



TRANSFORM
OUR WORLD

THE SCHOOL OF
TRANSFORMATION

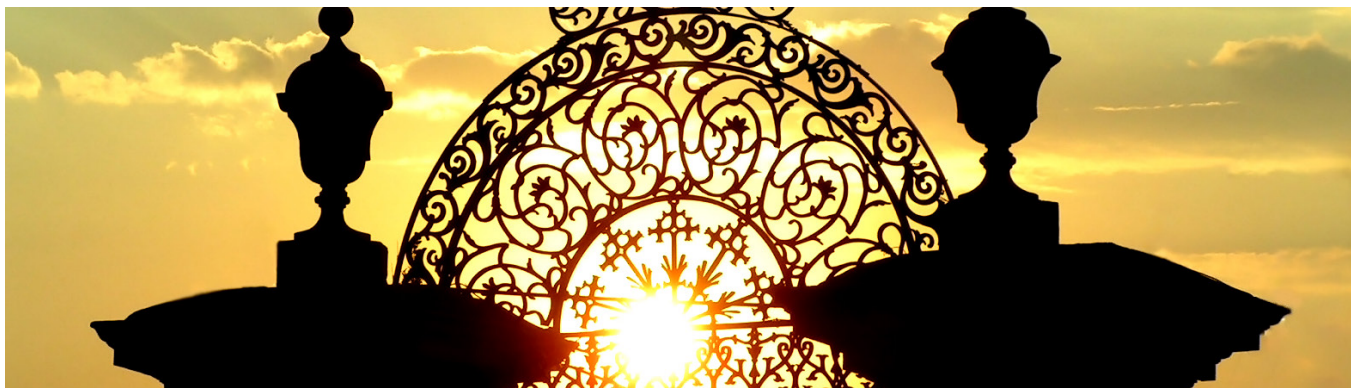
TRANSFORMATION IN YOUR SPHERE OF INFLUENCE
Week 8 **THE KEYS TO THE KINGDOM**

SUMMARY WEEK 7

IN THIS SESSION YOU WILL:

1. Learn how when Jesus died, he made it possible for us to go to the marketplace on Monday with the same anointing that a pastor comes to the pulpit with on Sunday.
2. Learn the powerful impact that occurs when pulpit and marketplace ministers work together to bring transformation to their city.
3. Learn how to bring transformation to your sphere of influence by seeing Paul's experience of two set-backs and two victories.
4. Learn how to identify and unlock the Gates of Hades in your sphere of influence.
5. Review four keys to transformation.

The third and fourth paradigms address the “how” of Nation Transformation. The third paradigm says, “labor is worship, and every believer is a minister.” When we discover, according to Col. 3:23, that our labor is worship done unto the Lord rather than for people, then our job becomes our ministry. When we operate with this paradigm, we begin to bring the Lord's presence and His kingdom into the marketplace. The fourth paradigm says we are to bring the Kingdom of God to where the Gates of Hades are entrenched in the marketplace in order to watch those gates collapse and to see Jesus build His church in the marketplace.



PREPARATION

GIVING THE DEVIL A HEAVEN OF A TIME

Paradigm #4: We are called to take the kingdom of God where the kingdom of darkness is.

A landing drill and an amphibious landing are similar except in one key point. The former happens in friendly territory and it does not impact the enemy's position. The latter

takes the war to the enemy's territory and is designed to destroy his positions. In order to liberate our cities and nations, it is time that the Church replaces its Sunday parades with all-out thrusts against the kingdom of darkness's entrenchments in the marketplace.

Continue reading...go to the Appendix and read the complete article from *Transformation*, ch. 10.





MENTORING

Watch Mentoring Session 10 on “The Spirit Of Adoption”

<http://www.transformourworld.org/en/mentoring/spirit-of-adoption>

Read Ch. 7-10 in *Transformation*

Welcome to Mentoring



Welcome to Mentoring
by Ed Silvoso

WEBCAST



ED: We talked about the 5 pivotal paradigms. We already covered number 1 and number 2. Today we're going to cover number 3 and number 4 with a special focus on number 4.

Number 3 explains the “how”.



NOTES:

But paradigm number 4 is that we are sent...

NOTES:



And again we need to understand that all the devil has are gates. And the Lord took away the keys of Hades and death renamed them the keys of the kingdom and gave them to us to go to bind and to release.

That's why we have an EDification that we did for last Easter that talks about happened on that Friday. Let's play it.

EDification:

On Thursday Jesus gave his life for us...

But what happened on Friday and Saturday? Well listen to the Lord himself tell us what happen in Rev. 1:18

**"I am the Living one; the one who
was dead and now is alive and
I have the keys of hades and of death."**

Do you know what happened on Thursday and Friday?

Jesus descended to the darkest part where the devil himself and his lieutenants held their quarters and he established his authority and he took away the keys of Hades and the keys of death and rose victoriously so that today, you and I, will know for a fact that death can no longer have a hold on us.

NOTES:

This reminds me of a story I tell in my book *That None Should Perish* about General Wainwright – the general that Douglas MacArthur left in the Philippines. He was overpowered by the Japanese, he was taken to a POW camp in Mongolia. And even after Japan surrendered they held the news of the victory back from him so he continued to behave like a captive. Until one day an American Allied plane landed near by and superior officer walked up to the fence, saluted General Wainwright and brought the good news: General, Japan has surrendered.

And now General Wainwright, with a very weak body, leaning on a cane with a trembling voice, but a new conviction brought by the good news, confronted the Commandant and told him, “My commander in chief has defeated your commander and chief, I am free, and you are now my prisoner.”

Without firing a single gun, but knowing the truth, he was able to be set free.

POWs RELEASED



My friend, death has no more power over you. Jesus has defeated the devil, the question is: Do you know him? And if you know him, experience now the power of his resurrection.

This is what Jesus did and this is what he wants you to enjoy today.

ED: Awesome isn't it? I mean he rose from the grave victorious and gave us the keys. And that's why you can go to the marketplace now on Monday with the same anointing that a pastor comes to the pulpit with on Sunday.

VIDEO CLIP: A chiropractor in Elk River, MN

DR. ENG: I believe the reason this is happening is because so many don't attend church. This is a way for God to reach them through a common person – I'm not an ordained pastor. I'm just an average person. (explains praying with patients – they come with more than needs for physical healing. Testimony from patient)

ED: Well what do you think? I'll tell you it gets better. What if you had a shop in a city that at the moment was the murder capital of the world. And the people that love to come into your shop are prostitutes? Can you do something about it? Yes! Watch it!

VIDEO CLIP: Store Owner in Juarez

SARA VARELA: Prostitutes coming into store and she thought only pastor Poncho could help them. He taught me that I could too!

ED: So what is the secret behind this? Well in the mentoring session we talk about connecting the pulpit with the marketplace. That is also in my book Transformation chapters 7-10.

Now there Paul and Barnabas are sent out from Antioch in Acts 13:2-3.

NOTES:

Apostolic Commissioning

Antioch

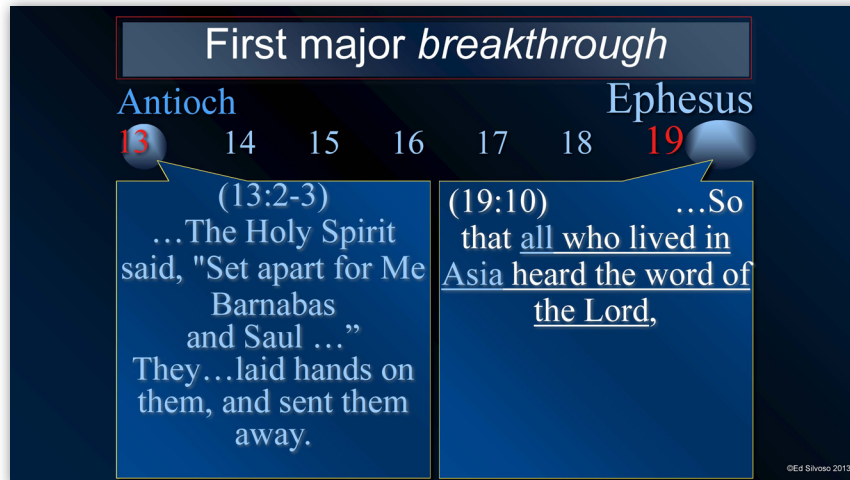
13

(13:2-3)
...The Holy Spirit
said, "Set apart for Me
Barnabas
and Saul ..."
They...laid hands on
them, and sent them
away.

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NOTES:

What happened in chapter 19? All who live in Asia - ALL - heard the Word of the Lord.

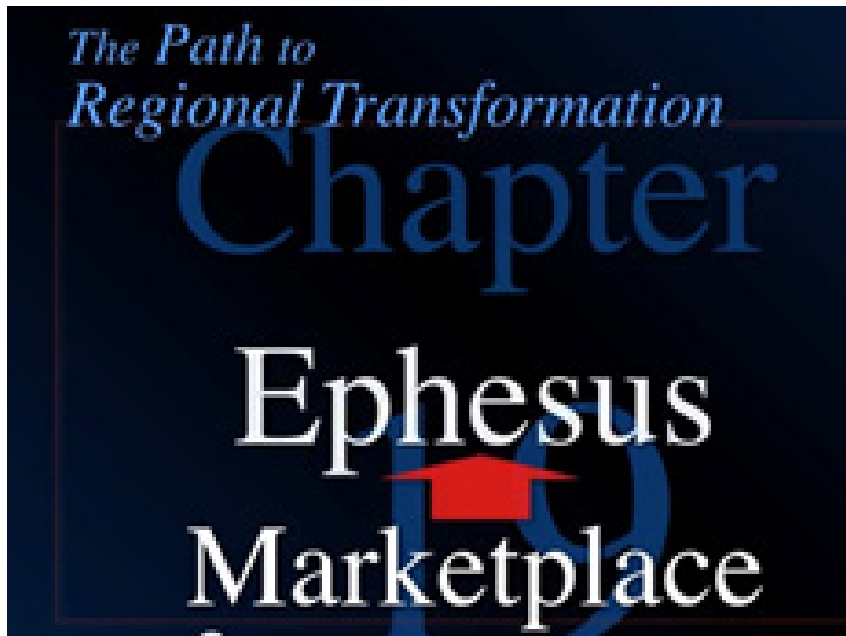


So what was the key? That Paul went through the same transition that you and I are going through. He says OK I have been transformed. My inner circle is transformed. Now I need to take it to my sphere of influence. So they took the kingdom of God to the marketplace. Because the marketplace has been redeemed and it's the heart of the city.

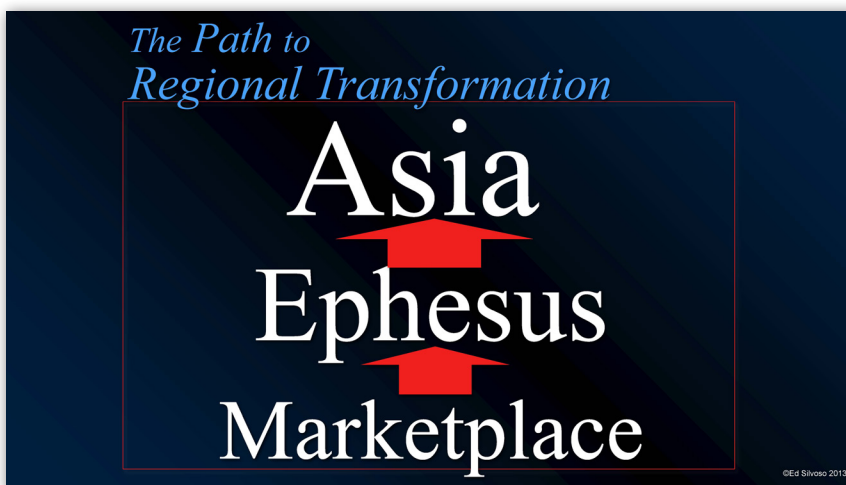
*The Path to
Regional Transformation*
Chapter
10
Marketplace

And it changed Ephesus.

NOTES:



And because Ephesus was the capital of the Roman province of Asia, everybody in Asia heard the Word of the Lord.



You see what happened there is that Paul a pulpit minister met Aquila and Priscilla who were marketplace ministers.

NOTES:



And Paul embraced the marketplace because he set up a company in the marketplace. And Aquila and Priscilla, who already had a company, dedicated it to God and they embraced the pulpit.



So they move out of the confines of the Synagogue, they went to a house.

"Church" in the *Corinth*
Marketplace?

Acts 18:7

...Then Paul left the synagogue and
went next door to the house of Titius
Justus...

In the Bible the word house means home, family...but also
workplace.

"Church" in the *Corinth*
Marketplace?

Acts 18:7

...Then Paul left the synagogue and
went next door to the house of Titius
Justus...

(House = home + marketplace)

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Because people worked out of their homes.

And now it says there when a very prominent person, Cris-
pus and his household – that means family and his busi-
ness – believed.

"Church" in the *Corinth*
Marketplace?

v. 8

And Crispus, the leader of the synagogue,
believed in the Lord with all his household,
and many of the Corinthians when they
heard were believing and being baptized.

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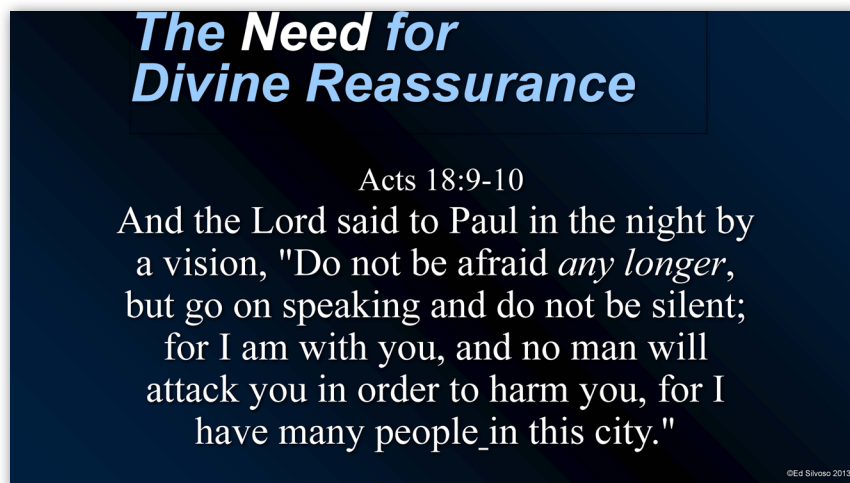
You see how important it is. There we have it. He gets transformed. His family gets transformed. Now his household, which is his sphere of influence, gets transformed.

And as a result of that as the Corinthians begin to hear about this, there were so many of them being baptized and saved in the marketplace...

NOTES:



Are you ready for this? God has to come in the night by a vision to tell an apostle do not be afraid because so many people are getting saved, go on, and I am with you



I love the marketplace and you know what Paul? You ain't seen nothing yet!

Why did God have to reassure an apostle that was okay to see multitudes saved?

Because they got saved where they will get saved in your city - in your sphere of influence in the marketplace!

It was an unprecedented move of God in an ungodly setting (the marketplace)

NOTES:

The Reason for Divine Reassurance

An unprecedented
move of God in an
ungodly setting
(the marketplace)

When pastors get it...now Paul was doing Bible teaching in the marketplace. To whom?

“Bible Teaching” in the Marketplace?

Acts 18:11
And he settled *there* a year and six months,
teaching the word of God among them.

Who is “them”?

to the people that got saved.

Corinth, a city dominated by demonic pagan worship, now experienced the liberating presence and power of God in its marketplace.

1 Cor. 2:4-5
And my message and
my preaching were not in
persuasive words of wisdom,
but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power,
that your faith should not rest on the wisdom of men,
but on the power of God.

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All because Paul decided to take it outside of the four walls to what we now call our sphere of influence.

Watch what Bishop Vaughn McLaughlin did when he identified the gates of hades in the poor neighborhoods, what some people would describe as a ghetto with high crime.

BISHOP VAUGHN: (video of Bishop giving leadership to the men of the Potter's House...every man who wants to man up...meet me here tomorrow night...addresses men...men take to streets...covering city in canopy of prayer...ministering house to house. Pastor who moved his church to "getting the t-shirts". Gathered churches together to reach men to take streets back.)

ED: Tremendous isn't it? But you see it didn't just happen in Corinth. That's where Paul got it.

But now he goes to Ephesus...

NOTES:

Ephesus
A More Developed Model

1. Paul took his business partners,
Aquila and Priscilla, with him.

Acts 18:18
And Paul...put out to sea for Syria, and
with him were Priscilla and Aquila.

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So if you want to change a city don't take just preachers, take business people, take educators, right?

Ephesus A More Developed Model

2. He set up a business.

Acts 20:34

"You yourselves know that these hands
ministered to my *own* needs and to the men
who were with me."

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NOTES:

Ephesus A More Developed Model

3. He established himself in the marketplace

Acts 19:9

...He withdrew from (the synagogue) and
took away the disciples, reasoning daily in
the school of Tyrannus.

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He withdrew from the confines of the four walls and took away the disciples, guess where? Reasoning daily in the school of? Tyrannus.

Then what happened now that people got it? First Ephesus, then all of Asia heard the word of the Lord.

Ephesus A More Developed Model

4. First Ephesus, then all Asia heard the Word of the Lord.

Acts 19:10

And this took place for two years, so that all
who lived in Asia heard the word of the
Lord.

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And this is because there were extraordinary miracles.

NOTES:

Ephesus A More Developed Model

5. The key role of “extraordinary miracles.”

Acts 19:11

And God was performing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul....

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Oh listen to the Holy Spirit now. Because to see transformation we need miracles. And to see extraordinary transformation we need extraordinary miracles! And let me tell you they are happening today.

Corinth
Paul used his business to take the presence and the power of God to the marketplace to bring transformation to the city / region
Ephesus

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Let me give you a contemporary example that you can find in our bookstore at transformourworld.org.

It's about Ciudad Juarez. Where were the gates of Hades in Ciudad Juarez? In the prison called El Cereso. It was run by the mafia. Over 90% of the inmates were drug addicts. A huge number of the guards were drug dealers. And something happened there. Watch what happens when we take transformation to our sphere of influence.

PONCHO: Once this man was elected, the mayor, he called me and...(tells story of El Cereso)...I believe there is a time when hope is going to come to our city and Jesus Christ is going to be the Lord of Juarez.

ED: You see what happens when we understand that we must take transformation to our sphere of influence?

We have an interview and Benjy will guide us and you will be blessed beyond measure!

NOTES:

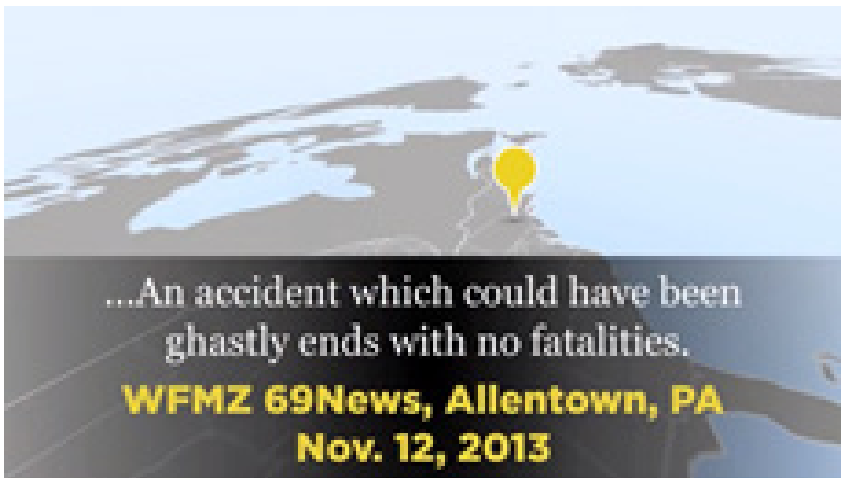


INTERVIEW WITH TED HAHS: How a dancer is bringing transformation to her world.



JILL: Story of Gail Okuley and elimination of death through traffic fatalities.

NOTES:



Let me encourage you to take the keys you have and go to the areas where you still see the gates of hades in your city.



BENJY: (tells story of Adam, a young man in High School in Raleigh NC – Adam took keys of kingdom to school riddled with suspensions from fighting because of racial tensions etc. In three years rate of suspensions went from 160 to 16 - 94% decrease. Felt need of school was, “Pray for us now everybody wants to go to this school because the reputation had changed!”)

So these principles work and students can be involved in taking the keys of the kingdom to where the gates of hell are.



NOTES:

ED: Now you may wonder could this happen to me? These paradigms are too radical. Well let me let you in on a secret. Even Paul had to change paradigms. Yes, the Grand Puba of all apostles had to change paradigms. And if he did there is hope for us.



In Paul's journey from Acts 13 to 19 he suffered two setbacks and he enjoyed two victories.

The first setback happened in Pisidian Antioch.

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Pisidian Antioch

Acts 13

What happened in the city?

What happened in that city?

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Pisidian Antioch

Acts 13

What happened in the city?

v.44, 49 - ...Nearly the whole city assembled to hear the word of God...And the word of the Lord was being spread through the whole region.

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The entire region is being blessed with a revival.

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Pisidian Antioch

Acts 13

<p>What happened in the city?</p> <p>v.44, 49 - ...Nearly the whole city assembled to hear the word of God...And the word of the Lord was being spread through the whole region.</p>	<p>What was the reaction?</p> <p>v. 50 ...The devout women of prominence and the leading men of the city...instigated a persecution against Paul and Barnabas...</p>
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But then the reaction was that the women of prominence and the leading men in the city instigated a persecution, and regardless how big the revival was, the result was that they drove Paul and his associate out of their district.

NOTES:

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Pisidian Antioch

Acts 13

The Result:

v.10 ...(They) drove them out of their district.

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I mean the government shut down the revival. Boy that must have hurt.

But it happened again in Thessalonica. What happened there?

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Thessalonica

Acts 17

What happened in the city?

v.4 ...Were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, along with a great multitude of the God-fearing Greeks and a number of the leading women.

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I'll tell you this was a top down revival. But there was a reaction.

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Thessalonica

Acts 17

What happened in the city?

v.4 ...Were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, along with a great multitude of the God-fearing Greeks and a number of the leading women.

What was the reaction?

v.5 ...wicked men from the market place, formed a mob and set the city in an uproar...

v.8 ...And they stirred up the crowd and the city authorities.

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And the result?

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Thessalonica

Acts 17

The Result:

v.10 ...And [they] sent Paul and Silas away by night

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Two major setbacks. But now let's go to the victories.

In Corinth, what happened there?

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Corinth

Acts 18

What happened in the city?

v.8 - ...And many of the Corinthians when they heard were believing and being baptized....

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So many that Paul said wait a moment. God didn't call me to baptize, he called me to preach. I need some help here.

NOTES:

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Corinth

Acts 18

What happened in the city?	What was the reaction?
v.8 - ...And many of the Corinthians when they heard were believing and being baptized....	v.12 ...the Jews with one accord rose up against Paul and brought him before the judgment seat,

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But the reaction never changes. People rose up against him and they took him to court. What happened in court? Listen carefully because this is the secret.

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Corinth

Acts 18

The Result:

v.14, 16 ...(The proconsul) drove (the Jews) away from the judgment seat.

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The proconsul – the presiding officials drove away the Jews – the people who brought the complaint away from the judgment seat.

NOTES:

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Corinth

Acts 18

The Result:

v.18 - And Paul...remained
many days longer....

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And the result was that Paul remained many days longer.

Touchdown!

But it gets better! Go to Ephesus now. All who lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord.

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Ephesus

Acts 19

What happened in
the city?

v.9-11 - ...All who lived in
Asia heard the word of the
Lord

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I mean the word of the Lord was growing mightily and prevailing.

NOTES:

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Ephesus

Acts 19

What happened in the city?

v.20 - The word of the Lord was growing mightily and prevailing.

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Pay attention to the tense of the verbs. It doesn't say "grew" and "prevailed". It was "growing" and "prevailing". That will happen in your city now that you are catching it.

Now the reaction is always the same. The devil is a sour loser and he will always try to counter your move, but he can't do much because the gates of hades will come down.

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Ephesus

Acts 19

What happened in the city?

v.20 - The word of the Lord was growing mightily and prevailing.

What was the reaction?

v.23 ...There arose no small disturbance

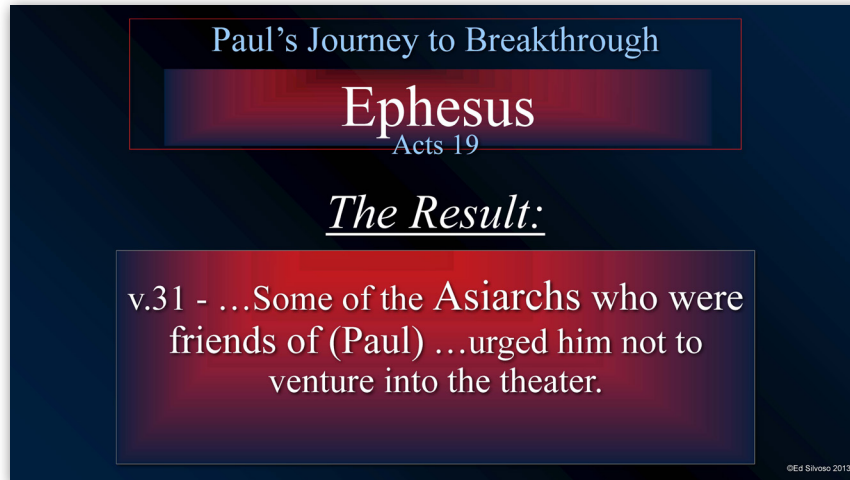
v.29 ...The city was filled with the confusion, and they rushed...into the theater.

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So there was no small disturbance. The city was filled with confusion. They took some of his associates to the theater to do harm to them.

But the Asiarchs, which means the governors of the region were Paul's friends.

NOTES:



Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Ephesus

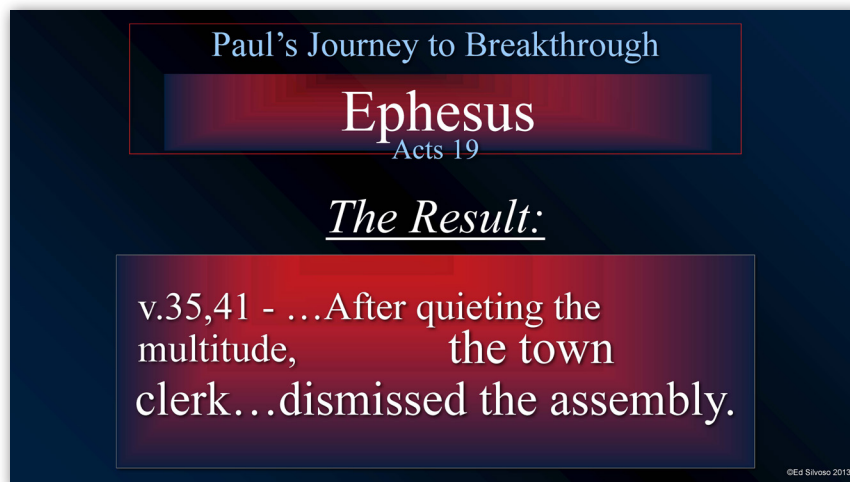
Acts 19

The Result:

v.31 - ...Some of the Asiarchs who were friends of (Paul) ...urged him not to venture into the theater.

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This is key. They were Paul's friends and they urged Paul not to venture into the theater.



Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

Ephesus

Acts 19

The Result:

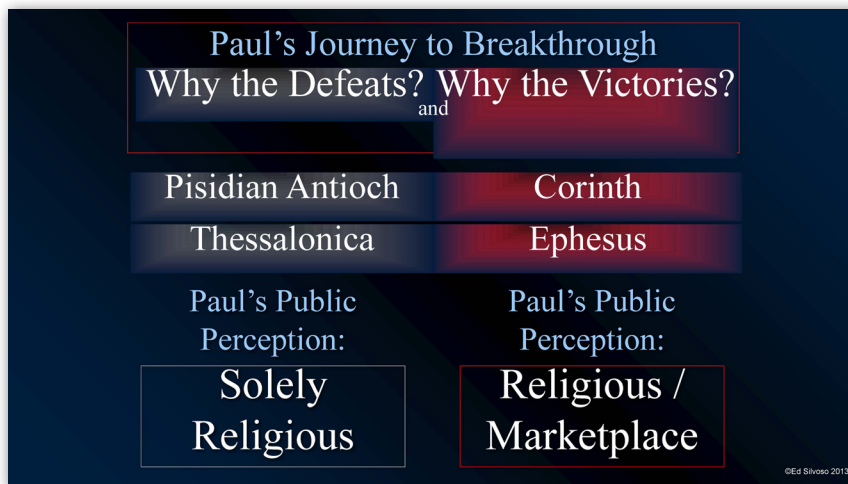
v.35,41 - ...After quieting the multitude, the town clerk...dismissed the assembly.

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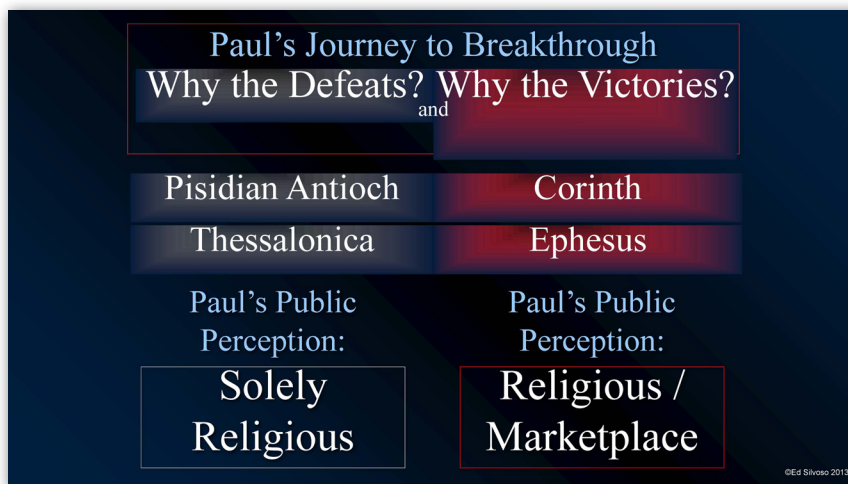
They said we'll fix it. And they sent word to the town clerk and he dismissed the assembly. And that was the end of it.

Why the defeats and why the victories?

NOTES:



Well the defeats in Pisidian Antioch and Thessalonica had to do with the public perception of Paul. He was seen as a religious leader.



But in the other two cities Paul was seen as a religious leader but also as an influential marketplace leader.

So why would the Asiarchs, the governors of Asia, risk something to save Paul and go on the record as being his friends. And this is the key. Why did they defend him?

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

The Asiarchs

Why did they defend him?

Because Paul was an asset to the city / region

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Because Paul was an asset to the city and to the region. Not just to the believers, not just to the church, not just to the people who came to the meetings, he was an asset to the region.

And we see this – Paul explains this in Acts 20.

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

How did Paul become an asset

Acts 20:33-35

"I have coveted no one's silver or gold or clothes."

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He says I never coveted anyone's silver, gold or clothes.

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough

How did Paul become an asset

Acts 20:33-35

"I have coveted no one's silver or gold or clothes."

"You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my *own* needs and to the men who were with me."

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You know that I worked and provided for myself and my team...

NOTES:

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough
How did Paul become an asset

Acts 20:33-35

"I have coveted no one's silver or gold or clothes.

"You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my *own* needs and to the men who were with me.

"In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak

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And then in everything I showed you by working hard – this is our sphere of influence –

Paul's Journey to Breakthrough
How did Paul become an asset

Acts 20:33-35

"I have coveted no one's silver or gold or clothes.

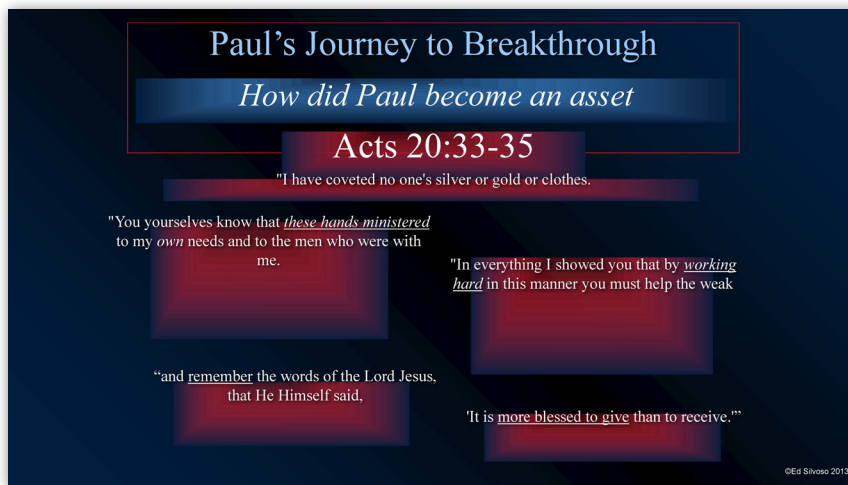
"You yourselves know that these hands ministered to my *own* needs and to the men who were with me.

"In everything I showed you that by working hard in this manner you must help the weak

"and remember the words of the Lord Jesus, that He Himself said,

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in this manner you must help the weak and remember the words of our Lord Jesus who said it is more blessed to give (to whom? To the people outside of the four walls) than to receive.



So by working hard he was able to help the needy. He met a felt need and he emulated Jesus and he was perceived by everybody – but also by the authorities – as a giver and not a taker.

So my friends, it's happening all over the world. The gates of hades are coming down when we take the ekklesia there.

I want you to watch this clip from New York, and there is a reference to 9/11. That's where the gates of hades really came against New York. But look what the Ekklesia in New York did.

VIDEO CLIP: (In Brooklyn Nancy Liatsis tells about how prayer walking the block had two benefits). For myself I felt empowered. I felt that I had something to offer the people. And the second result was that I saw that my neighbors were open. (Pastor shares about prayer walking entire area). Now folks are getting a vision for the lost. They're getting outside the four walls of the church. And then tragedy of 9/11...because we had prayer walked we had a remarkable sense of peace.

"Prayer and Prayer Evangelism has changed the climate of Brooklyn to such a degree that it's become a great place to do business...Brooklyn is in a Renaissance.

Martin Golden (New York State Senator) testifies of change – you have to believe that something more powerful than just a human being can make a difference. And the only thing that can make that difference is prayer.

ED: So what is he talking about? He's taking about paradigm #4! He's talking about the leaders in New York taking the kingdom of God where the gates of Hades are! Folks it's a slam-dunk but you have to really throw the ball for that to happen.

So in conclusion, what happened in Paul and through Paul had already happened in Acts 2. In Acts 2 it says...

NOTES:

It happened before
Acts 2:45-47

45 And they *began* selling their property and possessions, and were sharing them with all, as *anyone* might have need.

46 And day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,

47 praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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So that here you have the early church looking for needs. Anytime there is a need, whether it be a high accident rate or murder, or huge numbers of referrals. That's where the gates of Hades are. Right?

But this was not confined to believers because the following verse says...

they met in a public place. They broke bread together.

It happened before
Acts 2:45-47

45 And they *began* selling their property and possessions, and were sharing them with all, as *anyone* might have need.

46 And day by day continuing with one mind in the temple, and breaking bread from house to house, they were taking their meals together with gladness and sincerity of heart,

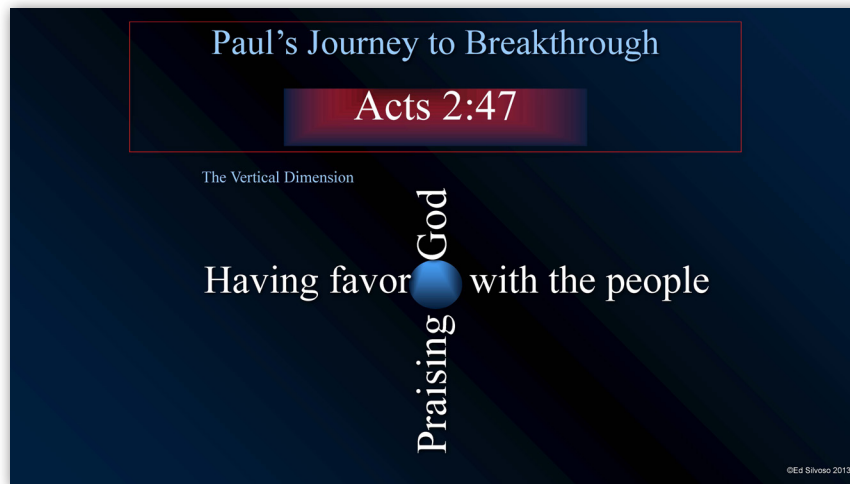
47 praising God, and having favor with all the people. And the Lord was adding to their number day by day those who were being saved.

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And as they did that they were praising God and having favor with all the people.

Look at the work “all” in v. 45. And the word “all” in v. 47. And now you know that the early church took the kingdom of God where the gates of hades are. And the gates of hades are not in church on Sunday! They are in the marketplace. They are in your sphere of influence.

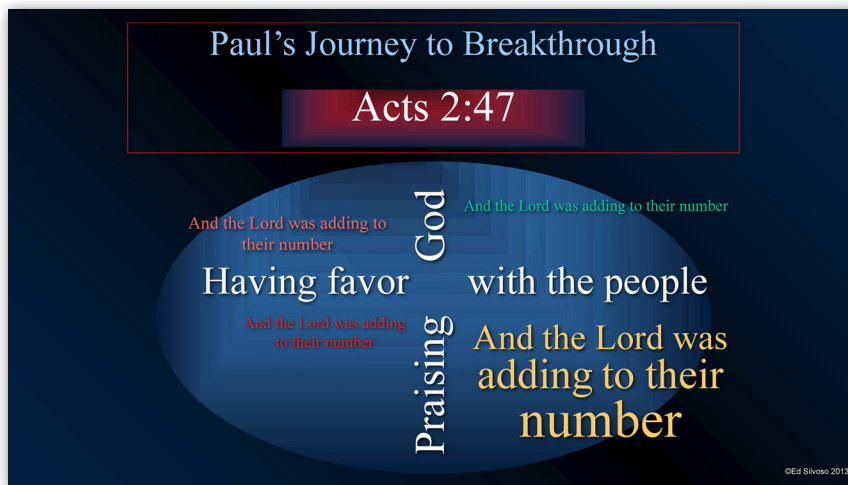
NOTES:



And so when we are praising God but having favor with the people, because we are doing favors for the people...



the Lord adds daily to the church which means “I will build my church” when you use the keys of the kingdom.



NOTES:

Awesome isn't it?

IMPARTATION

This is a moment of impartation. You see the subject for today is transformation in your sphere of influence. And we focused on paradigm #3 - we are ministers and labor is worship. And by worshipping God with our labor we take the Ekklesia, the kingdom of God where the gates of Hades are. And the moment we do that it comes down.

But there is a tension and maybe you feel it there as you watch this session - a tension between what we do inside the four walls which will be the functional equivalent of the synagogue. Before there were churches as we know them today, Paul went to the synagogue, to the God-fearing people.

So there is a tension between the synagogue and the marketplace.



Paul could have never reached Asia through the synagogue alone. In the same fashion that the pastors of the largest churches in the world have not seen those nations transformed yet. Not because they are not doing a good job, they are doing a superb job. But it takes something more than just something in 4 walls.

Having said that, Paul could have never reached Asia without the synagogue; without what was being done on weekends.

So what happened? Four keys

NOTES:

Four Keys to Transformation

1. To change the city, the Marketplace must be changed
2. To change the Marketplace, Marketplace Ministers must be recognized.

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Four Keys to Transformation

1. To change the city, the Marketplace must be changed
2. To change the Marketplace, Marketplace Ministers must be recognized.
3. To recognize Marketplace Ministers, pulpit pastors must partner with them...

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Four Keys to Transformation

4....To channel the spiritual wealth resident in the “synagogue” (local congregation) to the heart of the city through the divine placement of those Marketplace Ministers.

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This is a moment of impartation. It doesn't matter how big the gates of hades are. If you have a contest between a huge gate and a key to that gate. You tell me which one is bigger and which one is smaller? But now tell me which one wins?

The key!

Jesus said I will build my church and to build it I am giving you the keys.

So receive now in the name of the Lord Jesus the anointing to go and give the devil a heaven of a time!

NOTES:



DISCUSSION

QUESTIONS FOR YOUR GROUP

1. How did Jesus' death make it possible for us as marketplace ministers to now go to work on Monday with the same anointing that a pastor comes to the pulpit with on Sunday?
2. How did things change for Paul in Acts 18-19 when he brought together pulpit ministry with marketplace ministry?
3. What do the "Gates of Hades" look like in your sphere of influence? What will that same area of need look like after the kingdom of God has come?
4. Based on the four keys to transformation taught why is the local church (synagogue) vital to the transformation process? What are the limitations of the local church?



REFLECTION AND ACTION

1. Understanding how Jesus death made it possible for you to have authority as a market-place minister, make a declaration that you will be the pastor of your workplace or school. As a spiritual father or mother adopt your sphere of influence and declare that it is no longer an orphan. Continue to bless your sphere of influence and follow the trail of prayer evangelism.

2. Identify the particular expressions of the gates of hades in your sphere of influence. Write down the needs you see. Make a commitment to follow the early church's example and bring the Ekklesia together in your sphere of influence to meet at least one need on your list this week.

3. Share your testimony on this week's forum.

APPENDIX

GIVING THE DEVIL A HEAVEN OF A TIME

Paradigm #4: We are called to take the kingdom of God where the kingdom of darkness is.

A landing drill and an amphibious landing are similar except in one key point. The former happens in friendly territory and it does not impact the enemy's position. The latter takes the war to the enemy's territory and is designed to destroy his positions. In order to liberate our cities and nations, it is time that the Church replaces its Sunday parades with all-out thrusts against the kingdom of darkness's entrenchments in the marketplace.

As exciting as worship in the marketplace is, its impact is not designed to be merely inward. Rather, it is intended to have a powerful collateral effect on the devil and his wicked empire. The enemy still holds on to much of what our Lord purchased with His precious blood.

As I elaborated on earlier, human history began with Adam and Eve serving God in a perfect setting where the will of God was fully implemented. When sin entered, fellowship between God and His creatures was broken and the devil gained a free hand to completely defile life on Earth. Very quickly, jealousy caused the first murder, and from that moment on violence has wreaked havoc in what used to be a peaceful world.

However, God has never given up on restoration. In fact, right after the Fall He warned the devil that a rematch would take place and that Satan was going to be the loser—Satan would hit the deck with a bruised head! From that moment on, God is seen all through the Scriptures connecting with people and empowering them to first set, and then keep, a process in motion leading up to the moment when the world turns back to God.

With the stewardship over the earth that God entrusted in the beginning to Adam and Eve came very broad “powers of attorney”—that is, legal jurisdictions over the earth that were, in essence, surrendered to the devil through their sin. Consequently, it became necessary for God to devise a legally binding plan to recover the legal title, a plan that He carried out at Calvary.

THE MATCH OF THE AGES

At first it looked more like a defeat, with Jesus hanging on a cross, naked, betrayed by one of His own disciples, abandoned by the others and temporarily forsaken by His Father, while the multitude cursed Him. It was a scene of absolute vulnerability for the Son of God, and the devil knew it. What he could not anticipate was that Jesus' moment of greatest weakness was in fact the moment of His swiftest blow, producing the knockout punch of all ages. Colossians 2:13-15 gives us a step-by-step report of what happened that fateful day. It says that the devil

taunted Jesus with what is described as the certificate of debt, a document containing the decrees that were contrary to us (see Col. 2:14). It amounted to a comprehensive list of iniquities committed by every human being, documenting their eternal alienation from God and, as a consequence, certifying the devil's legal title to them. Basically the devil was saying to Jesus, "I cannot have You because You are sinless, but according to the document I hold in my hands, everybody else, including Your mother, belongs to me because Your Father has stipulated that the soul that sins must surely die. And everybody but You has sinned. You are dying alone!"

In these few tremendously agonizing seconds of history, Jesus was bearing the weight of eternity to redeem man and recover what man had lost. If we were able to dissect and capture the fullness of what was taking place, this is what I believe we might see: Having been deserted by His closest allies, Jesus now also had to bear His Father's silence in the hour of greatest need for comfort and companionship. Every single day of His earthly life, Jesus had been able to see the Father and have perfect communion with Him, from His carpenter's shop to the temple and everywhere in between. But now, utterly alone, with the angry crowd hurling curses at Him, the devil was pompously flaunting at Him the files of what he considered to be a bullet-proof legal case.

Jesus then lifted up His eyes toward heaven, anxiously longing to see the face of the Father . . . *but saw nothing*. From the very bottom of the pit of despair He cried out, "*Father, Father!*" But no one answered. "*Why have You forsaken me?*" He painfully intoned. Jesus, who had never done anything

He did not see the Father do first, was now staring at a blank screen for the first time. The power was cut off and, as a result, Jesus became totally vulnerable. The devil knew it and he made his move, coming even closer, brandishing his weapon one more time, that certificate of debt, and spitefully shouting, "You are dying alone! Everybody belongs to me because according to the rules laid down by Your own Father, the soul that sins must surely die!"

Yet, at the precise moment when the devil felt so sure of victory, Colossians 2:14 tells us that Jesus seized the incriminating document and nailed it to the Cross, making it possible for His blood to boldly inscribe *CANCELLED!* across its face.

GOD'S HAIL MARY PLAY

Please indulge me as I render some color commentary on the moment of the devil's demise: I imagine Satan, shocked by what had just taken place, sputtering and fuming, "You cannot do that! Every person on that list has sinned and is barred forever from God's presence and is condemned to spend eternity with me in hell, according to the rules established by Your own Father! You cannot break the rules!"

But then I hear God the Father thunder from heaven, "I have just changed the rules. There is a new rule now."

At which the devil, fully cognizant of God's moral immutability and full authority, spits with bitterness and utter confusion, "What new rule are you talking about?!" "It is called *GRACE*."

"Why have I never heard of it?" shrieks Satan furiously.

“Because it was hidden in My Son,” God thunders back, “waiting for you to hang Him on the cross so that when His holy blood was spilled it would be released to remit every human sin. He who had no sin just paid the debt for everyone who did; and as a result, everybody on that list has been forgiven. That is called *grace*.”

Then suddenly, before the devil can formulate a response, Jesus brings the match to a dramatic finale. Rallying whatever strength that still remains in His beaten body and crushed soul, He cries out in tumultuous victory, “*It . . . is . . . finished!*”

At that precise moment, everybody and everything that had been lost from the time of the Garden onward was redeemed, because Jesus’ life was given in ransom for everyone on that list. On that transaction rests the spiritual legitimacy for our mission of those redeemed by that blood (the Church) to repossess everything that Jesus paid for. And that is why we can say with full assurance that the Church has been sent to *reclaim* what Jesus has already *redeemed*.

He took care of the costly part. He paid the full price of redemption for the entire world. Cognizant of that, we must now reclaim it one *institution* at a time. A student needs to know that Jesus died for his or her school. A businessperson should confidently claim his company for God. The same is true when it comes to government officials. The forces of evil love to hang on to government agencies because of the power resident in them, but they have no legal claim. They are spiritual squatters. The price has been paid in full and a new Deed of Trust has been issued certifying that it is God’s property. God knows it. The devil knows it. Now we need to know it *and act on it*.

It is of fundamental importance for us Christians to know that we are entitled to reclaim everything that was lost, and that God will back us up. Very much like a sheriff will enforce an eviction notice, so too will angels—God’s deputies—when we serve legally binding notices.

EL CERESO PRISON: THE DEVIL’S PRISON BECOMES GOD’S PLACE

Poncho Murguía, a pastor in Ciudad Juárez, Mexico, understood this and put it to good use to reclaim El Cereso, the most infamous prison in his state of Chihuahua. Ciudad Juárez, a city of one-and-a-half-million people just across the border from El Paso, Texas, is the gateway for the North American Free Trade Association (NAFTA). Millions of dollars in goods pass daily through those gates to reach the heart of the USA. Corruption in Ciudad Juárez is not unknown. In fact, most people will say it’s rampant, especially when it comes to drugs.

For several years, Poncho was the pastor of a growing and successful congregation with a top-notch K-12 school, a college and a brand-new building. He was loved by the members and could have easily coasted to retirement. But God gave Poncho a passion for city transformation and he could no longer be content with simply growing a congregation to revel in the goodness of heaven while his city each day was moving closer to hell. God directed him to resign his position and then to do a 21-day public fast for righteousness to prevail in Ciudad Juárez. This was no short order, given the prevalent moral decay, but Poncho obeyed.¹

He set up a tent in a large park at the entrance of the city and for three weeks cried

out to God in plain view of his fellow citizens. The media got wind of this and every day sent a journalist with the same question: “What is God saying to you about the city today?” Then the media published what Poncho reported that God had communicated. As the media made the city aware of this unusual prophetic act, and in conjunction with the increasing prayers of the saints on the heavenly places over the region, people began to show up at the site—a few to join Poncho in his spiritual quest, but many to receive prayer. Eventually, up to 4,000 people congregated around his tent. Poncho ministered to them and many were set free. He knew the gates of Hades were in evidence all over, but also that greater is He who was in him than the one wreaking havoc on Ciudad Juárez.

Proof that the balance of power in the heavenly regions had tilted in his favor came at the end of the fast when the newly elected mayor of Ciudad Juárez called on Poncho to request help with El Cereso, a prison housing over 3,000 inmates, 92 percent of whom were on drugs, and where over 80 percent of the security personnel was involved in the drug traffic. In fact, better and cheaper drugs could be bought at the prison than on the streets of Ciudad Juárez.



Many attempts had been made before to clean up El Cereso but they all had failed due to the systemic corruption. But the new mayor recognized Poncho’s spiritual authority and called on him to take charge. After securing adequate spiritual covering, Poncho and the mayor devised a plan to reclaim El Cereso. With no prior notice given to the prison staff, 700 troops were deployed to take over the prison, replace the corrupt officials and lock the place down. For the next 30 days nothing went in or came out as thousands of inmates went through drug withdrawal assisted by doctors, nurses and pastors who ministered to them. When the operation was over, El Cereso had been cleaned up and the drug cartel dismantled.

Basically the gates of Hades crumbled because God’s people took the kingdom of God to the city. As a result, transformation has begun to take place in businesses with entire corporations, schools, immigration centers and myriads of people coming into the kingdom of God! The mayor now has proof that the Church possesses the power and the authority to eradicate systemic evil and is calling on her to do the same in other areas of the city, with similar results.

PHILIPPINES BROTHEL BECOMES TRANSFORMATION CENTER

King Flores is a Filipino Christian who, like Francis Oda in Hawaii, holds dual ministerial citizenship since he is both the CEO of an international financial-transfer service in Manila and a pulpit minister. When he was first exposed to *Prayer Evangelism* and *Anointed for Business*, he decided to implement the principles right away. At the time, he was working as a consultant to a person who owned eight businesses, one of which was a

motel chain consisting of eight buildings with 1,600 rooms and employing 2,000 workers. However, each room was used an average of five times a day by 3,000 prostitutes who, in cahoots with the management, “processed” around 15,000 “clients.”

King brought his boss to our seminar, where the boss realized that he was a minister, his employees were his disciples, his business was his ministry, and his clients were his congregation. He also embraced the truth that salvation could and should come to his corporation in the same manner that it came to him. Soon after the seminar, he walked into his boardroom and proclaimed, “The kingdom of God has come to my business and the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it.” Cognizant that his 2,000 employees were in dire need of shepherding, he hired 30 pastors and, under King Flores’s leadership, gave them a novel assignment: “I will pay you a salary for you not to preach.”

By this he meant that they were to practice *prayer evangelism*, which I describe in its most elementary form as “talking to God about the lost before we talk to the lost about God.”² Luke 10:2-9 records Jesus’ four-step implementation, which I teach in my book *Prayer Evangelism*. The methodology is taken from His instructions to 70 followers whom He had chosen for a special assignment: to *bless* the lost, *fellowship* with them, *minister* to them, and then (and only then) *proclaim* that the kingdom of God has come near them. Thus, what constitutes the four-part thrust is to (1) *bless*, (2) *fellowship*, (3) *minister* and (4) *preach*. Therefore, because preaching is listed at the very end of the sequence, King’s boss made the statement about paying the pastors not to preach—meaning that they needed to cover the other steps first.

How serious he was about this became evident when three of the pastors, unable to overcome their training, violated his directive and preached *prematurely*. They were summarily fired and replaced with others who were willing to adhere strictly to the job description. The 30 pastors connected with the 2,000 employees by becoming part of the many task forces that are necessary for the daily running of a motel chain. This placement allowed them to quietly speak peace over the lost. As doors opened up for fellowship, they struck up friendships. As those friendships deepened, employees began to share personal problems with the pastors, who immediately offered prayer. Very soon, answers to those prayers materialized, providing a convincing platform for the proclamation that the kingdom of God had come to the motel chain. So much so that after two years and three months, the majority of the 2,000 employees had received the Lord. In the intervening time, the owner invested new capital to upgrade the motels to executive status to make them less accessible to street prostitution. He also built prayer chapels in each motel and recruited intercessors to pray on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays for everyone who had spent the night there or was scheduled to do so that day.

The improved spiritual climate was heightened as more and more employees came to the Lord and began to see themselves as ministers, turning their jobs into ministerial vehicles. Can you picture employees praying that the presence of God will greet the guests when they check in? If the new occupants happened to be an illegitimate couple, being greeted by the presence of God as they entered the room must have had a dampening effect on their lustful desires, to put it mildly!

However, the most striking feature was informing the guests that prayer was available upon request, and instructing them how to avail themselves of this unusual hotel service.

The spiritual game plan worked so well that after 18 months, more than ten thousand clients had received the Lord, not to mention many others who were impacted by miraculous answers to prayer. Similar to what took place at the bank in Elk River, once salvation came to the hotel chain, the motels began to do the work of the ministry as believers are expected and empowered to do. The key player here was the owner, someone without formal theological training and who was never ordained and who does not preach from a pulpit. However, when King Flores's boss realized that he was a minister and chose to exercise his pastoral calling in the

marketplace, what would have taken a traditional pastor two life-times or more and a fortune to accomplish happened naturally and speedily because somebody decided to give the devil a heaven of a time, 24/7, by taking the kingdom of God where evil used to rule unhindered. What was formerly a den of iniquity became a hallmark of God's glory. These stories and many more like them confirm that the sweeping verdict that was won that day has stood the test of time. Wherever Satan has taken over an institution, whether it be in an industry, a prison or a bank, God's children, deputized and armed with the legal jurisdiction that Jesus' death secured, must move forward to reclaim it, knowing that the devil has no choice but to leave. The kingdom of darkness *will flee!*

From *Transformation*, ch. 10

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