

What is Grave Sucking?

by Michael Boehm, on February 13, 2014

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Michael Boehm

Have you heard of Grave Sucking?

Can the Word of Faith hyper-charismatic crowd get any more bizarre? What is with this new occult sounding practice often referred to as grave sucking?



When I first heard of grave sucking I assumed it must be a joke. Surely no one would buy into something so silly. Well my friends, this is for real. Grave sucking or mantle grabbing is the belief and practice of pulling the supposed Holy Spirit powers from the dead bones of a previously empowered believer. It is taught that when a Spirit empowered individual

dies their mantle or mission dies with them. In other words God's mission for that believer was thwarted when that believer died.

“There are anointings, mantles, revelations and mysteries that have lain unclaimed, literally where they were left because the generation that walked in them never passed them on. I believe it's possible for us to recover realms of anointing, realms of insight, realms of God that have been untended for decades simply by choosing to reclaim them and perpetuate them for future generations.” –Bill Johnson (Bethel Church, Redding, CA)

Maybe that believer had a gift of healing. Maybe they were an apostle, prophet or evangelist. This of course assumes that they were actually empowered in these ways which I have serious doubts. Whatever the case, now God's plans for that particular anointing are placed on hold. How does God correct this and get his plans back on track?

Grave sucking explained

We as believers must find a way to retrieve the mantle or anointing from the rotting corpse six feet under. Only then can we get God's plans back on track. This is achieved by placing our hands on the gravestone of the deceased or lying on top of the grave. Sometimes a prayer will be offered to God to aid in this perceived power transfer.



I kid you not! Some people actually believe this. God's plan has in fact been frustrated and now God needs us to seek out His lost anointing so we can bale God and His plans out. They believe that by laying there on the

grave they will be able to pull the anointing from the dead. It's as if they believe the Holy Spirit is lost and doesn't seem to realize that the person they empowered is dead and is no longer able to minister in this empowered way. Suddenly the Holy Spirit senses someone is lying on the dirt six feet above His head. The Holy Spirit, apparently not caring who is laying up there decides to jump into the new body giving them the supernatural abilities that the dearly departed once had. Again this assumes that the person in the grave was in fact empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Benny Hinn Claims he Felt the Anointing at Mystic Aimee Semple McPherson's Grave

I felt a terrific anointing when I was there. I actually, I—I, hear this, I trembled when I visited Aimee's tomb. I was shaking all over. God's power came all over me. ... I believe the anointing has lingered over Aimee's body. I know this may be shocking to you. ... And I'm going to take David [Palmquist] and Kent [Mattox] and Sheryl [Palmquist] this week. They're gonna come with me. You—you—you gonna feel the anointing at Aimee's tomb. It's incredible. And Kathryn's. It's amazing. I've heard of people healed when they visited that tomb. They were totally healed by God's power. You say, 'What a crazy thing.' Brother, there's things we'll never understand. Are you all hearing me?" —Benny Hinn

Grave Sucking or Mantle Grabbing is the Fast Track to Spiritual Power

For many who subscribe to hyper-charismatic type beliefs, it is thought that a person must spend much time and effort trying to achieved a state of Holy Spirit empowerment. This is achieved by extensive prayer, worship, contemplative prayer, soaking, fasting and much more. Mantle grabbing/grave sucking is seen as the workaround to achieving fast Holy Spirit empowerment.

“An inheritance in the natural can be anything a person values enough to leave to the next generation. It usually is either property or money and represents years and years of another person's effort. If you receive an inheritance when you're younger, say as a young, newly married adult, that inheritance can financially “jump start” your ability to have things that otherwise would have taken you years to attain. You might be able to buy a house, or live in a part of town only people higher up the corporate ladder can afford. You might be able to pay for your college education or buy a

nice car. An inheritance allows you to start out ahead of where you would have been without it. With an inheritance, you receive for free what others worked to obtain.



A spiritual inheritance works the same way. It enables us to start our Christian life at spiritual levels that might normally have taken us years to reach. Another generation's "ceiling" in God can become our spiritual "floor." Cal Pierce

"Lord, if a dead man can be thrown on the bones of Elisha and be healed, then I'm asking for the anointing that is on these bones of John G. Lake."
Cal Pierce

Does the Bible Support Grave Sucking?

First it must be stated that there is not a single scripture in the Bible that clearly describes grave sucking. Are there any scriptures that seem to teach the concept of grave sucking? There is only one. That's right. The only scripture that even remotely comes near this subject is in 2 Kings. It gives an account of a man coming alive after touching Elisha's dead bones.

2 Kings 13:21 And it came to pass, as they were burying a man, that, behold, they spied a band of men; and they cast the man into the sepulchre of Elisha: and when the man was let down, and touched the bones of Elisha, he revived, and stood up on his feet.

Let's look at this soberly. Did this man who came to life receive Elisha's mantle? No? Did he take up Elisha's ministry and become a prophet of

God? No. Did he receive any kind of Holy Spirit empowerment? No. The man received his life back and that's it. Why did this happen? Some supporters of grave sucking suggest that it's because there was power left in the bones of the prophet Elisha. That is simply not true. The Holy Spirit does not hang out with rotting corpses. Elisha had prophesied before he died, about King Josiah's victory over Syria (*2 Kings 13:15-18*). God was putting His divine stamp of approval on Elisha's last prophecy. In other words, God was saying that it would come to pass.

God Decides Who He Empowers

Our God is a sovereign God. God is not one that we can manipulate.

1Co 12:11 But all these worketh that one and the selfsame Spirit, dividing to every man severally as he will.

James 1:17 Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning.

God Wants Us to Seek Him

Why would anyone want to seek a corpse for God's blessing? Does not God want us to seek only Him?

*Isaiah 8:19 And when they shall say unto you, Seek unto them that have familiar spirits, and unto wizards that peep, and that mutter: **should not a people seek unto their God? for the living to the dead?***



Grave Sites Were Considered Unclean

The Old Testament is pretty clear that visiting grave sites would make a person unclean. Why would God suddenly encourage believers to seek the Holy Spirit in an area that is considered unclean? Grave sucking is against God's character.

*Numbers 19:16 And whosoever toucheth one that is slain with a sword in the open fields, or a dead body, or a bone of a man, **or a grave**, shall be unclean seven days.*

Why Doesn't the Bible Explicitly Teach About Grave Sucking?

If the mantles or missions God gives to some individuals truly are thwarted when they die why doesn't God say something about it in His word? If believers could really get the fast pass and quickly receive the gifts of the Spirit why wouldn't God clearly tell us in the scriptures? Doesn't this seem like a massive oversight on God's part?

Grave Sucking Attacks the Divine Nature of our God

In this view of the Father we have a God who both gets his plans foiled because His Holy Spirit empowered followers die and then to make matters worse, forgets to tell His believers how to resume His plans by retrieving the powers from a grave site. To make matters worse, it takes God several thousand years to realize He goofed and reveal this new information to His modern day "prophets".

Conclusion

Grave sucking not only makes us believers look like complete lunatics, it also has absolutely no foundation in God's word. There is not a single scripture to support this nonsense. God's divine nature is also in jeopardy under this insanity. Furthermore, why would God tell His followers to lie down on an unclean grave site to receive a lost portion of the Holy Spirit? This is silliness my friends and we need to repent. God is not happy about this blasphemous practice. Lord Jesus please forgive us confused sheep.