

LIVING TOUCHED BY THE ETERNAL

WILLIS 1/25/09

Daniel 10:10-19

For those of you new with us today we have spent the last number of weeks developing our theme for the year “Emmanuel: Touched by the Eternal.” **Like birds were created to fly man was created to live in the touch of God...touched by the eternal so we transcend the limitations of the natural.**

- A touch from God is a touch that lifts us above any circumstance of limitation. As we saw last week **the touch of the eternal is the touch of the extreme.**
- Peter was touched by Jesus and he went from “shifting sands” to “the rock.” Paul was touched by Jesus and he went from Saul the murderer to Paul writer of 13 of the New Testament epistles.
- When you get touched by the hand of God you don’t get tickled, stroked or petted. The touch of the eternal is a touch that reveals, anoints and strengthens.
- **A touch from God gives us revelation so we can take a stand, it anoints so we can speak and it gives us strength so we can take courage.** Revelation, anointing and strength...3 very key attributes to distinguish us in this day.

Such was the case here with the prophet Daniel. In need of a word from God, Daniel cries out to the Lord for an answer. An angel comes and Daniel is touched 3 times. The first was a touch of revelation so he could stand. The second was a touch of anointing so he could speak and the third was a touch of strength so he could take courage.

Daniel 10:10-19

Daniel’s encounter with this angel enforces our need for **Revelation so we can understand; Anointing so we can speak; Strength so we can take courage...3 key issues that underscore our ongoing need to live in the touch of the eternal.**

We have spent the last 4 weeks now breaking down what “Living Touched by the eternal really means.

1. **Living Touched by the Eternal is living life regenerated**
2. **Living Touched by the eternal is dreaming wild**
3. **Living Touched by the eternal is knowing Jesus as the word describes Him to be**
4. **Living Touched by the Eternal is becoming a bridge that joins heaven to earth**
5. **Living Touched by the Eternal is learning to live loved**
6. **Living Touched by the eternal is to learn the walk of the Bride on the Bridal Path**

So today I would like to define a few more steps as to what being “touched by the eternal” really means:

To be Touched by the Eternal is to place a Spirit led demand on our faith. Lk 8:40-48 Here we see that Jesus is pressed and crowded by the multitudes but He is only touched by one. He is completely surrounded in need but only one comes away healed because only one came in faith.

- **We see in this story how easy it is to live in the press but never reach for the touch. It is the reach to touch Jesus that places the demand on our faith.** To touch Him she had to step out, she had to press beyond belief and step into action.
- The woman was healed because she was able to touch Him not because she was crowded around Him. It very easy to crowd yourself about with all the information...all the association but never make a demand on your faith to step out and do something.
- The woman was healed because in pressing through to touch Jesus she made a demand on her faith...she put her faith into practice. **When we place Spirit led demands on our faith we get touched by the eternal.**
- People get healed not because we believe in healing but because we pray for them to be healed. Lives are changed not because we believe God changes lives but because we go on an Encounter Retreat and position ourselves for change.
- There were no magical powers in the cloak of Jesus. What healed the woman was the power of God released through the touch of faith. **Healing is nothing more that placing a demand on faith in the face of need.**
- In the press of financial need we must reach in faith to touch Jesus. In the crowding of national uncertainty we must reach in faith to touch Jesus. In the squeeze of this worlds “stuff” we must stay in a mindset of faith and believe God for on earth as it is in heaven.
- **As we abide in a mindset of action placing Spirit led demands on our faith we will stay in the position of living touched by the eternal.**

To be Touched by the Eternal is to be commissioned and sent into destiny. Is6:5-9; Jer1:9-10; Dn 8:18 The touch is what validates ministry, the touch is what separates ministry, without the touch there is no authority, without the touch there is no power.

- The touch is what substantiates representation. There are many who use the name of Jesus but because they never received the touch of Jesus they minister without authority...they minister without power or spiritual validation.
- Giftings are great but they can never replace the touch. Personality is essential but it can never replace the touch. **It is living our lives touched by the eternal that enables us to represent Him faithfully.**
- Isaiah got touched and in that touch his sins were forgiven and his commission was given. Jeremiah got touched and in that touch God’s Word was placed in his mouth. Daniel got touched and in that touch he was granted prophetic understanding for the time.

The touch of the eternal is what establishes the source and determines the center. Without a touch from God all of our efforts for God can be man centered and man empowered...it's for man by man in Jesus name.

- But being that source determines outcome, if it is for man by man it can never satisfy God. The only work pleasing to God is the work empowered by His eternal touch.
- When He touches us we get aligned, we He touches us get empowered. **A touch from God calls, confirms, consecrates and commissions.** The appointment of man can never make up for the touch of God, you either have it or you don't.

So how do you get a touch from God? Well the TV Evangelist would tell you, sow seed into their ministry. Certain groups would tell you, join their group. There are different teaching that say you must do "this" or belief "that."

- But looking at the Word it seems none of that was required. In fact it seems the only thing required was the person being present and wanting to be touched.
- **Presenting yourself in faith seems to be the only requirement required to receive the life altering touch of the eternal.**
- In other words, the touch of God is the touch of grace.

Rom 12:1 "I urge you therefore by the mercies of God to present your bodies a living and holy sacrifice, acceptable to God which is your spiritual service of worship."As we present ourselves in worship...come before Him in devotion, we position ourselves for a touch.

- **That touch is an act of grace that is activated by the faith act of presenting ourselves as living sacrifices.**
- As it was for the woman with the issue of blood, in the act of faith we get positioned for the touch. Our faith to touch Him releases His desire to touch us.

The writer of Hebrews said it well when he said, "Without faith it is impossible to please God, for he who comes to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of those who seek Him." (Heb 11:6)

- One of those primary rewards is grace to live in the fresh ongoing touch of the eternal.