

# GROWING IN GOD

PODCAST



## GIG222 – The Battles that Follow Deliverance

Hi everyone, and welcome to this podcast. I am glad you are joining us today. This is Growing in God with Gary Hargrave. I am actually recording this podcast today on the Day of Atonement. It is born out of a time of intercession and waiting on the Lord that I have been into today, and the prayer meeting that I had with several others this morning. As I was looking to the Lord about this very special Day of Atonement, I was really aware of how many times during the feast season of the seventh month, with the New Year, or Yom T'ruah; the Days of Awe, or the Ten Days of Repentance; the Day of Atonement, and the Feast of Tabernacles, we are looking for so much to happen in God. We are looking for new experiences; we are looking for release and deliverance; we are looking for promises that have been long standing to be fulfilled, and for God's Word to come alive to us and for us on a new level. And as I was just looking to the Lord, I was reminded of how many times following the Feast of Tabernacles – and this podcast will be released and you will be hearing it probably two to three weeks following the Feast of Tabernacles itself – I remember how many times over the years, as we would come to the end of this great Feast and this time of being in the Presence of the Lord in so many ways, that following the prophecies and the promises and the meetings with the Lord that we would have, we would sometimes have what looked like unusual spiritual warfare, or battles that we would go into. And I know that it is a new year, and there is much anticipation that we have; but it almost seems like it is kind of standard procedure that we experience a new level of spiritual warfare following this time and this season. So, I really felt something from the Lord that I believe is an answer for us; and I hope this is an encouragement, because as I said, this podcast should be released just two or three weeks following the Tabernacles celebration.

What was so real to my heart was the fact that when we do receive deliverances and words from the Lord – because we are. We are looking to the Lord for many things during these times; during the New Year, the Feast of Trumpets, we find ourselves in times of proclamation, re-speaking, re-prophesying the prophecies over Israel, over our own lives as believers in Yeshua, and we set much in motion. So, when we all of a sudden begin to encounter this spiritual battle, or spiritual warfare, whatever you like to term it, it almost seems in diametric opposition to where we have been and what we have been hoping for and believing for. It is easy to come to a place where we think, "My gosh, did it work? Are our prayers being answered? Are the prophecies being heard? Are they being effective? Is our faith really accomplishing what we hoped it would accomplish during these tremendous times before the Lord?" And I think it is something that we have to walk through, and we have to walk through it with faith. This was what came to me as an explanation in order to help us really move on in the Lord, move forward in the Lord during this time, and not be taken by surprise; to not be confused, not enter into murmuring and complaining or just letting go of the victories that God has given us and that He has won for us during this time. You know, satan cannot take anything from you, he can only try to talk you into letting go of what you have received. And we do not want to be those who let go of what God is giving to us and what He is doing for us.

I am going to begin reading out of Exodus the eleventh chapter. This is about the time of getting ready for the Passover, and I am going to be using this Passover story as a way of relating to exactly what the Lord is showing me, at least, in my heart. I know it is all about Tabernacles, but the example is going to be through Passover; and I think you will see why as we move ahead. In Exodus the eleventh chapter, starting at verses 9-10, it says, "Then the Lord said to Moses, 'Pharaoh will not listen to you, so that My wonders will be multiplied in the land of Egypt.' Moses and Aaron performed all these wonders before Pharaoh; yet the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the sons of Israel go out of his land." So we see this in the story of Passover that God was directing Moses what to go do and say before Pharaoh; and it seems like each time Pharaoh would say, "Okay, fine, I will let the people go," but then he would change his mind and say, "No, they can't go." It was kind of a frustrating thing, and that is really what transpired during the whole story of Passover. We know the timeframe of that was probably somewhere around a year that those judgements took place in the land of Egypt. But it is interesting to me in this verse, especially chapter 11, verse 9, because the Lord told Moses what was going to happen. He said, "Pharaoh will not listen to you so that My wonders will be multiplied in the land of Egypt."

You have to remember this through the whole of the teaching in this podcast – because I think it is very foundational to what we experience, anytime we experience deliverances or breakthroughs or answers to prayer in our relationship with the Lord – that God many times is doing something more and different than what we assumed. So He warns Moses, "Pharaoh is not going to listen to you. And the reason he is not going to listen to you is because My wonders will be multiplied in the land of Egypt." Remember, it is never about what the enemy is doing. It is always about what God is doing in fulfilling His purposes in our walk with Him and in His accomplishing the promises and provisions that He has given to us.

God warns Moses, and this is before the Passover takes place and all these things go on. So Moses is warned. Moses has been told by the Lord, taught by the Lord, and he has to hold this in his conscious mind no matter how confusing or discouraging it seems to be in working with Pharaoh and seeing the judgments come. Also, do not forget, when you read the story, the children of Israel are kind of angered at Moses upon several occasions. So, Moses sort of looks like he is caught in the middle here of what is taking place. But God has already told him, "Look, what I am doing is that I am multiplying My wonders in the land of Egypt." That is what God is after. He is after multiplying His wonders. He is after glorifying Himself before Israel, before Egypt, before the nations of the world at that time; that is what God is after.

It is always good to remember what God is looking for, because we tend to get so consumed in what we are looking for; and it is easy when God has promised a deliverance, like He did here with Israel. He said, "I am coming to deliver you out of the land of Egypt." That was what God told Moses, that was what Moses told the children of Israel, it is what God was saying to them: "God has come down and He is going to deliver you out of Egypt." That was the direct promise in the mind of Israel that they had. But in the mind of God, He was looking for something beyond that. Was He going to deliver them out of Egypt? Yes, of course He was going to do that. But He was also going to multiply His wonders and His signs, and magnify Himself in the land of Egypt. It included judgment upon the gods of Egypt; it included judgments upon Pharaoh. So God had all this going, but remember, the children of Israel, like all of us at times, we do not see all that God is doing. We know in part, and we understand in part, but God's thoughts are not our thoughts. His ways are not our ways. His ways and thoughts are above our thoughts and ways; and so it is easy for us, as we progress in our walk with God through times like this, to maybe get confused over looking at a situation and say, "Hey, this isn't what I was expecting or looking for." We have to set

aside what we are expecting or looking for, and we have to reach into what God is wanting out of a situation.

So, anyway, let's jump to Exodus the twelfth chapter, verse 42. It says, "It is a night to be observed," speaking of the Passover night. Now we have gone through the judgments, we have gotten to this place where God is ready to go through Egypt with the death angel and to accomplish this deliverance. So it says, "It is a night to be observed for the Lord for having brought them out from the land of Egypt; this night is for the Lord, to be observed by all the sons of Israel throughout their generations." And we see that today, Israel still, throughout all of their generations, has observed the night of Passover, observed the night of what happened with the death angel coming through. What are they observing? What are they remembering? What are they focused upon? They are focused upon the fact that God said, "I have come to deliver you out of the land of Egypt," and He did. And He did it by miraculous ways, by the might and power that only God has. Now He is directing Moses here about the celebration of the Passover through all the generations, to observe, to remember, to teach the children what happened in God delivering Israel out of Egypt, just as He promised He would. And so, He does – the death angel comes through, they call for Moses and they say, "Look, get out! Get out of Egypt. Take your herds, take your children." Remember, all these things were being negotiated along the way – "Yes, you can go worship, but you can't take the herds with you." So, all of the negotiations are over now, the firstborn of Egypt are slain, and they are throwing Israel out of Egypt in the middle of this time of the evening, and they are mourning the dead. I mean, how can you even think about that much death taking place? They didn't understand it, they obviously didn't believe it, but God showed Himself alive and He fulfilled His promise to Pharaoh. He told Pharaoh, "I will slay your firstborn; you are slaying My firstborn Israel." So we see that the deliverance happens on that night of Passover, and we thank God for it; and we remember Passover as the time that Israel was delivered out of Egypt by the Lord through a mighty hand, through signs and wonders and miracles.

Now Israel is walking out of Egypt. They are out of Egypt! The promise that God gave them is fulfilled: "I will take you out of Egypt. I will deliver you out of Egypt"; and they are now at this moment delivered out of Egypt. God did not talk to them a lot about what was going to happen after they got out of Egypt. They were promised a new land, but the details were not clear in their minds; and they were stuck on this one point, just being delivered out of Egypt. So, what happens when they get out of Egypt? They are marching out of Egypt and all of a sudden Pharaoh goes, "Hey, wait a minute! What are we doing? We can't let these people go. We have to recapture them to do all the work that we need, and whatever we want to finalize in our suppression and destruction of Israel." So, Pharaoh gathers himself and gathers the horses, the chariots, what is left of the army, and he goes after in pursuit of Israel. God directs Israel how to walk, tells Moses where to go in the wilderness so that he looks like he is wandering around in confusion. And he comes to a place of camp, and all Israel camps there. The pillar that is guiding them, the Presence of God that is guiding them and leading them, stops over them, and here they are, out of Egypt now, with the Presence of God over them; and everything seems wonderful. The promise is fulfilled. Then all of a sudden, here comes Pharaoh and his troops riding over the top of the hill, and Israel witnesses this.

We will go to Exodus 14 and start at verses 10-11.

As Pharaoh drew near, the sons of Israel looked, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they became very frightened; so the sons of Israel cried out to the Lord. Then they

said to Moses, "Is it because there were no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you dealt with us in this way, bringing us out of Egypt?"

Remember, they had complaints about being delivered in the first place. So now all of that is coming back up, all the problems that existed during the time of the deliverance and this year period of going through the judgments. Everything is just like, "Oh my gosh, the deliverance failed! God promised to bring us out, and now it is not the deliverance that we were expecting. We are going to die here in this wilderness! Why did you bring us out? Where there not enough graves in Egypt to bury us as we were being slaughtered by the Egyptians through our slavery and oppression?"

Verse 12. "Is this not the word that we spoke to you in Egypt, saying, "Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians"? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness." So Israel faces this new battle. This is a new battle; we would put it in terms of spiritual warfare: a spiritual battle was taking place. Here just about the time you think that you have success and God has fulfilled His Word and His promise over you, then up pops something else, and it seems like it is the same problem, right? It is still Pharaoh. It is still his armies. They are coming in a different way, kind of a different approach than what you had faced as slaves in oppression under them, but here it is. And so, you look at that and you go, "Gosh, was I wrong? Did nothing really happen during this time of the Feast of Tabernacles? We thought we had prophecies and prayers and fulfillments and deliverances that God was bringing to us, and all of a sudden, just about the time we are beginning to relax and enjoy it, and we have the Presence of the Lord over us and we are out of the land, then here comes Pharaoh and the Egyptian army again to take us back into captivity; or worse yet, to destroy us right here where we stand."

So, it was a very difficult thing for Israel. They could not understand it, and they felt like the promise failed; what God had said, He did not do. They felt like Moses had betrayed them in what he had told them and directed them, and that is where they were at. So, they are beginning to complain and accuse and go, "See, we didn't believe in the first place." I know a lot of times when we get into spiritual warfare – and this will be something I encourage everyone with – when you get into spiritual warfare, keep your mouth shut. Because you do not need to be speaking into the world of spirit all of the things that are necessarily going through your head or your heart; and that is what they were doing here. They were saying, "Hey, way back here in Egypt, we told you to leave us alone, that we would rather serve the Egyptians." I think sometimes as believers we find that we are many times more willing to stay in the pain of our bondage than we are to go through the process of God's deliverance and change that He is wanting to bring to us, because that is not without pain. It is not without difficulty that God fulfills His promises to us, that He answers our prayers, that He brings deliverance. It is like what we see with those that were healed by Yeshua in the New Testament. It was one thing to be begging there by the Temple, and you think, "Gosh, I hate being a lame man." But all of a sudden you are healed, and now you have to pick up your bed and walk. Now you have to go to work. Now you have to do something else, and did you really want the healing? You start having second thoughts about it.

Israel is having some pretty major second thoughts about this, and questioning God, complaining against Moses, because of all this. So it goes on into verse 13. It says, "But Moses said to the people, 'Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever.'" Now what is important in my mind for us to recognize with this is, going back to the original promise, God came down to Moses and said, "I am going to deliver Israel out of Egypt." And He did do that. When they were experiencing

this event with the army of Pharaoh, they were out of Egypt. God fulfilled His Word by many promises and powers and miracles. He fulfilled His Word, He brought them out of Egypt. Now what is God doing? He is doing something different. And He says, "What I am doing right now is the fact that the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again forever." You see, remember the first thing that God said to Moses when we started this; the Lord said to Moses, "Pharaoh will not listen to you." We are back in Exodus 11:9: "Pharaoh will not listen to you, so that My wonders will be multiplied in the land of Egypt." God is multiplying His deliverance that He had promised to Israel, that He had promised to Moses. He has already fulfilled what He told them He was going to do, but now He is multiplying it. He is going beyond the original promise, and saying, "I am going to destroy Egypt and Pharaoh, and you will never even see them again. They are going to be gone." Well, He had not promised that before; He just promised to bring them out of the land of Egypt. He did that, and then He expands it, because God is multiplying His promise and His provision, and He is multiplying His wonders and His signs and His promises.

We have to come to grips with this when we face spiritual warfare after times of victory. That is what we are talking about in this podcast. Here we are just finishing the great Feast of Tabernacles and whatever experiences that we have had, the deliverances that we have received, the answers to prayer that we have laid hold of during this time; and we may walk into a battle and it seems like it all is gone, because here comes the same enemy, ready to destroy us on another level. Remember, they were not going to destroy them by being slaves, they were going to destroy them with an army; so, it is a different picture. But many times, we do not perceive the nuance of what is happening, and how it is happening; but we need to grasp this, because God is going to do the same for us – He is going to do more than what He promised us. And that is what we miss many times when we come into spiritual battle. We think, "Boy, I have fought this battle so many times, this the same battle that I faced yesterday," because you look at the enemy. David did that when he faced Goliath's brother, and his heart fainted. Remember, they had to carry him out of the battle because he just could not grasp what was going on. Here was Goliath's brother, it looked just like Goliath. And he thought, "Oh my God, I thought I destroyed Goliath! What is this, Goliath's resurrection or something?" And so, David's heart failed him. He feared. And that is what Moses is saying, "Look, do not fear. Do not fear what is going on right now. You need to understand what is really taking place."

We see this expressed in Ephesians the third chapter, at verse 20. "Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or think, according to the power that works within us." God is always going to be at work, just like He told Moses: "Look, I am going to magnify My wonders." God is after glorifying Himself; and believe me, in this generation, God is going to glorify Himself. No one is going to receive glory except God alone. One of the necessities in God receiving the glory – and you remember the prophecy about this – He says, "I did not tell you what I was going to do, because if I told you what I was going to do, then you would say, 'Oh yeah, I knew that. Oh yeah, I created that.'" No. So God has to surprise us, in a way, so that even we as the believers are going, "My God, You are all powerful. You are doing beyond what You promised me You would do. You are bringing deliverance. You are bringing answers to prayer. You are bringing release. You are bringing Your Kingdom in a way I never could have imagined. I thought I had the victory, and You have proven to me that I do not. But You have also proven to me and to the world that You are the Lord God. You are the mighty one. You are all powerful, and You are to be exalted and praised and worshiped throughout eternity because of who You are."

These events are not to make us fall into fear. They are not to make us fall into murmuring and complaining. They are to bring us to a place of awe of God beyond what we have ever known, because God is going to do far more. "Now to Him who is able to do far more abundantly beyond all that we ask or even think, according to the power that works within us." Israel could never imagine the end of Pharaoh, the end of the army of Pharaoh, and the end of Egypt itself as the force in the world that it was; but God came and did abundantly beyond what they would have asked or thought. They were just going, "Hey, get me out of Egypt. I will be happy if you get me out of Egypt." And a lot of times, our prayers and our speaking the Word of God are limited by our own minds. We cannot even bring ourselves to imagine how great is the release that God is going to bring; how great is His Kingdom, how great and abundant are His promises and His deliverances and His answers to our prayer. He takes our limited prayers and He turns them into abundance beyond our ability to imagine. And that is what the warfare is about, when it is following up the true deliverance that He promised us on one level. We are facing another level of His abundant, miraculous manifestation of Himself to us and to the world.

And so, I bless us as we face whatever we are going to face at the end of the Feast time, that we be prepared in our hearts to look up to God – not with complaint, not with fear, not with unbelief, but with faith that says, "You are the mighty one that is doing abundantly. You are now in the process of going beyond what You have ever promised me that I have understood, and You are going to bring about a great deliverance, a great Kingdom, and a great walk with You that we are to have."

I want us to remember these few points. At Tabernacles, we experience great victories, and we receive directions for new hope and promises from the Lord. Then we often find, after such times of great victory, that we are plunged into spiritual warfare that makes it appear as though our deliverance failed, that the answers are not really true. But what is really happening may lay in the fact that this new spiritual battle is being brought about by the Lord, who is in the process of giving us a different, a greater, victory and deliverance, than what we had originally been promised or could even believe for.

That is what I think we are going to face, and I think we should face it with faith, and we should stand believing in His ability to do exceeding, abundantly above all we could ask or think.

Amen.