Apostle Guillermo Maldonado is one of the outstanding leaders of the twenty-first century. His prophetic insight into the apostolic foundations of the church and his passion and hunger for the manifestation of the supernatural kingdom of God on earth in our modern times are contagious. His books are destined to become classics for years to come.

—Dr. Myles Munroe President and Founder, Bahamas Faith Ministries International Nassau, Bahamas

Pastor Maldonado has a worldwide ministry specializing in the miraculous. His book contains great revelation knowledge. I have seen Pastor Maldonado's ministry inside and out, and I like the fruit of it.

—Marılyn Hıckey

President, Marilyn Hickey Ministries, Englewood, Colorado

Pastor Guillermo Maldonado is a dynamic leader of a vibrant ministry. I believe God has raised him up at this time to reach not only the Hispanic population in the United States but also all nations around the world.

—Dr. Mark Rutland President, Oral Roberts University, Tulsa, Oklahoma

Guillermo Maldonado is one of the most eminent Christian leaders on the planet. He is an influencer of influencers, a brilliant orator, a quintessential teacher, and a loving pastor.

> —Mark J. Chironna, Ph.D. Bishop, The Master's Touch International Church Orlando, Florida

Pastor Maldonado's heart for people and his family, and his family's *complete* devotion to announcing God's presence and power at all times, are completely pure and unrelenting.

—Darlene Zschech Praise and worship artist Pastor Maldonado is a man who has shared in my journey and recognizes the impact Jesus Christ has had on the lives of individuals like me. He understands that no matter how we measure success, true achievements are not reached without faith and devotion to the Christian life. If you are looking for someone to help bridge your spiritual gap, Pastor Maldonado is the man to do so. I am proud to call him a friend.

—Governor Rick Scott Florida

In *How to Walk in the Supernatural Power of God*, readers will find a source of spiritual enrichment and an invitation to know, in the words of the author, a "supernatural, almighty God who still performs miracles."

—Alvaro Uribe Vélez Former President (2002–2010), Colombia

Guillermo Maldonado is a leader with great vision and faith. There is a great awakening coming to the nations of the earth with signs, wonders, and miracles, and Maldonado is on the forefront of it.

—Cindy Jacobs Cofounder, Generals International, Dallas, Texas

Pastor Guillermo Maldonado is the most dynamic leader I have ever met! His ministry emphasizes power, spiritual maturity, and integrity. It has always impressed me how he can do all things with such excellence.

—Steven Strang
Founder and editor, Charisma magazine

Pastor Maldonado is truly an inspiring spiritual leader. He is an example of what deep faith, hard work, and dedication can accomplish. I am honored by his friendship and guidance and inspired by his leadership and willingness to always put others before him.

—Mario Diaz-Balart U.S. Representative, Florida's 21st District Guillermo Maldonado is leaving a legacy to those who want to learn more about how to live in continuous revival. In *How to Walk in the Supernatural Power of God*, he makes every effort to place the miracle power of God within everyone's reach.

—Cash Luna

Pastor, Casa de Dios, Guatemala City, Guatemala

Guillermo's teachings and writings cover the fundamentals of the Christian faith.

—Bill Hamon

Founder and Bishop, Christian International Ministries Network

Pastor Guillermo Maldonado stands today as one of the leading voices in the kingdom of God and the preeminent forerunner of a biblical apostolic and prophetic movement with signs, wonders, and miracles following.

-Rev. Samuel Rodriguez

President, National Hispanic Christian Leadership Conference

The compelling fact of Guillermo Maldonado's life is that he has taken the words of Jesus literally: "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations" (Matthew 28:19). If your desire is to be a disciple-maker, I encourage you to embrace Pastor Maldonado and his teaching.

-Rich Wilkerson

Pastor, Trinity Church, Miami, Florida

Maldonado has made significant contributions to the kingdom of God, changing the spiritual climate with his empowering teachings, which have forever changed the lives of thousands in this country and abroad. As a leader, he has skills and gifting of an extremely high caliber.

—Tudor Bismark

Bishop, New Life Covenant Church, Harare, Zimbabwe

In Guillermo Maldonado, the Lord has found a man after His own heart who is dedicated to fulfilling the will of God. He is a pioneer who displays God's power to a generation that desperately needs it.

—Hank Kunneman

Pastor, Lord of Hosts Church/One Voice Ministries Omaha, Nebraska By his words and by his example, my dear friend Guillermo Maldonado has touched the souls and revived the faith of many men and women around the world. He is a source of inspiration for those who already walk in our Lord's path and a transforming hand for those who are close to the Creator.

—Elías Antonio Saca González Former President (2004–2009), El Savador

Pastor Guillermo Maldonado is an outstanding pastor, church planter, visionary, and mentor to other church leaders. Both in the pulpit and through the power of his pen, Pastor Maldonado is a truly successful Christian leader, possessing both natural and spiritual gifts.

 $-\mathit{Marcus\ Lamb}$ President and CEO, Daystar Television Network

Guillermo Maldonado is a humble man with huge, childlike faith. Through his ministry, God has performed many outstanding miracles. He is a loving pastor to his people, an excellent husband and father to his family, and a dedicated spiritual father to his flock.

-Alan Vincent

Cofounder, Outpouring Ministries, San Antonio, Texas

Pastor, teacher, preacher, author, composer, ambassador, statesman, and friend—this is who Guillermo Maldonado is. The ministry and message of this dynamic kingdom-builder are changing the world we live in by impacting thousands of lives each year. If you read his words carefully, they will change you, too!

—Paul Wilbur Recording artist, Integrity Music

The heart of Guillermo Maldonado's ministry is to get people saved, confirmed, trained, and discipled in order to send them out to evangelize and equip the body of Christ. In my forty-plus years of ministry and service unto the Lord Jesus Christ, I can truly say that Maldonado is the visual manifestation of the parable of the mustard seed that grew into a great tree.

—Dr. Ronald E. Short Founder, Ronald Short Ministry I call Guillermo Maldonado my friend and a man for whom I have the greatest respect. In his ministry, I see Jesus in the now, and the government of God is demonstrated in everything he says and does.

> —Dr. Renny McLean Global Glory Ministries, Dallas, Texas

Guillermo Maldonado is on the cutting edge of ministry, and his book blesses the body of Christ. He has a great hunger to see the souls of men and women saved by God's power!

—R. J. Washington
Pastor, Titus Harvest Dome Spectrum Church
Jacksonville, Florida

Guillermo Maldonado is a man whom God has raised to manifest His glory and heaven's supernatural power on earth. He is a teacher but also a prophet, evangelist, pastor, and apostle. It is a normal occurrence to hear him preach and, later, to see a flow of creative miracles take place that impact even the minds of unbelievers.

—Eduardo Cañas Estrada Pastor, Iglesia Comunidad Cristiana Manantial de Vida Eterna Bogotá, Colombia

Supernatural OF COD

Revised & Expanded Edition

GUILLERMO MALDONADO



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How to Walk in the Supernatural Power of God:

Experience Signs, Wonders, and Miracles Now revised and expanded edition

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Acknowledgments

Itake this opportunity to express my gratitude and to honor several men and women who have been a great blessing to me, not only in the past but also in the present. In one way or another, they have inspired me in the ministry by releasing the prophetic word over me and by their continuous prayers. Some have been "fathers in the faith" to me. Others have been mentors in a specific area of my life or ministry. Others are my personal friends, just like Paul and Barnabas. Still others are my spiritual children, as Timothy was to Paul. At all times, they have supported and stood by me.

The Word teaches us to honor those who deserve to be honored, and this is one way I would like to recognize their individual support.

The measure of faith God has given them has been of great help to me. It has strengthened and enriched me. These individuals have encouraged me to seek newer and deeper territories in God and a greater level of growth in His glory, anointing, and power. They have been role models in my life and have inspired me during the past two decades in ministry. When the ministry experienced times of great need, they gave me the prophetic word. During difficult times, they served me and my family. These things touched my heart so deeply that, today, I take this opportunity to publicly thank them. All of them have been a great blessing to me, in my personal life, as well as in the pulpit. I have learned much from watching how they conduct themselves in their personal lives and from their integrity. Many of them have shared important revelations that have inspired me and have helped me to write this book.

First, I thank my beloved wife, Ana, for her continued support in prayer, and my sons, Bryan and Ronald, for their unconditional support. Also, Prophet Cindy Jacobs; Apostle Ronald Short; Apostle Alan Vincent; Bishop Bill Hamon, my spiritual father; Prophet Hank Kunneman; Prophet Cathy Lechner; Apostle Cash Luna; Dr. Marilyn Hickey; Pastor Charles Green; Dr. Richard Roberts; Bishop R. J. Washington; Prophet Kim Clement; Pastor Tommy Tenney; Dr. Myles Munroe; Dr. Rodney Howard Browne; Pastor Benny Hinn; Evangelist Roy Durman; T. L. Osborn; and Dr. Renny McLean. Also, my most sincere thanks to the pastors, prophets, and ministers who are my spiritual children, for your support—for some have been with me since the onset of this ministry. My deepest gratitude to each of you. I honor you and bless you because you are a permanent source of inspiration to me. Thank you.

—Apostle Guillermo Maldonado

Contents

Preta	ace: A Hunger for the Supernatural
1.	The Revelation of a Supernatural God
2.	A God of Miracles Through History—and Today!
3.	The Purpose of God's Supernatural Power 45
4.	Jesus and the Cross: The Only Legal Source of Supernatural Power
5.	Substitutes for the Supernatural Power of God
6.	Faith: The First Dimension of the Supernatural 105
7.	The Anointing: The Second Dimension of the Supernatural
8.	Glory: The Third Dimension of the Supernatural157
9.	Miracles, Signs, Wonders, and Casting Out Demons177
10.	Principles for Moving in the Supernatural209
11.	Jesus Manifesting His Supernatural Power Through the Believer
Abou	at the Author255

Preface

A Hunger for the Supernatural

I would like to begin this book by sharing part of my testimony with you, because I believe it is important to know what God can do in the life of anyone who makes himself available to Him and hungers for His supernatural power.

I was born in Honduras, Central America, in 1965. I came to the United States at a young age, and I have lived here for more than half my life. When I was twenty-one, I accepted Jesus as my Lord and Savior at the Catedral del Pueblo Church in Miami, Florida—the largest Hispanic church in the country at that time—and then attended Oral Roberts University. In 1988, God called me to preach His Word, so I enrolled at the Living Word Academy in Miami. After graduation, I spent the next nine years preaching the gospel in more than forty countries. In 1996, I founded King Jesus International Church in Miami with a congregation of only twelve people. Today, we have more than 20,000 active members, including the founding church and our "daughter" churches.

My Calling

In 2000, God called me into an apostolic ministry. Several renowned apostles and prophets within the body of Christ have confirmed my calling and established me as an apostle. I founded the New Wine Apostolic Network, which offers spiritual covering to more than one hundred churches and pastors in thirty countries. The vision of the network is to "evangelize, affirm, disciple, and send." I

also host radio and television programs entitled *Tiempo por Cambio* [*Time for Change*], which are heard and seen through an extensive network of radio and television stations around the world in different languages.

My Mission

While praying and seeking God's presence, I experienced a supernatural visitation in which He spoke to my heart, saying, I have called you to bring My supernatural power to this generation. In the midst of my tears and trembling, I heard the same voice once more; only, this time, it was audible and seemed to be right there in the room with me, saying again, "I have called you to bring My supernatural power to this generation." Two weeks later, a prophet and friend, Hank Kunneman, called to tell me that the Holy Spirit had revealed to him that it was God who had visited me. He gave me a Bible verse as confirmation of the voice's message:

For this very purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power in you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth. (Romans 9:17)

Since that day, my mission has been to bring the supernatural power of God to this generation by teaching, training, and equipping church leaders and believers to manifest that power on earth. In line with my mission, this book is for those who deeply desire to experience God's supernatural power so that they may bless a world that now stands in crisis and hopelessness.

Answers for a World in Darkness

As we hear about catastrophic events taking place around the world, we begin to realize that biblical prophecies like the one Jesus gave in Matthew 24:6–7 are coming to pass. Both the frequency and severity of natural disasters, such as earthquakes, hurricanes, and tsunamis, seem to be on the rise. Evil appears to be increasing, not decreasing. Rebellion, wars, and rumors of war dominate the news reports in the media. Hunger is a terrible problem, as nearly one billion of the world's people will go to bed hungry tonight. Financial crises are affecting countries around the globe where deceit, lies,

insecurity, and fear abound. People are desperately looking for answers to these calamities, but neither governments nor political leaders nor religious systems seem able to offer valid solutions.

The fundamental purpose of *How to Walk in the Supernatural Power of God* is to give you the answers you need in order to live in victory, peace, and joy and to share them with others—even in a world that seems to be falling deeper and deeper into darkness with each passing day. In the midst of this darkness, people are wrestling with unanswered spiritual questions. They are hungry and thirsty for God, but their thirst has not been satiated because all they have been given is "religion"—and religion does not offer valid answers. Sadly, for the most part, people have been offered a deity who is an "elder of days"—one who sits on his throne in heaven, waiting for the world to fail so he can punish it, a distant god who lacks both supernatural ability and an intimate relationship with human beings.

The Real and Living God

Thankfully, this ineffectual god is not the real, living God of Scripture. Many people want to know how to have a genuine relationship with this living God. And, those who have already reconnected with Him yearn to be used by Him to manifest His supernatural power on earth. They seek answers to questions such as these:

- Does God continue to perform miracles today?
- Can Christianity be considered relevant if it operates without miracles?
- What makes the Christian life more than just another religion or philosophy?
- What makes a Christian credible?
- What proof can we offer people that Jesus Christ was resurrected and lives today, and that He is not just another good teacher or wise guru?
- Can rituals, rules, or regulations change people?
- Do we need the miracles mentioned in the Bible today?
- Through whom does God perform miracles?
- Can anyone be the recipient of a miracle?

All of these questions will be answered as you read this book. Here, you will come face-to-face with a powerful and supernatural God—a God who works miracles, a God who hates sin but loves the sinner, a God who desires to give us His provision and healing. You will discover the God who sent His one and only Son, Jesus Christ, to earth as a sign of His infinite love for us. This is the same God who performed healings, miracles, signs, and wonders in the Old Testament, the same God who continued to perform them in the New Testament through the early church during the time of the apostles, and the same God who continues to perform them today through the "body" of Christ—consisting of all those who have put their trust in Jesus Christ for forgiveness, salvation, and new life.

God has given us His supernatural power so that we can live in victory. Without the ingredient of His supernatural power, it is impossible for us to overcome tribulation, sickness, and any other adverse circumstances that rise against us.

In addition to getting to know the supernatural, powerful God who still performs miracles, you will learn about the complete work of Jesus on the cross, and how, through the cross, He fully provided for every need you might face. You will discover that the cross is the only "legal," or legitimate, source that can open the door of God's supernatural realm to you. You will also see how to live a life of faith in the midst of a dangerous and uncertain world. You will understand how to walk in the anointing and how to transition into walking in God's glory. And, you will learn how to receive your miracle, as well as what to do so that God may use you to perform miracles that will bless other people. You will know how to walk in the supernatural power of God!

Revelation and Transformation

Even as you progress through this book, you may find yourself receiving healing and experiencing creative miracles. If you are missing an organ, God can create a new one within you, just as He did for others whose testimonies you will read in these pages. You may receive financial miracles or deliverance in your mind and emotions. God will impart revelation to you and effect transformation within you, activating you for service, so that He may manifest His power

through you wherever you go. You will be enabled to testify about Jesus, pray for the sick, cast out demons, and work miracles as you carry out the Great Commission—taking the gospel into the world, making disciples, and having dominion over the earth. (See Matthew 28:19–20; Genesis 1:26–28.)

Dare to take this journey with me. With each chapter, you will increasingly come to know the supernatural, powerful, and immutable God for whom all things are possible, the God who can change and transform your life forever.

Come and see the works of God; He is awesome in His doing toward the sons of men. (Psalm 66:5)

The Revelation of a Supernatural God

Pellow scientists scoffed at Louis Pasteur's theory of the existence of airborne microbes that are invisible to the naked eye. The medical establishment told him, "The world into which you wish to take us is really too fantastic." Pasteur proved his theory and became renowned for his scientific work and contributions to the field of medicine.

Reality cannot always be seen, but it can be discovered.

Jesus said, "There is nothing covered that will not be revealed, nor hidden that will not be known" (Luke 12:2). The most significant unseen reality that we must each discover, in order to live the lives that we were meant to, is the spiritual reality of our supernatural God.

God has left us evidence of Himself in the created world—in the intricateness, orderliness, and beauty of the natural environment around us. Yet, when we contemplate the greatness of His creation, our finite imaginations still cannot begin to fathom His vast love and immense power.

Man has also often tried to know God through intellectual means, but these attempts have proven insufficient. We can know facts and information about God, but we cannot know Him personally through intellectual knowledge.

How can human beings come to know their invisible, supernatural Creator? Through revelation.

Louis Pasteur entered into much experimentation in the natural world to prove his scientific theories. Likewise, we must enter into the

^{1.} http://www.historylearningsite.co.uk/louis_pasteur.htm.

experience of knowing God in the spiritual realm in order to recognize and walk in His supernatural power.

This is what happened in the life of Carlos Zambrano, who was an opening pitcher for the Chicago Cubs and the Miami Marlins Major League Baseball teams, and who has a record of 130 wins. Carlos had been raised in a Christian home in Venezuela, but his lifestyle was far from resembling biblical values and principles. He was living independently from God. Even though Carlos was lost in sin, God continued to demonstrate His love for him. The situation changed after God opened his eyes to the realm of the supernatural and to His glory.

Carlos says, "I remember that while in Guatemala, I was on the verge of death. I began to feel dizzy and have irregular heart palpitations, and my blood pressure kept going up and down erratically. Doctors from Venezuela and Chicago examined me. I spent twenty-four hours with a heart monitor, but they couldn't find anything wrong. One Sunday, while in Chicago, I was rushed to the emergency room to be seen by the team's doctor, but he couldn't find anything, either. However, I still felt very sick, and I lived in desperation.

"Two months later, I came to understand what had been happening to me. I consulted my doctor and brother in Christ who is knowledgeable about both medical and spiritual matters. He said something to me that instantly made sense. 'Carlos, we have done many tests, and nothing is wrong with you. What you are experiencing is spiritual. God is calling you, giving you an opportunity.' These words were the beginning of my transformation, which would lead me to seek God and grow knowledgeable in kingdom matters. This has been the greatest decision I have ever made—better even than when I decided to sign a contract with the Chicago Cubs or when I decided to get married. This was the decision to die to myself so that Christ could live in me.

"Before making this decision, I used to constantly worry about material things and about my pride. I had no peace and was always angry. When this change took place, I stopped worrying about the harm that some people would try to cause me, because I knew that Christ fights for me. Now, I always think about God and obey Him. There is nothing more wonderful than to be led by God—not even winning the Cy Young award (for the best pitcher in Major League Baseball) or the World Series. Nothing compares to God's love. Now,

God leads my life. I live in Miami where, by God's grace, I am growing and learning at King Jesus International Ministry under the fatherhood of Apostle Guillermo Maldonado, a man called by God to bring the supernatural power to this generation."

Two Major Realms of Existence

The two major realms of life are...

- The natural realm
- The supernatural realm

Because of an overemphasis on intellectual knowledge, many people are very aware of the natural realm but are remarkably uninformed (or misinformed) about the supernatural realm. In the absence of progressive divine revelation, people tend to rely on formal, academic education, much of which attempts to discredit faith. Intellectual knowledge has its rightful place in society, but it is a poor substitute for spiritual knowledge.

The natural realm is the dimension that is subject to the laws of time, space, and matter. This realm can be accessed only through the physical senses—sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell.

The supernatural realm, or the spiritual realm, is the dimension that operates above natural laws. It is permanent, invisible, and eternal—located outside of time—and it exercises dominion over the natural realm.

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.

(2 Corinthians 4:18)

Knowing God Through Revelation

It was never God's intention to remain a mystery to His people. In fact, He has always desired for us to know Him intimately and to experience His attributes, strengths, and virtues. We must understand that only God can reveal God. He must do the initiating to reveal Himself. No person has the ability to know Him apart from His revelation.

Since the only way to really know God is through revelation, let us investigate what revelation is. In Greek, which is the language in which the New Testament was written, the word for "revelation" is *apokalypsis*, and this word means "an uncovering" or "disclosure." Revelation enables us to understand truths about the spiritual realm—truths that are hidden from us on a purely natural level.

What do we know about God through His revelation? First, "God is Spirit" (1 John 4:24). He is a spiritual and immutable (unchanging) Being with supernatural attributes and abilities. Second, He is eternal, and He dwells in the dimension of eternity—the spiritual realm. "Thus says the High and Lofty One who inhabits eternity..." (Isaiah 57:15). Even though God inhabits eternity, He manifests Himself and His works, at times, in *visible* form in the natural dimension of our physical world and universe.

God reveals Himself to us as the supernatural and all-powerful God through His own Spirit, the Holy Spirit. There is no other means by which we can know Him. Again, we can know the "fact" of God without *knowing* Him. Even a theologian may know that a superior being exists, but that does not mean that he knows Him personally. Many theologians operate merely with information acquired through intellectual research, reasoning, mental processes, or the experiences of others. But the Holy Spirit is the Source of all revelation from God.

How do we receive revelation from God by His Spirit?

Human beings are made up of three parts: spirit (the essence of our being as created in the image of God), soul (mind, will, and emotions), and body. (See 1 Thessalonians 5:23; Genesis 1:26.) Revelation is the knowledge of God revealed to our spirits, and it is received by spiritually seeing, hearing, and perceiving. This process is referred to as "spiritual perception." Revelation from God allows us to suddenly understand something without the aid of the natural senses.

It was God's Spirit who inspired the writers of the Bible, also called Scripture or the Word of God.

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God. (2 Timothy 3:16)

For prophecy never came by the will of man, but holy men of God spoke as they were moved by the Holy Spirit.

(2 Peter 1:21)

Jesus called the Holy Spirit the "Spirit of truth" (John 16:13). Once more, the Spirit is the only channel through which we have access to God's revealed wisdom and knowledge. The Holy Spirit makes known to men and women on earth what has been expressed by God in heaven. Jesus said,

However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come.

(John 16:13)

Peter, one of Jesus' disciples, received the revelation that Jesus was the Messiah because God revealed it to him through the Holy Spirit. Jesus told him,

Flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but My Father [God the Father] who is in heaven. (Matthew 16:17)

To receive revelation from God is to see as He sees, to hear as He hears, and to perceive as He perceives.

Revelation includes knowing things you otherwise would not know, perceiving things without having a prior awareness of them, and seeing things that have yet to occur. It is the mind of God made known so that human beings can exercise their God-given roles and responsibilities on earth.

Unfortunately, especially in Western culture, intellectual formation has pushed aside our awareness of and reliance on divine revelation. Thus, we are trained to reject anything that cannot be explained according to human understanding alone.

How Humanity Lost Its Spiritual Perception

Our general dependence on intellectual knowledge, as well as our lack of supernatural knowledge and experience, can be traced to something that happened early in the history of humanity. In the beginning, human beings were created to enjoy and exercise God's supernatural power as they carried out dominion and rule over the earth.

So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them. Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth." (Genesis 1:27–28)

The event that changed humanity's original way of life is often called "the fall of man." It occurred when the first man and woman, Adam and Eve, essentially rejected the revelation of God in favor of natural, mental knowledge. God's enemy, Satan, tempted them to do this, because he wanted to break their relationship with God and cut off their spiritual power—the very power by which they could defeat him. Adam and Eve listened to Satan and disobeyed God's command not to eat of the "tree of the knowledge of good and evil." (See Genesis 2:16–17; 3:1–6.) Disobedience to God is what we call sin.

After Adam and Eve sinned, the physical realm of time, space, and matter became the foundation of their reality—and it has been the foundation of reality for all human beings who have come after them (unless their spirits and minds have been renewed by the Holy Spirit). One of the consequences of sin was that Adam and Eve lost the ability to "see" into the spiritual realm. Their spirits, which had connected them with God, essentially died. This is the reason why the unspiritual, or "carnal," mind has trouble understanding God and His supernatural power and why it has problems dealing with anything it cannot explain. The result of people's disconnection from God is that they fall into thought patterns and actions that are contrary to His thoughts and ways.

So then, those who are in the flesh [carnal] cannot please God. (Romans 8:8)

The carnal mind determines people's reality until they are born again, or "born of the Spirit" by receiving Jesus Christ. (See John 3:3–8.) As we will see, when we receive Jesus, our spirits are renewed, and we begin the process of renewing our minds with God's thoughts. When we are born of the Spirit, we can receive the Spirit's revelation.

What God has done, is doing, and will do in the future is beyond our natural understanding. Therefore, the degree to which we experience spiritual reality is determined by the level of revelation we have from Him through the Spirit. Unless we continually renew our mind, our intellect tends to remain in the natural dimension, thereby creating limitations in our lives.

Mankind criticizes everything it cannot create or understand.

Please understand that I am supportive of intellectual pursuits and education that challenge and train the minds God has given us. I want young people to attend universities and to complete their studies. I have helped many of them to reach their educational goals and to graduate. However, problems arise when we try to use our natural minds to understand spiritual realities or to activate the supernatural power of God. Then, our minds basically become the enemy of truth because they attempt to displace divine revelation. If we surrender to the natural mind, we will end up doubting the truth of God's supernatural power, and we may eventually even attempt to use counterfeit supernatural power.

I consider myself to be an intelligent person. I am an avid student who loves to learn. By God's grace, I have earned several degrees. However, at the outset of my ministry, I had a difficult time trying to understand God with my mind until I recognized what I have been describing in this chapter—that God can be truly understood only through revelation by the Holy Spirit. It was then that I totally surrendered my mind to the Lord so that He could fill it with His thoughts. It was for this very purpose that Paul, the great apostle and theologian, urged believers to be transformed by the renewing of their minds. (See Romans 12:2.)

Moving Beyond the Natural Dimension

Thankfully, we do not have to be slaves to our natural intellects. God gave us something that enables us to move beyond the natural realm and to tap into His supernatural sphere and revelation knowledge. It is called faith.

Here is an illustration of how faith works. In August 2012, NASA successfully landed the space rover "Curiosity" on Mars. Curiosity

began sending signals to orbiting satellites, which broadcast to us images of the "red planet" never before seen by human beings. The space rover was sent from earth into the universe to allow human beings to "see" what cannot be seen on earth by merely looking up at the sky or by even using the most sophisticated telescope. In a similar way, faith is the "probe" by which human beings have access to and can "see" into the spiritual realm; we can then take appropriate, knowledgeable action in the physical realm based on the revelation we have received.

If God had intended for humanity to remain only in the natural realm, He never would have provided a way through His Son Jesus for us to be restored to a relationship with Him, nor given us access to Himself and His supernatural power through faith.

We can move beyond the natural realm in the following ways:

- By exercising our faith in God, through which we enter into the spiritual realm.
- By receiving revelation, or revealed knowledge, from God through the Holy Spirit.
- By applying our faith once more, in response to the revelation, activating God's supernatural power on our behalf, or on behalf of others.

The supernatural realm is the realm where miracles occur. To help us understand our invisible, eternal, and omnipotent (all-powerful) God and His supernatural works, let me describe what often occurs at our church, King Jesus International Ministry, during what we call a Healing and Miracle Service. At such a service, supernatural manifestations in the form of miracles, healings, salvations, and other transformations of people's lives take place. Additional manifestations of the Holy Spirit also occur, including signs, wonders, unexpected cancellations of debt/financial miracles, deliverances from demons, and much more.

For a number of people who attend these services, it may be their last opportunity for health or even life. In many cases, medical science has reached its limit and is unable to provide a solution to their health problems. People come with the desire to experience God's supernatural power for healing.

A man who was visiting for the first time went home with a tremendous miracle. For eight months, he had been connected to an oxygen tank 24/7 because he was suffering from pulmonary fibrosis, a serious disease that causes progressive scarring of the lung tissue, making breathing difficult and painful. On that day, I was preaching about our supernatural God—our heavenly Father—and I presented to the people a Jesus who is full of power to perform miracles. This man's faith was activated by what he heard, and he came to the altar in front of the entire congregation. He took off the oxygen mask and was able to breathe with ease. The Lord had healed him instantly!

Another time, while I was praying at home, God specifically told me—through revelation—that He was going to heal the blind. During our next Healing and Miracle Service, I called for the sick and afflicted to come forward. Among them was a woman who had been blind in her left eye since birth. Doctors had told this woman that her condition was incurable and that she should settle for having sight in only her right eye.

As I prayed and declared God's Word over the woman, she began to feel an intense heat within her body. At that moment, the Holy Spirit reminded her of the verse of Scripture that says, "The kingdom of heaven suffers violence, and the violent take it by force" (Matthew 11:12). Seizing that verse, she chose to believe God, claimed His promises, and forcefully took "possession" of her healing.

The audience was astonished to hear me ask her to do what she had been unable to do before the service. I asked her to focus all of her attention on seeing through her left eye. To her surprise, she found that she could see through both eyes! At first, all she saw were blurry images, but, in time, her sight continued to progress until everything became perfectly visible. God had restored the full sight that Satan, or the devil, had stolen from her at birth. Divine supernatural power had given her a creative miracle. What had been impossible by human means, God had done in one moment! Medical science could not heal this woman, but He did it instantly.

What was our part in what happened that day? We activated the supernatural power of God, so that the miracles started to flow.

Common sense, logic, and reason cannot produce miracles, which are manifestations of God's supernatural power in the natural realm. They cannot make a person who is blind see or someone who

is deaf-mute hear and speak. They cannot cure cancer or AIDS. Instead of relying on natural knowledge, we need to move past our own skepticism and fear of the supernatural to rely on God's revelation, and we also need to raise a generation of believers who are not doubtful or afraid of the supernatural, either.

"Common sense" and human reasoning can never produce a miracle.

Human Wisdom Versus God's Wisdom

If we are to receive God's supernatural revelation and manifestations, we must come to understand the difference between human wisdom and power and God's wisdom and power. The apostle Paul wrote,

However, we speak wisdom among those who are mature, yet not the wisdom of this age, nor of the rulers of this age, who are coming to nothing. But we speak the wisdom of God in a mystery, the hidden wisdom which God ordained before the ages for our glory.

(1 Corinthians 2:6–7)

Philosophy is a field of study based on a love of wisdom that is obtained from the natural environment, and the above passage reflects an important life lesson that Paul had learned in regard to human wisdom. When he mentioned "the wisdom of this age," he was referring to prominent Greek philosophy. He had lived in Greece for two years. Yet, during his time in Athens, when he had spoken to the Greeks about wisdom, he had failed to effectively preach the gospel of Jesus Christ, and, after those two years, he had not planted a single church there. (See Acts 17:16–18:1.) Later, he emphatically expressed to the church in Corinth that he had come to them in God's power and not in human wisdom. (See 1 Corinthians 2:1–5.) Paul had learned that human wisdom and philosophy are incapable of producing the supernatural power required to preach the gospel effectively and to manifest healings, signs, and wonders from God.

Why do we search for revelation from the world when all the deep "treasures of wisdom" (Colossians 2:2) can be found in Christ? Paul wrote to the believers who lived in the city of Colossae,

...the mystery which has been hidden from ages and from generations...now has been revealed to His saints. To them God willed to make known what are the riches of the glory of this mystery among the Gentiles: which is Christ in you, the hope of glory. (Colossians 1:25–27)

God made known the hidden mystery of the ages, which is "Christ in you, the hope of glory."

The natural senses alone cannot perceive the revealed wisdom or knowledge of God. However, a number of God's mysteries have been revealed through His Holy Spirit.

"Eye has not seen, nor ear heard, nor have entered into the heart of man the things which God has prepared for those who love Him." But God has revealed them to us through His Spirit. For the Spirit searches all things, yes, the deep things of God.... No one knows the things of God except the Spirit of God.

(1 Corinthians 2:9-11)

This is an inviolable truth: The human mind is not able to know everything that is in man, let alone everything about God. Only God, our Creator, knows all things. Consequently, the only One who can reveal God is the Spirit of God, who is the administrator of the truth and power of Jesus Christ on earth.

It is surprising to me when I see Christians turning to philosophy, psychology, and psychiatry—the natural realm—to try to resolve their problems. These disciplines genuinely try to help people but fail to utilize the power of God to change and transform humanity. Some counselors may try to apply biblical terms while pursuing man-made methods, but such efforts are ultimately ineffective, "for the kingdom of God is not in word but in power" (1 Corinthians 4:20).

The truth of the Bible can be properly expressed only by using the language of the Bible, while also demonstrating its power.

The following are four truths that can be known only through revelation. They cannot be fully discovered through scientific, psychological, psychiatric, or philosophical means:

- The nature of God
- The nature of man
- The origin of life
- The origin of man

If we choose to reject the concept of divine revelation, we will never fully understand the truth of these realities, and we will continue to live in confusion and deception. Through mental processes and the systematic collection of information acquired through the natural senses, scientists have developed diverse theories on the origin of life. They have written countless volumes on the subject, all derived from the same restrictive sources of human senses and reasoning, as well as the limitations of creatures that fail to acknowledge the reality of their Creator.

Within such parameters, people will almost always end up denying the existence of God because their workable knowledge does not allow them to accept Him. Their information is sometimes based on hearsay, and they steadfastly believe that the world exists because matter somehow "created itself." Sensory knowledge has become their primary source of wisdom, and again, this knowledge cannot fully explain the origin of creation or the beginning of matter. It lacks valid answers to the great "whys" of humanity.

Faith is the only way to know God and to relate to His supernatural and invisible realm.

Likewise, when scholars seek to understand the origin of life and the nature of God through logic and human perception, they fail in their attempts. Many philosophers, theologians, and scientists have come to the conclusion that God does not exist, and this is because they have failed to recognize that God can be known and understood only by faith and revelation, not logic or human perception. Formal education, which is often based on a natural mind-set, has not encouraged the faith of millions of young people. Instead, it has trained

them to recognize and accept only that which they can see, feel, decipher, and explain with their physical senses and intellect.

Hidden Mysteries of God's Kingdom

God is always the One who chooses to reveal Himself to us, and the One who has provided the way for this to occur. Thus, we must depend solely on Him. If God had not chosen to reveal Himself, we never would have been able to know Him.

God will not usually reveal Himself to those who lack the desire to know Him or who choose not to have a relationship with Him. It was for this reason that Jesus hid the mysteries of the kingdom of God from the religious leaders of His time and also told His disciples, "Do not...cast your pearls before swine" (Matthew 7:6). Jesus spoke in parables precisely to keep certain mysteries hidden from those who had no intention of knowing God and from those who sought knowledge of Him only as ammunition for debate rather than to gain an authentic experience of Him. (See Luke 8:9–10.)

Yet those who deny God are not the only ones who are, for the most part, living outside the realm of the supernatural. Many godly believers and Christian leaders who have a genuine relationship with God still lack revelation beyond a basic knowledge of the gospel. As a result, they have no idea what He is saying or doing in their personal lives, in the body of Christ as a whole, or in the world today. The following are two principles for us to consider as we seek to receive revelation from God.

God's Revelations Are Connected to His Time and His Will

1. His Time

God gives revelations according to His own timing. He will not reveal something to an individual believer, to a local church, or to the church as a whole if the person, congregation, or church is not ready for it. There are two main reasons why we might not be ready for a revelation at a given time. (1) We are not yet spiritually mature enough to receive it. (2) God knows we would not obey it. If we're not ready to obey revelation, then we're not ready to know it.

Only God knows the right time to unveil a specific revelation to us. Our part is to make sure we are willing to obey all that He wants us to do.

2. His Will, or Initiative

God said that in the last days on earth before Christ returns (see, for example, Acts 1:9–11), knowledge would increase because it is His will to fill the earth with His glory (see Daniel 12:3–4; Numbers 14:21). I believe that we are living in those last days, days in which the manifestation of His glory will be evident everywhere. God will fulfill His purposes by giving us the revelation of His kingdom for this momentous period in history.

Are you ready to receive it?

Revealed knowledge is closely linked to Christ's coming.

Summary

- God is a spiritual Being with supernatural abilities. He lives in eternity but manifests His presence in our physical dimension.
- Only God can reveal God. He must do the initiating to reveal Himself. No person has the ability to know Him apart from His revelation.
- Revelation is the knowledge of God that comes directly into our spirits in an instant, without prior knowledge or research.
- The Source of all revelation from God is the Holy Spirit.
- All the mysteries of wisdom are hidden in Jesus Christ, God's Son, and are available to the humble who hunger to know God intimately.
- The four things that can be known only through revelation are God's nature, human nature, the origin of life, and the origin of man.
- Faith and revelation enable us to live beyond the natural dimension.
- God's revelations are connected to His time and His will.