

*Printed by*  
**Ken Ray Communications Sdn. Bhd.**  
Penang, Malaysia

*Published by and for*  
**"The Gospel Faith Messenger" Ministry**  
P. O. Box 5601  
Frankton Hamilton 2031 New Zealand  
Telephone: (64 7) 8466 555  
Facsimile: (64 7) 8466 418  
E-Mail: gfm@xtra.co.nz **or** admin@gospel.org.nz  
Visit our Website: www.gospel.org.nz

First Printing: 2004

*All Rights Reserved. No part of this booklet may be produced in any form (except for brief quotations in reviews), without prior written permission from "The Gospel Faith Messenger" Ministry Head Office, Hamilton, New Zealand.*

This booklet is dedicated to all those Holy Spirit-filled believers in Jesus Christ who sincerely and genuinely desire to see God's supernatural call released in and through their lives to impact this 21st-century generation. God's supernatural call, love and power are released through us when we accept, then cultivate and prove His voice to us by our simple obedience to what He says. It is our obedience to what He says that releases powerful prophetic ministry to others, to the glory of God.

Unless stated otherwise, Scripture quotations are taken from the "New King James Version" (NKJV) of the Bible.

## Foreword

I first met Rodney and Jean Francis in September 2000, when they ministered in our church over a three-month period. One evening in December 2000, whilst in the middle of preaching full flow, Rodney stopped abruptly, walked over to me and began to prophesy over my life. Literally from that day a fuller prophetic anointing was released into my life. The prophetic word that Rodney brought unlocked my heart to receive continued revelations of God's calling and ministry upon my life. As I listened to, meditated upon, trusted and obeyed God's voice, I stepped out in faith to launch the Evangelistic Ministry that God had called me to: "Royal Mandate Ministries."

As I trusted God, He took "Royal Mandate Ministries" from the spare bedroom of our home to a two-storey office suite. He then miraculously and incredibly supernaturally provided tens of thousands of sterling pounds worth of equipment that was needed to run our offices. God also supernaturally began to open doors of ministry for us to travel the United Kingdom and to other countries in the world, bringing the wonderful message of hope and salvation through Jesus Christ. God has honoured the preaching of His word through salvations, powerful conversions, miraculous healings of the deaf hearing, the blind

seeing, HIV healed, cancers healed, and much more. We constantly see the miraculous before our very eyes, simply because we trust God's prophetic Words. God has taught me (and is still teaching me) to trust and obey His voice, and to dare to trust Him to do the miraculous. Miracles and the miraculous are for today! Do not allow yourself to be persuaded otherwise.

I have learnt much from Rodney and Jean, as I witness, not only their prophetic teaching but that also Rodney's whole life is prophetic. It is no wonder that God uses him so powerfully, prophetically, and with such divine revelation and clear spiritual insight, Rodney's life is a living testament to any who will dare to walk the life according to the Holy Spirit, and refuse to be led by logical, carnal and soulish thinking.

**Why is "God's Supernatural Call!" so important to believers today?** It is "a wake-up call" to all Christians who truly desire to walk and minister in the power, continued anointing, and river of the Holy Spirit. It reminds us that, as made in the image of God, we are not merely natural or even normal, but we are "supernatural beings" at every level. There is a higher, deeper and wider dimension in God that we can live in that is truly attainable. This dimension is not for the favoured few, but for all who are willing to take God at His Word.

**"God's Supernatural Call!"** will challenge you – unless you are content to remain in the realm of logic. It

will help you to learn practical examples from ordinary people about walking and ministering in the Spirit world – the world of the Holy Ghost. It will bring fresh insight not to underestimate the power of the prophetic and the revelation that it can bring into the lives of individuals that God wants you to minister to (the fulfilment of their destiny may depend on your obedience)! It will release revelation for focus, allowing you to flow and function in the calling that God has ordained for you.

You, too, will learn to recognize the “now” timings of God, as well as understand how and why the prophetic ministry works. **“God’s Supernatural Call!”** will also reveal the jealous passion that God has for you, and His great calling on your life – and the security you may enjoy in that calling.

This is a booklet that has the power to change your life, if you really and truly let it. Go on ... read it ... I promise you if you obey the Biblical principles detailed in these pages, you will honestly not be the same again. Shhh! ... Listen to God! ... can you hear Him calling you now?

Yours in the Love of the Precious Holy Spirit,

**Mrs Elaine Roberts,**  
Prophetic Evangelist,  
*Founder of “Royal Mandate Ministries”*  
*(Northampton, England).*



# God's Supernatural Call!

By Rodney W. Francis

*Founder/Director:*

*"The Gospel Faith Messenger" Ministry*

**God's call to effective ministry is supernatural. It is birthed in the prophetic, the voice of God to our lives, both personally and through other men and women of God. In this booklet we are looking at "God's Supernatural Call!" in the life of Saul of Tarsus, who later became the great Apostle Paul. The principles of the call of God for our lives today can be gleaned from Paul's personal testimony of the call of God upon his own life.**

***"And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in . . . ": (Acts 9:12).***

THE CONVERSION AND CALL OF GOD in the life of Saul of Tarsus carries some exciting principles for every person claiming Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour and Lord. It is recorded in three different chapters in the Book of Acts – 9, 22 and 26. It is well worth our while to study it again, for it is so full of how the prophetic ministry operates (or functions) in God's supernatural call upon those He chooses for ministry. It is imperative that we understand the prophetic foundation of our life in the purposes of God

(see also my booklet, "Do You Know And Understand The Prophetic Foundation Of Your Life And Your Church?"). When we know that prophetic purpose, then we are able to give ourselves to the will of God in a much more fruitful and effective way than any other way of training or preparation.

Right from the moment that Jesus Christ intervened in the life of Saul of Tarsus (for that is what Jesus did!), we see the prophetic ministry supernaturally working in him, both personally as well as through a servant of God by the name of Ananias. Let me emphasize for a moment what the prophetic ministry is about, and what it is that makes a person prophetic. The prophetic ministry is based upon our ability to hear and recognize the voice of God the Holy Spirit as it comes to us in a personal way. A prophetic person is one who recognizes that the voice is God, whether it comes through Scripture, by impression, or thought, or picture, or vision, or trance, or an angelic visitation, or something said by others, or a song – in fact, whatever way the voice comes to us - and who is then prepared to step out in obedience to that voice. It is strongly built upon a love relationship with Jesus, and a strong love for people. Jesus taught us that those who love Him keep (obey) His Word (John 14:21-24). The gifts of the Holy Spirit operate on this same principle, and are our "tools of the Christian trade" in prophetic ministry.

Saul's life changed because he recognized, and then "connected" dramatically with the voice of Jesus. From a position of being religious, but ignorant of the truth, Saul heard the voice of Jesus speaking to him. It was so clear that he could say that it came to him in the Hebrew language (Acts 26:14). The moment that Saul recognized the voice was the voice of Jesus, he straightaway submitted himself, and his will, to Jesus. That voice so impacted him that he said, "**Lord, what do You want me to do?**" (Acts 9:6). The Lord immediately tested his commitment with the following instructions to Saul: "**Arise and go into the city, and you will be told** (by one of My disciples, Ananias) **what you must do.**" Why was that a test? It was a test because, up until that point in time, Saul had not liked Christians. He had been on his way to Damascus to persecute, bind, and take them to Jerusalem to have them thrown into jail. Now Jesus was testing him to see if he really meant what he said.

Notice how the voice of God and prophetic ministry is very impacting. From the moment Saul recognized the voice of Jesus to him, he was ushered into the realm of the supernatural. He heard Jesus personally, and he saw Him in vision form as Jesus instructed him of the next stage of his new life as a Christian. When Saul obeyed the voice of Jesus, he (Saul) opened the door for the next stage of his supernatural journey. That came to him by way of a vision. That vision was clear enough for Saul to know that a man by the name of Ananias was coming to minister to him to restore



his sight (the experience of meeting Jesus had blinded Saul's natural eyes).

Three days after Saul had his vision, in another part of Damascus, a Christian disciple by the name of Ananias, was also having a vision. The vision was for Ananias ***"to go to the street called Straight, and enquire at the house of Judas for one called Saul of Tarsus, for behold, he is praying. And in a vision he has seen a man named Ananias coming in and putting his hand on him, so that he might receive his sight"*** (Acts 9:11-12).

Think about this: Ananias had obviously proven himself (to God) as a reliable brother when it came to obedience to God's voice; otherwise how could God give his name to His brand new convert, Saul? Even though Ananias had already heard of Saul's purpose for his coming to Damascus, he had come to know that the voice of God is much more reliable than the hearsay and opinions of others (something which far too often hinders us from obeying God). Ananias questioned God regarding Saul, but God reassured him: ***"Go, for he is a chosen vessel of Mine to bear My name before Gentiles, kings, and the children of Israel. For I will show him how many things he must suffer for My name's sake"*** (Acts 9:15-16).

True prophetic ministry sees God working on both sides at the same time. He speaks to the "goer" (the

one who obeys what He says), and He speaks to the “receiver” of the message from the “goer.” This kind of ministry is very impacting. It confirms the reality of God, the truth of God, the faithfulness of God, the everything of God, in order that we may know with real assurance that we are called of God in a supernatural way to accomplish supernatural things in His name. The call also included “suffering for Jesus’ name sake,” so let us all have a very realistic understanding about what is involved in God’s supernatural call.

This brings to mind some very interesting questions:

- Are we cultivating our love to Jesus in such a way that we are recognizing His voice more clearly? This is very important, as it is the recognizing of His voice that enables us to obey Him more and more. And the more we obey Him, the more we come into the fullness of His will for our lives.
- Have we, like Saul, really committed our will to the will of God?
- How willing are we to commit to the voice of God, over and above our natural, logical reasoning? How well do we know that voice?
- Can God trust you and me to so know His voice (and the way He chooses to speak to us), that He can tell the person He wants to send you to, that it is **you** who is coming? That is the very purpose

why God works in us the way He does. He is seeking to bring us to a place where we are freely available to Him, to demonstrate our love to Him by our obedience to whatever He tells us (John 2:5). When God can trust us to do what He asks, our obedience becomes a very vital part of our relationship and walk with Him. It is this principle that causes the Kingdom of God to be established in the lives of people here on earth.

### ANANIAS OBEYED THE VISION:

Ananias obviously knew the voice of the Lord. When he was given assurance by the Lord that Saul was a chosen vessel, he obeyed that vision and went to find Straight Street. He then walked along Straight Street and found Judas' house. Exactly as the vision had shown him, there was Saul of Tarsus on his knees praying. What a testimony of supernatural guidance! Ananias stepped up to him, laid his hands on him and said, ***"Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, Who appeared to you on the road as you came, has sent me that you may receive your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit"*** (Acts 9:17).

Even though Ananias had never personally met Saul before, and no human being had told Ananias that Saul was now a Christian convert, Ananias spoke to him according to the vision, and not according to

natural logic. He addressed him as **“Brother Saul.”** He acknowledged him as a Christian brother, an equal! Ananias also acknowledged that Saul had also seen a vision (had a revelation) of Jesus, and knew he (Ananias) was coming to minister to him. In direct response and obedience to God, Ananias and Saul met supernaturally in the will of God. When Ananias laid hands on Saul, he received his physical sight and was filled with the Holy Spirit! After that he was baptized (most likely by Ananias), and quickly began to grow in his newfound faith in Jesus. The Scripture tells us Saul immediately began to preach Jesus as the Son of God in the Jewish synagogues (Acts 9:17-22).

Why could Saul grow so quickly to be able to boldly stand in those synagogues and declare Jesus Christ as the Son of God . . . the same Jesus they had crucified on a cruel cross not long before? Saul ministered out of revelation, the realm of the prophetic. That realm is very powerful. It releases the God-factor, and demonstrates that Jesus is alive and very much involved in the affairs of men and women who will put their trust in Him. From the very moment of his conversion, Saul was introduced into supernatural, prophetic ministry. That is God’s way for us. Mere teachings, head knowledge and religious belief systems come nowhere near the true New Testament, Holy Spirit-filled ministry of the prophetic that is sent from heaven to those who are committed to **do** the will of Jesus here on earth. If we’re really going to experience

the supernatural Gospel of Jesus, then it will happen through the prophetic, and not through natural means.

## THE PROPHETIC REVEALS THE WILL OF GOD:

If we turn now to Acts 22, we see more of Jesus' instructions to Saul, that through the prophetic ministry of Ananias, he (Saul) would know God's will for his life: ***"So I said, 'What shall I do, Lord?' And the Lord said to me, 'Arise and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all things which are appointed for you to do'"*** (v.10).

The question is naturally asked, "Why did Jesus not tell Saul what He wanted him to know while He had his attention there on the road to Damascus?" We would think that Jesus would have told him what He wanted of him. But Christianity is all about our obedience to the voice of God – what we see and hear – and discovering that He (God) can speak to us any way He wants, and through whom He chooses. God's ways are very different to ours, and we must learn to know more of His supernatural ways. Our belief systems cause us to struggle with this. We are often so caught-up with "a sovereignty of God" or "if God wants to speak to me, He knows where I am" mentality, that we find it hard to accept that God may want to reveal His awesome will to us prophetically through some little-known disciple, like Ananias. As I said

earlier, God was testing Saul as to how submitted he really was to His will. He also tests us in this same area to see how submitted we are to His will. How are we progressing in this?

Things are recorded in Acts 22 that are not mentioned in the Acts 9 account. In Acts 9 we get the specifics of God's dealing with both Saul and Ananias, to bring them together prophetically and supernaturally. But in Acts 22 we get the specifics of what God's will was for Saul – who was to become Paul, the great apostle of the New Testament revelation ministry of Jesus the risen Christ! What Paul became had a lot to do with what happened, and what was said to him, through Ananias.

After Ananias prayed for Saul, he received his sight, and was baptized in the Holy Spirit. Ananias then went on to declare to Saul:

***“The God of our fathers has chosen you  
That you should know His will,  
And see the Just One (Jesus),  
And hear the voice of His mouth.  
For you shall be His witness to all men  
of what you have seen and heard”***  
(Acts 22:14-15).

Pause for a few minutes and consider the above five crucial points that Saul was given prophetically through Ananias. How do we personally relate to these points?

They are absolute keys to our fulfilling our supernatural calling and destiny in God, even today in this 21st century. Let us look at each point a little more closely:

• ***The God of our fathers has chosen you:***

The foundational basis for any effective ministry is that we must know we are chosen of God. It has to be more than a good idea, or a natural gifting, or desire. Any person called of God will be tried and tested in many different ways, and, if we do not have that indwelling assurance that we have been chosen of God, then it is very likely that discouragement will overtake us somewhere along the way. Jesus said, ***“You did not choose Me, but I chose you and appointed you that you should go and bear fruit, and that your fruit should remain, that whatever you ask the Father in My name He may give you . . . Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you”*** (John 15:16-20). He chose us! He chose us for a specific purpose! And we need to know that specific purpose! That specific purpose comes to us through the voice of God (in whichever way He chooses to speak to us). Fruit always comes out of obeying what Jesus says. Living “the Jesus way” is very different to the world’s way. That is why the world ***“hates”*** us.

If we do not know we’re chosen, it is likely that the following four points will be beyond us too.

• ***That you should know His will:***

Here again is a vital statement for every Christian. Every one of us should know God's specific will for our own life, so we will know how to give ourselves to the fulfilling of that will. When we know the will of God, it then makes it much easier in the major decisions we have to make as we journey through life. We find we can know what to say "No" to, and what we can say "Yes" to. It helps us to be much more totally focused on what we are meant to be doing. It eliminates so much of the "hit and miss" that Christians are often renowned for. It changes us from being indecisive to being decisive, because we know God's will.

The will of God is essentially simple. God never asks us to commit ourselves to doing anything we cannot do. That means, then, that we do not have to waste time arguing with God and coming up with weak excuses, etc. He does not play "cat and mouse" with us. He is totally committed to those who are committed to doing His will, which means we have to know His will personally. It is in this area that prophetic ministry, the Spiritual Gifts, and the five-fold ministries, are so essential to help us know God's will. Without them we will struggle so much more, and even be guilty of finishing up doing what we are not specifically called to. Most Christian Churches have some major decisions to make with regards to opening up to the prophetic, the nine Spiritual Gifts and the five-fold ministries. Many give "lip service" to these gifts and say they



believe in them, but to actually recognize and make room for them in their church programmes is an entirely different matter. The truth is, we Christians cannot come to full maturity without them. God gave them to the Christian Church to enable us to know His will more specifically.

• ***And see the Just One*** (Jesus):

To represent Jesus on this earth in this 21st century, we have to have a calling and ministry that is very different to that which is generally seen in our churches today. Every time we “see Jesus,” we are impacted in a profound and personal way. It is hard to explain, but it is so. Whenever I have had an encounter with God, it has caused me to see more clearly my purpose here on earth, as well as (at the same time) seeing how unworthy and ineffective I am in my own strength and ability. The true prophetic ministry enables us to “see Jesus” in ways we do not normally see Him. Every time the genuine gifts of the Spirit operate in love, and the five-fold ministries are allowed to function, then they bring revelation of more of Jesus to us. The more we “see Jesus,” the more we know what to do!

• ***And to hear the voice of His mouth:***

God has given to us a number of various ways by which we can know His will – but essentially they are all connected to the voice of God. That is why it is so important that we know His voice. Far too often we

limit the ways by which we accept the voice of God to us. Some people require at least six verses of Scripture before they will accept it as being God's will. But that is not always necessary when we know His voice. Yes, the voice of God will always be confirmed by the principles of the Word of God – but we are often guilty of not knowing the variety of ways by which God speaks. That is why the nine Spiritual Gifts of 1 Corinthians 12, and the five-fold ministries of Ephesians 4 are so important. They all represent the voice of God to us. Yet, tragically, these wonderful gifts and ministries are unknown by so many of God's people today. Even in many Charismatic and Pentecostal Churches around the world there is no room made for these gifts and ministries to operate. One thing we have learned in recent years is that Holy Spirit ministry takes time.

My personal conviction is that God is wanting to increase the numbers of ways by which He can speak to us, and that we will so know His voice that He is at liberty to speak to us in whatever way He desires – and we will still know it is Him. For this to happen, we need to be “more open” to new and different things happening in our lives. For example, God is speaking much more these days through pictures, visions, trances and dreams, even angelic visitations. Do we know when these things are happening to us? Do we recognize a picture in our heads or hearts, or a thought or an impression when we look at someone – that it is indeed the voice of the Lord to us? Then, having

recognized these things as being from God, what do we do with them? We miss out on so much of God's voice because our narrow mindsets tell us it can only happen in certain ways. If we do not know and recognize the voice of God to our own lives personally, then faith will not be able to be released to see that which is promised come to pass. So much of the Christian life is connected to the voice of God and the things we see "in the Spirit."

• ***For you will be His witness to all men of what you have seen and heard:***

It is interesting that, according to the revelation given to Paul, his being a witness came after the preceding four points. The fact is that unless we personally experience those four preceding points in our own lives, then we really have nothing to witness about! Paul was told he would be a witness to **all** men of what he had **seen** and **heard**. That is what makes us a true witness of Jesus Christ – **we have seen Him and heard Him for ourselves!** That means I do not need to testify of the Jesus that Paul followed, just taking his word for it. It means that I can personally testify of a living Jesus Christ **I have seen and heard for myself!** That is what prophetic ministry is all about. It brings Jesus into the "now" of our lives, and enables us to "**hear Him ourselves**" as the Samaritans did after the reformed adulterous woman testified to them of her own experience of personally meeting Jesus (John 4:39-42).

After seeking to live and walk in the prophetic ministry for a number of years now, I am convinced that it is the way of bringing the revelation of Jesus into the lives of others. People do not need to be told to "Read your Bible more," or "If you prayed harder you would not have those problems, etc.," or a host of other clichés that we Christians bring out in a mechanical manner. It is totally ineffective, and certainly does not release the miraculous of God in an impacting way. We also need to know that we are now living in a generation where most of the people have grown up under the godless ideology of secular humanism. They do not carry the convictions, or live their lives by the standards that many of us were brought up under. Mere words (even quoted from the Bible) are not going to impact them supernaturally, or give them a desire to change their ways. But when they are exposed to the Gifts of the Holy Spirit flowing through people who are "in tune" with the voice of God, things are said and done that they know has to be God! I've seen people converted to Jesus out of false cults, the occult, spiritualism, alcoholism, and the backsliders restored, people healed, the call of God come, etc., to so many people as I (or the team working with me) have made ourselves available to the Holy Spirit to use us in His "dunamis" power. These things happen as we exercise the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. (Look again at 1 Corinthians 12, and see how we desperately need all of those gifts to be functioning in our midst today.)

As far as I can understand the Bible, this was also the

way of the early Church after the day of Pentecost outpouring of the Holy Spirit. Somehow we have to know that things are very different in the Kingdom of God once we are filled with the Holy Spirit, speak His language, and listen to His voice with a commitment of love to do whatever He tells us (John 2:5). (If we had to choose only one Scripture to live by, then John 2:5 would be mine – and it was Mary who said it! ***“Whatever He (Jesus) says to you, do it.”***)

To encounter the prophetic ministry like Saul of Tarsus did, means we are given a unique opportunity to be thrust into the work of the Lord in a supernatural way, and that will bring about supernatural results (fruit). Every one of us is called to be a witness of Jesus – not an historical Jesus, or a futuristic Jesus, but the Jesus Who is alive in our hearts now! There is no substitute for that. Knowing Jesus personally, and the way He speaks to us, enables us to bring answers to a lost and needy generation.

## JESUS SPOKE PERSONALLY TO SAUL:

Turning to Acts 26, we discover that Saul’s encounter with Jesus on the road to Damascus also included some specific personal instructions for his life and ministry. Let’s pick it up from Verse 15:

***“So I said, ‘Who are You, Lord?’ And He said, ‘I am Jesus, Whom you are persecuting. But rise and stand on your feet; for I have appeared to***

***you for this purpose, to make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen, and of the things which I will yet reveal to you. I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you, to open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me.’ Therefore, King Agrippa, I was not disobedient to the heavenly vision”*** (v.15-19).

In this chapter we see that Jesus did instruct Saul very specifically about his calling – a supernatural calling of God. That was also confirmed by Ananias’ prophetic ministry, which he brought to him. For the major decisions of our lives, God always confirms His will by more than one witness: ***“By the mouth of two or three witnesses every word shall be established”*** (2 Corinthians 13:1). True prophetic ministry will always be confirmed by more than one prophetic utterance or pronouncement.

Let’s take a look at what Jesus said personally to Saul:

• ***“For I have appeared to you for this purpose:***

The Lord always has a purpose for appearing, or revealing Himself to us. He had a specific work for Saul to do, (and He has a specific work for us too). What was God’s purpose for revealing Himself to Saul?

- ***To make you a minister and a witness both of the things which you have seen, and of the things which I will yet reveal to you:***

A “minister” in Scripture is “a servant to God, and to the people.” The ministry is specific. It has to do with those things that God has personally shown us, the things we have seen by the Holy Spirit, and through the voice of God. It is not a matter of one revelation at the beginning of our Christian life and that’s all we get; but rather it is an ongoing, unfolding revelation that comes as we learn to walk intimately with Jesus. Saul could not have handled everything God had for him in the one encounter. It was far too much for him to take in. Yet, what he received, was sufficient to give him the prophetic foundation for his life and ministry. The same principle applies in our lives also. As we walk with Jesus, come to recognize His voice and ways to us, He unfolds or reveals Himself to us through a variety of ways so that we can supernaturally know and fulfil the calling and purpose of God for us.

When I was a young Christian, not long filled with the Holy Spirit, He spoke to me the following: ***“If you will get to know My voice, and will do what I ask you, there is nowhere in this world where you and I cannot go together, and we not be successful.”*** That word into my spirit has been the prophetic foundation of my life and ministry ever since. Over the years I have experienced the reality of that

promise more and more. I have come to trust it, and rely on it, and I continually have the joy of seeing the Lord use me as I listen to His voice and do what He says. It is all very simple, really – the John 2:5 principle.

***• I will deliver you from the Jewish people, as well as from the Gentiles, to whom I now send you:***

Jesus gave Saul His assurance that he would be watched over and protected, as he gave himself to the doing of God's will. This also includes being vindicated. When we do the will of God, God is committed to doing whatever is necessary to watching over the doing of His will – and those doing it. Many disagreed with Paul's ministry and methods, but God always kept him. He was a "survivor" if ever there was one. He lived like few men are willing to live. His vision was so strong – and his calling so sure – that nothing could deter him from a complete surrender to the will of God (see 2 Corinthians 11:16-33). But that lifestyle cost him friends and caused him personal suffering again and again. God does not prevent us from going through these difficult and hurtful times, but He does deliver us out of them when we keep a right heart attitude and sincerely desire to do His will.

At different times in my life and ministry I have encountered some strong opposition (including at least three death threats) from those outside the Kingdom of God, as well as criticism and persecution from those



within the Kingdom of God. I have also seen people dealt with by God because they tried to interfere and get in the way of God's will being done. Whether or not they recognized their circumstances as such, I don't know, but I could see God at work. On more than one occasion I have seen even pastors removed from ministry after trying to oppose the will of God being worked out through my life. This shows me how important our **doing of the will of God** is closely watched over by God. He wants His will to be done more than anything else! Those who seek to meddle with, or interfere in, the doing of God's will, have God to contend with! Regardless of whether one is a Jew or a Gentile, it is the will of God being done that the Lord Jesus watches over. That's the main purpose of our walk with God – the doing of His will, the demonstrating of our obedience to His voice. By this means, the Holy Spirit is released to work supernaturally through our lives.

- ***To open their eyes, in order to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan to God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins and an inheritance among those who are sanctified by faith in Me:***

What was Paul's ministry about? It was about the opening of spiritually blind eyes. There is a veil, a curtain, or scales that are over the eyes of all those who do not personally know Jesus. Christianity is not

about what church we attend, or what denomination we belong to, or what set of beliefs and customs we adhere to, but the knowing of Jesus Christ the Son of God in a personal, life-changing way. Christianity is all about a personal walk and a relational fellowship with Jesus – the Jesus Who speaks and reveals Himself to us as we walk with Him.

When we have this personal relationship with Jesus, He speaks to us, leads and guides us, in order that we might know His will, and obey whatever He says. This results in God using us to open the eyes of people to see and know Jesus for themselves. It means we have the power to break Satan's hold over them (but not against their will); it means we carry the ministry of forgiveness of sins, and it means we have the joy of bringing others into their God-given inheritance. This kind of Christianity works!

Paul summed up the revelation of God's will to his life, both to him personally, and through Ananias, as being ***"a heavenly vision"*** (Acts 26:19) – and he was not disobedient to it. **When he gave himself totally to the will of God that day on the road to Damascus, he started on a divine journey of destiny that enabled him to fulfil the purpose of God in his own life. Not only that, but his life and ministry has spoken to – and impacted – millions of Christians throughout the centuries ever since. His conversion, life, testimony and ministry demonstrate that anything is possible when we**

**carry a commitment to the will of God, and will obey whatever He tells us.**

Paul was not ashamed to identify with God's supernatural call on his life. He was called to be an apostle, and he was willing to say so (1 Corinthians 1:1; 1 Corinthians 9:1-18; 2 Corinthians 1:1; Galatians 1:1; Ephesians 1:1; Colossians 1:1; 1 Timothy 1:1; 2 Timothy 1:1 and Titus 1:1). In his opening statement in the Book of Romans, he declares: ***"Paul, a bondservant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, separated unto the Gospel of God which He promised before through His prophets in the Holy Scriptures, concerning His Son Jesus Christ our Lord, Who was born of the seed of David according to the flesh, and declared to be the Son of God with power according to the Spirit of holiness, by the resurrection from the dead. Through Him we have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith among all nations for His name, among whom you also are the called of Jesus Christ"*** (Romans 1:1-6).

Paul did not hold this calling of an apostle to himself, but declared that you and I also ***"have received grace and apostleship for obedience to the faith."*** He understood the importance and purpose of the supernatural calling of God upon his life, and so should we. There is a desperate need for true apostles and prophets to be raised up in our churches today. According to Paul's statement, we have received this

grace and apostleship also. It is that supernatural calling that inspires and enables us to be obedient to the faith: that faith that comes through the recognizing of the voice of the Lord, and the many ways by which He chooses to speak to us.

In his introduction to the Galatians, he declared:

***“Paul, an apostle (not from men nor through man, but through Jesus Christ and God the Father Who raised Him from the dead)”*** (Galatians 1:1). Paul is clearly telling us that his calling in God did not come from the will or desire of men, but from above. He is declaring that his calling was supernatural – from God. Every born-again, Holy Spirit-filled Christian should be able to say the same. If someone sincerely and genuinely asked you today, “What has God called you to be, or do?” what would your answer be? If you cannot honestly answer that question, then it is time to seek the Lord, hear His voice, then act upon what He says. Seek further clarification and confirmation from other spiritual, prophetic leaders and people. It is so important that we know God’s supernatural call upon us, so we will not waste any further time in giving ourselves to it, and then fulfilling it. There is no room for excuses here: ***“For you see your calling, brethren, that not many wise according to the flesh, not many mighty, not many noble, are called. But God has chosen the foolish things of the world to put to shame the wise, and God has chosen the weak things of the world to put to***

***shame the things which are mighty; and the base things of the world and the things which are despised God has chosen, and the things which are not, to bring to nothing the things that are, that no flesh should glory in His presence"*** (1 Corinthians 1:26-29). God has called all of us! There's no excuse! We're all included in the above statement! Jesus lifts us out of ourselves and places us in Himself. He fills us with His mighty Spirit so we can fulfil our destinies in Him. That makes us partakers of His supernatural realm!

In 1 Corinthians 4, Paul told us something more of his apostolic ministry, how it was so poorly understood and received in his day. Christians did not understand the five-fold ministries in Paul's day, and it is still the same today. Listen to some of his statements: ***"For I think that God has displayed us, the apostles, last, as men condemned to death; for we have been made a spectacle to the world, both to angels and to men. We are fools for Christ's sake . . . we are weak . . . we are dishonoured . . . beaten and homeless . . . reviled . . . persecuted . . . defamed . . . we have been made as the filth of the world, the offscouring of all things until now"*** (v.9-13). Then he went on to say, ***"I do not write these things to shame you, but as my beloved children I warn you. For though you might have ten thousand instructors in Christ, yet you do not have many fathers; for in Christ Jesus I have begotten you through the Gospel.***

***Therefore I urge you, imitate me"*** (v.14-16).

Regardless of how Paul was treated, the fact remained that his apostolic ministry was the very means of their salvation! Does this not show us that we (who carry the supernatural call of God) have to be aware of the contradictions of human nature? Paul was their spiritual father, for his ministry carried the supernatural power to bring them out of the power of Satan to a life-changing experience in Jesus Christ. Yet many did not appreciate the price he paid, and the sacrifices he personally made (in his love for them), to bring them into their freedom in Christ!

If we are looking for the accolades of people continuously throughout our life, then God's supernatural call is not for us! But God's supernatural call is for us! The more one has received supernaturally from God, the less understood that person becomes. There is a price to pay to follow Jesus, to walk in the prophetic, to hear His voice, and to step out in obedience to that voice, in order to bring the blessings of God to this desperately needy generation that we live in. Even though Paul shared with us all the "negative" reactions to his life and ministry, he still urged us to live our lives today in a way that imitates him! Therefore we need to settle this fact quickly, so we can get on with our call and responsibility to be a God-pleaser more than a man-pleaser! Many do not fulfil their calling and destiny because they allow the criticisms of others to affect them negatively. According

to Paul (again), ***“all who desire to live godly in Christ Jesus will suffer persecution”*** (2 Timothy 3:12). Notice he used the word “suffer” – not “enjoy.” Of course it is not pleasant to be on the receiving end of other people’s negative comments and harsh criticisms when they see the way we live for Jesus (I don’t like it anymore than you). But it is a fact that when we have something in our lives that is birthed supernaturally in our hearts by the revelation of the Holy Spirit, then we will meet with opposition and persecution.

I was not naturally trained for the ministry. My background was full of insecurity and failure. But the day came when I was sovereignly baptized in the Holy Spirit in the midst of a herd of cows at 5:30 a.m. in the morning. The call of God came to me, and I have virtually been preaching the Gospel ever since (over 45 years). Over the years I have been privileged to minister to multiplied thousands of people internationally through our literature, audio-cassette messages, videos, the Internet, and preaching. Many have said it could not be done – but I have done it anyway. I have faced all kinds of “accusations about all manner of things” over that time, but Jean and I have “survived” them all. Why? Because our first and single focus has always been the doing of God’s will, and listening to what He says to us. Today we have much satisfaction in knowing that what God promised us way back in 1960 has borne much fruit in many nations of the world. And, “The Best Is Yet To Come!”

When the supernatural call of God is being fulfilled in our lives, anything is possible. Who knows how many people you, or I, will impact in the years ahead? Only eternity will reveal it all. That is the power of prophetic ministry. And the wonderful thing is that the prophetic ministry is available to all who will dare to avail themselves of it!

- Are you listening?
- Are you listening enough to commit to whatever the Lord tells you?
- Are you committed enough to be prepared to live differently – but supernaturally – in the times ahead?

When we follow the voice of Jesus, we must get right results, for He is the very voice of truth that holds the answers to every person's life.

Make sure you have heard God's supernatural call for your life, and you carry a commitment to fulfil it!

God Bless YOU!



Other books, booklets and manuals by **Rodney W. Francis**

**Books:**

- The Prophetic In The Exodus
- You Can Measure Your Love For God  
(*English and Italian languages*)
- God's Call Can Be Fulfilled!
- An Encounter With God (*English and Telugu*)
- Unbelief – The Power That Needs To Be Broken!
- Counselling And Deliverance
- Are You Called To The Ministry?
- The Evil Powers Of Canaan (Teaching on how the Scriptures reveal the work of evil spirits)
- Discovering The God-Factor
- How To Handle Criticism
- Keys To Worship God
- Spiritual Warfare
- Blessed Are . . . (Teaching on the Beatitudes)

**Booklets:**

- The Power Of The Prophetic
- Do You Know And Understand  
The Prophetic Foundation Of Your Life  
And Your Church?

**Manuals:**

- School Of The Holy Spirit (*English and Italian*)
- The Book Of James (Verse by verse teaching)
- Bible Basics (Foundational teaching for newer Christians)
- Kingdom Living (Teaching on Matthew Chapters 5 to 7)
- Curses (Teaching on what the Bible says about them)
- Baal Worship

For further help and literature,  
or to receive the first Lesson in our free  
"St. John's Gospel" Bible Correspondence Course  
(in NIV or KJV – state your Bible preference),

Please contact us at:  
**"The Gospel Faith Messenger" Ministry**  
P. O. Box 5601  
Frankton Hamilton 2031 New Zealand

Telephone: (64 7) 8466 555 or (64 7) 8470 108  
Facsimile: (64 7) 8466 418  
E-Mail: [gfm@xtra.co.nz](mailto:gfm@xtra.co.nz) **or** [admin@gospel.org.nz](mailto:admin@gospel.org.nz)  
Visit our Website: [www.gospel.org.nz](http://www.gospel.org.nz)

To be placed on our Postal Mailing List to receive  
our free magazine, and/or our E-Mailing List  
to receive our monthly "Prayer Support Letter," "Barnabas  
Bulletin" and "Faith Messages" Ministry,  
please send us your E-Mail address, your name,  
address, town and country (clearly printed).

Thank you.