



The Natural & The Supernatural

Have you ever heard someone ask the question; *"How can you believe in something you cannot see?"* It is not as difficult as you may have thought. My pastor shared something very profound that he had heard in bible school many years ago based on Thomas Aquinas. *"To those who believe no explanation is necessary. To those who do not believe no explanation is possible."*

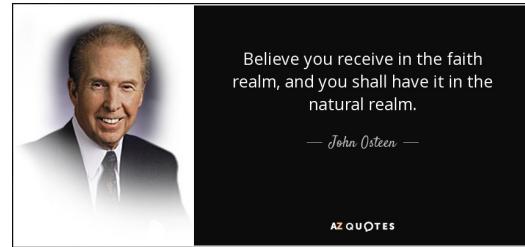


When we first launched our church in Long Island, we had a wonderful couple that my sister Susan had trained to work in our children's ministry. Their names were Gary & Jean and they had been married only a few years before I met them. One day Gary came to me asking for prayer. He had a severe pain in his abdomen and told me he knew that it was his gall bladder. I asked him how he knew it was his gall bladder and he told me that his mother, sister and grandmother all had theirs removed surgically. *"It runs in our family"* he said. So I laid hands on him and commanded his gall bladder to be healed in the name of Jesus. Over the next days and weeks things did not get better, they got worse. I told Gary that he should go to the doctor and let them confirm if what he thought was true.

One Thursday night as I was teaching God's Word, Gary, sitting on the front row, reached out and grabbed my hand and placed it on his abdomen. He was in obvious pain and wanted relief. Later that night when they arrived home he fell up against his living room wall in such pain that he asked his wife to take him to the emergency room. He told me later, *"Pastor, I was in such horrific pain that I felt like my spirit was about to leave my body!"* The doctors ran tests and found that his gall bladder was perfectly fine. What a surprise? NOT! We had prayed over that organ so many times, he probably had the healthiest gall bladder in all of creation!

The doctors discovered that Gary had testicular cancer and it had spread to his right lung! They recommended surgery to remove one of his testicles and a half dollar size growth from his right lung. After the surgery they put him on a heavy regimen of chemotherapy. It was difficult to watch a 26 year old, 225 pound man shrink down to 89 pounds. He looked like skin stretched over his bones. During this healing journey we kept him surrounded with our faith and prayers. He moved in with my parents while Jean was at work and where he received a steady diet of God's healing promises.

Here's where it gets exciting! The doctors told Gary that "*...we believe all the cancer we were concerned about is gone. Our new concern is that we see a series of growths on the top or front part of your spine. We do not know if they are cancerous or not. What we want to do is open you up and move your organs aside and scrape the growths off your spine. If we do this you will be left sterile and never have children!*" Gary told me, "*Pastor, my faith has grown over these months and I do not believe I am to let them do this last procedure. I've let them remove one of my testicles, a growth from my right lung and put me through months of chemotherapy. I can believe God for the rest of this journey. Besides, I want to have children with my wife Jean.*"



The doctors told him he was taking a risk and that since he had been through so much chemotherapy that he would probably never have children anyway! On the following Mother's Day, as we were honoring the mothers at our church altar with flowers and gifts, I felt the Lord telling me to have Jean come forward and have the mother pray for her. It was a tear-feast as emotions ran high. When Jean turned to go back to her seat something rose up out of my spirit and I pointed my finger at her and said, "**Jean, I heard God say, DOUBLE PORTION!** Let me say it again, **DOUBLE PORTION!**"

Ten months later Jean gave birth to a beautiful set of twins! A couple of years later they moved to Oklahoma to attend a missions school to prepare

for ministry. While there they conceived again and had a second set of twins! **Double Portion! Double Portion!** This is all to the glory of God! To this day Gary remains cancer free and serving the Lord with his lovely wife Jean and his children who are now grown. When things looked bad to his senses he had to learn to see things from God's vantage point.

If you think about it we believe in many things we have never seen. For instance we believe we have a brain but the vast majority of us have never seen it. The way some act and talk gives evidence that they may not have received theirs when they were given out! Everyone has a brain. You could not live without one. Just because you cannot see it does not mean it does not exist. Jesus pointed out that the wind is a type of the Holy Spirit. He said, '*You cannot see it but you can see the effects of it*' in **John 3:8**.

8 You know well enough how the wind blows this way and that. You hear it rustling through the trees, but you have no idea where it comes from or where it's headed next. That's the way it is with everyone 'born from above' by the wind of God, the Spirit of God
MSG.

Wind and the Holy Spirit are not one and the same but wind is a type of the Holy Spirit. Just like the wind, the Holy Spirit of God cannot be seen but you can see His effects. Hurricanes and tornados are a powerful force of

moving air that can cause much devastation. God reveals Himself, in this natural world, through the person of the Holy Spirit. While He may be an unseen force He is likened to a gentle dove who lighted upon Jesus after His baptism by John. Yet on the day of Pentecost in **Acts 2:1-2** the Holy Spirit came like a rushing mighty wind and like cloven tongues of fire that could be visibly seen

on the heads of those gathered in that upper room!

There are things that have existed for millenniums in the earth that mankind did not know about. The fact that man did not know about them did not make them any less real before being discovered or any more real after they were discovered. Gravity and electromagnetism existed before Isaac Newton recognized them. Gravity revealed itself when Newton saw



an apple fall off of a tree. He certainly did not invent gravity, he merely discovered something that always existed. Thousands of years had passed while man was unaware of these forces to hold this planet and its inhabitants together. Newton's discovery unlocked other findings by the likes of Albert Einstein and others. God put it all here for man to find and utilize.

Hebrews 11:3

*"Faith helps us understand that God created the whole world by his command. **This means that the things we see were made by something that cannot be seen**" ERV.*

The New English Translation says of the latter part of **verse 3**, "...so that the visible has its origin in the invisible...". Everything we see in this visible, physical world existed first in the unseen and invisible world in which God lives. Therefore you need to understand that spiritual things are not dependent on the physical dimension, but this physical world is completely dependent on the spiritual world where God lives. Everything good in this earthly realm emanates from and is a reflection of God's loving and intentional nature. Once you grasp this principle then walking with God and trusting Him becomes so much easier.

The bible teaches us some things about 'faith'. Christians are admonished to '...walk by faith, not by sight'²

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Corinthians 5:7. Conversely, we are trained throughout our lives to pay attention to our five senses. Seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting and touching are the means by which we navigate through this natural world. When it comes to our daily routine it is right to lean upon what our five senses reveal to us. I would much rather ride in the car with someone driving by sight instead of by faith. If I needed a surgery I would demand a doctor who could perform the surgery using his intellect and senses then simply trusting someone who stayed at a hotel inn express the night before!

For the Christian though, we have to think differently about how we navigate this life. Christ followers have the additional benefit of a sixth sense. Which is really not a sense but rather a gift that God gives to those

who have yielded their lives to the Lord Jesus Christ. It is called **FAITH!** *Without faith, we are told, it is impossible to please God (Hebrews 11:6).*

Faith see's the invisible, receives the impossible and stands worry free in the face of adversity! I say this because this kind of faith is founded on the integrity of God's Eternal Word. What a privilege for us to know the God of the bible who can see the future from beginning to end. What if we could see the future? Actually every new day is a step into the future of yesterday. Tomorrow is a future moment in time. One hour from now is the future. We live out the future every minute of everyday!

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God's Son is called the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End!

Interestingly, there are bible texts that describe God as being 'invisible'. The following scriptures testify that you cannot see Him with your physical senses.

Here are a few;

Colossians 1:15-16

15 *Christ is the visible image of the INVISIBLE God.*

He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation,*

16 for through him God created everything in the heavenly realms and on earth.

***He made the things we can see
and the things we can't see-***

such as thrones, kingdoms, rulers, and authorities in the **unseen** world. NLT

1 Timothy 1:17

17 Now to the King* eternal, immortal, **INVISIBLE**, the only (wise) God, be honor and glory for ever and ever. Amen. NIV

Notice the reference to God being invisible and the ONLY Wise God.

This next verse describes Moses when he had to leave Egypt after it was revealed that he was one of the Hebrews and NOT biologically the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

Hebrews 11:27

27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for **he endured as seeing Him who is INVISIBLE**. NKJV

Faith is like a sixth sense because it can see beyond the five physical senses. Since "...*faith comes by hearing and hearing by the Word of God*" (**Romans 10:17**), we can say that walking by faith would mean we walk by the Word of God. Jesus had something very interesting to say about His words in **John 6:63**, "*It is the Spirit who gives life; the flesh profits nothing. The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life.*" Something that is 'spirit' would be something that cannot be bound to things that can be seen necessarily. Yet they can have a miraculous impact on them!

The Apostle Paul wrote in **2 Corinthians 4:18**, '*...while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal*' NKJV. The term 'seen' refers to the things that are revealed to our five senses. The term, 'temporary' in the verse mentioned above, literally means 'subject to change'. What a relief to know that whatever situation you are facing today, no matter how impossible it may appear or how hopeless it may seem, if it can be detected by your physical senses then **it is subject to change!**



Words, especially God's words, are *Spiritual* and possess *Supernatural Life!* These very words spoken from the lips of Jesus opened the eyes of the blind, unstopped deaf ears, caused the lame to walk and even raised the dead! Do not ever forget that ***God's Word in your mouth is just as powerful as God's word in His mouth when spoken in faith!***

Since God is invisible, man may know of Him only through His works, which are seen in nature, revealed in scripture, and accomplished in the life of the believer in Christ.

When my dad was a young boy he had fallen ill with rheumatic fever. He told me that during the month of March, as winter was coming to a close, an unexpected heat wave hit Long Island. The temperature topped eighty degree's so he and some friends decided to jump in the still frigid waters in the harbor area of his hometown. Later that night, as his fever increased, he began to break out in a cold sweat and started shivering severely. The doctor was summoned to his home. Upon his examination the doctor said, this is one of three things; polio, spinal meningitis or rheumatic fever. It turned out to be rheumatic fever.

He spent more than a month in the hospital and told me that he was so weak he could hardly move a muscle. He felt as though he was going to die. He then shared a very personal and strange occurrence that changed, what seemed to be an impossibility into a Miracle. In a weakened state and unable to move, his attention was drawn to something appearing on the hospital room wall. He saw a motion picture movie appearing like a flat screen television showing the *Last Supper!* Mind you this was back in the late 1930's when TV's were not what they are today. Laying there he watched Jesus handing out the communion bread and cup to the 12 disciples. Needless to say, it overwhelmed him and a deep sense of confidence came to him that he would be well. Within a day or two the fever broke and he was completely healed!

He lived nearly 81 years before going to heaven. As a curious side note, many who suffered with rheumatic fever in their younger years developed a heart murmur later in their lives. This has caused some an early departure from this life. Dad never had a side effect from this disease. He truly received a miracle that lasted his entire life. God allowed him to see something that normally would not be seen by human eyes and it changed his life and future!

In a similar way, you too must learn that to receive the impossible you have to see the invisible. This can only be done beyond the five senses and through the eyes of your God-given faith.

This is an excerpt from my soon to be released book on divine healing. While there are many books written on this subject I believe that there is a need for the specific content I have included. The least of which is the fact that I have been healed of 7 Strokes in 3 Parts of My Brain! If you would like to help with a gift, large or small simply visit our Giving page at www.mjbministries.org/giving. Be sure and use the drop down Fund menu to select 'God's Healing Word - Book Publishing Fund**'.