

# **SERVANTHOOD OF JESUS**

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## 1. SERVANTHOOD OF JESUS - PART ONE

Turn with me in your Bibles to the Book of Philippians, Chapter 2, verse 5-11 Let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus who, being in the form of God, did not consider it robbery to be equal with God but made Himself of no reputation taking the form of a servant and coming in the likeness of man and being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the Cross. Therefore, God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow of those in Heaven and of those on earth and of those under the earth, (that talks about demons too), and that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of the Father. Say Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord, Jesus is Lord.

Now it is very important for us to see Jesus Christ as the servant of God. I believe the reason why many times people have problems in their lives and why Churchianity has problems, that is the organization of Christianity called Churchianity, is that because we have always seen Jesus to be King of Kings, Lord of Lords and so we go about saying - I am the King's kid, I am the King's kid, get out of my way - I am the King's kid, King of Kings, Lord of Lords. I am King, He is King of Kings. And go around talking about our rights and authority in God. In the name of Jesus I have authority; walk like you have authority and so you walk - like you have authority. Jesus has so many aspects. And I believe there is one aspect that is neglected of Jesus.

Why we are gathered here always is only to study and look about God and look to Jesus and get to know Jesus more and more. That is our purpose for gathering here - that we may know more of Jesus. So there is a part of Jesus that we need to know - His servant's part. The Spirit of a servant was also upon Him. There was one aspect the Jews could not understand - the suffering Messiah. They could understand the Kingly Messiah but they could not understand the suffering Servant Messiah. And what you see is what you become! If you see Jesus as Jehovah-Jireh you have all your needs provided; if you see Jesus to be the Healer, you become healed; if you see Jesus to be the Baptizer in the Spirit, you become baptized in the Spirit; if you see Jesus as your Savior, you become saved. And I believe deep in the hearts of all believers there is a need for us to see Jesus as the servant. If you see Jesus as the servant of God, He will make believers more servants, more in servitude to one another. So there is a part of Jesus. And in fact from the Scriptures that you read there, it is not just a part of Jesus.

Jesus' Kingship came from His Servanthood. God exalted Him because He humbled Himself in the form of a Servant. In Mark 10, James and John were asking to sit on the right hand and left hand of Jesus and leave the other ten out. Here Jesus was going to go into Jerusalem and they had a misguided theology. In those days the theology was that Jesus Christ would come as a Kingly Messiah. After all His years of Ministry they were expecting Jesus Christ to go into Israel and restore the Kingdom of Israel. So when the other ten disciples heard about this they got angry. Here it says, the ten when they heard it, were greatly displeased with James and John. Immediately you see here that disharmony comes when we don't understand what is greatness in the Kingdom of God.

Greatness in the Kingdom of God is not being on T.V. Greatness in the Kingdom of God is not being famous in the Church. And the Holy Spirit spoke to me about this

and said, “Whatever you see inside Christianity is not what God sees from Heaven. Not all the great men of God that you see and classify to be the great men of God are the only great men of God.” You know there are famous preachers - there is no doubt about it. God has a purpose involved. There are, from Heaven’s perspectives, a different view altogether. And the Holy Spirit says this that sometimes what we call greatness is an artificial greatness that is created by the mass media, not created by God. So you see all you have to do is if you could get on to the T.V. you straightaway become famous to a certain extent in the natural. See there is an artificial fame that does not come from God. And you have to take note that when human beings promote you it does not mean you have reached the apex of the Ministry. So our concept of greatness may not be the concept of God’s greatness.

Now there will always be great people in the Kingdom of God but the concept of greatness is different. I know there is a great God produces great servants. But when God looks down from Heaven, the picture that He has of the top Christians in this world may not be the picture you have in your head. If I were to ask you right now who do you think are the most spiritual people on the planet earth? Who do you think are the most spiritual people? I mean all of us walk with God - so all of us are on different levels walking with God. And if I were to ask you a question who do you think are the most spiritual people on earth, the so-called great men of God, you would name only those you know, whom you heard as famous. Some of you would name Kenneth Hagin, I mean those who are alive! Some of you would name some other names - Cho Yonggi or some other names. Now these men have their place in the Ministry but our concept of greatness is different. I believe if we all were to be transported into Heaven and if in Heaven, God’s Throne, we were to ask God this question - on this planet earth who are your greatest people today, there will be a lot of names that we never hear. And some of us will get surprises because there will be some famous names that are not so great in Heaven’s side.

You see the concept of greatness with God and with earthly human beings are different. Not only that the greatness, as God sees from Heaven, is the actual reward you will receive in Heaven when you go there - not what man here do to you, but it is from God’s perspective. So let’s finish reading that Scripture in Mark, Chapter 10 - Jesus called to Himself all His disciples, in verse 42, and says, you know those who are considered rulers over the gentiles, lord it over them, and their great ones exercise authority over them. Yet it shall not be so among you; for whoever desires to become great - I want you to know that Jesus is not opposed to you desiring to be great.

You need a desire to be great in order to accomplish something. You need a certain desire before you can accomplish. If you do not have the desire to do great exploits for God, you would become lazy. It is the desire that drives you, that self-motivates you - it is the heart’s desire. Jesus didn’t say that the desire to be great was wrong. Jesus didn’t say, “Don’t desire to be great”. All of you desire to be small because you get what you see. Did Jesus desire to be great - yes, but He used different methods because He desired to accomplish salvation for the whole world - that was the great achievement. The desire to be great is not wrong. The desire to do something that will last a lifetime and eternally affect all generation is not wrong. I desire things in God. I desire to affect my nation for God. I desire to affect this generation for God. I desire to shake up the Church where it ought to be shaken up. I desire to affect the Church throughout the whole world.

Now the desire is nothing wrong. I encourage each of you ought to have desires to do the things of God. You have to have burning strong desires to accomplish something for God. Only when you desire you can dream and you can see and you can visualize and it will propel you to work hard to accomplish what God wants. There is nothing wrong with desiring to be great. But the economy of God and the economy of Man are different. Yet Jesus says - if anyone, whoever desires, whosoever desires to become great among you, shall be your servant, must desire to serve, desire to give your lives to people. I can see Jesus desiring and Jesus gave His life to the fullness and God promoted Him. The desire to be great must become the desire to give our lives to people. It must consume us to the extent that we desire to bring a person to the fullness of a potential. That is serving, true serving is to bring the best out of a person and to draw forth the goodness that God has placed - the gifts and the talents that God has placed in a person. The desire must be great in our lives, desire to be a servant and he says - for even the Son of Man did not come to be served but to serve and to give His life a ransom for many. He said even I Myself, Jesus says, did not come to be served.

When Jesus first started His ministry, it was a servant's ministry. But today in Christianity, concepts have changed. When we talk about Ministry we think of something of prominence; we think of pre-eminence. Right! When we talk about people saying, the Ministry of God, what do we think about? We think about - Hallelujah, I am going to get recognized. See how the concept is today. When we think about God has something in our lives we straightaway think about - I am going to be recognized, Hallelujah I have been in the low lows but I want to be in the high, highs. That is what we think about in the Ministry, whatever Ministry we have -Why is that so? I believe because the worldly ways and the gentile ways, Jesus call it the Gentile ways, we call it the worldly ways, the worldly concept of achieving from the world has rubbed into the Church. See, in the world people desire fame; people desire to make such an impact so that they will be recognized. Actually, behind it is a great desire to be accepted. Everyone wants to be accepted, no one wants to be rejected. So sometimes we are not accepted so we do something to become recognized, then we are accepted. Deep inside is a hunger to be accepted, that's all. Deep inside is a desire to know that you are loved. There is a fear of rejection in-born in all men, the original sin. And so sometimes Ministry becomes something that we do in order that we get recognized, prominence and then we get accepted. Then in getting accepted we get love, we get recognized and then we say - that's the Ministry. But that's the wrong concept altogether. We have to eradicate that.

Ministry, as Jesus sees it, is the more you are hidden, the better. The more you pursue to glorify Jesus, the better - that is Jesus' concept of ministry. So, when Jesus talks about the Ministry, He speaks about how we would give our lives to the extent that we have no desire to see ourselves being put up. We have no desire to have pre-eminence but our desire is consuming us to serve. Why worry about what the world says; why worry about whether the world knows you or not and knows you by your name. Why worry about fame, why worry about being famous. Why worry about all these things when the most important thing you need to be concerned is that not that your names are known to man but that your names are known to God - that God knows you by your name and what you are doing, that you are well known in Heaven. I want you to know that Daniel was a person who was famous in Heaven when the angel came to him, in the Book of Daniel, he said "Oh Daniel, beloved of God". God must have

been talking about him in Heaven. The concept of ministry that we must have is one of giving our lives away. The more we can be hidden, the better.

So we have to search our motives. I have to search my motives in the Ministry because in the early days of the Ministry when I began, I didn't learn about all these principles and I had to search my motives, and in the ministry there can be several stages. The first stages you are seeking to establish your ministry, seeking that the body will recognize your Ministry. But that stage, that stage is not the final stage, that is developing your ministry. And I have to search my own heart before God and so God dealt with my heart and God said "What I want you to do is more important than what you want to do. And if I want you to just go to a small village and minister to the people there you must be as obedient as when I tell you to go to a city and minister to the people there." Whatever you do! And so to search my heart in the Ministry, God began to touch and transform areas in my life that I began to understand what ministry means.

Ministry is not seeking recognition from the Body of Christ but Ministry is when God tells you. You do, whether the world knows it or not, - whether you have done something quietly. And God has to deal with our carnal nature in that sometimes when you have done something in God and in Christ, through Christ and for Christ, you have to fight the desire to tell people about it so that people will say - what a good fellow you are. He is a jolly good fellow, jolly good fellow! jolly good fellow. Watch out and he will fall too! We want people to know. God had to deal with me in all these things and told me, "Every time you receive an invitation from any country, it is not necessarily from Me; they may be from men. If you want to establish your ministry - go ahead, but if you want Me to establish My ministry in you, you obey Me. So I had to. In my early days, I had to fight the desire to move and travel and minister. I love ministering, especially to different places, minister and see the work of God there. But God says you must be concerned about Me, not about anybody else, and, if you are given an opportunity to go on T.V. and if I don't want you to go, you must not go. If you are given the opportunity to go on radio you must not go if I don't want you to go. Are you willing? So God searched our hearts, determine what is inside, what we actually want to do as we go more down to earth on areas that may affect your very life. When God asks you to do something, when you start doing it there will be opportunities for you to do it in your own strength; there will be opportunities for you to do it by yourself, you have to guard that and watch that.

Let's look at Philippians, Chapter 2 that we have read. Many years I read this scripture and I didn't understand this and Jesus said - for one to be anointed greatly, for one to carry my anointing as I want it, they will have to serve in proportion. The anointing that you have upon your life, the calling and the signs and wonders that you can operate on your life is directly proportional to the amount of servitude that you are able to give. So, because Jesus Christ went right to the uttermost, He was raised right to the uppermost. In Phil. 2, there is a verse that I read it, I passed it by and never stopped to look carefully till God began to speak to me through this area in verse 5 and 6 - let this mind be in you which was also in Christ Jesus, who being in the form of God did not consider it robbery to be equal with God. I always read that passage, in verse 5 and verse 6 - that Jesus did not consider it robbery to be equal with God - I said what does it mean and I just took the superficial meaning that it is alright for Jesus to be equal with God, that's what you get - that Jesus felt that it was alright for

Him to be equal with God. And then it goes on to talk about how Jesus humbled Himself and poured His life out and did all kinds of things to be a servant, took upon Himself a form of a servant and He served and then God raised Him up. I didn't see the relationship between that word "robbery" and the word "servant". But it is there in those words - suddenly, as I read that passage again the word robbery just stands out. It seems to stick out like a sore thumb - no relationship to the entire verse - suddenly talks about robbery; being equal with God and there is no relationship to the other verse. Suddenly that verse - He did not think it robbery to be equal with God - that means He is equal with God! That means, He is equal with God! And then on this point Paul talks about His servanthood, humbling Himself - how does it relate?

Then the Holy Spirit began to open my eyes to understand that the word robbery is not quite what it means so I had a deeper look - the Holy Spirit made me look deeper at the meaning. The word robbery is not just what you think of robbers today - grabbing just anything. The word robbery is from the Greek word *harpagmos*, which means to seize, to carry off by force. But it has a little bit of meaning on that - it is the same Greek word - the root of it. As when Jesus Christ had done a miracle of feeding the five thousand people and in the John 6 - it says that the people wanted to seize Him and make Him King. That is the same root word - the word seize - seize Him and make Him King. The people wanted to take Him away - not robbing. The word rob conveys only of taking of possession. But here it is seizing. They wanted to take Jesus and make Him King, forcibly by making Him King. And the Greek word conveys a meaning of just coming and just grabbing suddenly, very fast, very fast, suddenly grab. They wanted to grab Him - what a way to be King! Most other politicians would be grinning with glee but Jesus knows that something is wrong with this kind of forcible coronation.

This kind of Kingship is not so much being a King over them but a cook for them. They were fed, their stomachs were filled and they thought if they make Jesus King, everyday they would get their free food. They wanted to seize Jesus. Any time they need food just go to the King, nice way, they don't need a King, they need a cook, a chef! The same Greek word was used when it refers to the apostle Paul, I believe in Acts, Chapter 23, where Paul was talking to the Jews and then the Jews got more violent. They wanted to tear him to bits and pieces. And the Roman soldiers quickly came in, grabbed Paul and took him away - so it not so much as conveying the meaning of robbing, but conveying the meaning of seizing a person suddenly.

Now we go to this word - robbery - the word should actually convey the meaning of the word seizure; that means you seize a person - a seizure - seizing something. In other words He is talking about His position with God, that equality with God. Jesus did not think that to be equal with God was something He could just grab away and say - I am equal with God. That's the meaning Paul was conveying - something to be seized - that the equality with God was by seizing it; and I have looked into several translations to bring that verse out.

By the way just to let some of you know, New King James is our official version. I studied Greek for two years; I studied all the translations and I like some of the modern translations but most of them do not give a literal meaning so I stick with the Old King James because at least it gives the exact translation and whenever it is not in the Greek - it puts it in italics which modern translation don't do that - so at least when I read, I know which part is added in for the English meaning. And when they

came out with the New King James, I read through and I liked it and I studied it for a year. I studied important passages.

So I read to you from the amplified Philippians, Chapter 2 - I like the meaning that it brought up, in the Greek, where it says that Jesus did not consider it robbery, robbery to be equal with God and here it says in Philippians, Chapter 2, verse 6, who although being essentially one with God and in the form of God possessing the fullness of the attributes which make God, He did not think this equality with God was a thing to be eagerly grasped or retained.

Let me put it in simple English - perhaps it amplified too loud for you all. It says in that word, Chapter 2, verse 6 that Jesus, although He was in the form of God, when He emptied Himself of the Godhead, when He went forth unto God to receive, as the God-man, the equality and the fullness of God, He did not receive, think that to be equal with God, that position was not something that He could grab and just get it. But Jesus knew that the position to be equal with God was something that He had to receive slowly, step by step, by humbling Himself – that ties up with the verse 7. Now you read the whole passage now with the understanding. The meaning will just shine out to you, Phil.2 - and I will change that verse 6 a little for your understanding and don't be afraid we are not changing the bible I am reading a little bit on the Greek lexicons - you can check all the Greek lexicons - I have one at home. It will give you that meaning of seizing, seizing that position with God, the great word, ROBBERY.

Here in verse 6, who being in the form of God did not consider or think that to be equal with God, the position to be equal with God was something that He could seize it suddenly or quickly, but in verse 7 He knew that the position to be equal with God must be received this way; that He must make Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a servant, coming in the likeness of man, being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself, became obedient to the point of death - even the death on the Cross. Therefore, God has highly exalted Him, given Him the name which is above every name i.e. God has exalted Him to be at His right Hand. Now you see the relationship to the word ROBBERY to the whole verse. In other words, that verse is trying to tell us that Jesus understood in His mind, He considered, He thought, He knew and He think that the position to be equal with God was not something that He could just grab but He understood that the position that God was going to raise Him to was something that He was going to receive by humbling Himself down, pouring His life out, obeying God as a servant, as a servant, for 33 years as a servant and then God would bring Him up and put Him on that position - that is the meaning of that passage.

Now you understand why the word ROBBERY is there. Doesn't convey that well? So, understanding this principle what the bible is trying to tell us, that all positions of authority with God come in proportion to your servitude, to your being a servant. If you want a position with God, you have to serve - to serve others, you have to give your lives to others as a servant and God will give you special positions, God will give you special grace and authority with Him. Now there will be in all generations men and women of God who will reach a point in God so strong that they could do things that normally people don't do - like for example, think about Joshua stopping the sun. Here they were fighting away and they needed more time to kill all their enemies so Joshua said "Sun stand still" and the sun stood still - "Moon stand still" and the moon stood still. The time was held back - they calculate over 23 hours. It was

held back almost the whole day. What kind of authority is that? He didn't even pray, he didn't pray. He called, at that time he couldn't call "Father, Yahweh, Oh most loving gracious Yahweh, could you please stop the sun, etc, etc – such long prayers and by that time all their enemies would have slaughtered his people. He had such authority simply to order the sun and the moon to keep still.

I mean we can find favor with God. God is such a person. Sometimes you can be so close with God that God will say of you - He is my friend. You know what God spoke about Moses? Moses' family, his elder sister Miriam and his elder brother, Aaron they had a position with God but different from Moses. They didn't like Moses' wife - Moses married a wife who was Ethiopian. They were a bit racist; they looked at the color of the skin and not the heart and so they had problems with Moses and so they grumbled, grumbled, grumbled ... They find problems with Moses. They could not find anything wrong with the commandments because he was obedient to God; they couldn't find anything wrong with what he did for God because it all came from God and he obeyed God. They could not find fault with his ministry so they could not find any problem there - but they found problems with his wife! I don't know what problems they had with his wife - whether his wife -with the way she dressed, the way she did things, but they found problems and you know what God said to Aaron in the Book of Numbers - Aaron, come here, Miriam come here.

Yahweh God is going to deal with them now and God gave them a special secret. God said, "Moses is special to Me". How do you like God to say that to you! I know in Christ all of us have that but positionally all of us may not have grown into that. Moses had grown so much to know the heart of God that God treats him that way. In the book of Numbers 12: 1 Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married; for he had married an Ethiopian woman. This was not his second wife - don't think of that - this was his previous wife. They never found problems with her earlier but now they begin to find problems with her. They said, "Has the Lord spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us also? Are we not like him?" Is he the only man of God? They said that of him. Now Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth; that is a remarkable statement. We will look at that later. Suddenly the Lord interrupted their conversation. You see the Lord loved Moses so much so personally that when they said that against Moses, Moses never said anything back - suddenly, God interrupts. How do you like to be interrupted while you are complaining - dangerous! When it is God who is doing it, it is dangerous. Here they are complaining and God interrupts and said "Aaron, Miriam come". I am sure their knees were shaking as they went into the tent - they were shaking, shaking away not under their power but shaking under their fear. And then God said, "Come out you three to the tabernacle of meeting". So the three came out. The Lord came out from the pillar of cloud, stood at the door, that's how much He likes Moses, and says "Hear now My words - if there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream. Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful in all My house. I speak with him face to face" (verse 6-7).

He is a prophet. But here God knows him not as a prophet because He compares him to an ordinary prophet. God is saying Moses is not only a prophet, he is My special servant. God says "He has a special place in My Heart" - so you can read the rest of the results of the judgment of God. But the point we want to gather here is that there

are positions in God which you can reach too, so that God has so much favor that when you say “Sun stop” and the sun will stop; “Moon stop” and the moon will stop. You have to find special favor with God before God allows you to do things like that. You have to walk close with God until God knows you and you know God. You really know Him and not just about Him. In Christ we are all seated at the Right Hand of God but in reality, in actuality, we need to grow into that position. And in the Kingdom of God there are positions that God gives to those who love Him. You see there is a special grace that God gives to those who touch His heart, who draw near and know Him for who he is; ‘and there is a special blessing. Once you reach that stage God seems to go a bit out of the way for you.

Just think about Abraham - the Father of faith. He was a man of certain weaknesses too. There are certain areas where he is weak in - like he told lies sometimes. When He went to King Abimelech, that is not the first time he did it, he did it several times. How do you like a man who could not protect his wife? I mean we would say shame to that person. But Abraham came to King Abimelech, in the Book of Genesis and King Abimelech looked at the wife and he likes the wife - and mind you she was 90+, young and sweet. Some of you, ladies, better learn from her. How did she get it? By confession of God’s Word and meditation on the promises of God. So there she was, sweet by God’s natural fragrance, perfume, beauty and words. She did not use love potion and charmed Abimelech but it was all God’s natural beauty on her and King Abimelech saw her, 90+, and lusted for her. So, here he is, he wanted his wife and Abraham said - she is my sister! I mean, sometimes you read it you feel like giving him a kick in his pants. Abraham, how can you do it? You should lay your life down for your wife. But here he was, he told a lie and he even got Sarah to conspire with him - I say brother, you say sister. So with brother and sister going there so often that it rubbed on to Isaac later on.

Isaac also did the same thing. You can read that in the Book of Genesis - so Abraham told a lie and allowed his wife to be taken to the harem of King Abimelech - that is disgraceful. But that’s what happened. I wonder how Abraham reacted after that! He probably would have said that - Ooh! , she’s just my sister - he didn’t seem to fret but here was Sarah and I wonder what Sarah was thinking - wait till I get hold of him and give a knock on his head. And in the midst of all this sin, if you want to understand God, look at Him this way in this passage. God came to King Abimelech and said “That is my friend’s wife that you are taking there”. King Abimelech got a shock of his life. He said ... aaha - and he knew that it was God speaking and God said “That’s my prophet over there, you know and this is the prophet’s wife. He dealt with King Abimelech and all of them got sick - the whole nation - just because of Abraham’s carelessness. The whole nation suffered because of King Abimelech’s greed and lust.

The thing that amazes me most is when Abraham was not quite walking that close with God, why did God go so specially to protect him? I believe he has found a special grace in God’s sight. He has touched God’s heart to a certain extent. I believe Abraham, many times, had gone out of the way for God. You remember the time when God came with the two angels - Abraham saw them Abraham said, “Quickly, quickly go and kill our best calf, do this and that”. I mean he has gone out of his way for God. In spite of his weaknesses he does love God and he does show it. He has won the heart of God to a certain extent and here he is when he is not in that perfect stage, God could go out of the way on his behalf because he has found the grace of God. He

has found a position with God in his heart. In Moses heart, in Joshua's heart, in Jesus' heart - there was a servant's spirit inside. See, the spirit of Christ is a spirit of a servant.

When we receive Christ, He gives us a spirit of a servant and Jesus, remember I was talking about Jesus Christ dying on the Cross, took all our sins, etc. and the Holy Spirit was speaking this to me whilst I was sharing. He said "Not only did I suffer on the Cross, my suffering was not only 6 hours". He said think about it - if we live close with God and suddenly we are taken and put among people who curse, people who swear, people who speak bad things and do sin openly, you will feel uncomfortable because your nature has been changed. You are not accustomed to that kind of things. It just hurts you, makes you uncomfortable. There is a displeasure you feel and think about it. Our Lord Jesus Christ, who have only known purity, love and perfection, for Him to come down to live with men, not only was He suffering the Cross when He was there that day - on the Cross on Mount Calvary - but for 33 years He was actually carrying the Cross. And He died on the Cross as the ultimate. He died on the Cross He had been carrying, not talking physically only, but for 33 years as He was growing up, such a Holy Son of God, perfect. He had to live with imperfect people - that is suffering and it is not easy. It caused Him suffering to live like that among people who are so imperfect, human beings full of sin, around 33 years and He died on the Cross. This is found in the Book of Philippians, Ch.2 - notice this passage here that says, verse 8 - being found in appearance as a Man He humbled Himself and became obedient, that means, He was obedient throughout all his 33 years and then at the end of his 33 years the climax was to the point of death, even the death of the Cross. That means it was very humbling for Him through the 33 years to go through that. He stripped Himself of His glory; He stripped Himself of all and came down here, born in a manger, lived in a humble home of a carpenter. That is where I believe as we claim prosperity, as we claim the things of God, do not forget that our purpose on earth is not for ourselves - is to SERVE.

So if there is anything in our lives that cause us not to be servants, we should get rid of them, we should get rid of them. And I repeat again, if you are called to the Ministry, we have to live a lifestyle such that we still can be servants to people. We can not live a lifestyle like a king and shove your weight around. No, it has to be like a servant. In the Army of God the highest have to be willing to come to the lowest.

I believe at the critical time in Jesus' life, one of the most important times in His life was when He was about to be crucified. Now when you are going to go somewhere or you are going away for quite a while, your last words are among the most important. If this is my last day here, the last words I would be speaking here are special words that I want to impress upon you and it may be a summary of things I want to say. So Jesus Christ was about to go to glory after His death and His last words and His last actions are very important. In John 13:3 after the Lord's Supper and Holy Communion, it says, "Jesus knowing that the Father had given all things into His Hands and that He had come from God and He was going to God."

You see He knew that the time had come when He can not be physically living with His disciples. After the cross, He had just about a month or so but not much time. And this important time before He went to the Cross, He must tell them some important things that would keep them throughout the 3 days. Jesus rose from supper, laid aside His garments, took a towel and girded Himself. I mean this is the Master, this is the

King of Kings, Lord of Lords - remember He was the boss during His earthly time. For 3 years He was with His disciples, teaching them, instructing them; they saw great power flow through His life. His words were with authority. He spoke and demons came out; He spoke and the sick were healed; He spoke and the dead were raised. This is a Man of Authority and power. Suddenly when He was alone with His disciples, He took off His robes and all He wore was the servant's towel. Could you imagine what the disciples were thinking? Their minds blew. What is the Lord Jesus doing? Is He sound? Is He all right! - to see that the Lord Jesus suddenly doing that - taking off His robe. I mean He was robed and suddenly He puts on that loincloth. He took a basin of water, looks like an ordinary servant, doesn't look that dignified, came to His disciples' feet, took off their sandals, start wiping and washing their feet and here the disciples were stunned.

You too will be stunned! Could you imagine the Lord Jesus Christ coming and washing your feet! It is possible but it is difficult. That is why in John 13, Peter reacted. Peter said - No, no, no Lord, can not - I am not comfortable with You doing this. How can the Lord Almighty do this? The Army General doing that, you see the Army General doing that to the privates - NO! He is the Army of God; He is doing it. He starts washing their feet. When He came to Peter's turn and Peter usually reacts a lot, Peter said No, No, not Lord and Jesus said "If I don't do this, you don't have any part in Me. Then he said, "Okay Lord, not only my feet but my whole body too." He is a bit of a cartoon. He said that in John 13 - not only my feet, my whole body, Lord. I mean, he really loved Jesus in spite of his blunders. Jesus had to teach him properly and say - if you have bathed, you don't need that - you are clean! But Jesus was saying - Jesus said in John 13 verse 13 - that He is doing this as an example so when He had washed their feet - I could imagine Jesus Christ washing all - He didn't just wash one or two, but all - all their feet, no exception, even Judas' feet too. Judas was still there, by the way; Judas had not left them yet. He was there because Jesus had said - not all of you are clean among them. He knew Judas was among them. How do you like when God reveals to you that someone is going to betray you and you have to go and to wash the person's feet? I am sure some of us will act in the flesh! You would go there and bring a very rough scrub, give him a good scrub and Judas would say - Ouch! Why do you do that to me! But Jesus gently wiped and it takes time to wash 12 apostles' feet. So, for a moment, I can imagine in the room there was silence - nobody understood what He was doing! How long was it? He could have taken ½ hour, 1 hour - but Jesus was washing and for the ½ hour, 1 hour - nobody said anything. Some of them could have been crying, don't understand why the Lord Jesus was doing this!

After Jesus completed it, He explained to them - He says in verse 12 and 13 - Do you know what I have done to you? You call me Teacher and Lord and you say well, for so, I am. If I, then, your Lord and Teacher have washed your feet, you also ought to wash one another's feet. Jesus is saying it is not going to stop here! I want you to know I am going to give you power. I want you to know I will make you apostles; I give you authority as apostles - a head of all the ministries. Jesus said, "I want you all to wash each other's feet". And He says "I have given you an example that you should do as I have done for you". Some people were asking, "Did Jesus ordain the washing of feet? Does it mean that Jesus is calling for the washing of feet? If it is, should we practice it? I know there are some places and some churches where they wash one another's feet.

Did Jesus ordain it for the church? No, I believe that Jesus was talking about our attitude of a servant. Why? In the Book of Acts you do not find any records. But in the Book of Acts you do find a record of Water Baptism and the Lord's Supper but you do not find the practice of washing feet. However, in the Book of Acts, you do find a servant's spirit among them. And so Jesus Christ is telling us to receive the positions of God, to receive the graces and authority of God. We have to receive the spirit of a servant. I pray everyday and I cry to God every time I say, "Lord, I want a 100% through my life that only Jesus to be seen." Every time before I minister, I say, "Lord, I want to hide behind you, that people will only see Jesus and everything I do, if it is possible, people don't see me - that would have been better." We have to pray that way, every day; we have to cry unto God everyday and say, "Lord, whatever I do, we do not want to be known" - we must die to self. We will see further on as we look. We are talking about the spirit of servanthood. Servanthood in the Ministry is the only key to power. I know that in these last days, God is going to give some special anointing. I pray unto God, "God, give me special signs and wonders - I don't want the ordinary," and God says, "Pay the price! Pay the price. If you want the special signs and wonders, you pay the price first". See, to receive positions of authority, supposing you have a special sign in your life - how did it come into you? It has to be a servant's heart that you achieved that position - not something that you can just grab into your life and seize it. But to have it, you have to have God's way, being a servant. There will be many other areas that we are going to cover on servanthood. Elisha could be where he is because for 15-20 years he was serving Elijah. Every powerful man in the Bible has learnt it the servant's way.

Joshua, the one who stopped the sun and brought the Israelites into the Promised Land when Moses could not, for many years, Joshua was called the servant of Moses according to Exodus 33:11. He learnt to serve first. The only way to achieve positions of power and graces with God is through a servant's spirit. Numbers 12:3 says Moses, the man whom God used, is the meekest man, the most humble man in the earth. In fact he didn't get there by himself. In fact before that he was quite proud. Moses lived for 120 years - the first 40 years he was a great orator, a great military leader in Egypt. History records some of the wars that he led the Egyptians. He was so strong and powerful that when he visited his people, he killed the Egyptians thinking that the Israelites would know that he is their deliverer. For 40 years he found out what he could do himself. The next 40 years in the wilderness he has to unlearn what he had learnt for himself; for 40 years he had to learn and learn what he had studied in the schools of Egypt. For the next 40 years he has to unlearn everything, completely until he realized he was nothing. Then, for the next 40 years he found out what God can do with a man who is a servant. We have to die to self. We have to completely die and the only way we can be servants is to die to self. The most difficult part about being a servant is because we are self-conscious, we are self-preservation and we are self, self and self. The only way to be a servant is to lay down self and serve. Remove the "L", remove the "F"; put the "R", "V" and "E". Turn yourself into serve and we will receive the positions of God.

God wants us to receive the spirit of a servant into our lives that all we are interested in is to serve one another, to love one another, to promote one another and not promote ourselves. God wants to minister the spirit of a servant; the way to greatness is the way of a servant. We pray that God may open your eyes to Jesus, the servant, the One who washed His disciples' feet is speaking to you now and saying wash one

another's feet. Go out of your way for one another - find some way to serve one another. Ministry comes forth from service and the commandment of Jesus still goes on today. He says, I have done this as an example and we pray that God's spirit will search our hearts that in your lives, any area of self-promotion, or desire to be having pre-eminence may be eradicated - that our only desire, your only desire must be that others may see Jesus in me, that you may glorify Jesus, all you want to do is when I do this, do people see Jesus, when I share this, do people see Jesus; everything that you do, do people see Jesus - that's how Jesus walked on this earth. Jesus, as He was walking, He says "I do not seek My own glory" He says in the gospel of John - but I seek the glory of the Father and the Father honors Me because I seek not my own honor, I seek His honor, His glory. Seek to glorify Jesus, not self and I know God is going to pour a special grace and anointing on your lives if you would serve. The way to the positions with God is the way of humbling ourselves to serve. We are standing on Holy Ground and I know that there are angels all around. Let's praise Jesus we are standing in this place on Holy Ground.

## SERVANTHOOD OF JESUS - PART TWO

Lets turn to Phil. 2:9 “Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name”. Notice the word “therefore” - therefore God has also highly exalted Our Lord Jesus Christ. When we see the word therefore, we have to consider the verses before. The reason why God exalted Jesus is based on verse 7 and verse 8 that is written here for us - “But made Himself of no reputation taking the form of a servant and coming in the likeness of man and being found in appearance as a man, He humbled Himself and became obedient to the point of death, even the death of the Cross.”

So Jesus Christ made Himself of no reputation - that Greek word is kenoo or emptied - He emptied Himself. He emptied Himself of his omnipresence; He emptied Himself of His omniscience His all knowing; He emptied Himself of His all-powerful omnipotence. He made Himself of no reputation and He took the form of a servant and coming in the likeness of Man. He can come in the likeness of man and take the form of a King but He came in the likeness of man, at the same time He took on the form of a servant. This is the reason why God chose to bring Him forth in a manger - that He be born in a manger. He humbled Himself. Jesus is the only one who could choose where He was to be born and we have to meditate on the fact that He chose a manger. What will you choose if you have been able to choose where you are to be born?

Very few of us would choose a manger but He chose, He ordained it because He has a purpose involved to show us the humility of Jesus. Remember verse 6 who being in the form of God did not consider it robbery to be equal with God. Now that word to understand it, it means that when Jesus, even though He was in the form of God did not consider it robbery to be equal with God. In other words He did not seize equality with God by force, by robbing, by grasping it instantly. He came into the position with God, by verse 7 and verse 8, and verse 9 - God restored Him. Notice verse 9 - God highly exalted Him therefore. Remember when Jesus was in the Garden of Gethsemane He was praying, He said “Father grant unto Me the glory which I had with You before the world was.” So Jesus had the glory of God upon His life before He came down. He was known as the Word and the Word became flesh; He came down and He took the form of flesh, humbled Himself, walked the road of humility in order that when He is exalted, He bring back a part of mankind with Him.

Lets illustrate here; let’s take this Bible to represent Jesus in all His glory. He was the Word, the Word made flesh. Now before Jesus came down to this earth He was the Word with God. The Word was with God and the Word was God. Before the beginning was, the Word was, the Father was, the Son was and the Holy Spirit was. The name of Jesus was given only when He manifested on this earth. Somehow when Jesus Christ came down, although He looked in the likeness of man way before He came - in Luke Chapter 1 and Matthew Chapter 1, remember Shadrach, Meshach and Abednego - remember the three Jewish boys when they were put in the fiery furnace, Nebuchadnezzar saw someone with them and he said the person who was with them was in the likeness of the Son of God. It represented a human being but Jesus had not come in the flesh yet. You see why does Jesus look like a man then. You got it the wrong way - Jesus didn’t look like a man, man looked like Jesus. In the beginning God said “I make man after My likeness and image. So it is not that God has hands

like us, God has eyes like us and God has an image like us. It is not that way. It is the opposite way. We have eyes like God. You read the Bible, it talks about God's eyes - it run to and fro - talk about God's hands. It is we who are like God.

I believe that the Father has a spiritual form and shape. I also believe that Jesus has a form and a shape. Some people don't believe that God is three persons, but God is three persons because if you go to Heaven you will find the Father's throne and Jesus' throne separate. They are separate persons. And I believe that the Holy Spirit also has a form and their form, it looks to us in the image of man but actually it is the opposite way - we were originally in the image of God. However, after the fall the image has been changed. Lets represent this Bible to be Jesus. Jesus was in the beginning with God. In the beginning was God. Right in the beginning before all time happened was God the Father, the Word and Holy Spirit. The name Jesus was not been given to the second person of the Godhead. The name of Jesus before He came down was the Word - His name is the Word. In the Book of Revelation when He comes down again He will be known as the Word. His name is written as the Word. Jesus' name was the Word. It is quite hard to comprehend that His name is that way but wait till the Father God speaks to you and then He will say - I AM the I AM - that is even more confusing. So just hold it there for a moment and accept it as a fact.

In spiritual life you have to accept before you understand. You don't understand before you accept. You have to believe before you understand - you don't understand and then you believe. You have to accept and receive by faith first and then God gives you the revelation and understanding. So in the beginning, John Chapter 1, verse 1, was the Word. The Word has no human flesh or human kind yet. God made human kind of the earth. There was nothing of man in heaven. All men were right down on the earth. So God was up there, the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit and all through generations He was known as the Word, the Word, the Word, the Word. So one day in God's fullness of time, the Father, the Word and the Holy Spirit decided to reach down to man and so They all three worked together. The Father plans, the Holy Spirit is the force by which the things took place. So God sends an angel and the angel came to Mary and says "Mary, thou art highly favored, thou art beloved - you are highly favored because God has chosen you of all the people. So God created in Mary's womb the Body for Jesus. The Body was created first before the Spirit of Jesus came into that Body. Just to clarify that you read the book of Hebrews 10:5 Therefore when He came into the world, He said sacrifice and offering you did not desire but a body you have prepared for me. So you notice the word there - Body. A Body was prepared in Mary's womb. Mary was the incubator that God placed a Body inside. She was just an instrument by which Jesus manifest to this earth. The Holy Spirit came upon Mary. Mary asked the Angel Gabriel - How can these things be for I know no man; and the angel said, "The Holy Spirit shall overshadow you." So you see Jesus here, the Word is here, the Father is there, the Holy Spirit comes down and overshadows Mary and create a Body - Hebrews 10, verse 5 - He created a Body. When that Body was created, everything completed, and that was a small Body that was created, a cell but that was sufficient - in the spirit world that was sufficient.

Jesus the Word came by the power of the Holy Spirit and emptied Himself. What you read in Philippians, Chapter 2, verse 6, 7 and 8 - He emptied Himself; verse 7 says He made Himself of no reputation. Some version says - He emptied Himself; the Greek word is the kenosis of Christ. He completely emptied Himself. He took off His

omnipresence, He took off His omnipotence and He took off His omniscience. That is why when He comes down here and took off omniscience (which means to know everything) He does not know anything anymore. Omnipotence means all powerful. When Jesus took off His omnipotence, when Jesus comes down it means that He is no more all powerful - anytime He needs the power He needs the Holy Spirit, like you and me. And when Jesus took off His omnipresence He could not be present in many places at the same time, He can only be present at one place at one time - He became limited.

So Jesus became the Word - in John 1 verse 14, The Word was made flesh. Where originally you can not see the Word, now you could see the Word; you can see the form. The Word has been made flesh. When Jesus comes upon this earth and the Word was made flesh, here is Jesus and the Word, and He moves about on this earth, He humbled Himself. Every time He needs to do a healing He need the Holy Spirit to come upon Him. He was in human flesh; the Word was in human flesh. Apostle John understood this - in 1 John, Chapter 1, verse 1, he said that He is the Word, He is the life of which we have handled, we have touched the Life of God. He realized that it was the Life of God there. So the Word was made flesh and He lived in human flesh. He took all our sins on the Cross. And this is what happened when Jesus Christ ascended up high He went back to the same position when in Philippians 2 verse 8, Therefore God had highly exalted Him; verse 9 - therefore God had highly exalted Him - God exalted Him - God lifted Him up from the depths of sin and spiritual death and put Him on the glory where Jesus had, in John 17, the glory restored upon Him. So the glory is restored upon Jesus and Paul said let all the angels now worship His Name. His Name is high above every name. He is restored - then the omnipresence came back upon Him; the omnipotence came back upon Him; the omniscience came back upon Him except for one part He did not know the day of His coming.

So the omniscience came upon Him - Jesus knows all things except for that one tiny fact. And it all came upon Him. And the reason why the tiny fact has not been fulfilled is because the Church has not been perfected. When the Church is perfected because now Jesus is inseparably tied up with human flesh. Now notice when Jesus Christ is restored up, let me put it up here this way, notice that it is a bit slightly different glorification. Because now when Jesus was glorified, human flesh is also glorified. You see when Jesus was resurrected, God did not just resurrect and took Him back and left the human flesh behind and brought Him back to where He is. When Jesus came down He lived as a man and human flesh was in Him and He was in humankind. When He ascended therefore a part of mankind ascended - a representation of man went up unto God. For the first time man was glorified. In Jesus man was glorified. Man was in Him and He was in man and when He was glorified, a part of us is glorified. We have been glorified in Him. That is why right now the Bible can tell us verses like - now we are seated with Jesus Christ in heaven.

Jesus is up there not for Himself anymore. He has restored us so that He has set us high, higher than the angels because we are made like to the second person of the Godhead. A part of man was glorified up there, right at the very throne of God. You are brought right up into His presence and Jesus received that, according to Philippians 2:9, 10 and 11 - by humbling Himself. So now after Jesus Christ has come, all who believe in Him can partake of the power that is inherent in Him. But that power comes, the same way He receives it. Now here is a point here. After Jesus

came up here, He has His body glorified; Jesus had a new body. They could not find His body at all. His body was glorified. Not the same like Lazarus' resurrection. Because when Lazarus was raised up, later he died again. When Jesus Christ was raised up physically, spiritually and physically He never rest again, He never died any more. He has overcome death - He has a glorified body. And just to prove that He had a body, when He appeared to His disciples He didn't want to show them that His Spirit was alive - He wanted to show that His body was alive. You remember when He appeared to His disciples, they were all hiding in the room, shivering away, fearful of the Jews. The first thing Jesus said was - Peace unto you all; and they all cried, all screaming away. They were shivering away. Imagine the doors were locked and Jesus just suddenly said, "Hello there, Hello there how are you?" Jesus said, "Do you all have any food?" You know why Jesus did that - He wanted to show them that His body was real. It was not some whiff or smoke that is intangible. And in front of them Jesus ate the food. I could understand how He came through the wall and remain with them but it is a marvelous thing after He ate lunch or dinner with them, He walked out and the lunch and dinner went out with Him. He ate with them;

He had a new body. So Jesus' body was glorified. He has a glorified body - a fantastic new body that you and I will receive at the rapture.

Now here is what happens when Jesus is here, up here, the purpose and the task of Jesus is the complete glorification of all who believe in Him, spirit, soul and body. Now when anyone, anyone is born again, a part of His Spirit comes into you and you receive a new spirit. His Spirit comes upon us, His Spirit is now pouring down, the same Jesus is sending His Spirit down upon us. When He went up, He said I went up to receive the promise of the Father. The promise of the Father is to receive the Holy Spirit. The Spirit that was reserved now we could receive it freely and the Bible calls it a pouring out. He pours His Spirit out upon each and everyone who believes in Him. To all who receives, Peter says in Acts, Chapter 2, he says - repent and be baptized and you shall receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. Now the Holy Spirit comes down upon each one of us, every single one of us. And Jesus' task is not fulfilled until 1 Thess. 5:23 comes to pass which says that God wants to preserve our, spirit, our soul and our body. Now Jesus Christ wants to glorify all of our bodies. He has glorified Himself but the head is only glorified; the rest of His body, which is us, is not yet glorified. All who believe in Him are going to be glorified. We are all going to receive a new body like His, and here in the Book of Hebrews, turn with me to the Book of Hebrews 2:6-8, "What is man that you are mindful of him? or the Son of man that you take care of Him. You made Him a little lower than the angels, you crown him with glory and honor and set him over the works of your hands, you have put all things in subjection under his feet. For in that He put all in subjection under Him he left nothing that is not put under him. But now we do not yet see all things put under him but we see Jesus who was made a little lower than the angels for the suffering of death, crowned with glory and honor that He by the grace of God might taste death for everyone. For it was fitting for Him for whom are all things, and by whom are all things in bringing many sons to glory. There you have the Word - He wants to bring everyone, all those who believe in Him to glorification - everyone of us. Unless your body is glorified Jesus is still interceding. He wants to bring all of our earthly flesh into glorification with Him. A new body He wants to give unto us to make the author of the salvation perfect through sufferings.

Now you read again here in verse 16 - for indeed He does not give aid to angels. I repeat -He does not give aid to angels but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham and today all of us are under that covenant of the seed of Abraham. Therefore in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God and make propitiation for the sins of the people.

Now the Book of Hebrews continues on the same tone in Hebrews 13:20 and 21, Now may the God of peace who brought up our Lord Jesus from the dead, that is raised Him, that great Shepherd of the sheep through the blood of the everlasting covenant make you complete in every good work to do His will, working in you what is well pleasing in His sight, through Jesus Christ to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen. Make you complete. Now this completeness is told unto us in 1 Thess. 5, verse 23, when you cross reference to 1 Thess. Chapter 5, verse 23, Now may the God of Peace Himself sanctify you completely and may your whole spirit, soul and body be preserved blameless at the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ. Notice it did not just say your spirit and your soul. But God wants to redeem you spirit, soul and body and bring him to the position where you are. Today in the spirit He has brought your spirit - your spirit is here but your spirit is also seated with God in Heaven.

Turn to Ephesians 2:6 - and raised us up together. When Jesus was raised up, we were raised up together and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. Look at verse 5 and 6 - even when we were dead in trespasses made us alive together with Christ - by grace you have been saved. So it is telling us the word together is the key in verse 5 and 6 verse 5 - we have been made alive together and then here it says - we have been raised up together. And now it says, we are seated together. Now this is what we are talking about. When Jesus Christ came upon this earth when God exalted Him, a part of you was exalted with Him. This is the revelation that Paul tried to pour upon the Church - that in the spirit realm do you know that in the spirit realm there is no distance - you may not realize it! But in the spirit world there is no distance. Distance is only felt in the physical world. In the spirit world if you take authority here over a country in South America, straightaway it takes place. In the spirit world there is no distance - don't try to understand spiritual things with the physical restricting you. In the spirit realm there is no distance. It says that when Jesus Christ ascended with Him, we were made alive, we were raised together, we were seated together when He ascended; a part of us was in Him. Which part of us is that? Can you say it - my spirit is right now seated in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus - my spirit has been made perfect in Christ Jesus; my spirit has been raised together and seated together with Christ Jesus. So our spirits have ascended and it is there.

Now what Jesus is doing is working upon our souls and working upon our body. How Jesus is going to do that - there is only one connection between you and Him today - your spirit. There is only one connection between the Lord Jesus Christ in Heaven and earth - the spirit. The Holy Spirit living in our newborn spirit is the only vital communion communication, union with Jesus today. And for us to tap on that power that He tapped, we have to follow the same pattern. See when Jesus was down here on this earth His spirit was alive with God. His spirit was not dead, like our spirits. Jesus spirit was in communion with God when He was down on this earth. There was only one time when Jesus Christ's Spirit was cut off from God. And that was on the cross - that was the only time His Spirit was cut off from God. And at that very moment there

was a blackout when He became sin for us Jesus Christ - My God, My God why have You forsaken Me? See there was a cut between His Spirit and God's Spirit.

But before that all His years, His 33 years on earth, as He walked, as He talked, as He humbled Himself, His Spirit was constantly in touch with God. So look at what Jesus has done for us! Today He has brought His Spirit into you. He has given you a new birth and a new spirit - He has put His Holy Spirit in you so that today we live like Jesus our spirits are in union with God - our spirits are in touch with God. But there is only one way back there! For to be like God, to receive the things of God, to be like God we have to walk the same way Jesus walked - it is not by pride and self achievement - it is by humbling ourselves before God. The things of the spirit are this - you keep humbling your soul and your body - you keep humbling your soul and your body subjecting your soul and your body to the things of the spirit - what we call, being a servant. And God uses all of life's situations to bring about subjection and humbling of our soul and our body. He did that to Jesus.

You remember when Jesus Christ was a young boy - as a young boy although He knew the Father God more than His parents, it was not time for Him to manifest for. And one day He was busy, I mean the parents came for the feast and they left without Him, He was busy in the Gospel of Luke, He was asking the questions to the rabbis and the lawyers, teachers of the Word of God in those days, and answering questions also, asking and answering and His parents were looking all over the place for Him. When they came back and looked for Him this is where they found Him, Luke 2:48 So when the mother and the father came they saw Him, they were amazed and His mother, "Son, why have you done this to us? Look, Your father and I have sought you anxiously and He said to them "Why is it that you sought me, did you not know that I am must be about my Father's business". That shows that He had a relationship with God. Don't underestimate children. He had a relationship with God. They didn't understand but it doesn't matter - in verse 50, the parents didn't understand Him but Jesus had to humble Himself in the form of a servant. So Jesus Christ, in verse 51, He went down with them, came to Nazareth and was subject to them. That's amazing. It is a normal thing for human being to subject to another who knows better than you, who is older than you, who is in experience far ahead of you. But for Jesus it was different. He knew God more than His parents. His spiritual understanding was more than them. In all ways, He was better than His parents but yet the amazing thing was that He subject Himself to them. Subject means that when His parents said, Come, come back to the carpenter's shop and help along He says, Yes - He went back. How did He receive all His Godhead and His equality back with God? It was by subjecting - or it was not just once or twice, we have a few incidences. But every time Jesus chose a different way - a different way of achieving and receiving the things from God - and that was by humbling Himself.

You see He understood that the things of God and the blessings of God come by being humble, by being a servant - not by grasping after that - subjecting Himself. And His Spirit was alive unto God. Our souls and our bodies must constantly be subject so that our spirit can dominate in our life. All of us have a soul nature and a flesh nature to deal with - to constantly subject to the things of God. Now notice what happened when Jesus ascended - Ephesians 4, verse 9 and 10, Now this He ascended, what does it mean that He also first descended into the lower parts of the earth He who descended is also He who ascended far above all the Heavens - that He might feel all

things and He Himself gave some to be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers. Here is where you have to understand the five-fold ministry graces. It says Jesus humbled Himself - for 33 years He humbled Himself, on the Cross He humbled Himself - we have touched on last week - that it was love that held Him to the Cross. He was at the Cross and He humbled Himself all the time and He descended right into the pits of hell and for three days and three nights He suffered for you and me.

Now when He ascended up, it says as He ascended He gave gifts. This five-fold ministry are called the ascension gifts. As He ascended He gave gifts. How could He be able to do it? Because in Jesus' time we can prove it - Jesus was an Apostle, Jesus was a prophet; Jesus was an Evangelist; Jesus was a Pastor; Jesus was a Teacher. Jesus when He was on this planet earth stood in all the 5-fold offices. He is called the Apostle in the Book of Hebrews; He is called the Prophet in Acts, the Prophet whom Moses talked about. He is called the Preacher, the Evangelist - He evangelized the crowds, He preached, the Bible tells us. And He is known as the Pastor, the Shepherd. In John 10, He tells us He is the good Shepherd. He is known as the Teacher Nicodemus came to Him in John 3 and said Rabbi, Teacher. So Jesus had all the 5-fold anointing on Him. When Jesus Christ was about to leave, notice that when He was on this earth in His 3 years' time He was fulfilling the 5-fold ministries but He was fulfilling it in a different manner - by humbling Himself. Now when He goes up, He takes of the anointing of the Apostles and He drops it off; He takes the anointing of a Prophet and He drops it off; He takes the anointing of Evangelist and He drops it off; He takes the anointing of a Pastor He drops it off; He takes the anointing of a Teacher and He drops it off. And some of us receive one, some of us stand in two offices; some stand in three but the anointing of God given onto the Body of Christ on this planet earth and we must understand that all this anointing that came, came together with the spirit of a servant.

See that is where the understanding must come. It was achieved as a result of servanthood and the transference is a result of servanthood and the manifestation will come through servanthood - servanthood. When we talk about the Ministry of God times people has a mistaken idea - Alleluia I am in the Ministry. they talk as if the Ministry is on top, that the higher you are in the 5-fold, the bigger you are, you can look down - Hey you fellows there! We have a mistaken idea. If you understood what Jesus is talking about here - it talks about the Apostles and the Prophets as the foundation. Now tell me very frankly, is the foundation on top or the bottom? - Bottom. Right! Nobody puts the foundation on the roof - we will call him crazy. The foundation is always at the bottom. Now hear me very carefully - we are talking about ministry and servanthood - the greater the ministry God has on your life, the more you have to serve. The higher your call in God - it's a different concept. The higher your call in God the more weight and burden you carry of all the others, the more service you have to do. Jesus said that he who wants to be the great among you let him be the servant of all!

So if you desire, we are talking about the five-fold ministries, we are also talking about individual body ministries, now whatever ministry you are, to the degree that God want you to have an anointing and want you to serve to that degree of ministry, you have to go under, not on top; you have to go under. So it is not something and put thing before your name - I am prophet John Doe. You say - I am prophet John Doe, I

give you the orders you listen - it is a different concept, friend. If anybody comes to you that way you can show them the back door. Don't just listen to people who say, "Thus says the Lord." Don't just listen to all these things and people who put names or titles before their names, just for the sake of recognition, are not anointing. These are not anointing. There is only a certain limit you can go to. The greater you want, the lower you have to go.

Paul, the apostle is one of a very good example. Let me show you what he describes about the apostolic ministry. He stood in three offices, anyway. Paul says about his ministry right in the early passages in 1 Cor. 9:1, Am I not an apostle? Listen carefully - he is talking about ministry of apostleship. Paul says in 1 Cor. 12:28 God has set apostles first. Some people mistake what the word first mean. They think the word first means lieutenant - commanding all the lance corporals and all the soldiers. First in service, friend, first. So when anybody claims or wants to exercise authority over you, because of their spiritual position, they have not understood spiritual ministry. The greater they are, the more they will come under to serve. So here we are in verse 1 Am I not an apostle, am I not free. Have I not seen Jesus Christ our Lord! Are you not my work in the Lord? Then in verse 4, he talks about his rights. Do we have no right to eat and drink? Do we have no right to take along a believing wife as do also the other apostles, the brothers of the Lord and Cephas. Peter was called only to be an apostle, and I believe, in the area of teaching. But Paul was an evangelist too, that's why he went and fulfilled something that Peter did not. Now here you have, he says in verse 6 - or is only Barnabas and I who have no right? And he listed down all the rights. Remember what it means to be a servant - you surrender your right, you surrender your right. If God tells you to go and do and preach to one, you go and preach to one. If God sends you to preach to 10,000 you go and preach to 10,000. Surrender your rights. You have no more decision over your own life. Your soul and your body are subject to the spirit of God who lives you. And Paul says, that is how he concluded - in the end he concluded, we have read his conclusion in verse 19 For though I am free from all men, I have made myself a servant to all, that I might win the more. Now you know why God used him greatly. I have made myself a servant to all! To all! Everyone.

Then again in 2 Cor. he talks about the apostolic ministry. We must take the bible in its full context, not just the portions we like to take. We have to take everything; 2 Cor. 4:7 - But we have this treasure in earthen vessels - that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. We are hard pressed every side - he is talking about his body and his soul. We, yet not crushed, we are perplexed that his soul, his soul need understanding but don't understand; we are perplexed but not in despair persecuted but not forsaken - struck down, but not destroyed, always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus - that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. What did we say about the body and the soul - we have to make our body and soul servant.

Now in the early days of Christianity, I believe the Church went on one extreme where they began to take their body as something evil. You remember Martin Luther - how he would take whip and whip his body thinking that he could get saved. They took the body as an evil element, which is one extreme. And so the worse they treat the body, the better. They felt that that was the better. It was the same with their soul, and their body. So they pummeled themselves, they mortified themselves physically

to earn a stand with God - thinking that they can earn that by getting rid of what they called - the evil flesh. The Church was in one extreme - in the dark ages; and always anything to do with the body was evil. Now I believe the Church is moving over on this other extreme - where Christians see that the body is holy my body is the temple of the Holy Spirit. Now they have not remained in the balance - they have gone to this extreme - My Body is the Temple of the Holy Spirit - therefore I am going to clothe my body like a King - it is the opposite extreme. I am going to feed my body the best, the best. I am going to feed my body the most expensive. I am going to let my body go on the most expensive transportation. You see the value has gone over on this tangent here - so that we forget that the purpose of the soul and the body is to be servant - to bring men to complete subjection.

No wonder Jesus Christ which is the last day Church, in the Book of Revelation - the Church in Laodicea, Jesus said in Rev. chapter 3, in verse 17 Because you say I am rich, have become wealthy and have in need nothing and do not know that you are wretched, miserable, poor, blind and naked. What the Church was doing and what Jesus was saying was different. Now it is not wrong to confess what you have in Christ. But I repeat again - our body and our soul can be treated nicely but don't go to the extreme and treat your body and your soul too nicely - you must treat them as servants to your spirit - there is a part of you to treat your best that is your spirit. Don't overdo on this part of the body and the soul. When you do so, you have moved from the opposite extreme over to this extreme where many Christians are only living their lives thinking about what happens in the body. Perhaps 90% of their prayers cover their bodily needs! Think about that! 90% of their confession or prayers or believing covers their body, their body, their body - my body, my body. Ya, your body. We don't find it in the New Testament a great portion of Paul's prayers are for spiritual needs.

Look at Eph. Chap.1 - beautiful prayers - it talks about revelation in the spirit world. Look at Philippians, Chap. 1 - doing God's Will. Everyone of the prayers - Col. 1, Phil. 1, Eph. 1, Eph. 3 - can quote all the prayers to you. Very little is said about the body. Now we don't want to go back to the other extreme and neglect the body either - hold it there. But Christians must wake up to the fact, everything in this life is temporal. I repeat - everything in this life is temporal. We would do better if more Christians, how many Christians are spending as much time praying that they may enter greater spiritual revelation in heaven rather than on them. How many Christians are asking God that they may have a trip to Heaven. How many Christians are asking God that they would draw upon God the manifestation of His glory, spending time on the spirit area. See our soul and our body are supposed to be subject. I believe we have to move it right back to center, to balance where we understand the position of our body. Even Paul said - I subject my body - I tell my body what to do. I don't allow my body to tell me what to do. So we must realize that we have to mortify the body to an extent that what our body likes to do you have to say NO! - you have to say NO! Like Noel Hayes says, when he eat a coconut pie he enjoy the coconut pie and his body says - can I have one more? Can I have one more, please? So his spirit man arose and said - NO. Your body will tell you a lot of things - your body will go off track on that side.

Now just turn to 2 verses, quickly to Romans 6:15 - What then shall we sin because we are not under law but under grace, certainly not. Do you not know that to whom

you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death or of obedience to righteousness? But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin yet you obeyed from the heart that form our doctrine to which you were delivered. And having been set free from sin you slaves of righteousness. Do you realize that our bodies are not to be let loose still? It is a body that needs to be subject to the things of God. Many Christians, if they only see that this extreme is wrong. You know why many Christians are not willing to pay the price and bring the gospel. They are too comfortable. If we talk about giving up comfort they say - I am giving up prosperity. If we talk about sacrificing something for God where, if you have a choice, which I say I'll repeat this in case it is forgotten - talk about minister of God. I believe ministers must live on the average lifestyle. You can not live below because you can not reach to the top and you can not show forth redemption from poverty. You can not live too high because your lifestyle would stumble many Christians. I did not say that you can not get prosperity. We must receive prosperity to do the things of God. But we must understand that prosperity without balance brings us to imbalance here. That when we receive prosperity, put it this way, you can afford a twenty-room house, but you realize that you only need three or four rooms. Why be so foolish with sixteen empty rooms? That is the same attitude of a servant that Jesus had when he could choose to be born in Jerusalem in a best home and he choose a manger. We are not talking about whether you have prosperity or you don't have prosperity. We are talking about the fact of you have prosperity and you choose to use it wisely because your lifestyle must come forth.

Jesus doesn't seem to pay that much attention to his body and his soul as much as to His Spirit. There were times Mark 11, He was going to the fig tree to look for figs because the bible say He was hungry. John 4 tells us He was sitting on the well waiting for His disciples to go one of the towns in Samaria. The woman at the well came - He was sitting at the well and He started witnessing to her. While He was witnessing to her the disciples went to town - the disciples went to town to get some take-away food. They brought the food to Jesus - Jesus said, "I have food to eat of which you know not of! All their eyes were blinking - Did somebody bring Him food? See, they didn't understand that Jesus valued the Spirit above all natural things. By all means get the blessings of God but you must realize that our body must be restricted in the level that it is supposed to live.

And here Paul says - we are slaves - talking of our bodies as slaves to righteousness - don't let loose your body; your body will let you down. Spend all your time developing the things of the Spirit because Christians are not seeing the cross of Jesus - they are not having more of the resurrection power. Paul says in 2 Cor. 4:11 For we who live are always delivered to death, for Jesus sake. I tell you what the Body of Christ needs most today - SACRIFICE. We need to sacrifice our Isaacs on the altar - we need to sacrifice the things that we can easily indulge in. We need sacrifice to press on into the deep things of God. Just think, about 200 years ago Christianity was such that they were on this extreme a lot of sacrificing but they don't have the power of the Spirit. Here on this part, we have the power of the Spirit but many times the power of the Spirit makes us too lazy because we can pray in tongues and everything seems to come easily, and we don't have that kind of sacrifice that the Christianity had in the early days. I believe that towards the last days there will be a proper balance. Where we have the same zeal to sacrifice as we had together with the anointing of the Holy Spirit we will press on and do great works in the last days.

God needs to bring this body right over to the balance and say - treat your body as the temple of the Holy Spirit but remember it is temporal. All the things in life - the energy you put into life. How much energy do we put, everyday into the things that we use and pass away. God says - put all the energy into the things of the Spirit, the things of the Spirit. We need more and more men or women of God that way who will put all their energy into the things of the Spirit. I mean we couldn't be bothered in what kind of place we live in as long as it is just nice enough for you to spend time with God - Amen! Why be bothered so much about that. And then say - Praise God, I want to prosper. Yes, prosper by all means but be like Jesus. Use the body as a slave - subject your body as under servanthood and live sacrificial lives, you keep giving off, and you keep giving off, and you keep giving off . A lot of ministries are not taking off because a lot of ministers are spending their time in front of their TVs. I mean, these are the last days, I don't understand people of God who know Jesus Christ and know that the time is short and know that these are the last days and yet, watching there ... I really don't understand that kind of Christianity blows my mind! I don't understand that of commitment but I understand one thing that when Jesus calls Jesus tells you, sacrifice.

Paul tells in 2 Cor. 4:12, So death is working in us but life in you. Do you understand that principle? Paul is saying - now the same Paul will talk about prosperity; he is not talking about sickness - by all means he is not talking about sickness. But he is talking about taking his body subjecting his body to the things of God and he says - death is working in us so that life can work in you. This is the principle of God. The amount, death means the cross, the cross means death, then to carry the cross means to carry death - denying yourself, putting to death your own desires. We talk about the cross today until it is decorated, so lovely - we have golden crosses, silver crosses, beautiful lovely thing, right! The modern day equivalent of the cross is the electric chair. How do you like to put a golden electric chair and hang it over your neck? The cross just talks to us about death.

Jesus says take up the cross daily. Everyday you have a choice for self-fulfillment or Christ fulfillment. And it would take more just confession; it would take more than just knowing our right. It would take the denying of our own self in order to bring about the revival for the coming of Jesus. It would take more than just know our rights and privileges. It would take more than that. It would take a self-sacrificing of our time, of our talents, of our possessions - sacrificing it on the altar of God, and bringing ourselves before God - and giving ourselves to the things of the Spirit - to usher in the coming of Our Lord Jesus Christ - that needs a big AMEN. And that is what Paul is saying - according to the level of death working in me - the cross working in me, life could work you. We are talking about ministry - ministering as servants and God has something in your life to contribute to someone else. The gifts of God given to you to function in the body is not so that - I will be recognized ... I will be prominent ... I will have the preeminence ... I am seated here - just like the flower, seen by everybody. Tie a ribbon round you. The ministry of God is not that way.

Understand what Paul says that here is the servanthood - the ministry all comes from servanthood - how much you want to impart to the Body of Christ, to that measure you have to deny yourself. So if you want to change the world for Jesus, you have to sacrifice something. And I asked Jesus about that - I said Lord, why don't You appear to more people? Why don't you manifest to more people? Why don't the power of

God and the presence of God appear to more people? The Lord Jesus told me this and He said - my people are too busy for me - I tell you this - He says my people are too busy! They are not waiting upon Me. They are spending all their time on their own ways, their own things. They are not giving themselves unto me. We need to dedicate ourselves, to spend time with God. Remember the things of the world - the things of the world all pass away. In order to bring into our lives something that benefits the body there is something that we have to give up. It is proportional - there will be death - that is the cross working in your life.

Paul, a man who came much later than all the apostles and wrote one-third of the New Testament, is spoken of in every seminary and bible college. His example today shines forth like a bright star - but he says he has given up much. I don't understand people who say, I have the call of God on my life and don't pay the price for the call and if you say I have the call of God and am not sure, you are not called. Because when the call of God is on your life there is something in your life that propels you to give up there is something. The call of our life is precious. The call ... Ecclesia ... the Church - everyone of us has a general call and then you have the other call to the ministry. The call of God in your life is precious. You pay a price for that call. God has a plan for everyone of us. God has a plan. I could see the things of God that God could do - the potential in each one of you. That you could change the world - transform and perfect the Church - but the call of God is so precious that you have to give up yourself to that call to the direction you have in your life. If God has given you a vision, a dream, a plan in your life it will not come to pass unless you give yourself sacrificially to that call. I don't understand people who say they are called and are not willing to give all that they had to the Lord.

I can tell you the call of God is precious, valuable and I close with the four points that you can find in the life of Moses - in Exodus chapter 3 and the Acts, chapter 7:20-22 onwards, At this time Moses was born and was well pleasing to God. He was brought up in his father's house for three months. But when he was set out, Pharaoh's daughter took him away and brought him up as her own son. And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptian and was mighty in word and deed. When he was 40 years old he came, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel. And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended and avenged him who was oppressed, and struck down the Egyptian.

Look at verse 22, very carefully, he was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptian, was mighty in words. I believe I would be right if I take the word mighty in words to mean he was a great orator. What else could it mean? He was mighty in words, trained in speech and deeds. Bible tells us the reason why he killed the Egyptian was, in the next verse, 25 - he supposed that his brethren would have understood that God would deliver them by his hands. Moses had a call of God on his life. For forty years that was on his life. He knew God had saved his life for a special reason. In fact he constantly visited his own people to see 'the sufferings and it must have pained his heart. He had a call of God - he had a plan of God in his life that was unfulfilled. He knew God was going to use him to deliver the Israelites - he knew it - it's very obvious, he knew it. When he was forty years old he knew God was going to use him somehow, somewhere to free the Israelites. Because of that reason he killed the Egyptians so that, in the verse here it tells us, that by that his brethren would have understood that God would deliver them by his hand, but they did not understand - 40

years of training in the world - it never worked out. His own people rejected him. Pharaoh went after him and he ran into the wilderness for 40 years. After 40 years, as he was there taking care of sheep, Exodus, chapter 3 the Lord appeared to him. This time the Lord said - verse 9 and 10 Now, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me and I have seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppressed them. He was 80 years old by now. The Lord says in verse 10 - come, come now therefore and I will send you to Pharaoh. Finally after 80 long years, the time came for the fulfillment of his call. That which he had dreamed about, that which he had trained himself for, now, God says I am going to send - but it was a different Moses now. It was a different Moses - four things I want you to see here.

First thing, Moses says in verse 11, who am I? 40 years of Egyptian training - 40 years in the wilderness he realized it is not by might, not by power that he can do the things of God. He came before God and he said "God, Who am I? The first step he took - he said, "God Who am I?" The first thing you have to do is to discover who you are in God! Whether God set you to be in the 5-fold or God did not set you in the 5-fold! What God wants you to do in your life - you must discover who am I.

Paul says, before I was born, even when I was in my mother's womb, God has separated me for a reason - for apostleship. Whether you are called to the full-time ministry or not, God has a plan for your life. You will never be happy as long as you do not discover that plan. No matter how hard you try to be happy, you can not unless you find out what God has for you - who am I in God. So God told Moses, you are the one I am going to send, your mighty strength. He found his place in history. Find your place in history and let history be written.

Second thing, Moses said, "When I go, the people will ask me who send, what is His name?" Second thing that Moses confronted when God said - tell them, verse 14, I am the I am - the God of Abraham and of Isaac and of Jacob - I AM the I AM and have sent you. Second thing Moses found, he found who God was. He had an intimate knowledge of God. He did not want to just go out and tell people about God. He wanted to tell people God Himself. He wanted to turn people to God. He said God who are you. He discovered who God was. He discovered God. God told him who He was. It is a mystery reminding him but I AM the I AM is the everlasting eternal God. Not I was but the I AM. There is only one - the only true and living God, he says I am the one you are meeting him now, you must meet with God face to face. Every single man who wrote this book, called the Bible has met with God. We need that same spirit of inspiration to work today; must discover God in your life - not just the God who saves but the God for who He is and no man can find God unless they seek after Him with all their hearts. Do you know God? Do you really know Him? Even Paul said, I do not know all of Him, I am pressing to know Him more.

The third thing after he discovered God, in chapter 4, Moses said if I just go and tell them they won't believe so God told Moses - I will give you three signs, three signs. He threw down the rod and the rod became a serpent - Moses ran from the rod, from the serpent. I believe he ran from the serpent not because he was just frightened of the serpent because as a shepherd he would have seen snakes many times. As a trained Egyptian he would have known all these things. But he ran because it was supernatural. He had never seen a stick turn into a snake. Not only because he ran from the serpent, he ran from the supernatural phenomena. But God gave him three signs God said, you can do this, the second sign of the hand - the third sign, God said,

if they don't believe these two signs, take water pour it out it will be blood! God gave him signs - these signs shall follow those who believe. God has always been giving signs to His Body. Nicodemus told Jesus in John 3 - no man can do these signs except God be with him. If God is with you, there will be signs in your life. He discovered signs. Everyone of you God has predestined, God has planned for you to work miracles and impossible situations turn that around. Everyone of you seated here are life changers. Everyone of you seated here has a place in history. Not only do you need to live your life and die without affecting the face of this earth. But your life can be an impact on those around you - receive the sign.

And the last one, not the least, Moses came to this point, in chapter 4:10 - he said, Oh my Lord, I am not eloquent - and this is one of the hardest point for us to come. Remember we read in Acts 7, he was eloquent - he was a man mighty in words and in deed. And this is one of the hardest for God to use people. You must surrender your strong point. The part of you that you feel is the best, the part of you of your character or of your talent that you deem, that you are! You are clever, you are smart. You can do it. Moses came to that point after 40 years of humbling. Even the talent that he developed after 40 years, when he was mighty in word and deed, when he saw it in the presence of God, he was like filthy rags - his talents before God became filthy rags. I don't care how smart or how talented you are but God doesn't necessarily use a smart and a talented - He uses the yielded. And sometimes it is more difficult for God to use a talented, a smart and a skillful person because the person has pride. But when you come face to face with God even your best talent, your best character, your best skills are filthy rags. Moses' eloquence and power of speech in the presence of God, he says - I am not eloquent compared to you, my Lord and unless we come to that point, we can not be servants of God - can not be slaves of God. A lot of people tried to serve God with their talent, with their smartness, with their skills but God says - I don't want all that - I only want your hearts. If you will give me your hearts, God says, I can give you ability any time. He told Moses, He said - who made man's mouth? And God said I will be with your mouth - four things.

The fifth point, which you do not have, Moses turned around and said God sent somebody else. That was the first time the Bible said God got angry. I want you to know everyone of you is special to God. Nobody can do the part of ministry that God want you to do but God don't want you to do it in your own talent, in your own wisdom. He doesn't want you to glorify in your ability. Don't pass that part of your life that you are supposed to fulfill for it angers God if you say - God I don't want to do it, let somebody do it. In the Books of Heaven opened above in His Presence, every one of us has a plan, a purpose in this life. If you live and die without fulfilling your purpose, I believe, on the overall, the work of God is tempered a little bit because God needs to choose another one. Every one of us has a plan written that God has in store for you.

I want you, this morning, to bring all your talents, all your skills, and even those points that you evaluate yourself to be good at before God that must be yielded and surrendered. Unless you see, like Jesus said, without Him you can do nothing and all that Jesus asks is one word "YIELD" - just yield to Him - I will be that ability, I will be that which I want to work in your life. If you are not going to yield, you will be like Moses, trying to do the work of God - it will come to failure. Nothing in God's Kingdom can be done without His Spirit. Every little detail from the smallest to the

biggest work must be done under the power of the Spirit, under the realization that in our selves we are nothing, we can not bring our filthy works before Him. We can only give Him our hands and let Him work through our hands.