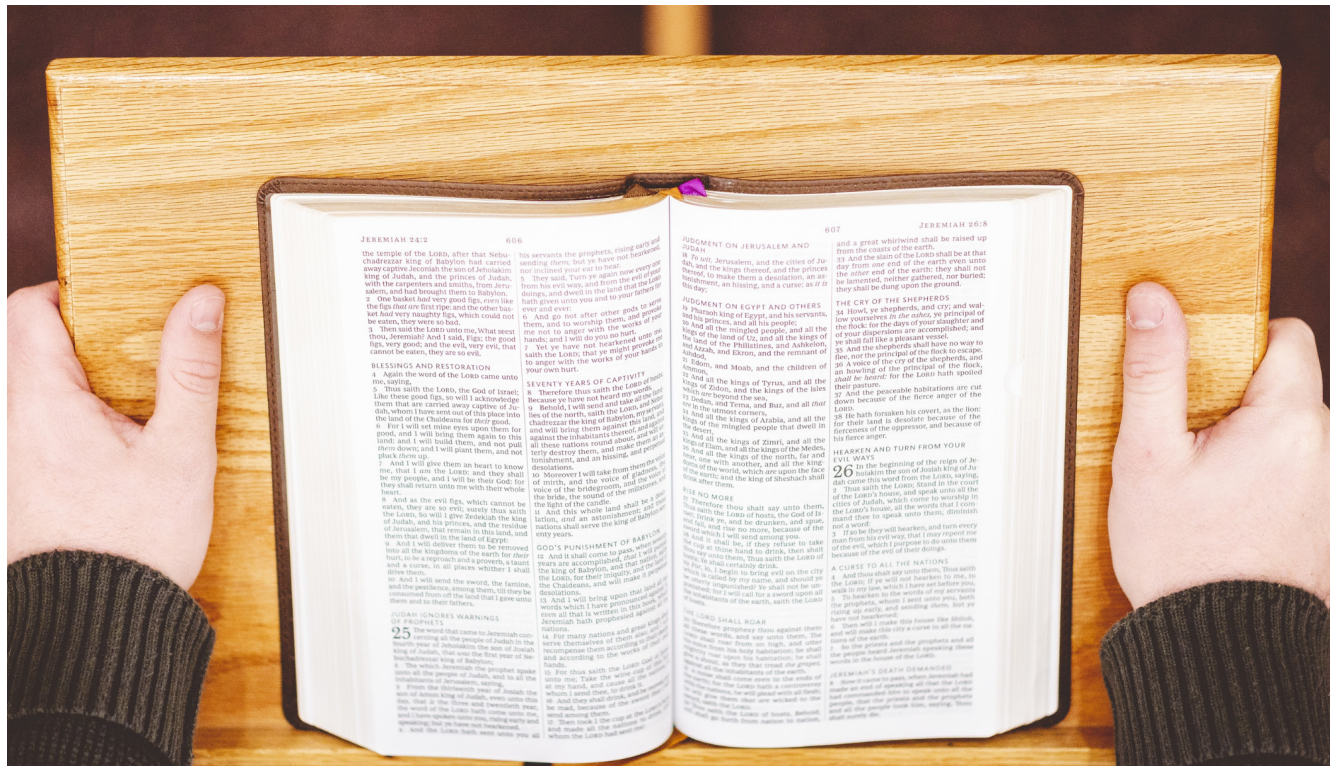


When It Is
BEYOND
Impossible



GARY HARGRAVE

I believe the Lord is doing something right now in the Body of Christ. He is working faith in us, and I mean a faith that goes beyond the ability for unbelief to rise up and touch it.



A Prophet Must Believe the Word He Is Speaking

When a prophet like Elijah spoke a Word from God, he had to believe the Word of God out of his own mouth. Prophets like Elijah or Jeremiah or John the Baptist were in difficult situations. The things they were prophesying had a direct impact on people's lives. They called on people to change their lifestyles, to make sacrifices, to give of their time and resources. Yet a prophet was tested by the Word of God that he spoke just as much as those who heard the Word from him were tested. All the men and women of faith that we read about were probably tempted at some point to think, "Boy, I hope this really is the accurate Word of the Lord." Yet even when there was no support, and when no one could help them through their situations, they had to believe the Word of the Lord. When everything seemed to go the opposite direction, they had to stand on that Word.

If we want to walk in the company of these prophets, then we will need to walk as they walked. I know that we have faith. As believers we stand in faith and worship God for His Word that is spoken through certain men and women of God that the Lord has put in our midst. However, when we do that, we are walking by the faith of someone else. Those individuals are the ones who are going through the battle of faith on the cutting edge, having to believe that what they are speaking really is the Word of God. That is a make-or-break experience, and I honestly do not think we have walked that way before.



Christ Believed the Word When Even God Forsook Him

If we are in Christ and are baptized into His death, then somewhere along the line we will have to experience something very similar to His cross experience. And His cross experience was an experience of being forsaken by God (Matthew 27:46). On the cross, everything Yeshua (Jesus) had heard from the Father seemed to be going in the opposite direction as the Father Himself was forsaking Him. Even though people were standing with Yeshua, at that moment He was alone. And there is a way that God creates a similar atmosphere around you where you have to believe Him without the feeling of support. You could be surrounded by people worshipping the Lord, but God can find a way to put you into an experience like Yeshua experienced. And that is the experience of believing God—even when you feel rejected and alone or when everything seems to be going the wrong way.

It can be very humiliating to stand and tell people, “We are here by a Word from the Lord; the Lord wants us to do this,” and then the Lord does not come through. Everyone looks at you and says, “I thought this was supposed to happen and that was supposed to happen. So how can you say it’s a Word from the Lord?” Remember what they did to Christ. They hurled abuse at Him and said, “If You’re really the Son of God, then come down from the cross” (see Matthew 27:39–40). But it was not an issue to Him of being able to come down from the cross. The issue was going through that process to open up for us a relationship with the Father. In the midst of feelings too deep to be expressed, it was His faith that enabled Him to say, “No, this is a Word from the Lord. I know the relationship I have with the Father.”

Imagine experiencing absolute rejection by people and even the Father Himself, yet Christ said, “I know the Father loves Me. I know I am His Son.” That was the greatest test of faith the earth has ever witnessed. And I believe that in our walk with Him, the Lord brings us into an experience like that. To help us understand this, let us look at a passage from a book titled *Passover Precepts* by John Robert Stevens.

In the parable of the importunate widow (Luke 18:1–8), Jesus was trying to explain what the Father was like. He told about a certain widow who went to

an unjust judge and asked him to avenge her of her adversary. ... To whom did Jesus compare His sweet, loving Heavenly Father? To an unjust judge, one who was all wrapped up in his own legal profession and not at all concerned about a widow. Why did Jesus liken the Father to someone like that? The Father has predetermined His character for the development of His sons. Therefore, He has given freely and generously, even to giving His only begotten Son to die for you. But the enforcement and the appropriation of those blessings seem to come from a God who is reluctant to give them. Even though He did everything, even giving His Son, in order that you might have them, yet He feigns a reluctance to do it, that He might draw out the violent faith in your own heart.¹



The Word of God Is Appropriated and Co-Created

The Father's relationship to you is on the same basis as His relationship to Yeshua, in that God has predetermined that His relationship with you will bring you into what He has predestined you to be. What He does in relating to you makes you into who you are. First He gives you prophecies of what He has determined by His Word that you are to be, and then He begins to relate to you in such a way that you become that.

We believe that God has given to us freely and generously. He gave Yeshua His Son to die for us on the cross. He has poured out an abundance of provisions and promises for us in the Word that we can freely take (Ephesians 1:3; 2 Peter 1:4). But we have to get this concept that there needs to be appropriation and co-creation. First you get a revelation of this tremendous

1. John Robert Stevens, "All of Us—All the Way," *Passover Precepts* (North Hollywood, CA: Living Word Publications, 1974), 113.

provision. You hear the Word and start to move in it. Then suddenly it seems like you are relating to a different God. It seems like you are relating to a God who says, “No, you can’t have it. I won’t do it for you.” At that point you are scratching your head saying, “I don’t understand. I thought it was freely given, abundantly poured out, and I simply had to appropriate the Word.” Yes. And then you have to co-create the Word. It will not happen until the Word comes forth from you.

You could respond to that by saying, “The Scriptures tell us that the Word of His mouth will accomplish that for which it is sent. It will not return to the Lord empty” (see Isaiah 55:11). But that does not mean you are supposed to sit around and say, “God spoke a Word and I just have to wait for it to come down like the rain and fulfill that for which it was spoken. So let me just relax here on my chaise lounge and wait on the Lord until all these wonderful things are fulfilled.” No, there is more to it. You heard the Word. But the devil heard it too. And everyone else has heard it, including those who make it their life’s work to ensure that it is impossible for whatever God said to you to ever happen. Therefore, you must do more than hear a Word and say that you believe it. Your heart must become the womb in which that word is formed. And when you go to co-create the Word, that is when it takes faith because everything in the world is set to stop it from happening. That is where you believe that you have a Word from the Lord beyond every resistance and beyond even the reluctance of God to answer you—and you believe it is going to happen! You cannot be defeated when the Word of God is so completely working in you and through you.



The Prophets Believed When It Was Beyond Impossible

There is no greater quality that a prophet can have than to just stand and believe. Elisha had to have that tenacity when he came to the king during the middle of the famine and said, “About this time tomorrow, there will be an abundance of grain and bread, and everything will be really cheap to buy” (see 2 Kings 7:1). At that point he had twenty-four hours to be tested in that Word, enforce it, and bring it to pass. I can tell you that by the time twenty-four hours went by, he was so deeply into that Word that he made it happen. He found the way to

appropriate that Word into existence, even in the face of everything saying it would not happen. When Elisha proclaimed it, the king’s assistant scoffed, “Behold, if the LORD should make windows in heaven, could this thing be?” (2 Kings 7:2). And you could feel that way about the Word of the Lord you have received. You could think, “Wow, I was still in the vicinity when it was just impossible. Now it is so far beyond impossible that I don’t see this ever happening.”

However, the person of faith understands this principle. When Elijah went to make the sacrifice on Mount Carmel, he did not wait around for God. He inundated the entire sacrifice and the altar with water and made a trench around the altar. He said, “Why wait for God to do it? I’ll just make it impossible. And then I’ll still believe that God will consume this sacrifice” (see 1 Kings 18:31–38). We know we should not be moved by the impossibility of something. But how do we walk on that level of faith? It may be that we have never really been forced to walk on that level. But I think the Lord is working it in us. And we should embrace the process because it is what makes us who we are to be. Let us examine another quote from *Passover Precepts*.

If it seems that the Lord has been reluctant to fulfill His Word, if it seems that He is not as willing to fulfill His promises over you as you thought, you will have to learn a little something about God. He gave you a key: He is waiting for that persistent faith on your part—faith that does not compromise and accept less than His total provision, faith that says, “I will not let You go until You bless me,” faith that knows if we ask and keep on asking, we shall receive; if we seek and keep on seeking, we shall find; if we knock and keep on knocking, it will be opened to us (Matthew 7:7).²



Not Leaders and Followers, But Walking Together in Faith

Whenever our faith is challenged, the temptation is always to say, “Well, God, just give me 50 percent. It’s so impossible that if I could just get a 50-percent fulfillment, I would be

2. Stevens, “All of Us—All the Way,” 114.

happy. I could make that work.” No way. We want the faith that does not compromise. There is a greater level of faith that God wants to work in us, and I think we should go after it. We should rebuke our unbelief every time it pops up, and we should rejoice in every challenge that comes to our faith. We should worship in whatever seems to be an affliction. If the Lord is going to cut us, then let us bleed worship because our worship is an expression of this faith that says, “I have a Word from the Lord, and I am going to believe that Word. I am not going to compromise that Word, and it is going to happen.”

When we do that, we join a very exclusive club. We are made part of a select group of people that Hebrews 11 talks about—those who walk by faith. God is baptizing us into the walk of prophets and men and women of God. A door is open where we can walk alongside them in what they experienced. Every movement of God for the last thousand years has been earmarked by a single individual who had a following of people. We have been those who were always following behind, but now the Lord is giving us an opportunity where we can walk shoulder to shoulder with those leaders. Think of the privilege to be able to look over at them and say, “We’re doing this together!” And you can look over at your brothers and sisters and say the same. Now it is no longer a movement consisting of a leader pulling others along. It is truly a movement without leaders.



The Personality of a Son of God

You become that mature son of God by what you go through in the testing of your faith and by the dealings of the Lord. He just seems to trounce on you until every fiber of your being cries out, “Lord, this is beyond impossible. I don’t see any fulfillment. It has all been turned into dust and blown away by the wind.” At that point, when you still believe God’s Word and prophesy it, people hear a voice of authority because it is not the lighthearted adherence of

someone who heard it from someone else and was encouraged by another person's faith. Now it is the prophecy of someone like Job who stood and declared the glory of the Lord and His Kingdom in the earth (Job 19:25). Now it comes from someone like the prophets of old who lived in caves, who were abused, and who experienced many sufferings as they held fast to the Word (Hebrews 11:37–38).

We often wonder, “Why does He make us suffer?” It is so difficult for the human mind to grasp why a God of love would allow people to suffer the way He does. But He does it because of the nature He is bringing forth in us that is like unto His glorious nature. God is trying to shape our personalities as sons of God. And the personality He is looking for in each one is that which holds onto His Word when things are beyond impossible simply because it is His Word. I believe the door is open for us to enter into this. Let us decide that we will join with those who have gone before us and be real men and women of faith who do not stop and cannot be stopped. We will enforce the Word of the Lord. We will manifest it in the earth through the appropriation and co-creation of that Word. We press into this with all our hearts.



Please let us know how you are using our Study Guides. We would love to hear from you.
Contact us by sending an email to silvana@hargraveministries.org

All Scripture references are from the New American Standard Bible 1995 (NASB1995).

ABOUT GARY HARGRAVE



GARY HARGRAVE has a passion for leading people into spiritual maturity. Gary effectively ministers the life-changing truth of God's Word through Bible teaching and prophetic revelation that emphasizes the Lordship of Christ.

Gary embraces the teachings and insights of the Hebrew Scriptures as the essential foundation of God's Kingdom and the roots of Christian faith.

By cultivating spiritual maturity in Christians, Gary is deeply committed to teaching and inspiring unity in the Body of Christ and between Christians and the Jewish people.

Throughout decades of ministry, Gary has worked closely with leaders in the Jewish, Catholic, and Protestant communities to build relationships based on commonality and understanding. He frequently leads study tours to Israel in the land of the Bible.

Gary is the host of a weekly podcast entitled *Growing In God* and is the founder of Shiloh University, an accredited online Bible college and seminary.

Gary and his family reside in Hawaii.

For other insightful resources by Gary Hargrave, including podcasts, books, articles, videos, and other educational materials, please visit: www.HargraveMinistries.org.

ABOUT HARGRAVE MINISTRIES

The calling of the Lord upon this ministry is to lead people into spiritual maturity by revealing biblical truth. **Our passion is to see the Kingdom of God manifest on earth** as the Body of Christ grows in unity, power, and love.

Everything we do flows from the revelation of the Jewish foundations of our Christian faith. It is our desire and privilege to bless the land and people of Israel. Our Israel outreach includes our ability to:

- **Feed the poor and break the cycle of poverty in Israel**
- **Support the orphans and widows of fallen Israeli soldiers**
- Provide physical and emotional care to **child victims of terrorism**
- **Build bridges between Christians and Jews with biblical study and research**
- Support archaeology and preservation of the **biblical City of David**
- Provide 24/7 **care for Holocaust survivors**
- **Help persecuted Jews around the world return to Israel and start new lives**
- Plant trees to **reforest Israel** and help create **"The Gospel Trail"** between Nazareth and Capernaum

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