

Now Concerning Spiritual Things
an historical account of one man's walk with God

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**A BREAKTHROUGH
WORTH WRITING ABOUT**
Part Five
Rhema Words
The Power of Listening

The exponential *breakthrough* in my walk with God about which I am writing in this series of *letters*, ***began*** as I was led by the Lord to boldly pray *for spiritual blessings for myself* that the Lord Himself might be glorified. Then is when I began to hear His rhema words more frequently so that at times they have seemed to literally rain on me.¹ Those rhema words have changed my life and the changing continues and is unending. Therein lies the blessing of this *breakthrough*.

In this series of *letters*, you have observed that God has shown me that a missing ingredient in the lives of His dedicated servants today is failure to hear His rhema words in our daily prayers as well as at other times. God's rhema word to me on this is that *our speaking to Him is only one-half of prayer. The other half is listening to hear His rhema words.*² Prayer, then, is one-half speaking to Him and one-half listening to Him. This is the way to become One with Him.

Since I have discovered this spiritual *breakthrough* in hearing rhema words from God, I am more able to identify with Jesus. During His personal ministry I used to think of Him mostly as the Son of God, because of the many miracles He performed. Now I think of Him, during that period of time, as the son of man, as Jesus referred to Himself many times. Scripture reveals that He received authority over all flesh³ *from the Father*. I think of Him now as the son of man empowered and directed *by the Father*, through the Holy Spirit, to do the miraculous.

He gave up far more than I had previously understood. For example, note these words of Jesus from the pen of the apostle Paul with my explanation inserted in brackets: “[Christ Jesus] made Himself of no reputation, taking the form of a bondservant, and coming [being born] in the likeness of men. 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 [as a man, not as God, for God was not crucified]. Therefore God also has highly exalted Him and given Him the name which is above every name.”⁴ It was Dr. Luke who reported that Jesus Himself often withdrew into the wilderness [away from everyone to be alone with God] to pray.⁵ That was not God who often withdrew into the wilderness to pray, it was man, perfect man, born without sin [like Adam before he sinned] whom, I believe, needed God's assurance, strength and guidance to withstand the weight of the ministry of the cross that was ever before Him. Jesus knew His destiny at the beginning of His ministry and knew it drew closer with the passing of each day. I believe it was the weight of His mission as a man that often literally drove Him into the wilderness to pray and ask the Father for the physical and emotional strength to continue with His calling and election. This makes His mission and His sacrifice even more special to me. I marvel and stand in awe at what He did for you and me, which, at times, is both humbling and exalting. Nothing blesses more than serving Him.

Jesus constantly got direction and guidance from the Father. That's the way He became One with Him as the apostle John recorded. Here are two quotations from Jesus to illustrate the point with my explanation inserted in brackets. (1) “*For I [Jesus] have given to them [the disciples] the words [rhema]⁶ which You [the Father] have given Me.*”⁷ (2) “*I [Jesus] have given them [the disciples] Your [the Father's] word [logos].*”⁸ Notice in the first quotation the Father's “words” to Jesus were rhema words as they were spoken [received] whereas in the second quotation the “word” became *logos* referring to the body of rhema words given by the Father to Jesus who then gave them to the disciples.⁹ In these two references it is clear that Jesus became One with the Father by listening to and hearing rhema words from the Father.

⁴See Philippians 2:7-9.

⁵See Luke 5:16, bracketed explanations inserted.

⁶“words” in this passage is translated from the Greek word *rhema*, Strong's #4487.

⁷John 17:8 (a).

⁸John 17:14 (a). “word” in this passage is translated from the Greek word “logos,” Strong's #3056.

⁹The body [logos] of rhema words is [the body of] Jesus. See John 1:1, 2, 14.

¹I believe this may be prophetic of the latter rain spoken of by James that immediately precedes the harvest [rapture] of the Church. See James 5:7, 8.

²See **Part Three**, page 3, column one, paragraph two.

³See John 17:2.

The way we become One with the Lord [and the Father] today is to dialogue with Him as Jesus dialogued with the Father. Dialogue means that both parties speak, hear and listen – to each other – and that each has equal opportunity and equal time and that *both are expected to speak and listen*. Neither party dominates the conversation. That’s the way you become one with anybody and God is no exception, as confirmed by His only Son.

One important thing about hearing rhema words from God is once they are heard, faith is no longer an issue since faith comes by hearing God’s [rhema] word. Thereafter obedience is the next step. Obedience to the continuing rain of rhema words from the Master will change you into His likeness. As you hear His rhema words and obey, you are walking in His will which is perfect. This means that as you continue to hear His rhema words and walk therein, you not only are perfect in His sight, but are also constantly being perfected by obedience to His rhema words. That is precisely the road that Jesus traveled as we have seen in the two previous scripture references from John Chapter 17. Scripture also relates that Jesus was made perfect or was perfected by the cross.¹⁰

This likewise gives understanding to these words of Jesus that had troubled me for years: “Be ye therefore perfect as your Father which is in heaven is perfect.”¹¹ You are perfect and are being perfected in God’s sight as you walk in His perfect will. God has said to me that hearing rhema words from Him on a regular basis is the way to insure such a blessing. Otherwise, the enemy will play tricks on you with *doubt, unbelief and uncertainty*.

As I have previously written, the Lord has instructed me to share with you some of the rhema words He has given me. This will give you an example of what lies in store for you as you learn to listen for that light intuitive thought, or still small voice. I have selected to share with you His words given to me on two days, September 30, and October 3, 2004.

Introduction to rhema words given on September 30, 2004

My journal notes on this entry begin with the time, 4:00 A.M., followed by His rhema words. That usually means that I awakened a little before 4:00 A.M. that morning, was wide awake and couldn’t go back to sleep. Since I’d had that signal before, I got out of bed, picked up a bible, my journal and a pen and went in to pray. Notes in my journal do not reveal whether or not I prayed briefly before these rhema words began but when I am

awakened at this time of the morning, His words usually begin to flow almost immediately. Drink in these words, for they are spirit and life. God has said that His rhema words have enrolled me in His school. Rhema words in this letter will give you a taste of His personal one-on-one instruction. He has also said to me that in His school, the students write their own texts. What that means is, as one who hungers and thirsts for righteousness learns to listen, He will dictate rhema words especially for that individual as He has done for and as He continues to do for me. This does not mean that these rhema words supplant the written word. It means that they will supplement, confirm and support, but never be in contradiction to the written word of God.

As you read these words, please understand that they are words of instruction to me in preparation for things He has prophesied into my life – some of which will come to pass in my lifetime and some of which I will be able to share with you at a later date. Nothing is more interesting, nothing is more exciting than discovering the way to get regular rhema words of instruction from God to prepare you for His last days, end-time events. That is happening in my life and He wants to do the same for you. He has said to me, “You are not an exception to the rule. You are the rule!” That means it is His desire to tailor specific instructions to each of you through His rhema words as you learn to listen.

Rhema words

“My son, you learn of Me by putting Me first in everything. You become one with Me – with Us – the Father and the Son – by putting Me first in your life. This is not a learned mechanism – a mind thing – but a heart’s desire. For My walk with you must be the desire of your heart, for with the heart one believes unto righteousness and that is born of spiritual hunger and thirst for righteousness. There is no forced feeding in My kingdom. Forced feeding would be unwanted food that would be of no value. Spiritual growth and sustenance is like physical growth and sustenance. The body, when functioning normally, desires food for nourishment, sustenance and growth. So it is with the spirit and the heart. The heart must desire (hunger and thirst) for righteousness – and that is the appetite that I fill for each believer – that I cannot resist. For you see, you provide food for your physical sustenance, maintenance and growth and I provide spiritual food to satisfy your spiritual hunger and thirst for spiritual sustenance, maintenance and growth.

“My provision, My spiritual provision for you is of the Spirit – as a result of the heart’s desire. Then as you grow and recognize that all My promises are yes and

¹⁰See Hebrews 2:10.

¹¹Matthew 5:48.

amen, your boldness in prayer requests is commensurate with your spiritual sight – commensurate with what you see in My word that you desire – just like physical food. As you mature and your heart hungers and thirsts for spiritual food, it hungers for that which it sees. As you mature spiritually, your appetite changes. As you mature spiritually, you are able to see more of My spiritual nourishment [in My word]. Then your heart becomes hungry and thirsty for the newly found delicious food. Food that was there all the time but was not previously noticed or seen.

“You are so much alike in the physical and spiritual that many never see. Once seen, it is really very simple. I provide you with adequate nourishment which changes as you spend time in the garden of life. The garden of Eden prior to sin was a garden of Life where everything was provided for Adam. Sin, however, clouded Adam’s spiritual vision [sin separates from Me] and he had to start over again.

“I call everyone to Me, to Life. I am the Life each is called to. I call each one. I woo each one with Myself – with My love. Tender, simple powerful love – a love fest is what I call all to receive.

“Every day may be a love fest when I am put first in everything. It must be that way for you and Me [Us] to become one. It is really a growth measure. As you mature, your appetite changes for the food found in My word garden. My word, My son, is a garden delight for each of My servants.

“As you grow to desire only Me – to be with Me to satisfy all your cravings for spiritual food, then is when you begin to mature to a new level. Only then am I able to be to you that which I intended from the beginning. The cross allowed Me to overcome Satan’s allure to recapture paradise lost. I am the tree of Life in the garden of life. Come to me, learn of Me – that is the longing of My heart for you and the longing of your heart for Me.

“In these last days I am calling some of My servants to a garden experience – a garden walk with Me. Many are the blessings therein. Come – come to Me, for My table is spread with untold spiritual supply and blessings available only at My table.”

Introduction to rhema words given on October 3, 2004

The morning of October 3, 2004, I was awakened a few minutes before 4:00 A.M., got out of bed at 4:15 A.M., picked up a bible, my journal and pen and went in to pray. After praying a few words in English, then in the Spirit, the following words were given. Note the intimate detail in these words of the Master. Prepare to be blessed as you drink them into your heart, your spirit.

Rhema words

“My son, I have awakened you for a good reason. You have begun to see now that a listening ear commands Me! This is so unlike natural commands. In the spirit I am commanded by listening. Realize that I am doing as you have requested. I am compressing time so as to teach you the necessary things within My law, ‘the slower the progress, the greater the retention.’ Do you not now see what I am doing? This is the third time in four days I have awakened you at 4:00 A.M. Notice that each time you were awakened you had not slept a normal period of time. For example it was 12:45 A.M. when you turned out the light this morning. That’s three hours and fifteen minutes of sleep. When you awakened, you were unable to go back to sleep and yet felt rested. That’s supernatural, My son. Do you see the supernatural is not always spectacular as many think. There are times when the supernatural appears to be natural and normal because the natural is overcome or overridden. Learn from this, My son. You are learning to listen but also at the same time learning that My ways are sometimes subtle but adequate within the physical limitations. So just be observant and learn. This is the walk I am calling My servants to. My still small voice is more intuitive than most think. Some are inclined to think more in or of the spectacular, which is normal, than of the subtle, which is supernatural.

“Now you see how I am training you, how I am teaching you to listen. Not only to be attentive but also to be obedient. Remember yesterday your choice was between physical food and supernatural manna or food. One sustains the body [the flesh], the other sustains the soul. This is why I said do not fear one who may kill the body, but one who can destroy the soul and body in hell. The enemy’s entry to hell is through the flesh.

“As you proceed, learn not to be apprehensive about our conversations. Remember I am excited about this as are you. The difference is that I know what lies ahead – what I want to say before time and you don’t. That’s where faith comes in. *The faith that moves mountains is faith which comes through the listening ear.*¹² When the listening ear commands Me, the result is always supernatural. Becoming one with you is really easy – simple – but requires a listening ear by faith to command My attention – so unlike the natural.

“So be blessed today. *The lesson today is the power of listening.* You have no idea how much this

¹²Jesus said, “Have faith in God. For assuredly I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. See Mark 11:22 (b), 23.

blesses Me. I long for My servants to listen. Now you see why so many of My servants go to and fro seeking Me here and there, not realizing that activity is often both their and My enemy. Actually, activity is often a work of the flesh when one feels he must do something when all I require is a listening ear. The world is unaware of the power of the listening ear. Grow accustomed to that. Be not apprehensive over this new walk. Just relax – not apprehensive nor fearful that you will miss a word from Me. The listening ear in time will overcome all apprehension.

“As you learn the power of silence – the listening ear – you may share this with others. Being bold in prayer with a listening ear are two powerful weapons – power exerted in ways the world is blind to. Boldness in prayer, when the prayer is a *word* prayer, coupled with a listening ear are the two weapons most feared by the enemy. **That is why He tempts many of My servants to spend time coming, going and doing instead of investing time in bold prayer with a listening ear.**

“My son, there is now training ahead. You must become acquainted with the new rules. As you do so, I can begin to do as you have asked – that is to instruct you with My Spirit so that the *sign ministry*¹³ you have asked for, the walk you have prayed and longed for, will come to pass.

“So just be contented for now. Go forth armed with My Spirit, knowing now as I speak to a listening ear, My hopes and desires will come to pass in a new way – in My way now.

“Activity does not always mean productivity or accomplishment. Therefore, be not too ready to do anything hereafter without first asking Me. Then learn to trust the light intuitive thought and We are on the way.

“Time spent in listening is the key to a born-again Spirit-filled life that many never get to. So many of My servants are afraid of missing something that they waste time running to and fro instead of learning to listen to Me. Consequently I am crowded out of a busy life and opportunities for serving Me are missed.

“Now you see – now you are beginning to see My way. When I said I am the way, the truth and the life and no one comes to the Father but by Me, I was saying become One with Me as I became One with the Father. That is the secret of a fulfilled life and the answer to many of your prayers, that is, the way many of your prayers are answered. Oneness is so vital in these last days because the time is short. That to you means no rushing to and fro,

but learning to listen in ALL CIRCUMSTANCES. That’s the key. Learning not to depend on self is one key to denying self to take up one’s cross to follow Me.

“You now see the importance of waiting until the second semester to teach next year [2005]. You and I have some time to spend together in preparation, says God to you this morning.

“Become accustomed to My direction – My way – so We can go forth in this new Life adventure, conquering and to conquer every obstacle the enemy puts in your pathway, for He fears most the walk I am teaching you to acquire.

“There is no need to be apprehensive. Just spend enough time with Me to be at rest in your soul and at peace in your spirit and the journey is under way.

“True worship occurs as you become One with Me.

“Learn to be interrupted. That is the way to accept My planning. The reason for the suddenness of My leading is because I see the enemy’s forces at work and as you listen and obey, he is caught off guard with no time to prepare his defense. This is a powerful offensive weapon tactic, My son. Learn it well. All of My plans have specific reasons for their implementation.

“Because of your logical mind, I am instructing you on these things in order for you to teach them, for you have the heart of a teacher, even as I do. That means you and I have much in common that many do not have. However, what I do is minister to My servants along the line of their strength for the greatest accomplishments. And that’s the way of ministry. You see, I utilize the natural abilities supernaturally for the optimum results, says God.

“You can now see why the learning cycle must be carefully administered.”

God’s afterglow (rhema words continued)

“My son it is all right for you to miss scheduled prayer time, especially when time is spent with Me. Be assured that is all right with Me. These times are special to Me for they are arming you as My servant to bless many, but also to bless Me. When you bless others, you bless Me – the trinity of blessing.”

What He has done for others, He will do for you. If what I write is a blessing to you, be sure to give Him the praise, glory and honor, for it will bless you, strengthen your faith and bless Him -- the trinity of blessing.

¹³See Mark 16:17, 18 for the *sign ministry* referred to.