

The Touch of God - Slovakia Conference 2003 (Slovakian/english)

by David Wilkerson

David Wilkerson emphasizes the necessity of seeking God's touch through prayer and commitment to experience personal and communal revival.

Duration: 1:15:33

Scripture: Psalm 51:17, Isaiah 6:5, Jeremiah 20:9, Ezekiel 9:4, Luke 5:8, Acts 9:3-4, Revelation 21:8

Topics: "Slovakian"

Description

In this sermon, the preacher emphasizes the importance of being a man of prayer and brokenness. He shares his own journey of spiritual laziness and how he had to make a decision to dedicate himself to prayer and seeking God. He also highlights the danger of churches neglecting the message of the cross and focusing on making people feel good rather than addressing sin and conviction. The preacher encourages listeners to prioritize prayer and to be willing to be used by God, reminding them that God can do great things through those who believe and surrender to Him.

Transcript

Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, the Lord be with you. Thank you God for what He's been doing in the... I'd like you to go to Daniel, the 10th chapter, please. We're going to read one verse to begin.

We're going to talk again about the touch of God. We came here to deliver God's heart. And we trust this afternoon that you'll experience a deeper touch than you've ever known.

I'd like you to read, we're going to read Daniel, the 10th chapter, and the 10th verse. And behold, a hand touched me, which set me upon my knees, and upon the palms of my hands. I said, we're going to talk about the touch of God's hands.

Now, listen to this carefully again, please. Behold, a hand touched me, which set me upon my knees, and upon the palms of my hands. The man that God touches is going to be on His face.

Let's pray. Heavenly Father, come down by Your Holy Spirit in this meeting, and touch us by Your Spirit. Open our hearts, oh God, by Your Spirit.

Don't let these just be words that go in and out of our hearts. We need a supernatural work of Your Spirit. Oh God, help us.

Get this word out of our hearts, and put it into the hearts and minds of everyone in this house. I thank You for it. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Verse 16. Behold, a hand touched me, which set me upon my knees, and upon the palms of my hands. Then I opened my mouth and spoke.

I'm going to stop and repeat that again. Underline that in your Bible. Then I opened my mouth and spoke.

The question is this. Touch certain men. When I say men, I mean men and women.

Why are some people in such a strong urge to pray? Why are some people in search of God, while others are not? Some people go about their lives without even seeking God. I've studied this. God, why do You touch some people? Are they destined to be this way? Are they some kind of supermen? Are they some kind of superheroes? Or are there certain things in their lives that God sees? If you look at Daniel's life, you will see that God touched his natural life.

Daniel said, God touched me. And when He touched me, I became a man of prayer. It was an amazing thing.

There were other godly men serving. You know of Shadrach, Meshach, Abednego. You know of all the elders.

There were about 30 people getting ready to go back into Jerusalem. These were going to reach it. They were going to re-establish the city and the people.

There were a lot of normal believers. A lot of normal God's servants. Living righteous lives.

Ministering to the people. Why did God put His hand on this one man? I want you to listen carefully to these words. On the 24th day of the first month, I lifted up my eyes and saw a man dressed in linen.

His body had a gold band around his hip. His body was like a diamond. His face looked like a sparkle.

His eyes were like a fiery torch. His arms and legs like a bronze mirror. And the sound of his words like a thunder.

And I, Daniel, alone saw the vision. For the men that were with me. And I was left alone.

Now listen to me closely please. This is the same vision that John saw on the Isle of Patmos. Jesus Christ appeared.

And it was like lightning, the Bible says. The voice that spoke was like thunder. Why is it that only one man heard it? Why is it that only Daniel saw the vision? The Bible says there were other men there.

Now they had to be righteous men. You know them. So these had to be good men.

But the Bible says, Daniel speaking, and I saw his face. And I alone saw and heard. And he said the others fled.

They knew something was happening to Daniel. It's an awesome man. And it changes him into another man.

He's no longer a normal man. There's some kind of a commitment that he makes that changes him forever. And he sees and hears things.

I'm telling you again, he was a man. God comes to this man. Jesus appears to this man.

And he said, I alone those with me didn't see the vision. Great fear came upon them. They fled and hid themselves.

Why does any man hide from God? There's only one reason. Some kind of hidden sin. When Jesus appears to a meeting, those who travel in fear, those who want to run and hide, are those who just have sin in their hearts.

And Daniel said, I alone saw the vision. He said, well, it was Now, here's what was happening. God was determined to end the famine.

God's people were in captivity. And all of Israel never had there been a need to hear from God as there was now. The church was cold and backslidden.

They were becoming... And God said, I need a man. I want to change things in this nation. I want to awaken my church.

I want to bring respiration to the house of God. But I have to have a man. I have to have somebody that gives me an ear.

I don't speak through angels. And I have a message. And I can only use men.

I have to have a man. I want to speak to this nation. And I want to speak clearly.

And I have to have a vessel. And so the Lord comes to Daniel. And he speaks to him.

He's being a conscious heart. Verse 2 in those days, I ate no flesh. I ate no food.

No meat, no wine came into my mouth. I did not eat at all for three weeks. My heart shouts, Oh God! We never needed to hear from God as we do now.

The whole world is falling to immorality. It's affecting the body of Christ. We never needed men who have the Word of God so much.

Men who make a decision. A conscious decision. This is not about God coming and pointing a finger and saying, I want you, I want you, I want you.

God was searching the earth. He was searching through Israel. All through the captivity.

God has always been searching for men. He's always seeking those He can touch. He's touched men in every generation.

You read it. He touched Moses. He touched Ezra.

Nehemiah. All the prophets. Every time the churches were going out.

Every time the nations were going out. God only had one solution. He didn't send some angelic army.

He found a man who would mourn over the sins of the nation. He would find a man. He would find a man.

There are some great women in the Bible. And these people got a hold of God. They would shut themselves up.

They would get ahold of God. They would get alone with God. And the Bible said they set their heart.

It says of Jeremiah, he engaged his heart. It said of David, he set his heart to seek God. This is a decision that a man makes.

I want to speak for God. I want to be an oracle of God. I don't want to stand in my pulpit.

And just preach death. I'm tired. I'm sick.

From just preaching sermons. That don't move the hearts of men. That doesn't change people.

I have to hear from God. Pastor, are you preaching sermons? Do you borrow your messages? Or have you got alone with God? Do you stand in the pulpit? Do you speak something that God gave to you? And the people know it. And they hear a certain sound.

This is the heart of Daniel. He said, we have sinned. We have sinned grievously against God.

Our nation has sinned. Our people have sinned. Our pastors have sinned.

I have sinned. And he began to seek God. And he began to mourn for the sins of the nation in his heart.

And after three weeks of seeking God, then the Scripture says, on that third week, Christ appears to him and speaks clearly with a vision. And he said, when I saw this vision, out of that vision, a hand came forth. And it touched me.

And when his hand was on me, I fell on my knees with my palms on the floor. He said, God did it. See, the decision was made.

I will fast. I will pray. I will seek God.

Every pastor who listens to me today must be a part of your life. Most likely, when you were younger, God called you to be a man of prayer. A woman of prayer.

He said, if you will pray, I will use you. I will touch your life. I will give you revelation.

I will use you as my servant. And for a season you prayed. For a while you interceded with the Lord.

But you did not pay the price. You did not want to go on to fasting. You did not want to step out of the crowd.

Somewhere along the line, in the busyness, in television, in the spirit of the age, something got a hold of your heart. Something prayer. I would say, perhaps you give him a half an hour a day.

Perhaps you meditate. Perhaps when you are trying to get a message. But you do not know what it is like anymore to shut the whole thing down.

To get away. To spend a day. To spend hours.

Seeking the face of God. Fasting like Daniel did. He is the same yesterday, today and forever.

And God is still looking for man. He said, I do not want to play church. I am not going to go to my church and preach to the same 50 or 100 people.

I am not going to get them spiritually fat. And every week they just come to hear a message. They hear another sermon.

And I marry them and I bury them. I want more than that. I want the touch of God.

I want the hand of God upon my life. I want to hear from heaven. Because we live in a heaven.

And God is not looking for a high, intelligent person. He is looking for an ordinary pastor. Or an evangelist.

Or a young person. Or a sister. Who says, I am this.

This is what happened to me. Years ago. Pastoring a little church.

In a little town. 1800 people in the town. And we boast.

Bolder than our attitude. We call ourselves the full gospel people. That suggests, I think, that most people have half the gospel and we have the whole gospel.

It is pride. And for five years I pastored that church. We would sing and shout.

We had a wonderful time praising God. Occasionally some people would come and be saved. But for five years I enjoyed just having a nice, quiet pastorate.

It was nice just having fellowship. Praising my family. That is good.

That is scriptural. But something bothered me. If this is Pentecost.

The Bible Pentecost. And if this is the Holy Ghost Church. Why is nothing happening? Why are we not growing? Why are we just doing the same thing every Sunday? I preached three times a week.

I spent all my time trying to find a sermon. To make people learn. And it was very comfortable.

Because every Sunday night I closed the service. I went into my living room. Turned on the television.

And watched three hours of television. And I said, I have worked hard all week. I deserve some recreation.

And I used to watch and I am sitting there one night. And it was a violent show. Many people were being killed.

The Holy Spirit said something to me. And here you are watching violence. And you call yourself a Holy Ghost preacher.

And every night you sit in front of your television. One hour, two hours. And then you pray half a day.

And you do it because you are obligated to do it. But there is no life in your praying. Now we go to my church.

And I got sick. My stomach. I said, I can't take this anymore.

This is not Pentecost. This is not the Holy Ghost. If this is the Holy Ghost, I don't want it.

We got young people. They don't go to church. And all my people want is fellowship.

They really don't want to see people saved. And I decided that if I can't do anything else I'm going to go out every Saturday night and just hang out where the teenagers are. And I started doing that.

And they started coming to church. And I said, if Pentecost is real sinners are going to be convicted of their sins. And we are not just going to sit around and enjoy this.

And it has to start with me. I'm the pastor. I can't get them to witness if I don't witness.

They will trouble prayer meeting her. And no more games for me. I'm tired of this.

I will not preach again like this. I have to hear from God. And I made a decision.

I'm going to fast and pray. But first the Lord spoke to me. He said, sell your television set.

Because you don't know how to handle it. Maybe others can, but you can't. There is too much of a problem with you.

I told my wife. She said, well, it's up to you. And I said, I'll make a deal.

I'll advertise it. And if it sells them I'll know that's God speaking to me. I really didn't want to sell it.

Five minutes after it appeared a man called and sold it to me. He took it out of my house. The Holy Spirit spoke to me.

Now go pray. And all the hours you spend on watching television you will seek my face. If you become a man I'll do things with your life that you can't believe.

I'll use you. I'll put my hand on you. And everything God told Daniel, he told me.

Nobody knew my name. I loved God. But I began to pray.

And I went up on a hillside near our house. And I parked my car. And I went out in the woods with a Bible.

I sat under a tree. And I told my wife if anyone needs the pastor tell them to blow up. And all the time every day for hours I was in the woods praying reading my Bible from cover to cover page after page I began to weep.

He gave me a burden for lost souls. I said, Oh God I want to be a man of heaven. My wife saw the change.

And now when I stood to preach there was a fire. Something was burning in my soul. And now He would give me a vision of the world.

I was sitting beyond my town. God said there are millions. And I want to touch you.

When it got cold I went in the house. And when it got colder I was in the house. I prayed.

And my wife came into the room. She said the Holy Ghost has pulled me here. And I prayed with you.

Because there was a power in the house. And after months of seeking God I was in church one night. Sunday morning.

I tried to preach. But I could only weep. And God had given me a broken heart.

A broken spirit. And I began to see the sins of the church. And the sins of the nation.

And He gave me a grieving heart. And I fell down. And I just started weeping.

I rolled under the table. Groaning. My church thought I was nervous.

I remember they took me back to my office. And I prayed. And I went into my prayer room.

I opened a magazine. And in that magazine there were photos of seven boys in New York City on trial for murder. They had murdered a cripple.

A boy in a wheelchair. They had knifed him to death. And I began to weep.

And I heard a voice. A still small voice. I told you I would use you.

I told you I would change you. I was waiting to reach a man. And folks, the man that Jesus was touching that day only one year of Bible school.

Not a good preacher. Up to this time. Lazy.

Spiritually lazy. I didn't even want to visit my people in the church. But one day I said that's enough.

If I can't be a man of God. If I can't be a man of prayer. If I can't give myself to this.

I don't belong in the ministry. I went to New York City. You read the Cross and Switchblade.

That was the beginning. And I want to tell you. I'm 72 years old now.

And I've had to fight to keep this place in God. Prayer and brokenness. I became what you call a famous evangelist.

I traveled with a band. I preached to thousands. But in the process I got too busy.

And I lost the touch of God. I remember it. The anointing was gone.

Multitudes. But there was a spirit of death. Because I had failed to stay shut in with God.

Once again a prophet came to me. He's dead now. He handed me a book.

1200 pages. Written by a Puritan. 300 years old.

The book was 300 years old. I threw it away. I said, who has time to read 1200 pages? Who wants to hear from a man who's been dead 300 years? And I ignored it.

And I went on my cold, cold way. I remember the emptiness. I prayed.

But it was that same systematic prayer. God spoke to me. Go back to the end of the bus.

In your room. Get that book. Read it.

I had not read 30 pages until I was on my face. Once again. Because what I read I had to say, I'm backslidden.

I wasn't in sin. But I was not in touch with God. I didn't know you like this man does.

And God used that prophet. I've never claimed to be a prophet. But I'm a watchman.

And God sent me here. He sent Gary here. He sent us here for one purpose.

Because there are many today in the same condition I found myself having had the touch of God. Having had the promise of God using me. Going wild.

Getting too busy. Doing too many things for God. In the process of being interrupted.

You see, God's trying to speak to this nation. He wants to speak to your country. And I'm going to tell you, He's not going to use an American evangelist.

He's not going to use a German evangelist. He's not going to use one from Switzerland. He's not going to use one from Sweden.

Or one from any other nation. When God moves, it's going to be men in this country. Ordinary men.

Who say, God, I can't play games anymore. I'm sick of it. Oh God, I want your anointing.

I want to see souls saved. I don't want to be just a pastor of a flock that just comforts the people. I want to set an example for the flesh.

And for every young pastor. And every young person here. I'm telling you, God doesn't love you.

God doesn't love me a bit more than you. You can set your heart in this meeting today. You can make a decision.

Oh God, I don't care how hard it is. I don't care how difficult it is. I want you to use me.

I want to be a soul winner. I want you to shake this country. And I want you to use me.

God is no respecter of persons. Daniel said, while I was speaking and praying, confessing my sin, the sin of my people, while I was speaking in prayer, the man Gabriel, who I've seen in the beginning, flew swiftly to me and touched me. He touched me.

Some of you have lost the touch of God. You have lost the anointing of the Holy Spirit. Some of you here listening to me now, you're satisfied.

You're satisfied with just doing a job. You're afraid of what I'm talking about. You're afraid of the cost.

What might take you away from your family. What might send you to other countries. What might open up a field of vision.

Afraid of what will happen. If you shut everything down. And so, God, touch me again.

Use me. Break me. Know me.

I didn't even want to come to this service today. When I was praying, I said, I don't want to go unless you break me. Unless you use every word that I say.

And if you wake up every preacher. And wake up every pastor's wife. Who's not seeking you anymore.

That touch of God. He said, when I sought Him, He put me on my face. And He caused me to pray.

His very words. And as I prayed, He touched me. And one like the similitude of the Son of Man touched my lips.

Then I opened my mouth and spoke. I didn't bring a message. I didn't even try to preach anymore.

Until the Lord came and touched my lips. Last night I preached. But listen to the language of this man.

Listen to the change in this man. He's a busy man. The Scripture says, first of all, that he was grieved over the sins of the land and the nation.

But the Bible says, he sought the Lord and then went about doing the king's business. I have about 800,000 people on my mailing list. That's just in the United States.

And millions hear our message. We get thousands of letters and emails every week. My wife and I read thousands of these letters.

And you know what the number one complaint is? What is the biggest difficulty? My church is dead. I can't find a church where I hear a convicting message. Where I can feel the presence of Christ.

That's the number one complaint from all over the world. The church is dead. I don't hear a word that comes from the heart of God.

Every day. By the hundreds. Letter after letter, email after email.

Do you know of a church in my city? Why don't you just send me an address? One man said, we have been to every church in our city. And in one church you see such charismatic craziness. Just entertainment in some churches.

Such foolishness. But no flaming, red hot word from heaven. Here's what Daniel said.

What I saw troubled me. It stirred my soul. It caused me to mourn and to grieve.

But you see, now in the United States, you enter the church and there is a McDonald's on the ground floor. You come into the lobby of the church and there is Pepsi. And you get your doughnuts and what you get is 45 minutes.

45 minutes. 15 minute message. A little sermon how to be nice to your wife.

How to raise your kids. But not one word about sin. Not one word about conviction.

And I see churches with thousands of people. The cross is never mentioned. Sin is never mentioned.

And one day I picture men standing before the throne of God because I believe that through any other way, any other media. It's not just dirty movies. It's not just pornography.

It's making people come into the house of God laden down with sins. And we make them feel comfortable. And we tell them they are all right as long as they come to church.

We don't call evil evil anymore. And that has to tell me that there may be a sincere man in the pulpit. But he's never been in his face before God.

If you tell me you're a man of prayer, I'm telling you Lord it is going to make you a holy prophet in your pulpit. And you'll never be happy to ever preach a sermon without knowing God has given you a word from heaven. This country and I'm saying it prophetically it's a key nation.

It's a small country. There are more people in my city New York than in your whole country. But as far as what God wants in Europe this Slavic nation is a key nation.

And let me speak what I believe God the Holy Ghost is telling me to say. Out of this gathering out of this two and a half days God is crying seeking and pleading for young men who say oh God shake this country. Let me be a part of it.

Use me. Take the lazy streak out of my heart. Make me dissatisfied.

Make me miserable. Never let me accept things as they are. You use Daniel.

Use me. He wants to use you. There are others.

For months for months under the greatest importance of the Holy Spirit can begin in this service today. To get here right now. That could spread all over Europe.

Because he said he would use the foolish things, the little things of the world to confound the wise. He is not going to use the big mighty nation of America. He is going to use men out of countries just like this.

I know that. I am sure of it. And some of you are hearing me now.

And God is going to put his hand on you. He is going to do it today. Hallelujah.

I really don't know what to do. I feel the Holy Spirit so strong. These are so powerful.

Send the Holy Ghost. Break us. Melt us.

Oh God. Put your hand now on those you are calling. Just step out.

I see a man laying in the aisle. If you feel it is from God, come and lay here in the presence. That is the only thing I know.

That is the only thing I receive. Even if my preacher wants me to. If you feel the Holy Spirit bringing you to your knees and you feel God saying get on your face.

You can come at this moment and lay before the Lord. Not in this guy calling. Not in this guy calling.

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