tortured [g]to death with clubs, refusing to accept release [offered on the terms of denying their faith], so that they might be resurrected to a better life.

36 Others had to suffer the trial of mocking and scourging and even chains and imprisonment.

37 They were stoned to death; they were lured with tempting offers [to renounce their faith]; they were sawn asunder; they were slaughtered by the sword; [while they were alive] they had to go about wrapped in the skins of sheep and goats, utterly destitute, oppressed, cruelly treated—

38 [Men] of whom the world was not worthy—roaming over the desolate places and the mountains, and [living] in caves and caverns and holes of the earth.

39 And all of these, though they won divine approval by [means of] their faith, did not receive the fulfillment of what was promised,

40 Because God had us in mind and had something better and greater in view for us, so that they [these heroes and heroines of faith] should not come to perfection apart from us [before we could join them].

By faith, we are to act in obedience to God's Word and know the signs of His return. We are commanded to go make disciples, to be His witness, to sound the alarm, to blast the trumpet, to expose wickedness. Why? So those in the Church are not caught unaware and can join the remnant church in being the End Times witness and know the signs of Jesus' return.

Remember, as disciples of Jesus Christ or imitators of the Son of God we are commanded to do what He instructs in His Word. We show Him our love by our obedience to His commands.

**Matthew 28:16-20 KJV**

16 Then the eleven disciples went away into Galilee, into a mountain where Jesus had appointed them.

17 And when they saw him, they worshipped him: **but some doubted.**

18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth.



*19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost:*

*20 **Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you:** and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.*

Satan knows it's our job and he knows the command as disciples or followers/imitators of Christ that we are to go make disciples and to sound the alarm because the signs reveal what the Prophets foretold, "this is that!" Satan knows and so should we, that as the disciple, follower or imitator of Christ, we show and prove our love by keeping the commands.

### **John 14:15-17 KJV**

**15 If ye love me, keep my commandments.**

*16 And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;*

*17 Even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you.*

Jesus is the light and He commands us to observe and do all the things in His Word. We need the promised Holy Spirit and to walk in that same anointing as The Anointed One. The same Spirit will guide us into all truth regarding: sin, judgment, righteousness and "things" to come.

### **Luke 4:18 AMPC**

*18 The Spirit of the Lord [is] upon Me, because He has anointed Me **[the Anointed One, the Messiah]** to preach the good news*

*(the Gospel) to the poor; He has sent Me to announce release to the captives and recovery of sight to the blind, to send forth as delivered those who are oppressed [who are downtrodden, bruised, crushed, and broken down by calamity],*

**John 20:21 AMPC**

*21 Then Jesus said to them again, Peace to you! [Just] as the Father has sent Me forth, so I am sending you.*

**1 John 2:27 KJV**

*27 But the anointing which ye have received of him abideth in you, and ye need not that any man teach you: **(That believer doesn't need anything that is not already found written in the Word)** but as the same anointing teacheth you of all things, and is truth, and is no lie, and even as it hath taught you, ye shall abide in him.*

**1 John 2:27 AMPC**

*27 But as for you, the anointing (the sacred appointment, the unction) which you received from Him abides [permanently] in you; [so] then you have no need that anyone should instruct you. But just as His anointing teaches you concerning everything and is true and is no falsehood, so you must abide in (live in, never depart from) Him [being rooted in Him, knit to Him], just as [His anointing] has taught you [to do].*

**The anointing on THE Anointed One is “THE Anointing” and we are the body of the same anointing...If we are in the Anointed Jesus then we are the body of that anointing. That anointing comes down from His head and onto or into His body and we are that body. It's not a different anointing, it's not a lesser anointing.**

The anointing is alive and in every born again believer. It is the anointing of God, the anointing of life - to live life in abundance, more than abundantly. Being led by the Spirit of the living God and anointed in His grace to do things that the world can't even think about doing.

**John 10:10 KJV**

*10 The thief cometh not, but for to steal, and to kill, and to destroy: I am come that they might have life, and that they might have it more abundantly.*

So, that anointing is in there to reveal these “things” to you. The Holy Spirit is under command to carry that out and that anointing is in there to make decisions and to inquire of the Lord and to use the Word of God as ***direction, protection*** and ***perfection*** along with ***correction***. Without the ***correction***, we are not going to get to ***perfection*** and you sure won't get the ***protection***... why? Because you can't get the ***direction***.

Wherever you are at right now, submit to Him and He will start to work with you right there, He will help you climb up and out of the mess you are in. God is gracious, so understand that by faith, God is not like a man that holds grudges - move on with it and let God move in you.

One of the Great Deceptions at the Time of the End is “God can't use me because of my past”... take captive every thought right now in Jesus' name. Satan is a liar and a false accuser, he is trying to stop you from doing your job, making disciples, sounding the alarm, being that witness we are commanded to be.

Sometimes you and I are going to miss it... miss God's perfect plan and will for us. When we start to look back and think, oh no - I blew it again, I'll never get where God wants me to be... Anyone ever said or thought that??? That's self condemnation and the Word says that there is...

**Romans 8:1 AMPC**

*8 Therefore, **[there is] now no condemnation** (no adjudging guilty of wrong) for those who are in Christ Jesus, **who live [and] walk not after the dictates (direction) of the flesh, but after the dictates (direction) of the Spirit.***

I get down on myself and I condemn me...that's not God, that's me. God says, don't you think I can take where you are at right now and put you back into my perfect will?

**1 John 1:9 KJV**

*9 If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.*

**1 John 1:9 AMPC**

*9 If we [freely] admit that we have sinned and confess our sins, He is faithful and just (true to His own nature and promises) and will forgive our sins [dismiss our lawlessness] and [continuously] cleanse us from all unrighteousness [everything not in conformity to His will in purpose, thought, and action].*

All I have to do by faith is say "Your will be done"...repent and turn from your sin. Is it really that easy? Yes - Jesus did all the hard part...

**Matthew 11:28-30 AMPC**

*28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy-laden and overburdened, and I will cause you to rest. [I will ease and relieve and refresh your souls.]*

*29 Take My yoke upon you and learn of Me, for I am gentle (meek) and humble (lowly) in heart, and you will find rest (relief and ease and refreshment and recreation and blessed quiet) for your souls.*

*30 **For My yoke is** wholesome (useful, good—not harsh, hard, sharp, or pressing, but comfortable, **gracious,** and pleasant), and **My burden is light and easy** to be borne.*

I'm not going to work my way back into the will of God I'm going to walk in it. I'm going to walk right back into the will of God by being obedient to His Word, being faithful. The moment you speak, "Your Will Be Done", and mean it, and are obedient to it, you are back in the will of God because you have removed your will, your disappointments and repented from your sins.

God is going to take care of all the logistics. He will take care of all the navigation to get you back on track with His perfect will so you and I need to stop worrying about it. YOUR WILL BE DONE LORD!

We read in God's Word from the writings of the Apostle Paul to the Church that we, imitators of Christ are in the same anointing as Paul, Peter, John and Jesus Christ. That anointing to go make disciples or the command to go make disciples is for everyone for all time regardless of the season of life that you are in.

**Acts 4:31-33 KJV**

31 And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together; and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness.

32 And **the multitude of them that believed were of one heart and of one soul:** neither said any of them that ought of the things which he possessed was his own; but they had all things common.

33 And with great power gave the apostles witness of the resurrection of the Lord Jesus: **and great grace was upon them all.**

It wasn't just the preacher, not just the evangelist, but all...and not just a little grace but great grace - great grace.

So, here's Paul saying "grace be unto you all" in verse 2. This isn't a normal salutation but a proclamation about who we are in Christ. In addition, Paul said we can't just go through the motions to do God's Will or Plan but, we have to be willing to do His Will - passion, always looking...

**Philippians 2:13 AMPC**

13 [Not in your own strength] for it is God Who is all the while effectually at work in you [energizing and creating in you the power and desire], **both to will and to work** for His good pleasure and satisfaction and delight.

So, that is the work that God is doing in you. **Not just empowering to do but empowering you to be willing to do.**

There are times when something comes up in front of you that you just don't want to do but you say I'll do it anyways and you grumble and complain the whole time. Well, you are not getting any credit for it, you did it without a willing heart.

**We need to say, I'm willing to be willing...I'm passionate about Your will!** We need to understand that His anointing is in us and we need to be willing to do His work and we need to go do His work. This willingness has to do with your passion for God and His kingdom.

**That anointing is in there to reveal these things to you.** The Holy Spirit is under command to carry that out and that anointing is in there to make decisions and to inquire of the Lord and to use the Word of God as **direction, protection and perfection along with correction.**

Let's see what this looks like in the life of Moses...Moses had a few "giant" things in the way of God's Plan. He could've easily gotten sidetracked, made excuses for past mistakes, went and hid, not got involved, looked at his own failures and what was happening around him. The great deception in his life is God couldn't use him because of his past.

It's not about what has happened but what is going to happen that HE cares about in your life. He will help you get through what has happened but you have to stop living there, get rid of bitterness, missed opportunities, the "what might have beens" and finish the race and get the prize!

Luke 1:37 AMPC

37 For with God nothing is ever impossible and no word from God shall be without power or impossible of fulfillment.

### **Exodus 2:11 AMPC**

*11 One day, after Moses was grown, it happened that he went out to his brethren and looked at their burdens; and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of [Moses'] brethren.*

*12 He looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.*

*13 He went out the second day and saw two Hebrew men quarreling and fighting; and he said to the unjust aggressor, Why are you striking your comrade?*

*14 And the man said, Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian? Then Moses was afraid and thought, Surely this thing is known.*

**Moses did something wrong, he also saw many things that were wrong, things that kept people in bondage so he went away...**

*15 When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh's presence and [b]took refuge in the land of Midian, where he sat down by a well.*

*16 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters, and they came and drew water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock.*

*17 The shepherds came and drove them away; but Moses stood up and helped them and watered their flock.*

*18 And when they came to Jethro their father, he said, How is it that you have come so soon today?*

*19 They said, An Egyptian delivered us from the shepherds; also he drew water for us and watered the flock.*

*20 He said to his daughters, Where is he? Why have you left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread.*



21 *And Moses was content* to dwell with the man; and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter.

Other translations said he settled there. It was acceptable to him or willing to stop or willingly acceptable.

22 *And she bore a son, and he called his name Gershom [expulsion, or a stranger there]; for he (Moses) said, I have been a stranger and a sojourner in a foreign land.*

This wasn't a complaint, but thankfulness to God for providing so well for him in it; and partly on his son's account, that when he came to years of maturity and knowledge, he might learn, by Moses' instruction to him, that he was not to look upon Midian as his proper country, but that he was to be heir of the land of Canaan, and which he might be reminded of by his name: for he said, I have been a stranger in a strange land; Moses, born in Egypt, being a Hebrew, was entitled to the land of Canaan.

23 *However, after a long time [nearly forty years] the king of Egypt died; (People forgot what Moses did...amen - so does God) and the Israelites were **sighing and groaning because of the bondage**. They kept crying, and their cry because of slavery ascended to God. 24 And God heard their sighing and groaning and [earnestly] **remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.***

God is faithful to His Word, He is not a man that He should lie, God is a covenant God, He remembers and stays true to His promises to you and I.

*25 God saw the Israelites and took knowledge of them and concerned Himself about them [knowing all, understanding, remembering all].*

**Exodus 3:1-3 AMPC**

*1 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the back or west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb or Sinai, the mountain of God.*

*2 The Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush burned with fire, yet was not consumed.*

*3 And Moses said, **I will** now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush is not burned.*

**Remember what Paul told the church...**

**Philippians 2:13 AMPC**

*13 [Not in your own strength] for it is God Who is all the while effectually at work in you [energizing and creating in you the power and desire], **both to will and to work** for His good pleasure and satisfaction and delight.*

**Exodus 3:4-11 AMPC**

*4 And when the Lord saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the midst of the bush and said, Moses, Moses! And he said, Here am I.*

5 God said, *Do not come near; put your shoes off your feet, for the place on which you stand is holy ground.*

6 Also He said, *I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.*

7 And the Lord said, *I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters and oppressors; for I know their sorrows and sufferings and trials.*

8 And I have come down to deliver them out of the hand and power of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a land good and large, a land flowing with milk and honey [a land of plenty]—to the place of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite.

9 Now behold, the cry of the Israelites has come to Me, and I have also seen how the Egyptians oppress them.

**10 Come now therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh, that you may bring forth My people, the Israelites, out of Egypt.**

11 And Moses said to God, **Who am I,** that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?

**God's Word says - no condemnation for those who do what?**

**Romans 8:1 AMPC**

**8 Therefore, [there is] now no condemnation (no adjudging guilty of wrong) for those who are in Christ Jesus, who live [and] walk not after the dictates (direction) of the flesh, but after the dictates (direction) of the Spirit.**

**Exodus 3:12-21 AMPC**

**12 God said, I will surely be with you; and this shall be the sign to you that I have sent you:** when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain [Horeb, or Sinai].

**13 And Moses said to God,** Behold, when I come to the Israelites and say to them, The God of your fathers has sent me to you, and they say to me, What is His name? What shall I say to them?

**14 And God said to Moses,** I Am Who I Am and What I Am, and I Will Be What I Will Be; and He said, You shall say this to the Israelites: I Am has sent me to you!

**15 God said also to Moses,** This shall you say to the Israelites: The Lord, the God of your fathers, of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, has sent me to you! This is My name forever, and by this name I am to be remembered to all generations.

**16 Go,** gather the elders of Israel together [the mature teachers and tribal leaders], and say to them, The Lord God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared to me, saying, I have surely visited you and seen that which is done to you in Egypt;

17 And I have declared that I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite, to a land flowing with milk and honey.

18 And [the elders] shall believe and obey your voice; and you shall go, you and the elders of Israel, to the king of Egypt and you shall say to him, The Lord, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us; and now let us go, we beseech you, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God.

**19 And I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go [unless forced to do so], no, not by a mighty hand.**

**20 So I will stretch out My hand and smite Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in it; and after that he will let you go.**

**John 14:10-12 AMPC**

**10 Do you not believe that I am in the Father, and that the Father is in Me? What I am telling you I do not say on My own authority and of My own accord; but the Father Who lives continually in Me does the (His) works (His own miracles, deeds of power).**

**Exodus 3:21 AMPC**

**21 And I will give this people favor and respect in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be that when you go, you shall not go empty-handed.**

Now, this wasn't the whole story - Moses had several reasons why he shouldn't go as God commanded and set the people free. That list was based on his plan or his will and his willingness to settle. Life was good or manageable and he wanted to get out of what God was calling him to do.

See, you have a will, a plan or direction from your flesh that you are no longer supposed to follow. But, you have anointed your plan, meaning everything you do lines up with that. In the Word that will or anointing is also called a mantle.

In Bible days, a mantle was an outer cloak used for additional covering and warmth, especially at night. The mantle was essentially the only "blanket" the person had so even when used as a pledge the law required it be returned before bedtime.

From the idea of something that "covers" in the natural, a mantle easily comes to represent spiritual covering also. Mantles usually refer to spiritual authority and anointing. A great example of a spiritual mantle which passed from one person to another is Elijah and Elisha.

Elijah was a prophet in Israel and Elisha was his student or disciple. Elisha ministered to Elijah and studied under him, desiring to operate the way he did.

Before Elijah was translated into heaven, he said;

**2 Kings 2:9 AMPC**

*9 And when they had gone over, Elijah said to Elisha, Ask what I shall do for you before I am taken from you. And Elisha said, **I pray you, let a double portion of your spirit be upon me.***

It was Elijah's mantle which proved whether or not Elisha received his request...Elijah told him;

**2 Kings 2:10-12 AMPC**

*10 He said, You have asked a hard thing. However, if you see me when I am taken from you, it shall be so for you—but if not, it shall not be so.*

*11 As they still went on and talked, behold, a chariot of fire and horses of fire parted the two of them, and Elijah went up by a whirlwind into heaven.*

*12 And Elisha saw it and he cried, My father, my father! The chariot of Israel and its horsemen! And he saw him no more. And he took hold of his own clothes and tore them in two pieces.*

Elisha did see Elijah leave in a chariot of fire. He then tore his own garment in two pieces and "took up the mantle of Elijah that fell from him."

### **2 Kings 2:13-14 AMPC**

*13 He took up also the mantle of Elijah that fell from him and went back and stood by the bank of the Jordan.*

*14 And he took the mantle that fell from Elijah and struck the waters and said, Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah? And when he had struck the waters, they parted this way and that, and Elisha went over.*

Elijah "the remnant" trained, disciplined Elisha, and he continued in God's calling. He took up the work of his spiritual mentor and operated in his anointing. Remember that Elisha asked for a double portion? The Bible records twice as many miracles for Elisha as are recorded under Elijah's ministry.

So, do spiritual mantles have a modern application? Can a spiritual mantle be passed today from one person to the next or one generation to the next?

**John 14:12 AMPC**

*12 I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, if anyone steadfastly believes in Me, he will himself be able to do the things that I do; and he will do even greater things than these, because I go to the Father.*

The Word says that after God dismantled Moses....after He got rid of his plan and his idea and got him to throw down that mantle, then and only then could he do greater things than he could ever imagine. Ask yourself, what am I doing with the anointing that is on me? Do you want to part some Red Seas? Go on the great adventure, go places you've never been? Abraham went and not knowing where he was going...

**Hebrews 11:8 GNT**

*8 It was faith that made Abraham obey when God called him to go out to a country which God had promised to give him. He left his own country without knowing where he was going.*

There is so much more - super abundantly more things that God has for you when you walk in the anointing. Don't fear where He is calling you, you will not be alone. God will send you like minded people or allies. God has and will always have a remnant being trained or disciplined in order for the good news of the Gospel to be preached and lived out (Word and Deed).

The message of "Repent for the kingdom of God is at hand" that was preached by John the Baptist and Jesus Christ, is the same "thing" (Word) that you and I as imitators are commanded to say and live out daily. God will let others see this anointing in you...



### **Exodus 18:6-26 AMPC**

6 And he said [in a message] to Moses, I, your father-in-law Jethro, am come to you and your wife and her two sons with her.

7 And Moses went out to meet his father-in-law and bowed in homage and kissed him; and each asked the other of his welfare and they came into the tent.

8 Moses told his father-in-law all the Lord had done to Pharaoh and the Egyptians for Israel's sake and all the hardships that had come upon them by the way and how the Lord delivered them.

9 Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness the Lord had done to Israel in that He had delivered them out of the hand of the Egyptians.

10 Jethro said, Blessed be the Lord, Who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of Pharaoh, Who has delivered the people [Israel] from under the hand of the Egyptians.

11 Now I know that the Lord is greater than all gods. Yes, in the [very] thing in which they dealt proudly [He showed Himself infinitely superior to all their gods].

12 And Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, took a burnt offering and sacrifices [to offer] to God, and Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat bread with Moses' father-in-law before God.

13 Next day Moses sat to judge the people, and the people stood around Moses from morning till evening.

14 When Moses' father-in-law saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, What is this that you do for the people? Why do you sit alone, and all the people stand around you from morning till evening? 15 Moses said to his father-in-law, Because the people come to me to inquire of God.

16 When they have a dispute they come to me, and I judge between a man and his neighbor, and I make them know the statutes of God and His laws.

17 Moses' father-in-law said to him, The thing that you are doing is not good.

18 You will surely wear out both yourself and this people with you, for the thing is too heavy for you; you are not able to perform it all by yourself.

19 Listen now to [me]; I will counsel you, and God will be with you. You shall represent the people before God, bringing their cases and causes to Him,

20 Teaching them the decrees and laws, showing them the way they must walk and the work they must do.

21 Moreover, you shall choose able men from all the people—God-fearing men of truth who hate unjust gain—and place them over thousands, hundreds, fifties, and tens, to be their rulers.

22 And let them judge the people at all times; every great matter they shall bring to you, but every small matter they shall judge. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you.

23 If you will do this, and God so commands you, you will be able to endure [the strain], and all these people also will go to their [tents] in peace.

24 So Moses listened to and heeded the voice of his father-in-law and did all that he had said.

25 Moses chose able men out of all Israel and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens.

*26 And they judged the people at all times; the hard cases they brought to Moses, but every small matter they decided themselves.*

Paul said....

**Philippians 1:6-7 KJV**

*6 Being confident of this very thing, that he which hath begun a good work in you will perform it until the day of Jesus Christ:*

*7 Even as it is meet (able) for me to think this of you all, because I have you in my heart; inasmuch as both in my bonds, and in the defence and confirmation of the gospel, **ye all are partakers of my grace.***

The mountain or giant(s) in your life, that can easily deceive you, could be your mantle... This is part of the Great Deception, “***your plan***”, but through prayer and fasting you can speak to the mountain. Speak God’s will and His plan, “Your will be done” and the mountain will be removed.

It’s time to leave the comfort of your plan, your mantle, your will and do God’s will in His anointing. Stop hiding and being so full of fear because you don’t want to get hurt and go do some damage against the enemy and advance the Kingdom of God!

You are not alone in “the anointing”. You are joining me, partakers of the heavenly calling, a remnant of believers, to make disciples and preach “repent for the Kingdom of God is at hand”. You and I do that by walking in His anointing and taking our mantle and using it for the kingdom.

In the past you have told yourself this mountain is too big, I can't do it alone. You're not alone - we are all partakers of the same grace that Jesus and Paul had. That grace is unmerited favor an unending, unstoppable anointing to do God's Plan.

**Matthew 17:20-21 KJV**

20 "ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; **and nothing shall be impossible unto you.**

21 Howbeit this kind goeth not out **but by prayer and fasting.**"

**Remember "this kind" in verse 21 means: This Type Of Power! The power you need to have the obstacle(s) removed out of your life comes from prayer and fasting! You need faith to pray in Jesus name - His Word...when you think of fasting, think of power!**

Moses fasted and prayed and was spoken to in the wilderness by the Holy Spirit - he was willing to listen and to do God's Will. After Moses was willing to listen and then to go, the great adventure began. Moses went from watching literal sheep to leading millions of sheep to freedom all because of a willingness to be used.

**Luke 16:10** *who can be trusted w/a little can be trusted w/much*

He had to be trusted with the little things first. Just like David attended the sheep first and then was given more and more responsibility to equip him to walk in "the anointing."

Jesus, after He was baptized and filled with the Holy Spirit was led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness to be strengthened by God in order that He could begin a “new thing”, a great adventure. Jesus went from a carpenter to a minister to set the captives free all because of His willingness to do God’s Will.

**Isaiah 43:19 AMPC**

*19 Behold, I am doing a **new thing!** Now it springs forth; do you not perceive and know it and will you not give heed to it? I will even make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert.*

**Isaiah 43:19 GNT**

*19 Watch for the new thing I am going to do. It is happening already—you can see it now! I will make a road through the wilderness and give you streams of water there.*

It was there, that the enemy attacked Him at his weak spot(s). But, Jesus always spoke the Word against the enemy, He didn’t talk himself into reasoning with the enemy. Jesus, in John 14, tells us He only speaks the Word of the Father. In Luke chapter 4 and in Matthew chapter 4 it tells us that Jesus said “it is written”. He didn’t come up with something new, He said “it is written.”

Then the enemy, satan, the devil, serpent, the deceiver, the accuser, went away for a season. The Amplified Bible said in Luke 4 that he was going to wait for a more favorable time to return. The King James said “he left for season.”

The wilderness, this vast area of the unknown, the undefined, the place you've never been. You and I will find ourselves in that place and we need to discern why we are there. Are we in the wilderness because of sin or disobedience? Or, is there a disconnection from God - we've gotten away from His Word.

Have we gotten away from being with God's people, true followers of Christ, our allies in Christ? Or, have we become disobedient to what His Word says and therefore we are in the wilderness? Are we content being with the tares or the darnell and no longer wanting to be with the wheat? The Bible says that we can be in the wilderness of sin or darkness.

Then, there is the wilderness where the Spirit leads us in order that we may rest and find strength in Him. This is where the Holy Spirit meets us and reminds us of His Word, His Promises. There will be a time to rest and get strength just like Elijah needed.

The Holy Spirit also takes us to those wilderness places in order to test us in order to promote us out of that place, situation, time in life, that we've been dealing with. That doesn't mean remove from a location, it means ready to promote us in the Spirit to make us stronger.

Moses was strengthened and his direction was made known in the wilderness. Jesus prepared, led by the Holy Spirit into the wilderness, to gain strength to show us we could overcome and to show us how to overcome. He used the Word as a weapon to come up against the enemy.

**John 5:19-20 AMPC**

*19 So Jesus answered them by saying, I assure you, most solemnly I tell you, the Son is able to do nothing of Himself (of His own accord); but He is able to do only what He sees the Father doing, for whatever the Father does is what the Son does in the same way [in His turn].*

*20 The Father dearly loves the Son **and discloses to (shows) Him everything that He Himself does.(His Plan)** And He will disclose to Him (let Him see) greater things yet than these, so that you may marvel and be full of wonder and astonishment.*

Showing Him the plan, the plan is bigger than anyone. The plan for salvation is bigger than any obstacle in your life. The plan is for you to overcome any obstacle so that others may hear and see the Gospel in operation.

Jesus had compassion for His disciples and He does for you and I today as well...

**Hebrews 4:15 KJV**

*15 For we have not an high priest which cannot be touched with the feeling of our infirmities (weaknesses); but was in all points tempted like as we are, yet without sin.*

**Infirmities means weakness: *physical, emotional, relational, financial etc.* He knows that you were treated wrong, He knows you went through a terrible divorce, He knows that you were hurt and are afraid to love again or get involved. He knows you think you are too busy....He knows what you are thinking and feeling.**

So, what did Jesus do, what did He do when He needed to get back to the plan? He went off into a solitary place, a wilderness place... not to get alone with his plans for avoiding God's Plan. Getting alone to go over your plans allows the enemy to speak to your weakness. That is not what the wilderness is for, it is where God ministers to you and strengthens you for His plan.

Jesus got away to spend time with the Father. It was to renew His strength. Jesus had taken time, 40 days in preparation for His ministry or God's plan. He was taking time off to get strength for the next step in His walk for God, God's plan, God's will.

It's the will of the Father to always minister to people. So Jesus, was full of compassion or full of the Holy Spirit. First, he began to minister to their weaknesses or infirmities. Then, a hunger came upon them. While in the wilderness, spending time with Jesus who will meet all your needs, they became hungry.

When you get away with God in the wilderness, you become hungry, and His Word says "*taste and see that the Lord is good.*" Jesus said sit back, relax and let me feed you or minister to you.

Remember, something happened to Jesus's friend John...he was killed. The Holy Spirit then led Jesus alone in the wilderness because something different now had to happen, something was going to change. As Jesus was alone with the Father, He came out of that time of fasting and prayer with compassion or driven by compassion and then He ministered to everyone.



This power, this Anointing on Jesus, His willingness to do God's plan and not His, led him on a great adventure. The miracles kept getting greater and greater, He instructed others to do the same. He walked in His anointing and trained them, the disciples to do what he did. They worked together in the anointing.

This great adventure that Jesus was on is the same for you and I. All power and all authority is now given unto us to do that which Jesus did - even greater things. We come out of this season of wilderness with His power, full of His strength because it's not us doing the work, it's the Father within - He's doing the Work. We're just a willing person doing His will.

**Luke 1:37 AMPC**

**37** *For with God nothing is ever impossible and no word from God shall be without power or impossible of fulfillment.*

