

WRITTEN WITH SINCERE APPRECIATION FOR YOU, <First Name>

4 HEARING GOD'S VOICE
Translation in Hindi

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Course Details

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By John E. Thomas

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Special Tribe Discount

JAN
2019

DUE SEASON

This month I want to share a message I believe God has given me for His body, specifically Streams Tribe. It starts with a story.

An Extravagant Gift

About fifteen years ago, Dawna and I were preparing to move to New Hampshire to be a part of the community Streams was building there. We ended up selling or giving away a lot of our stuff—we didn't have room for all our possessions on a three-day drive across the United States! One of the items we gave away was an older car in good shape, but we didn't need it. A friend of ours was desperate for a vehicle, and we were able to bless her.

Five years later, we were in Massachusetts pastoring the BRIDGE Metrowest, and we felt we should give away another car. I had a nice little Volkswagen Beetle, one of the newer models at the time. Someone in our congregation was driving over forty-five minutes each way to get to church, and her car kept breaking down. I loved driving that Beetle—it was a lot of fun. But Dawna and I were excited to be able to bless this woman with a dependable car.

When we gave these cars away, we weren't expecting anything in return—we were just helping people we cared about and trying to be faithful to what we felt God was challenging us to do. I didn't think about either of these situations for years. Until recently.

Over Christmas we met up with some friends for dinner and games. They began to talk to us about John 12, where Mary of Bethany takes a vial of pure nard worth a year's wages and pours it out on Jesus' feet to anoint Him. It was a wastefully extravagant gift; it wasn't *needed* but it was *right*. They then explained that God had prompted them to give an extravagant gift to Dawna and me. Not a gift that was practical or necessary, but an extravagant gift

that would show how great God's goodness really is.

They took us to the top of a parking garage and a few minutes later drove up in a brand-new 2018 Mustang GT 5.0. I love cars and have always liked American muscle cars, especially the Mustang. In fact, I'd gone on Ford's website and "built" this exact car, dreaming of a day when I could get one. However, Dawna and I always try to be more practical when it's time to purchase a vehicle. I wouldn't have spent this money on myself and God knew it. He was giving me something I wanted but hadn't even dreamed of asking for.

It's almost embarrassing to admit that God gave me this gift—and He's been talking to me about that as well. Honestly, I think there's only one reason we get embarrassed over anything God does: ungodly strongholds. He loves to dismantle those things that keep His people from seeing Him as He really is.

As I thought about this experience, God began bringing thoughts and Scriptures to mind that I knew were a message for you, Streams Tribe. God's goodness is extravagant—He plans on blessing His people to such an extent that it is embarrassing. And He never forgets what we have sown.

God's Goodness Is Extravagant

At one level, many of us are aware of the goodness of God every day. Look at the beautiful world He created for us. Think about the delight of eating your favorite food. Re-experience the joy of falling in love or looking in your baby's face for the first time. Consider the number of stars in the universe, the brilliance of colors, the glory of music done well. He is *extravagant*.

We accept the word *extravagant* for God, but some of us balk at its synonyms: words like

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immoderate, lavish, costly, reckless, excessive, wasteful, and prodigal. Will any of us ever be able to see all the stars in the universe? No, so isn't the excess wasteful? Will every person on the earth be able to enjoy everything the earth has to offer? No, so isn't that immoderate? Only a few will make it through the narrow gate to grab hold of the blood shed for them on the cross—so isn't the rest excessive? And if "prodigal" doesn't describe God, I don't know what does. There is no other way to explain the parable of the two sons and the father who willingly gave half of his possessions to a boy he knew would waste them, yet he wanted his son to know his love.

We often think of God with a poverty mindset, but He wants us to encounter Him with an extravagant mindset. Nothing is too small for Him. He is able—and wants—to do "far more abundantly than all that we ask or think" (Eph. 3:20). "He who did not spare His own Son but gave Him up for us all, how will He not also with Him graciously give us all things?" (Rom. 8:32)

Consider the promises of Heaven. God never gives only what is needed; He always moves in abundance. Remember the fish and the loaves and all the basketfuls left over? Think about John 10:10, where Jesus declares, "The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly." Literally more than enough.

Take a moment right now and give God permission to be so good to you it is embarrassing.

God, I remove from my soul all resistance to Your goodness. I choose to believe You are that good and You want to bless me beyond my needs, beyond my expectations. I believe in Your goodness and I ask You to bless me!

God Never Forgets What You Sow

Do not be deceived: God is not mocked, for whatever one sows, that he will also reap (Gal. 6:7).

We cannot manipulate God into blessing us by putting a demand on what we have sown. We can't demand from Him any more than a farmer can "demand" that the seed he plants grow a certain crop. We can expect results, but we are not in control of the results. Instead, we trust, knowing that seed always bears fruit.

When we give, our hearts shouldn't be focused on getting something in return. We give simply because we are like Him and He gives. But we also know He will give back to us, so we trust Him. The thing we need to remember is this: We most often reap in a different season than we sowed.

As I thought about what happened this Christmas and

remembered giving away those cars, God brought me to Matthew 13:52:

And He said to them, "Therefore every scribe who has been trained for the kingdom of heaven is like a master of a house, who brings out of his treasure what is new and what is old."

Whatever season we are in, God remembers what we sowed in previous seasons, things we have forgotten about, and we will see a harvest. I feel like this is the time to begin to remember old promises and old expectations and bring them into the present. God will speak new things to us but also remind us of old things. This pertains to gifts we have given (financial, relational, and spiritual) but also to prophetic words we have received. Some of you will be given new prophetic words that will echo words spoken in another season, but now is the time.

This is also a season when many will get fresh promises from God. There is a prophetic window opening up that looks back and looks forward, bringing out of God's spiritual storehouse treasures that are new as well as those that are old. This is the season of fulfillment. Not only will promises be remembered and received, but many will be fulfilled.

In addition, many people will find the fulfillment of what they didn't have the faith to ask for. Remember, God's goodness is coming and it can be embarrassing—because He loves you that much! So hold on to your hope. Remind yourself of the hope you had in a previous season before disappointment choked it out.

After writing that we will always reap what we sow, and any belief that says otherwise mocks God, Paul encourages us further:

Let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up (Gal. 6:9).

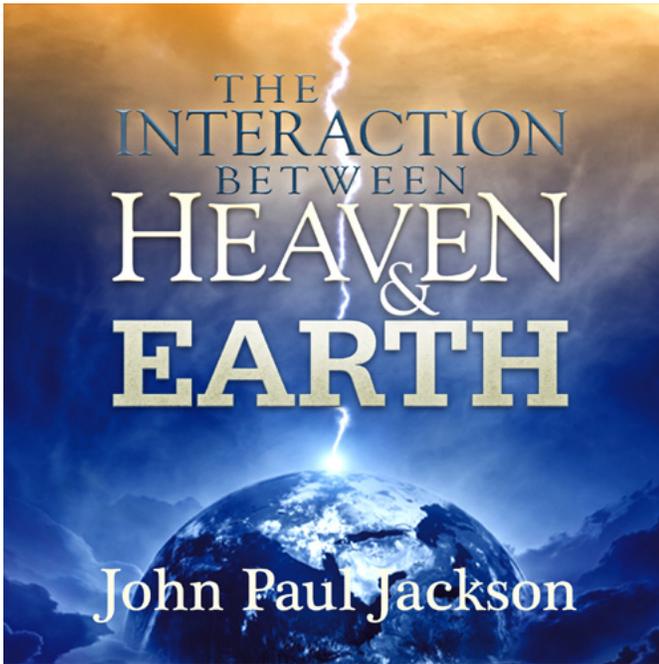
Welcome to due season!

Thank You for Your Prayers

Thank you for your faithfulness to sow into Streams Ministries. God is blessing us in so many ways: personally, as I have already shared, and also with vision and dreams for this ministry and how we can build moving forward. We are glad you are walking with us into this season of expansion, and we pray that every seed you have sown will have supernatural grace to grow into the fullness of what God intended way back when He put it in your heart to give.

**In His love,
John E. Thomas**

SPECIAL OFFER CD/DVD COMBO



How you think will lay the groundwork for your destiny. Jesus wants to see His earthly rule and His purposes established here on earth and He wants to use you to do it.

Whether you can see it or not, there is constant activity between the spiritual and physical worlds.

How does that spiritual realm operate?
How does God use the spiritual beings he created to help you reach your life purpose?

The *Interaction Between Heaven and Earth* will answer these important questions and many more. This teaching from John Paul will give you a clearer picture of Heaven's administration by explaining spiritual weapons God has given us and the spiritual beings God has created to help us use those weapons.

YOU WILL COME AWAY FROM THIS TEACHING KNOWING:

- 01 God wants you to live an exciting, vibrant, supernatural life through Christ Jesus, and Heaven's interaction is vital in helping you do that.
- 02 God wants you to understand His eternal nature, and in doing so, grasp the difference in not only the eternal and temporal, but the eternal and everlasting.
- 03 God wants us to understand that the co-existing Spiritual Realm is superior to the Temporal Realm in every instance.
- 04 God wants us to set our mind on things above so that we have "Above the Line" Thinking. How do you get "Above the Line" Thinking?

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HEARING GOD'S VOICE IN HINDI UPDATE

We now have the small group curriculum, Hearing God's Voice, by John Paul Jackson translated to Hindi. The manual is complete and we are doing our final verification on the video files. This project cost almost \$15,000 and has the potential to impact hundreds of thousands!

Our team in India will be making the videos with subtitles and PDF versions of the manuals available to pastors throughout India.

Thank you for your support that is helping to resource our brothers and sisters in this persecuted country. If you want to continue supporting our translation efforts to help the persecuted church, just note "Persecuted Church" on your donation.



COURSES

The Art of Hearing God

- March 28-30, 2019 | Sweden | Cynthia Hayes

Understanding Dreams & Visions

- April 5-6 & 13 2019 | Perth, Australia | Taught by Rose Wenceslao
- June 12-15 2019 | Limburg, Germany | Taught by Rick Hayes, Iris Trümper & Streams Teachers
- October 17-19 2019 | Sweeden | Taught by Rick & Cynthia Hayes

Advanced Workshop in Dreams & Visions

- March 26-29, 2019 | Sweden | Taught by Rick & Cynthia Hayes
- June 10-14, 2020 | Limburg, Germany | Taught by Rick Hayes & Streams Teachers

Limitless

- February 21-23, 2019 | Winston Salem, NC | Taught by Charity Bowman-Webb